

Strengthening National Capacities for Disaster Reduction and Recovery – the Role of UNDP

Background

1. In June 1989, the UNDP Governing Council first allocated core resources for disaster preparedness, with an approved policy framework aimed “to stimulate the interest and actions needed to create comprehensive disaster preparedness plans, strategies and structures and to promote disaster mitigation activities within the context of development planning and implementation”. Since then, UNDP has developed a substantive body of disaster reduction and recovery activities, as part of its portfolio of cooperation with programme countries, implemented through its Resident Representatives, Regional Bureaux and specialised programmes.
2. The United Nations Programme for Reform, in 1997, undertook to redistribute operational aspects of responsibilities of the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) to other parts of the UN system. Functions of disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness were noted as relating to national capabilities and, therefore, more appropriately situated in UNDP. Based on these proposals, the General Assembly decided at its 52nd session to transfer to UNDP the responsibilities of the ERC for operational activities for natural disaster mitigation, prevention and preparedness.
3. In mid-1998, in response to this decision, and to further focus its overall strategy and range of activities in the field of disaster reduction, UNDP established the Disaster Reduction and Recovery Cluster (DRRC) as a component of its Emergency Response Division (ERD), now the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR). In 2000, an informal session of the Executive Board of UNDP and UNFPA responded positively to a presentation by the then ERD on “UNDP in disaster reduction and recovery”. In its first regular session of 2001 the Executive Board approved the “Role of UNDP in crisis and post-conflict situations” as part of the UNDP Business Plans 2000 – 2003, fully recognizing the importance of disaster reduction and recovery as a component of its business area on crisis prevention and recovery.
4. Since 1998, with administrative services funded by the UN regular budget, the programming opportunities afforded by TRAC 1.1.3 resources and the creation of the BCPR Thematic Trust Fund for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, UNDP has brought focus and substantive support to its overall strategy and wide range of disaster reduction and recovery activities. Considerable progress has been made in developing a policy and implementation framework that adds value to ongoing UNDP activities in disaster reduction and recovery, to the work of the UN Resident Coordinator system and which in partnership with UN agencies and others works to strengthen national capacities; facilitate regional co-operation in areas such as training and information and promote and advocate the adoption of comprehensive, multisectoral, multidisciplinary policy initiatives at the international level.
5. The present paper:
 - restates the challenge addressed by UNDP in disaster reduction and recovery
 - presents the UNDP and BCPR goals and objectives in disaster reduction and recovery and its current human and financial resources
 - summarises progress to date in achieving this goal and objective and

- presents BCPR future plans in disaster reduction and recovery

The Challenge: Mainstreaming Disaster Reduction into Development and Post-Disaster Recovery

6. Disaster occurrence and loss has increased rapidly over recent decades. According to global databases, over 3 million people have lost their lives in large-scale natural disasters in the last two decades. Natural disasters reportedly affected on average 211 million people per year from 1991-2000. This is seven times more than the average of 31 million people annually affected by conflict. Associated economic losses currently exceed US \$90 billion a year. Frequently occurring small and medium scale disasters, not registered in global databases, may cause up to twice as much accumulated damage as large-scale catastrophes, meaning that total levels of social and economic loss are in reality far greater. As such, the impact of disasters on development is related to a **process** of permanently accumulating disaster occurrence and loss and is not limited to occasional extreme **events**.
8. While economic loss is greatest in more developed countries, the impact to life and livelihoods is far greater in least developed countries and is concentrated in highly vulnerable social and economic groups. Even in a “normal” year when no large catastrophe occurs, total loss from small and medium scale disasters may severely erode development gains. In a selection of 8 risk prone Latin American countries in the 1990’s approximately 5.3 small-scale disasters were occurring daily and 1 medium scale disaster every 14 days, while approximately 2/3 of total disaster loss was related to these events. When accumulated disaster loss begins to exceed limited development gains, an unfolding crisis occurs, as development indices change from positive to negative.
9. Increasing disaster occurrence and loss is indicative of flawed unsustainable development and rapidly accumulating disaster risks. The processes of territorial occupation, land use and economic development, which characterise development in many countries, lead to increasing physical, social and economic vulnerability. Environmental degradation and mismanagement may aggravate the frequency, severity and predictability of socio-natural hazards such as flood, fire, landslides and drought. Recent disasters in El Salvador, India and Peru in 2001 and Southern Africa in 2002 only highlight extremes in ongoing risk accumulation processes.
10. When countries fail to factor hazard and vulnerability considerations into their development policies, strategies and plans, economic growth and social welfare becomes eroded by large-scale disaster loss, while increasing demands are made on national and international humanitarian assistance. The achievement of poverty alleviation, good governance and other sustainable development related goals, becomes a mirage if rapidly accumulating disaster risk is not managed and reduced. In particular, when disaster risk considerations are not factored into recovery efforts following major catastrophes, countries invest in “reconstructing risk”, rebuilding the conditions for future and worse disasters.
11. Both national and international approaches to disaster continue to emphasise improving emergency management and response. Large-scale disasters are treated as isolated, abnormal events, unrelated to ongoing development processes. While effective emergency management plays a vital role in avoiding loss of life and suffering, it generally fails to make the connection between disasters, risks and development. As such it is unable to address the accumulation of risks in either development or in post-disaster recovery. Humanitarian assistance is and will

continue to be necessary. However, increasing and massive investments in emergency relief and reconstruction over recent decades have not been reflected in reduced disaster occurrence and loss. As the combined cost of disaster loss, humanitarian assistance and reconstruction investment becomes unsustainable; clearly a new approach is required.

12. A viable approach to disaster reduction must take as its starting point that disasters are unresolved development problems that occur when risks go unmanaged. As such, the key to achieving a sustainable reduction in disaster occurrence and loss lies in factoring risk management and reduction considerations into both development as well as post disaster recovery on a permanent basis. Emergency management should no longer be separated functionally and conceptually from development but should become integrated as a component of a broad and comprehensive framework of policies and strategies to manage and reduce disaster risks. At the same time, disasters themselves can become potential points of inflection in which it is possible to further risk reduction objectives. Investment in disaster reduction contributes to the achievement of a sustainable human environment and avoids the need to divert resources from social development to humanitarian assistance. Disaster reduction and sustainable human development are therefore mutually supportive goals.
13. The actions of governments and civil society, with support from the international community, have produced compelling evidence to show how appropriate interventions in disaster reduction can lead to a measurable reduction in disaster occurrence and loss. At the same time, relevant and effective approaches, methodologies and systems for disaster reduction have been tried and tested. The enormous losses that occurred in recent large disasters could have been reduced had such approaches been comprehensively factored into development processes in the past.
14. The mainstreaming of disaster reduction into development and post-disaster recovery is therefore an essential component of sustainable human development: a challenge, which must focus the efforts of all the key stakeholders, at the local, national, regional and international levels.

UNDP Support to Disaster Reduction and Recovery

UNDP Goal

- A sustainable reduction in disaster risk and sustainable recovery from disaster in programme countries

Indicators of Achievement

- Disaster risk considerations mainstreamed into all new development
- Disaster impact mitigated and development gains protected
- Risk reduction factored into rapid disaster recovery

UNDP Objective

- National and regional capacities strengthened to reduce disaster risk and facilitate sustainable recovery

BCPR Goal in disaster reduction and recovery

- UNDP capacities strengthened to reduce disaster risk and to facilitate sustainable recovery in programme countries

Human resources

15. By the end of 2002 the Disaster Reduction and Recovery Cluster (DRRC) of BCPR will have completed its planned staffing complement of 7 professional and 3 general service staff based in Geneva. In addition to these staff 4 Regional Disaster Reduction and Recovery Advisors are being out posted to Panama (Latin America and the Caribbean), Nairobi (Africa), New Delhi and Bangkok (Asia) greatly increasing the capacity of BCPR to support UNDP Country Offices.
16. Many UNDP Country Offices in different regions together with other UNDP Bureaux such as BDP also have specialized staff supporting disaster reduction and recovery activities, which work closely with BCPR staff.
17. In addition to these UNDP human resources, the DRRC maintains a roster of experienced consultants in different technical areas to support UNDP Country Offices in their disaster reduction and recovery efforts.

Financial Resources

18. In 2002, the DRRC has a budget of approximately US \$2.6 million to cover its staffing, operational and administrative costs. This is made up of a biennial contribution from the UN Regular budget to cover staffing costs and administrative services and a contribution from DFID-CHAD (United Kingdom) to build BCPR capacities.
19. In addition to the above administrative budgets, 5% of UNDP core resources (TRAC 1.1.3) may be used by BCPR for programming purposes. Of these resources, approximately US \$2.6 million have been programmed in ongoing disaster reduction and recovery activities.
20. TRAC 1.1.3 resources are used primarily as seed funding to design and initiate programmes. BCPR then assists UNDP Country Offices to mobilize resources from donor countries, through the BCPR Trust Fund, to implement fully developed disaster reduction and recovery programmes. Approximately US\$2.1 million are programmed in ongoing disaster reduction and recovery activities through the BCPR Trust Fund.
21. In countries where disaster reduction and recovery activities have been mainstreamed into the cooperation frameworks agreed between UNDP and national governments core TRAC 1 and 2 resources are also allocated to disaster reduction and recovery activities. UNDP Country Offices also mobilize resources through the cost sharing modality.

Progress to Date

Disaster reduction strategies and capacity building programmes

22. BCPR has been providing UNDP Country Offices with technical assistance and financial support for the design and implementation of disaster reduction strategies and capacity building

programmes addressing a range of relevant issues: the strengthening of administrative and legislative systems; community-based disaster reduction; early warning systems; national disaster reduction plans etc. Project currently supported by BCPR include:

Sub region/ Country	Trac 1.1.3	BCPR Trust Fund	Other UNDP/ cost sharing
SADC Sub region (Angola, Botswana, DRC, Lesotho, Namibia, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Tanzania, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe) Regional Strategy for Disaster Management in Southern Africa	100'000		
China - Disaster Management Project	200'000		
East Timor - Disaster management development support	200'000		114'850
Albania - Capacity building at the central and prefecture level		960'619	
Caribbean (Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad & Tobago, Turks & Caicos) Comprehensive approach for disaster management in the Caribbean		100'650	85'437
Haiti - Strengthening of national capacities for risk and disaster management	80'000	120'000	360'000
Jamaica - Support to community based disaster reduction and management	130'000	120'000	
Guatemala - National risk management system in the Madre Vieja River		190'000	
Honduras - Strengthening local capacities for risk management		250'000	503'400
Nicaragua - Risk reduction in the RAN (Region Atlantica del Norte) after hurricane Michelle. Support to the National Risk Reduction Programme	180'000	151'850	

23. Increasingly UNDP Country Offices are mainstreaming disaster reduction into their regular programming and country programme frameworks. For example, in India UNDP and the Government are now developing a major 5 - year programme to reduce risks and vulnerabilities in 72 of the most disaster prone districts of India with a planned investment of US \$20 million.

Response to Sudden Crisis and Post-disaster Recovery

24. BCPR provides the UN Resident Coordinator with access to TRAC 1.1.3 sudden response funds in the event of major natural disasters. When appropriate BCPR also provides technical assistance to the UNDP Country Office to carry out impact assessments and to design strategies for recovery. In 2002, for example, these resources were used to design recovery frameworks following the floods in Senegal, the hailstorms in Bolivia and the earthquake in Afghanistan. Recent support includes:

Sub region/ Country	Trac 1.1.3	BCPR Trust Fund	Other UNDP/ cost sharing
Democratic Republic of Congo - Emergency grant after 2002 volcano Nyiragongo	100'000		
Kenya	50'000		
Malawi - Emergency grant after 2001 floods + in kind technical assistance	100'000		
Malawi – emergency grant after the drought 2002	50,000		
Senegal - Emergency grant after January 2002 floods	80'000		
Djibouti - Emergency grant after toxic leakage	80'000		
Afghanistan - Nahrin Earthquake	80'000		
Cook Islands - Emergency grant	10'000		
Iran - Golestan floods	100'000		
Tonga - Emergency grant after Cyclone Waka	30'000		
Carpathians-Tisza Riparian Countries (Hungary, Romania and Ukraine) - Prep Assistance for an integrated disaster preparedness and sustainable development for the Tisza River basin	50'000		
Kosovo - earthquake	50'000		
Georgia – in kind technical assistance to formulate post-earthquake urban reconstruction plan	20,000		
Romania - Emergency grant after March 2001 floods / Emergency preparedness for hazardous waste spills	82,000		30'000
Belize - Risk management project Emergency grant after Hurricane Michelle	50'000	30'000	
Argentina - Emergency grant after floods in the Rio Quinto basin	70'000		
Bolivia - Emergency grant after February 2002 floods	80'000		
Paraguay - Emergency grant after May 2002	50'000		

25. Given the critical importance of the post-disaster recovery phase as an opportunity to address disaster reduction concerns, BCPR has also supported UNDP Country Offices in the design and development of sustainable recovery and vulnerability reduction frameworks and programmes in a number of countries, for example Venezuela (1999 mudslides), Mozambique (2000 floods), Gujarat, India (2001 earthquake), Cuba (2001 Hurricane Michelle) and for which substantial resources have been mobilized through the BCPR Trust Fund.

Country/Country	Trac 1.1.3	BCPR Trust Fund	Other UNDP/ cost sharing
Mozambique - Emergency recovery and rehabilitation programme after 2000 floods		2'921'000	
India - Gujarat earthquake emergency and recovery; Rajasthan flood emergency; Orissa flood emergency	150'000	6'730'000	
Cuba - Support for the reconstruction of housing affected by hurricane Michelle in the Province of Villa Clara	100'000	179'000	
Venezuela - Reconstruction programme after December 99 mudslides		4'700'000	
Peru - Recovery and reconstruction after earthquake	80'000	488'000	

Sub-regional knowledge networks

26. BCPR is supporting UNDP Country Offices and Regional Bureau in the development of sub-regional knowledge networking initiatives in the Caribbean, Central America and central and south-west Asia, which facilitate the sharing of information and best practice between countries, enabling appropriate knowledge on relevant issues to be brought to bear at the national level.
27. The Central American initiative, developed in partnership with the Centre for the Coordination of Natural Disaster Prevention in Central America (CEPREDENAC) focuses on local level disaster risk management and national legislative systems. The Caribbean initiative focuses on the integration of disaster reduction and adaptation to climate change and is managed by UNDP Cuba. The UNDP Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean jointly supports both these initiatives. The central and south-west Asia initiative has focused up to now on the drought affecting that region and is managed by UNDP Iran.

Sub region/ Country	Trac 1.1.3	BCPR Trust Fund	Other UNDP/ cost sharing
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Iran - Sub regional (Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan) Sub regional initiative for disaster risk management	282'960		
Caribbean (Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad & Tobago, Turks & Caicos) Caribbean risk management and adaptation initiative	140'000		150'000
Central America (Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama) Regional Programme for Risk Management in Central America	180'000	150'000	150'000

Human resource development

28. Human resource development is an essential component of capacity building and BCPR has been supporting disaster reduction training through the development of the Disaster Management Training Programme (DMTP) in Central America, south-eastern Europe and Southern Africa. Training for UNDP staff on disaster risk management is also being developed: DMTP workshops were organised in Nepal and Georgia; a first course for UNDP Country Offices in Central America was offered in May 2002 and a regional south-eastern Europe workshop is programmed for October 2002.

Policy and Advocacy

29. UNDP has developed a number of policy studies aimed at enhancing its own as well as international policy in disaster reduction and recovery and closely related to its core areas of concern. In 2000- 2001 policy work focused on the relationship between poverty and disaster risk and a set of profiles of Least Developed Countries (LDCs), produced by BCPR were published and disseminated at the LDC conference in May 2001.

30. A World Vulnerability Report is being developed, which will be launched later in 2002. The Report highlights contemporary trends in the evolution of natural disaster risk and vulnerability patterns and advocates the role of relevant policies and strategies for reducing disaster risks. The Report contains a pilot Global Index of Risk and Vulnerability, developed with support from UNEP-GRID, GTZ and Columbia University IRI.

31. BCPR has been participating alongside other units of UNDP and with partners such as the ISDR Secretariat in efforts to mainstream disaster reduction concerns into the World Summit of Sustainable Development (WSSD).

32. As part of its mandated responsibilities UNDP contributes to the development of international policy on disaster reduction through relevant inputs into ECOSOC and the UN General Assembly

33. At the regional level, UNDP has contributed to the adoption of disaster reduction policy frameworks through the organization of conferences and seminars in Central America, Eastern Europe, Southern Africa, central and south-west Asia and the Caribbean.

ISDR Inter Agency Task Force

34. UNDP contributes to the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) through its active participation in the Inter-Agency Task Force. In particular, it convenes ISDR Working Group 3 on Risk, Vulnerability and Impact Assessment. Through this Working Group BCPR is facilitating the documentation and systematisation of best practice in risk and vulnerability indexing; local level applications for risk and vulnerability analysis and is supporting activities to improve the coverage and quality of disaster impact databases.
35. At present, a joint proposal is being developed for collaboration between Working Group 3 and Working Group 1 on Climate and Disasters, convened by WMO, to correlate climate and disaster databases in order to enhance forecasting of the impact climate related disaster events.

UNDP partnerships

36. In order to maximize its effectiveness in strengthening the capacities of UNDP Country Offices BCPR has been progressively developing partnerships with other UNDP units and programmes, such as UNSO and Agenda 21. The BCPR Regional Disaster Reduction Advisors are working in close collaboration with the network of advisors of the Bureau for Development Policy in the SURF system, facilitating cross-cutting support to Country Offices in closely related areas such as climate change and environment.

UN system partnerships

37. Within the UN system, UNDP is in the process of negotiating agreements with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the ISDR Secretariat, which promote collaboration and partnership within a clear definition of complementary mandates. These partnerships seek, for example, to promote collaboration between the regional advisors and outposts of the different organizations and to ensure a clear interface between UNDP post-disaster recovery teams and United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) teams in disaster situations.
38. In addition, a number of UN specialized agencies have worked closely with UNDP in the development of post-disaster recovery frameworks, including ILO, Habitat and UNEP.
39. At the regional level, UNDP is already working closely with a number of mandated regional organizations such as CEPREDENAC, the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA), Working Table III of the Stability pact for South-eastern Europe and the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC).

The Future: Challenges and Perspectives

40. In 2002 / 2003 BCPR will continue to strengthen UNDP's capacities to achieve sustainable reduction in disaster risk and sustainable recovery from disaster in programme countries. The following reflect key outputs BCPR wishes to achieve in the coming year:

New UNDP national and regional disaster reduction strategies and capacity building programmes

41. BCPR has defined a number of focus countries where it can bring to bear a range of support to crisis and post-conflict situations. While the DRRC has already developed disaster reduction capacity building programmes in two of these countries (Haiti and Guatemala) in 2002 / 2003 it plans to develop new capacity building programmes in other BCPR focus countries such as Sudan, Nepal, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan. The development of a total of 8 new disaster reduction capacity building programmes is foreseen for 2002/2003.
42. With the out posting of Regional Disaster Reduction Advisors in Asia and Africa, BCPR will now have the capacity to engage UNDP Country Offices in those regions and develop strategies for effective and appropriate UNDP intervention in disaster reduction. In 2002/2003 such strategies will be developed in South and South-east Asia, southern Africa (see below) and the Horn of Africa. Such strategies enable UNDP to focus its overall efforts more clearly on managing and reducing disaster risks, rather than solely on preparedness and coordination activities.

El Nino initiative

43. A special initiative currently being developed in partnership with the ISDR Secretariat and OCHA will seek to strengthen capacities in 4 – 6 countries in Latin America, Asia and Africa, which are particularly affected by ENSO related risks. The initiative will build on ongoing work by ISDR IATF Working Groups 1 and 3 and will include disaster risk management, response preparedness and public awareness components.

Post Disaster Recovery

44. While UNDP will continue to provide support to UN Resident Coordinators following major natural disasters, increased emphasis will be placed on the development and implementation of post-disaster recovery frameworks and programmes. In 2002/2003 it is planned to implement programmes in at least 5 countries following major disasters. In order to improve its effectiveness in fielding recovery teams to support UNDP Country Offices, BCPR is currently receiving technical assistance from DFID-CHAD covering a number of aspects such as the development of rosters of consultants and experts, team organization, logistics and equipment etc.
45. In Southern Africa and in response to the current food security crisis BCPR is developing a framework of intervention to support UNDP in the region, which includes both capacity building and recovery programming at the national and regional levels as well as partnerships with SADC.

Knowledge Networking

46. Building on the experience of its knowledge networking initiatives in Central America, the Caribbean and central and south-west Asia and with the capacity created by the Regional Disaster Reduction Advisors, BCPR will develop at least two new sub-regional knowledge networking initiatives in 2002/2003, probably in south Asia and in southern Africa.
47. BCPR Geneva Operations has also recently contracted a full-time Knowledge Networking Advisor, which will enable the development of global web based thematic knowledge network for

UNDP Country Office and their partners. This will build on the knowledge generated through the sub-regional initiatives and will involve a complete remodelling of the current BCPR/DRRC web page.

48. To support BCPR's knowledge networking initiatives a number of reviews of best practice and lessons learned will also be carried out in 2002/2003.

Human Resource development

49. Training the staff of UNDP Country Offices in disaster risk management and in disaster recovery will be key to increasing the overall capacity of the organization. In 2002/2003 it is planned to build on the experience of the training course recently provided for UNDP Country Office disaster focal points in Central America and develop further courses in other regions. Other options under consideration include providing training for individual Country Offices, including development and not just disaster related staff as well as a web based distance learning programme. At the same time, specific training will be provided for UNDP staff and consultants on the design of disaster recovery frameworks (see below post-disaster recovery guidelines).
50. BCPR will continue to provide UNDP inputs into the DMTP. In particular, BCPR together with the ISDR Secretariat will review and up date existing DMTP materials related to disaster risk management and will support the implementation of DMTP training courses in this area. In 2002/2003 the DMTP in Central America will continue to focus on increasing coordination between the UN system, national stakeholders and regional organizations around commonly defined risk scenarios, while a new programme will be developed in Southern Africa.

Risk Information Management Systems

51. BCPR has been supporting the development of risk information management systems in order to support both its capacity building as well as policy initiatives. These include the Global Vulnerability Index as well as national level inventories of disaster occurrence and loss using the DesInventar methodology. Through the development of the BCPR /DRRC web page and partnerships with OCHA and others it is planned to make this information fully available to Country Offices and their national counterparts. At the same time, it is expected that national level vulnerability indexes and disaster inventories will be developed in other programme countries.

UNDP and UN System Guidelines

52. On the basis of the development of post disaster recovery frameworks in Venezuela, Mozambique, Gujarat, Peru, Senegal, Bolivia and other countries BCPR proposes to distil and systematize a set of UNDP methodological guidelines for post disaster recovery frameworks and programming. These guidelines would be aimed at UNDP Country Offices as well as BCPR staff and consultants and should increase the predictability and quality of BCPR's support to post disaster recovery.
53. BCPR is currently working to incorporate guidelines on crisis prevention and recovery issues into the CCA and UNDAF. On the basis of previous work carried out by the DRRC with UNICEF, FAO, WFP and others, specific guidelines on disaster reduction and recovery will be developed in the context of this Bureau wide initiative.

ISDR IATF

54. BCPR will also continue to convene the ISDR IATF Working Group on Risk, Vulnerability and Disaster Impact Assessment. In 2002/2003, the Working Group in partnership with CRED, LA RED and Columbia University will make a systematic quantitative comparison of national and global disaster databases in order to increase knowledge and evidence and the relative impact of small and medium scale disasters. At the same time, efforts will be made to develop a simple methodology to enable the estimation of the economic impact of small and medium scale events, in collaboration with ProVention and ECLAC. Working Group 3 will also continue to promote sharing of information and best practice on risk and vulnerability indexing methodologies, in particular with a view to encouraging the development of indices at the national and sub-regional level. Another sub-working group, chaired by Habitat is documenting methodologies for local and urban level risk and vulnerability analysis. The results of these different activities will be presented for policy purposes to the ISDR-IATF. Working Group 3 is also working with the WMO coordinated Working Group 1 to correlate climate and disaster impact databases in order to develop methodologies for risk forecasting.

Thematic UNDP policy development

55. In 2002/2003, BCPR will contribute to the development of UNDP policies and positions on a number of key thematic issues.
56. In order to achieve synergy between UNDP programming frameworks on disaster reduction and adaptation to climate change, BCPR together with BDP and UNDP Cuba is developing a conceptual framework, through an Expert Group mechanism, in order to identify the commonalities between both approaches.
57. Disaster occurrence and loss associated with urbanization and environmental degradation is rapidly increasing in Africa, despite the fact that international attention continues to be focused almost exclusively on food security and drought issues. BCPR is to begin an initial overview of urban disaster risk in Africa, in collaboration with the International Institute on Environment and Development (IIED) in order to develop a UNDP policy and programming initiatives in this area.
58. Over several years UNDP has been working in partnership with regional and sub-regional organizations in the development of its capacity building activities. In 2002, BCPR will bring together both existing as well as potential regional partner organizations and networks in order to identify more clearly their comparative advantages and roles and strengthen its partnerships.

World Vulnerability Report

59. In 2002, BCPR will launch the first edition of its World Vulnerability Report, including the Global Index of Risk and Vulnerability. In parallel, work will be undertaken with the ISDR Secretariat to develop a joint global report from 2003 onwards.

Alliances and Partnerships

60. Within UNDP, BCPR will continue strengthening partnerships with Regional Bureau, Country Office and specialized units such as UNSO, GEF and the SURF system. The presence of BCPR Regional Disaster Reduction Advisors will greatly increase BCPR's capacity to do so.

61. Within the UN system BCPR is developing formal agreements and memorandum of understanding with both OCHA and the ISDR Secretariat, in order to maximize the comparative advantages of each agency, to make an efficient use of resources and to ensure a common UN approach to partners in programme countries. An agreement on the role of their respective Regional Advisors has already been drafted between UNDP and OCHA and a memorandum of understanding between UNDP and the ISDR Secretariat is also currently being drafted.
62. Agreements with UN specialized agencies such as ILO and Habitat for the development of post-disaster recovery frameworks and programmes will also be sought.
63. The presence of Regional Disaster Reduction Advisors will also enable partnerships to be further consolidated with specialized regional organizations

Donor Relations and Resource Mobilization

64. One of the key objectives of BCPR in 2002 / 2003 is to develop a regular dialogue with donor countries and their missions in Geneva in order to agree mechanisms for presenting, discussing and mobilizing resources for disaster reduction and recovery activities, including capacity building programmes as well as post-disaster recovery. While clear mechanisms exist for supporting humanitarian assistance, this is not the case for disaster reduction and recovery.
65. While BCPR is able to programme TRAC 1.1.3 resources to initiate programme development, it is necessary to dramatically increase the mobilization of resources through the BCPR Trust Fund to fully fund disaster reduction and recovery programmes, if the UNDP goal and objective is to be achieved. In the first half of 2002, BCPR has already contributed to the design of national disaster reduction and recovery programmes, which require the mobilization of a total of US \$15.6 million (plus India please incorporate MOG) if they are to be implemented. In Central America, where BCPR has been supporting national and sub-regional efforts since 1999, UNDP Country Offices have developed a broad programme of activities to significantly reduce disaster risk in the region. Outlines of these programmes are provided in an Annex to the present document and the relevant programme documents are available from BCPR on request.

Human Resources

66. In the coming months, BCPR will complete the recruitment, induction and placement of its disaster reduction and recovery staffing complement foreseen for 2002. While no major expansion of staff is foreseen in 2003, needs will be reviewed against the work plan of the DRRC and if necessary additional resources sought.
67. In order to support its capacity building and post-disaster recovery efforts at the national level, BCPR is also developing a roster of specialized experts and consultants who will work alongside the Regional Disaster Reduction Advisors and in collaboration with the SURF system in order to provide advice and technical assistance to UNDP Country Offices. In Latin America and the Caribbean, a group of approximately 12 consultants has already been formed who are providing such services to UNDP Country Offices and similar groups will be formed in Africa and Asia. The use of smaller groups of specialized experts and consultants who work a substantial proportion of their time for UNDP guarantees that the knowledge generated is feedback and networked into the organization, rather than carried away with the consultant. As mentioned

above, DFID-CHAD is currently providing assistance to develop the consultant roster, as well as other activities related to recovery programming.

Annex 1- Resource Mobilization Needs for Disaster Reduction and Recovery Programmes – June 2002

Afghanistan: Transitional Recovery Programme for the Nahreen District

Following the March-April earthquakes that hit the Baghlan Province of Afghanistan, BCPR fielded a transitional recovery team. A Recovery Programme was designed for the area, under the umbrella of the nationally launched Area Based Programme for the overall reconstruction of Afghanistan, to address the specific needs of the earthquake-prone region of Baghlan. The programme will help ensure timely interventions to train masons and other relevant people in the affected and potential earthquake zones in northern Afghanistan on seismic-resistant construction techniques and to undertake a number of physical and social recovery activities. It also envisages capacity building of the Office of Disaster Preparedness (ODP) at the central and province levels.

Budget US \$1,100,000 (2002-2003)

Bolivia: Increasing Local Capacities in Risk Disaster Reduction in the Municipality of La Paz

The project, identified by a UNDP BCPR mission February 2002 after heavy rains (and substantial human and economic losses) has the following main outcomes:

At the local level

- a) Institutional strengthening of La Paz authorities capacities, in order to improve institutional mechanisms and integrate risk reduction as a cross-sectoral issue in all municipality activities.
- b) Training and awareness of selected communities and local authorities.
- c) Implementation of strategic prevention activities in the fields of early warning monitoring, and effective watershed management.
- d) Reinforced link between central (SISRADE) and local levels in disaster management, (*Ley para la reduccion de riesgos y atenciona desastres y Ley de participacion ciudadana*).

At national level:

- a) Support to the normative development and implementation of the risk management law
- b) Strengthening synergies between environmental and risk management measures
- c) Develop meetings seminars, awareness campaigns linking disaster and development in order to increase the commitment between private sector and citizens and the risk reduction policies.
- d) Training and information exchange platform for risk management activities in the country. Systematic compilation and dissemination on progress, lessons-learnt, mapping interventions and feeding into the policy development process.

Budget: US \$ 3,253,608 (2002-2005)

Senegal: Strengthening National and Local Capacities in Disaster Reduction

Following heavy rains and unusual climatic changes in Senegal, a “Strategic Framework for Recovery and Vulnerability Reduction” was drafted. Within this global framework, the project aims at the preparation of a National Plan on Risk and Disaster management. Based on other BCPR best practices on institutional strengthening, the primary outcomes will be as follows.

- a) A highly participatory assessment of environmental, institutional and socio-economic vulnerability in Senegal.
- b) Institutional strengthening of national capacities in disaster reduction and management.
- c) The elaboration, validation and approval of a decentralized approach oriented National Plan on Risk and Disaster Management.
- d) A pilot activity in the Saint Louis region, focusing on strengthening capacities at the regional and local levels.
- e) An integration of risk reduction activities at the regional level through reinforcement of the regional *Organization de mise en valeur du Sénégal (including Mali, Sénégal et Mauritanie)* in close cooperation with a GEF project (currently in formulation).

Budget: US \$1,500,000 (2002-2005)

Nepal: Capacity Building on Disaster Risk Management for His Majesty's Government of Nepal

The programme was designed jointly with the UNDP Country Office during BCPR's planning mission to Nepal, with the goal of *increasing the capacity of the people and authorities of Nepal to manage risks, reduce vulnerability and protect lives and development assets from the threat of natural disasters*. It builds on knowledge and experience already gained by UNDP and other actors, with a multi-disciplinary, inter-institutional approach based on strategic alliances with national and international partners. It addresses simultaneously long-term concerns and immediate threats:

Long-Term

- National review of policy, legislation and institutional framework.

Medium-Term

- Strengthening local and community institutions' capacities to manage and reduce risks.
- Information exchange platform for disaster-related activities in the country. Systematic compilation and dissemination on progress, lessons-learned, mapping interventions and feeding into the policy development process.
- Increased awareness through information and education.

Short-Term

- Preparedness, response and relief activities to increase preparedness *vis-à-vis* immediate threats in areas where other interventions are not feasible in the short term, i.e. the Kathmandu Valley.

All sectors of the Nepalese population are concerned with the threat of natural disasters, a neutral issue around which communities, local authorities, different ethnic groups and most especially women, are willing to work together. This could turn into a new and effective dialogue front to promote peace.

Budget: US \$ 2.000.000 (2002-2005)

Southern Africa: Special reduction and recovery framework to address the food security crisis in Southern Africa

Southern Africa is facing an accumulation of disasters occurring in rapid succession on top of each other. Two consecutive years of serious flooding in Malawi, followed by drought and cholera are but one example. The situation is further exacerbated by a generalised weakness in disaster management capacity, and probably the most significant, increased vulnerability as a result of HIV/AIDs in all countries of Southern Africa. The present humanitarian and food security situation is the worst since 1992. Based on previous work undertaken at both regional and country level, UNDP/BCPR has outlined a strategy to contribute to reducing the risk of natural disasters by building and strengthening disaster management capacity and by reducing the vulnerability of the poorest populations. Four key components are addressed:

- a) strengthening the capacity of the SADC Disaster Management Mechanism, to address the issue from the regional perspective
- b) promoting disaster risk management training through the DMTP
- c) supporting UNDP country offices to identify and address the causes of vulnerability in food insecure areas, and
- d) strengthening national and local disaster risk management capacity

Budget: US \$ 355,000 (preparatory phase, 2002)

Tajikistan: Capacity Building for Strategic Risk Reduction

Tajikistan is at high risk to a range of natural and technological hazards including floods, droughts, mass movements of land, earthquakes, disease epidemics, and industrial accidents with associated hazardous and toxic waste pollution. Exponentially rising, as well as accumulated, event occurrence and resultant socio-economic losses demand increased capacity to reduce vulnerability. Working in collaboration, UNDP BCPR and the UNDP Country Office, other UN Agencies, the Government of Tajikistan, and international and national NGO's, a three year UNDP project is under design and is aimed at achieving the following outcomes:

- a) The incorporation of key risk reduction considerations into medium and longer term development planning efforts and into sustainable development strategies.
- b) The incorporation of strategic risk reduction measures into legislative and policy frameworks and national development plans.
- c) The orientation of key community and national stakeholders towards prevention and mitigation to complement the more conventional and existent emergency preparedness and response measures.
- d) The development and implementation of key applied mechanisms for multi-sector integration and coordination.
- e) A resource mobilisation strategy and accompanying expenditure guidelines.
- f) Increased levels of knowledge and skills of human resources at the community and national levels.

Budget US \$500,000 (2002 – 2005)

Uzbekistan: Integrated National Strategy for Drought Prevention and Mitigation

Severe and projected long-term drought is affecting upwards of two million rural people Uzbekistan, particularly over 500,000 inhabitants in the north western areas and poses significant challenges for viable

livelihoods of the affected communities and for overall sustainable development nationally. UNDP, working in conjunction with the efforts of other UN and bi-lateral agencies, and relevant authorities of the Government of Uzbekistan, is developing a UNDP project which anticipate to realize the following outcomes.

- a) Development of an over-arching, multi-sector national drought prevention and mitigation strategy and accompanying action plan.
- b) Through participatory approaches, including all stake-holders and lead by national government authorities, develop a framework and action plan for establishing, improving and implementing practical ways in which all relevant sectoral bodies can work together to create a truly integrative approach to drought prevention and mitigation.
- c) Prepare a draft integrative drought prevention and mitigation policy focusing on inputs from the agricultural, economic and environmental management sectors.
- d) Develop, disseminate and advocate guidelines for drought prevention and mitigation, focused on highly practical and feasible measures, and building upon inherent community knowledge and successful coping mechanisms.

Estimated Budget: US\$ 300,000 (2002-2004)

India: Vulnerability reduction in most hazard prone districts

US\$

Central America

(Project profiles available on request).



Profile number	Project Title	Country	Project cost (in US\$)	Funding required (in US\$)
1	Integrating Local Communities and Civil Society	Belize	70,000	70,000

	in National Disaster Management			
2	Integral management La Paz valley	El Salvador	200,000	200,000
3	Integral Management Cerrón grande	El Salvador	300,000	300,000
4	Integral Management Jiquilisco Bay	El Salvador	300,000	300,000
5	Strengthening Capacities for Local Risk Management	Nicaragua	3,503,010	2,253,010
6	Strengthening Risk Management System	Guatemala	280,000	220,000
7	Support to municipalities in the implementation of risk reduction measures	Guatemala	1,396,100	1,040,000
8	Social research and planning unit for local risk management	Guatemala	167,750	287,000
9	Training programme in disaster prevention, mitigation and response	Guatemala	83,599	78,359
10	Linking risk management and migrations	Guatemala	140,000	110,000
11	Reducing disaster risks through natural resources integral management in valleys	Guatemala	187,000	136,000
12	Risks zones local identification	Guatemala	175,000	137,500
13	Support to the disaster vulnerability policy	Guatemala	140,000	120,000
14	Strengthening Capacities for Local Risk Management	Panama	111,800	90,000
15	Strengthening risk management coordination mechanisms between public and private sector	Panama	124,275	114,525
16	Support risk management information system	Panama	222,750	196,350
17	Strengthening Risk Management Capacities in the National Civil Protection System	Panama	85,720	70,020
18	Strengthening local risk management capacities in small valleys.	Central America	1,651,000	940,000
19	Developing methodologies and tools to sectorial vulnerabilities reduction	Central America	75,000	50,000
20	Mainstreaming risk management consideration into development projects	Central America	450,000	350,000
21	Risk management capacity building programme	Central America	600,000	250,000
	TOTAL		10,263,004	6,662,764