



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) Hyogo Framework for Action Monitoring and Review: 2007-09

What is the period being considered for the current Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) monitoring and review process?

The period being recommended for the current biennial review is from June 2007 to May 2009.

From February – May 2007, a considerable number of countries prepared national progress reviews which were shared with the UN/ISDR secretariat for inclusion in analysis compiled for the [Disaster Risk Reduction: 2007 Global Review](#). Many countries also presented national progress reviews and national statements compiled in 2007, at the first [Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction](#) event held in June 2007, in Geneva.

For countries that have previously not been able to conduct a national review of progress in implementation of the HFA, it will be useful to undertake a review of activities with the year of the adoption of the HFA as baseline i.e. 2005, for this online exercise. In this case the review would cover the period January 2005 – May 2009.

Who is responsible for monitoring and reporting on progress in the implementation of the HFA?

As per the recommendations of the Hyogo Framework, States are mainly responsible for reporting at country level while regional intergovernmental organizations and institutions, international organizations and the ISDR system partners are responsible for reporting at regional and global levels respectively.

To coordinate at the global level, the UN/ISDR secretariat will facilitate a biennial cycle of monitoring and reporting of progress (for the current period 2007-09) on implementation of disaster risk reduction priorities, with support from relevant partners at the national, regional and global level, and across thematic areas.

Communications have been sent from the UN/ISDR secretariat to all Permanent Missions and national HFA focal points regarding the support UN/ISDR secretariat would be glad to offer Member States and regional institutions for effective monitoring and review of progress and challenges. Please contact your UN/ISDR regional focal point if such communication has not reached your office by mid-April 2008.

Where can I find previous national reports/ statements compiled by my country on the implementation of the HFA/ national reports relevant to disaster risk reduction?

The PreventionWeb hosts all previous national reports/ statements shared in past years with the ISDR secretariat, online the respective country pages. If you have additional or recent national reports and relevant policies on disaster risk reduction, please share these with PreventionWeb online and the contents of your country page will be updated as soon as possible.

What is the 'HFA Monitor'?

The HFA Monitor is the ISDR system's online tool to monitor, review and report on progress and challenges in the implementation of disaster risk reduction and recovery actions undertaken at the national level, in accordance with the Hyogo Framework's priorities. The HFA Monitor tool has been designed and coordinated by the UN/ ISDR secretariat and will be hosted online [Prevention Web](#) 9 May 2008 onwards.

What are the benefits of the HFA Monitor to countries implementing disaster risk reduction actions?

Developing benchmarks and indicators that monitor, evaluate and report on progress in implementation of disaster risk reduction measures have evident benefits at the local, national, regional and international level:

- Identifying existing problems/ gaps and increasing their importance on the political agenda
- Providing evidence that past investments in disaster risk reduction have made a difference in making people's lives safer from disasters and in reducing disaster risk.

- Promoting solutions through new or strengthened policies, programmes, plans, capacities and resources
- Developing systematic, comprehensive data and information management systems with regard to disaster reduction which will help identify DRR policy and programme priorities.
- Establishing generic standards for implementing disaster risk reduction actions at all levels
- Ensuring a joint prioritization of risk reduction and recovery actions, as identified at the national, regional and global levels.

How will such inputs contribute to other/ ongoing regional or global processes?

Inputs to the online HFA Monitor will lead to the generation of comprehensive national progress reviews for the period 2007-09, and will enable the country with easy future access to its disaster risk information and monitoring trends in progress across the years.

These national reviews/ reports can also be presented by respective national authorities/ platforms at the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in June (15-19) 2009 to aid discussions and joint prioritization of disaster risk reduction initiatives at all levels with participating donor institutions, bilateral agencies and international organizations.

At the global level, availability of such country specific information and analysis will also provide an opportunity to highlight national and regional trends in progress and challenges encountered in the implementation of the HFA. Such trends in progress and challenges at the national level will be highlighted in the ISDR system's first biennial Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction – also to be released at the second session of the 2009 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

What is the timeframe to access the HFA Monitor online?

Designated national authority/ HFA focal points will have access to the HFA Monitor online tool from 9 May 2008 onwards. Focal points will receive an email notification with a user id and password from the ISDR secretariat in late April 2008 to enable access to the online tool in May via PreventionWeb country pages.

ISDR secretariat invites all countries which have not yet nominated a national HFA focal point to do so at your earliest convenience. Please submit the name and contact details to: thorlund@un.org

How can I access the HFA Monitor online?

Focal points will receive an email notification with a user id and password from the ISDR secretariat in late April 2008 to enable access to the online tool in May via PreventionWeb country pages.

Is the information provided online confidential?

The information provided online by designated national focal points is completely confidential until the national focal point certifies that the national review process has been completed online and thereby allows the ISDR secretariat access to make available online the analysis and recommendations through the country's webpage.

However, a technical team in the ISDR secretariat Geneva, and designated ISDR regional office focal points may be allowed access by the designated national focal points in case support/ guidance/ assistance is required on completing the online national reviews.

What information does a country have to provide online?

The online tool is structured according to 8 sections, covering the HFAs three strategic goals, 22 'core indicators' relevant to the HFAs five priorities for action, six 'drivers of progress', and three 'future outlook' statements. Progress made in each of these areas can be monitored online with the help of this tool and countries can conduct a self assessment against generic 'levels of progress' provided.

For further information on each of the sections, indicators and benchmarks used for the online HFA Monitor, please refer to the HFA Monitor sample template in word document format available from PreventionWeb.

What is the recommended process for collating and analyzing information that will be uploaded onto the HFA Monitor?

OR:

How can national authorities ensure that the national review reflects the DRR experiences of the wider DRR community in their country?

The process of collating and analyzing inputs for the online progress reviews should link with existing mechanisms and reporting requirements to provide more specific indication of progress and challenges with regard to the HFA's implementation.

This will entail a two pronged approach: one, to build on existing reports which capture efforts and trends in implementation of the HFA or make reference to disaster risk reduction and recovery efforts (such as the CCA, PRSPs, MDG monitoring, NAPA or other existing mechanisms); and two, conduct broad consultation with partners involved in the implementation of the HFA at the national and local level. This consultation can be facilitated by existing national platform mechanisms, or the UNCT, as relevant.

Facilitation, technical and coordination support for organizing inputs to the HFA reporting will be provided to National Platforms/HFA Focal Points and/or national authorities by UN-ISDR secretariat, sub-regional intergovernmental bodies, or the UNCT as relevant.

What languages can I access the HFA Monitor tool in?

The online HFA Monitor tool is available in English, Spanish and French for the current review period (2007-09). ISDR secretariat hopes to make the online tool available in more languages for the next biennial period of review (2009-2011).

Will guidance be provided to work with the online HFA Monitor tool?

User guidance and technical assistance notes for the HFA Monitor will be made available on PreventionWeb in April 2008. For additional guidance on indicators, benchmarks and examples of their application, you could refer to the 'Indicators of Progress' guidance available online <http://www.unisdr.org/>

Do I always have to work on the online tool, or is there a download option/ template available for reference?

Since working online may perhaps be inconvenient sometimes, an HFA Monitor sample template in word document format can be downloaded from the PreventionWeb country pages under the 'Key documents' section.

To the extent possible, this sample template replicates the online HFA Monitor tool, and will give you an opportunity to familiarize yourself with the requirements of the online tool in advance of accessing it.

It is proposed that national focal points use this as a working format to undertake national consultation processes to review progress and challenges in implementation of risk reduction and recovery actions. The template will help you to discuss and record inputs from various partner consultations in a systematic manner.

In May 2008, when the online HFA Monitor tool is accessible on Prevention Web, we request you to feed in all relevant analysis and information collected from partner consultations thus far recorded in the sample format into the online tool. This sample template will continue to be available as an easy to download format from Prevention Web, to facilitate ongoing national consultations and analysis.

The HFA Monitor sample templates have been made available to download from PreventionWeb in 5 languages – English, Spanish, French, Arabic and Russian.

Will I be able to update the information or make changes to our national report once it's been submitted?

Updates and/or changes to inputs submitted online can be made at any time until May 2009, although it is the information submitted by 28 July 2008 that will be considered for compiling analysis on national and regional trends in the 2009 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction.

Updates made online until May 2009 can be shared online PreventionWeb country pages and presented as national progress reviews/ reports prior to/ at the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (15-19 June 2009).

As designated national focal point, am I the only person who can work on the HFA Monitor online for submitting country inputs?

A user id and password will be assigned to each national focal point by email in late April 2008. The designated focal point may choose to share these with other individuals in order to facilitate the process; however it remains the responsibility of each national designated focal point to 'sign off' the report as completed online, as a national report submission.

Keep in mind that changes made by more than one person could lend to confusion. This is why the best alternative may be to download the word document in order to collect inputs from multiple actors and then have one person systematize inputs and submit the information online.

Where can I get further guidance on the indicators and levels of progress?

ISDR secretariat has recently published guidance on 'Indicators of Progress' which specifies examples and definitions for the 22 indicators being considered for the online HFA review process. The guidance also provides additional indicators and references on data sources. This guidance is available online <http://www.unisdr.org/>

In May 2008, additional user guidance notes will be provided online, and will include examples for all indicators, and drivers considered in the online assessment.

Whom do I contact if I need further guidance / support?

If you have any questions related to the HFA Monitor online tool or the sample template, please contact your ISDR regional office focal point:

Africa - Pedro Basabe (basabe@un.org), **Americas** - Jennifer Guralnick (jguralnick@eird.org), **Asia-Pacific** - Jerry Velasquez (velasquezg@un.org), **Europe** - Paola Albrito (albrito@un.org) and **West Asia and North Africa** - Mostafa Mohaghegh (mostafa.mohaghegh@unisdr-wana.org).

We hope the HFA Monitor tool will be of assistance to your mission of reducing disaster risk at all levels!