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Disaster Management Alliance Update

Thursday, January 29, 2009

Dear Colleagues,

We would like to start off 2009 by extending our best wishes to all. This year creative alliances and partnerships will be necessary to pool ever-decreasing resources and capacities to face rising challenges to the safety, well being and continuity of the hemisphere's communities, entities and enterprises.

In this issue of the DMA Update we would like to emphasize the ongoing efforts resulting from the 2004 World Conference on Disaster Reduction, January 18-22, 2005 in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan. The conference produced the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters. The Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA), is a global movement that promotes Disaster Reduction and the role of private-public sector partnerships. Thus the Disaster Management Alliance is guided by the HFA and its regional applications in alignment with hemispheric, regional and national directives of the corresponding authorities and stakeholders to facilitate the various types of private sector collaboration preferred.

The Hyogo Framework Priorities for Action and General Considerations which help guide the DMA include:

1. Use knowledge, innovation, and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels;
2. Promote training and learning on DRR: at the community level, with local authorities, for targeted sectors; ensuring equal access;
3. Reduce the underlying risk factors;
4. Build multi-stakeholder partnerships to implement initiatives in a multi-sector approach with the participation of civil society (NGOs, CBOs, volunteers), scientific community, and the private sector;
5. Establish public-private partnerships to better engage the private sector in disaster risk reduction activities; the fostering of a culture of disaster prevention, and allocating resources to pre-disaster activities such as risk assessments and early warning systems;
6. Implement schemes that spread out risks, reduce insurance premiums, expand insurance coverage and increase financing for post-disaster reconstruction, including through public and private partnerships;
7. Provide for and support, through bilateral and multilateral channels, the implementation of this Framework for Action in disaster-prone developing countries, including through financial and technical assistance, addressing debt sustainability, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, and public-private partnerships, and

8. Encourage North-South and South-South cooperation.

For more details about the Hyogo Framework and the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, please visit:

<http://www.unisdr.org/eng/hfa/docs/Final-report-conference.pdf>



In future editions we will feature what regional disaster management organizations such as CDERA, CEPREDENAC, and CAPRADE have highlighted for HFA applications with private sector integration in their regions.

Don't hesitate to contact us with your questions or comments!

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