# OCHA activities in support of HFA implementation in Asia

#### Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction Bali Nov 2009



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### Overview

- 1.Role of Governments in disaster preparedness and response
- 2.The humanitarian response system
- 3.Preparedness activities 2008
- 4. Planned activities 2009





- General Assembly adopted Resolution 46/182 in 1991 to strengthen the UN's response to complex emergencies and natural disasters.
- Resolution created the position of Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC).
- OCHA and ISDR both report to the ERC, John Holmes





### Tenets of International Natural Disaster Response

- All international assistance is in support of national authorities on request
- The UN General Assembly has mandated the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) to coordinate international response
- Bilateral assistance predominates





#### THREE PILLARS OF REFORM AND THE FOUNDATION

**CLUSTER APPROACH** 

Adequate capacity and predictable leadership in all sectors HUMANITARIAN COORDINATORS Effective leadership and coordination in humanitarian emergencies

#### HUMANITARIAN FINANCING

Adequate, timely and flexible financing

#### PARTNERSHIP

Strong partnerships between UN and non-UN actors



#### Cluster/Sector Working Group

- 1. Agriculture
- 2. Camp Coordination & Camp Mgmt
- 3. Early Recovery
- 4. Education
- 5. Emergency Shelter
- 6. Emergency Telecomms
- 7. Health
- 8. Logistics
- 9. Nutrition
- 10. Protection
- 11. Water, Sanitation & Hygiene

Global Cluster Leads FAO UNHCR & IOM

> **UNDP UNICEF & Save the Children UNHCR & IFRC (Convenor) OCHA (UNICEF & WFP)** WHO WFP UNICEF **UNHCR UNICEF**

- "HFA Priority 5: Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels" (1 of 2)
- Building national capacity
  - UNDAC Disaster Response Preparedness mission to Bhutan (Apr 08) and tabletop exercise (Sep 08)
  - National workshop for Lao PDR (follow-up to UNDAC Disaster Response Preparedness mission in July 08, AAR in Nov 08)
  - Building national SAR capacity (Subic Bay, Philippines, Apr 08)
  - Civil-Military coordination (APC-MADRO, Australia, Nov 08)
  - Regional Simulation exercises (ASEAN ARDEX, Aug 08)
  - Pandemic preparedness 'all-hazard approach'
  - Assessment training with Indonesia and ASEAN
- Inter-agency contingency planning
  - Myanmar (Feb 08), Fiji (July 08), Thailand (Oct 08), Indonesia (Nov 08)

 "HFA Priority 5: Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels" (2 of 2)

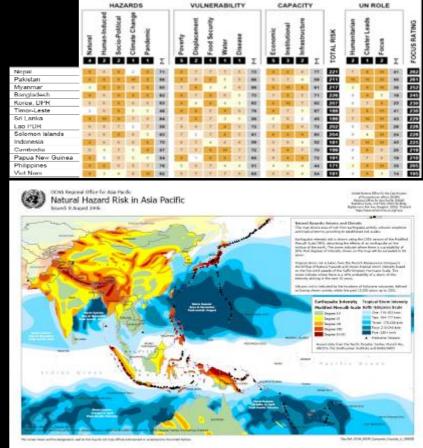
#### Coordination and assessments

- ASEAN ERAT assessment skills training (Manila, Oct 08)
- Indonesia/BNPB coordination and assessment training (Oct 08)
- Myanmar field coordination training (Sep 08)
- Pacific Humanitarian Group established (July 08)
- Sri Lanka coordination workshop (Sep 08)
- Timor-Leste coordination workshop (Oct 08)
- RDRA for Central Asia
- Regional IASC network and cluster lead cooperation

#### • Information Management and Data Preparedness

- Myanmar Information Management Unit (MIMU) established (Jan 08)
- Data preparedness assessments carried out in Bangladesh, Lao PDR, Philippines and Papua New Guinea

- HFA Priority 2: "Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning"
- Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System Consortium projects completed in the Maldives, Thailand and Sri Lanka (2007-08)
- Regional and country-level hazard mapping
- Global Focus Countries Model
- IASC Early-Warning Early-Action reports



### Looking forward to 2009

- UNDAC Disaster Response Preparedness mission in Cambodia (Feb 09)
- UNDAC Disaster Response Preparedness mission in Papua New Guinea (May 09)
- Data preparedness assessments in Cambodia, Pakistan and the Solomon Islands
- OCHA corporate advocacy campaign on climate change and preparedness
- Enhanced cooperation with ADRRN and its members organizations
- Regional 3 Ws established and regularly updated





### Looking forward to 2009

- INSARAG Regional exercise in Kathmandu
- Joint ASEAN and OCHA Exercise Design Workshop and follow up on other areas of cooperation
- Minimum preparedness
  package for focus countries
- IASC cooperation and joint preparedness activities on the regional level
- Enhanced cooperation with other regional entities
- The regional IASC and global cluster lead group
- Strengthening the cooperation with ADRC on CA



