

Aide Memoire

Meeting of Partners of the Joint ECA and UNISDR Development Account Project on Strengthening Capacities of African Policymakers to Mainstream Natural Disaster Risk Reduction into National and Regional Development Policies and Strategies in Africa

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia at the United Nations Conference Centre, Caucus Room 11

26 and 27 February 2015

1. Introduction

In response to the Seventh Tranche of the UN Development Account Project, ECA and UNISDR jointly conceived the project on Strengthening Capacities of African Policymakers to Mainstream Natural DRR into National and Regional Development Policies and Strategies in Africa. As indicated in the attached detailed project document, the objective of the project is to strengthen the capacities of relevant regional, sub-regional and national entities to mainstream disaster risk reduction (DRR) into regional, sub-regional and national development strategies to contribute to meeting the MDGs and the attainment of sustainable development goals in Africa. The approval of financing of the project from residual funds of the tranche was communicated to ECA in March 2012. Project implementation commenced in February 2013 following designation of focal points by the collaborating partners and revision of the implementation plan.

2. Project beneficiaries and partners

Project activities are mainly targeted at two Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and members States. The RECs are the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC). In addition, project activities included a regional study and results dissemination to inform DRR mainstreaming beyond the two target RECs. The main project partners are ECA, UNISDR, the Secretariat of SADC, the ECOWAS Commission, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the African Union Commission (AUC).

3. Progress in the implementation of the project and objective of the partners' meeting.

Most of the planned project activities have been implemented (see Annex 1). The only outstanding activities are the holding of the partners meeting and evaluation of the project. It is against this backdrop that the partners' meeting is being organized.

Objective of the partners meeting:

The main objective of the meeting is to review project achievements, share experiences and lessons learned, and explore cooperation and collaboration opportunities and arrangements to build on project results taking into account priorities of the African Union Commission, Regional Economic Communities and member States.

4. Format of the meeting

The meeting is designed to be interactive. Following the welcome and introduction, the meeting will deliberate on two main agenda items as featured in the provisional programme of work in Annex 2.

These are:

- (i) Presentation and discussion on the deliverables and achievements of the ECA-UNISDR DA Project: deliverables, achievements, key findings, challenges and lessons learned; and
- (ii) Building on project results to further DRR Mainstreaming in Africa.

5. Expected Outcomes and output

The main outcomes expected from the meeting are:

- (i) Common understanding and appreciation of the achievements, challenges and lessons learned from the project; and
- (ii) Future interventions and collaboration arrangements to further DRR mainstreaming in Africa

The main output will be a brief report containing main conclusions and recommendations of the partners' meeting.

6. Participation in the meeting

The meeting will be attended by 20-25 participants representing AUC, RECs (SADC and ECOWAS), UNISDR, UNDP and ECA/SID.

7. Venue and Date

The meeting will take place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia at the United Nations Conference Centre, Caucus Room 11 on 26 and 27 February 2015

8. Logistical Information (Visa and Hotel)

ECA will request for a visa on arrival for all the participants coming from out of Addis Ababa/Ethiopia. These participants have been booked in Aphrodite Hotel, located within walking distance from the ECA premises. The hotel shuttle will transport the participants to and from Bole Airport.

Annex 1.

Meeting of Partners of the Joint ECA and UNISDR Project on Strengthening Capacities of African Policymakers to Mainstream Natural Disaster Risk Reduction into National and Regional Development Policies and Strategies in Africa, 25 and 26 February 2015

Highlight of Activities Implemented – February 2015

Main Planned Activities	Accomplishments
<p>A 1.1 Carry out comprehensive national assessments, and conduct review of priority regional, subregional and national development policies, strategies, programmes and CCA-UNDAFs for selected RECs and member States.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 National assessment reports for Malawi, Mozambique, Togo and Nigeria have been produced • 2 Subregional Assessment reports for Southern and West Africa have been produced
<p>A 1.2 Carry out regional assessment and synthesize best practices and produce on-line tools and guidelines to improve and scale up effective disaster risk and vulnerability analysis and the mainstreaming DRR into regional, subregional and national development policies, strategies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 The regional synthesis report has been produced
<p>A 1.3 Publish and disseminate study report, tools, guidelines and best practices in mainstreaming DRR into regional, subregional and national policies, strategies and programmes, as well as CCA-UNDAFs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing
<p>A 2.1 Conduct two subregional training workshops targeted at policy makers and DRR practitioners of the AUC, NPCA, the two RECs (ECOWAS and SADC) and their member States.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SADC jointly with ECA, UNISDR, UNDP and EU conducted the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Sub-regional Platform: Mainstreaming & Implementing DRR into Development Frameworks in the SADC Region from 28 to 29 November 2013, Gaborone, Botswana. • The ECOWAS Commission, in collaboration with the UNISDR, UNDP-BCPR, UNECA, FOREWARN Initiative and ACMAD, organized a Regional Workshop on Information Sharing and Early Warning Coordination Mechanisms and Disaster Risk Reduction from 11-14 November 2013 in Niamey, Republic of Niger.
<p>A 2.2 Conduct one results dissemination meeting to showcase, share and disseminate</p>	<p>The results of the project were disseminated in the following event and session jointly organized by ECA and UNDP:</p>

project outputs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pre-event on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Mainstreaming and Investment for Resilient Structural Transformation of Africa on 12 May 2014. The event was held on the eve of the Fifth Africa Regional Platform (AfRP5) which took place from 13 to 16 May 2014 at Transcorp Hilton Hotel, Abuja, Nigeria.• Parallel Session on DRR Leadership, mainstreaming and investment in Africa, held on 14 May 2014 as part of the AfRP5
------------------	---

Annex 2:

Meeting of Partners of the Joint ECA and UNISDR Development Account (DA) Project on Strengthening Capacities of African Policymakers to Mainstream Natural Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) into National and Regional Development Policies and Strategies in Africa,

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia,

United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), Caucus Room 11

26 and 27 February 2015

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF WORK

DAY 1: 26 February 2015

9:30 – 10:15hrs

Welcome and introduction: [Chair - ECA](#)

- Welcome and introduction of the objectives of the meeting by ECA
- Remarks by Partners (UNISDR, UNDP, RECs and AUC)

10:15 – 10:30hrs

Coffee/Tea Break

10:30 – 13:00hrs

Presentation and discussions on the deliverables and achievements of the ECA-UNISDR DA Project: [Chair - UNISDR](#)

- Presentation on the ECA-UNISDR DA project on DRR Mainstreaming – Main deliverables, achievements, key findings, challenges and lessons learned
- Presentations on AUC and RECs perspectives on the project
- General Discussions

13:00 – 14:00hrs

Lunch

14:00-17:00hrs **Presentation and Discussions on the ECA-UNISDR DA Project Continued: Chair - UNDP**

DAY 2: 27 February 2015

9:30 – 11:00hrs **Furthering DRR Mainstreaming in Africa: Chair – AUC**

- Main priorities for DRR mainstreaming
 - Highlights of key priorities for DRR mainstreaming at regional, subregional and national levels by AUC and RECs
 - Overview of ongoing/planned initiatives and perspectives in response to emerging priorities on DRR mainstreaming
 - *UNDP*
 - *UNISDR*
 - *ECA/Special Initiatives Division (SID)*
 - Discussions

11:00 – 11:15 ***Coffee/Tea Break***

11:15 – 12:45 **Furthering DRR Mainstreaming in Africa Continued: Chair – AUC**

- Future interventions and collaboration arrangements

12:45 – 13:00 **Closing of the meeting**

- Remarks by ECA
- Remarks by AUC