



From Knowledge to Action - The Role of the Disaster Reduction Hyperbase (DRH) Initiative and of Its Europe/Africa Node in Particular

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In the aftermath of the World Conference of Disaster Reduction (2005, Kobe, Japan) and in the light of the Hyogo Framework of Action (HFA) several activities have been launched that focus in mitigating the effects and consequences of natural disasters. Among those activities the DRH initiative has gained importance by collecting any risk reduction technique or measure and deploying it on internet-based platforms for further re-use. Thus the DRH platform acts as a throughput of knowledge and wisdom towards practitioners worldwide.

The range of knowledge comprises concrete techniques and tools as well as written-down methods, processes and procedures. As particularity, indigenous knowledge and wisdom should also be collected, analysed and further deployed. Overall aim of DRH is to approve all these measures, to analyse and classify them and to make them known to a broad audience thus contributing to risk reduction in general.

The DRH activities have been partitioned into regional and sub-regional initiatives though knowledge exchange among regional nodes is envisaged. The DRH Europe/Africa node plans to streamline knowledge on disaster reduction measures from both continents involving stakeholders and facilitators. On the other hand, being a partner in the global DRH alliance, the DRH Europe/Africa node aims at triggering risk reduction awareness when and where necessary.