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| **Thematic session: Roadmap to DRR in the Americas 2010-2015 & HFA Mid-Term Review** |
| **Date:**  | 16/Marzo | **Time:**  | 10:30 – 13:30 | **Duration:** | 3 hours | **Participants:** | Maximum 60 |
| **Objective:** | * This session seeks input from participants surrounding the outcome of the HFA Mid-Term Review in order to identify concrete actions for follow-up and ways for moving forward, particularly in the Americas.
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| **Methodology and focus:** | * Discussion on the findings contained in the Mid-Term Review report
* The input from this discussion will be put into a brief paper along with feedback received from other regions, which will be distributed during the Global Platform in May along with the Mid-Term Review report and will form the basis of the plenary discussion on the mid-term review.
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| **Main focus:** | The Report of the HFA Mid-Term Review will be discussed in the context of the Regional Platform for DRR in the Americas and in advance of the 2011 Global Platform where the outcomes of the Mid-Term Review will be discussed with a view to focus on follow-up action.The Review confirms that progress achieved in HFA implementation is uneven across the world, reflecting broad economic and institutional differences among regions and countries and also highlighted that in many places, implementation of HFA does not seem to take place in a holistic way.The Review observed that avoiding compartmentalizing action according to the HFA’s Five Priorities for Action requires a strategic and executive direction for disaster risk reduction at the national level.  HFA implementation at local level is a point highlighted throughout the Mid-Term Review and encompasses issues such as decentralizing authority, where capacities exist, empowering local communities, including at the grassroots level; and creating a social demand for DRR so that individuals realize their own share of responsibility in increasing their resilience and in holding governments accountable for the development and implementation of coherent disaster risk reduction plans and investments. The Review also confirmed that the integration of climate change adaptation and DRR is a necessity that must be addressed at the national and local levels through integrated plans to enhance resilience of communities.   The final sections of the report outline critical elements needed to enhance implementation of the HFA through 2015.  Amongst them is the need to ensure that national and international institutions are institutionally set up to deal in the most effective ways with DRR.  Handling what is primarily a developmental issue with largely relief and humanitarian mechanisms and instruments, while helpful at the beginning, needs to be reconsidered to ensure that DRR plays the role that it must in enabling and safeguarding development gains. Governance for the implementation of the HFA at the international and national levels should also be improved.  At the international level, there is a need to set up a broadly representative mechanism to ensure follow-through between meetings of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.  At the national level, the Mid-Term Review highlights a need to develop and improve synergies to ensure coordinated and coherent action on DRR across different sectors of government.  There must be a senior, over-arching authority at government level where responsibility, and with it accountability, rests for setting policies, driving processes, and ensuring budget allocations for all the different aspects of DRR.  The effectiveness of National Platforms in informing and supporting this executive level of decision-making can be assessed accordingly.  The Mid-Term Review also records a call for the inclusion of accountability mechanisms to measure progress or lack thereof. The Review report notes that setting targets can help in accelerating HFA implementation through 2015.  Targets can be nationally or regionally set, and self-monitored.  There is a clear recognition that guidance alone is not sufficient and that standards to ensure quality in the delivery of the guidance are necessary.  Standards can be developed for the implementation of DRR at regional and national levels.  The Review further indicates that there is a need for the international community to support governments in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action in a more coherent and integrated fashion and that the development of a joint action plan may help generate and crystallize such coherence. The prevailing views on a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, irrespective of whether it would be of a legally binding nature or not, include the need to ensure solid, structural links with sustainable development and climate change international framework agreements.  |
| **Session’s structure** |
| **Coordinator:** | UNISDR |  |
| **Moderator:** | UNISDR |  |
| **Secretary:** | TBD |  |
| **Co-secretary:** | TBD |  |
| **Follow-up:** | UNISDR |  |
| **Agenda** |
| **Times** | **Item** |  |  |
| 15 minutes | Introductory presentation by UNISDR |  |  |
| 2 hours | Group work |  |  |
| 45 minutes | Presentation of findings and discussions |  |  |

**Products to be delivered:**

1. Summary sheet to be presented at the end of this session (annex 1)
2. Conclusions and recommendations to be presented in power point format to the plenary session

**Annex 1: Session’s summary sheet**

| **Session’s summary sheet: Roadmap to DRR in the Americas & HFA Mid-Term Review** |
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| **Level of action** | **Critical factors** | **Priority actions** | **Expected results****2011 / 2015****(per action)** | **Key actors and agencies** | **Good practices**  |
| Regional/Subregional |  |  |  |  |   |
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| National/Subnational |  |  |  |  |   |
| Local |  |  |  |  |   |