



International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

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Basic documents

G8 Response to the Indian Ocean Disaster

Living with Risk
Version 2004

Reports of the Secretary-General

General Assembly resolutions on ISDR

Other ISDR related resolutions

Geneva Mandate

A Safer World in the 21st Century

Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for a Safer World



Living with Risk A global review of disaster reduction initiatives 2004 version

Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR)

"While many people are aware of the terrible impact of disasters throughout the world, few realize that this is a problem that we can do something about. This report, Living with Risk: A Global Review of Disaster Reduction Initiatives, should help to change that."

Disasters are a problem that we can and must reduce. I commend this publication to all involved in the effort to build resilient communities and nations in our hazard-filled planet."

Kofi A. Annan
 UN Secretary-General

While the world has witnessed a drop in the number of deaths per year due to disasters over the past ten years, more people are being affected and economic costs are escalating more than ever.

Earthquakes are inevitable, but death in an earthquake is not. Floods are a fact of life, but they need not wash away health, hope and livelihoods. *Living with Risk - a global review of disaster reduction initiatives* is intended for people who have an interest in and practice disaster risk management and sustainable development. It provides guidance, policy orientation and inspiration, as well as serving as a reference for lessons on how to reduce risk and vulnerability to hazards and to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

Natural hazards can affect anyone, anywhere. People are threatened by hazards because of their social, economic and environmental vulnerability, which must be taken into account if sustainable development is to be achieved. Disaster risk reduction therefore concerns everyone, from villagers to heads of state, from bankers and lawyers to farmers and foresters, from meteorologists to media chiefs.

Living with Risk: A global review of disaster reduction initiatives brings to light the urgent need for action to be taken – and the people who are doing so – towards building sustainable societies in an increasingly disaster-prone world.

Following the overwhelming feedback received for the preliminary edition of 2002, the ISDR Secretariat is pleased to present the full text of the 2004 version of the publication "Living with Risk: A global review of disaster reduction initiatives" (available for purchase from [UN Sales Publications](#)).

The 2004 version takes into consideration those comments received based on the previous edition, incorporating further developments, providing more in-depth analysis as well as comprehensive coverage of current activities in disaster risk reduction.

Click [here](#) to download brochure and order form for *Living with Risk: A global review of disaster reduction initiatives*

Please send comments and enquiries to isdr@un.org

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