

Annex 2

Directory: International, regional, national, and specialized organizations involved in disaster reduction and related issues

This list contains brief descriptive information and contact details of the academic and research institutions, specialized governmental and non-governmental organizations mentioned in the Global Review. Additional information about the United Nations is listed in Chapter 6.2 "UN agencies and scope of activities". The ISDR Secretariat is preparing a more comprehensive directory focusing on internet sources on disaster reduction and related issues. This directory, compiled in a database, will be available on the ISDR Website www.unisdr.org.

The ISDR secretariat would be pleased to receive your comments, corrections or additional information for future versions.

African Center of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD), Niamey, Niger

ACMAD is the focal point in fostering regional cooperation among the fifty-three African states with the rest of the world in climate and environmental concerns with regard to sustainable social and economic development. The center coordinates the activities of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) of these countries. <http://205.156.54.206/ia/acmad.htm> <http://www.acmad.ne/uk/>

African Union

The African Union is the successor to the Organization of African Unity launched in Durban, South Africa in July, 2002. <http://www.africa-union.org/>

Agence européenne pour le Développement et la Santé (AEDES)

The European Agency for the Development and Health focuses on public health policies, food security and social programmes such as gender policy. <http://www.aedes.be/>

Agency of Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), Japan

The National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), is an Independent Administrative Institution under the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry . On April, 2001 the new AIST began operations. It comprises 15 research institutes previously under the former Agency of Industrial Science and Technology (the former AIST) in the Ministry of International Trade and the Weights and Measures Training Institute. AIST is Japan's largest public research organization. http://www.aist.go.jp/index_en.html

Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)

AOSIS is a coalition of small island and low-lying coastal countries that share similar development challenges and concerns about the environment, especially their vulnerability to the adverse effects of global climate change. It functions primarily as an ad hoc lobby and negotiating voice for small island developing states (SIDS) within the United Nations system. AOSIS has a membership of 43 states and territories, drawn from all oceans and regions of the world: Africa, Caribbean, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean, Pacific and South China Sea. Thirty-seven are members of the United Nations, close to 28 percent of developing countries, and 20 percent of the UN's total membership. Together, SIDS communities constitute some five percent of the global population. Member States of AOSIS work together primarily through their New York diplomatic Missions to the United Nations. <http://www.sidsnet.org/aosis>

ASEAN Experts Group on Disaster Management (AEGDM)

ASEAN cooperation on natural and man-made disasters is coordinated by AEGDM, which was established in 1976, and which meets every two years to discuss and share experiences of the region's disaster management and mitigation activities. <http://www.adpc.ait.ac.th/pdr-sea/newsletter/issue3/pdr-update.html>

ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)

ARF is a regional platform of ASEAN countries and dialogue partners for confidence building and dialogue on regional security concerns. It was established in 1994. It draws together 23 countries which have an impact on or are involved in the security of the Asia Pacific region. It comprises the 10 ASEAN member states (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam); the 10 ASEAN dialogue partners (Australia, Canada, China, the European Union, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia and the United States); the one ASEAN observer (Papua New Guinea); as well as the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea and Mongolia.

<http://www.dfat.gov.au/arf/arfintro.html>

Asian Development Bank (ADB), Manila, Philippines

ADB is a multilateral development finance institution dedicated to reducing poverty in Asia and the Pacific. <http://www.adb.org/>

Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), Bangkok, Thailand

ADPC is a regional resource center established in 1986 dedicated to disaster reduction for safer communities and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific. It is recognized as an important focal point for promoting disaster awareness and developing capabilities to foster institutionalized disaster management and mitigation policies. <http://www.adpc.ait.ac.th/>

Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), Kobe, Japan

ADRC was established in July 1998 to promote multilateral cooperation for disaster reduction and to network the various players in the region. It has held annual meetings to network the focal points in governments of its member countries. Its activities focus on information sharing, capacity building and cooperation. It has developed several successful capacity building programmes with its member countries. www.adrc.or.jp

Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok, Thailand

AIT is an international graduate institution of higher learning with a mission to develop highly qualified and committed professionals who will play a leading role in the sustainable development of the region and its integration into the global economy. <http://www.ait.ac.th/>

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Singapore

Its goal is to advance economic dynamism and sense of community within the Asia-Pacific region. APEC has established itself as the primary regional vehicle for promoting open trade and practical economic and technical cooperation. <http://www.apecsec.org.sg/>

Association of Caribbean States (ACS), Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, West Indies

The Convention Establishing the ACS was signed on 24 July 1994 in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, with the aim of promoting consultation, cooperation and concerted action among all the countries of the Caribbean, comprising 25 Member States and three Associate Members. Eight other non-independent Caribbean states are eligible for associate membership. Its current focus is on cooperation in trade, transport, sustainable tourism and natural disasters. <http://www.acs-aec.org/>

Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Bangkok, Thailand

The ASEAN Declaration states that the aims and purposes of the Association are: (i) to accelerate the economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region through joint endeavours in the spirit of equality and partnership in order to strengthen the foundation for a prosperous and peaceful community of Southeast Asian nations, and (ii) to promote regional peace and stability through abiding respect for justice and the rule of law in the relationship among countries in the region and adherence to the principles of the United Nations Charter. <http://www.aseansec.org/>

Auckland Local Authority Hazard Liaison Group, New Zealand

It was established by the Auckland Regional Council to enhance communication between local authorities in hazard management issues and to facilitate intra-council communication. The Group was set up to recognize the link between hazard mitigation and land use planning, and the need to develop tools in areas to successfully manage risk, and to improve communication between those working in the area of sustainable development and environment management. <http://www.ema.gov.au/5virtuallibrary/pdfs/vol16no4/pardy.pdf>

Australian Emergency Management Institute (AEMI), Victoria, Australia (See : EMAI)

AEMI was an arm of Emergency Management Australia (EMA), which is the federal agency responsible for reducing the impact of natural and man-made disasters on the Australian community. AEMI as a registered training organisation, annually conducting a range of Commonwealth-funded activities designed to improve Australia's capability to cope with disasters. <http://www.emergency.nsw.gov.au/AEMI.htm>

Australian Geological Survey Organization (AGSO)

Geoscience Australia is the national agency for geoscience research and information. It contributes to enhance economic, social and environmental benefits to the community - by providing input for decisions that impact upon resource use, management of the environment, and the safety and well-being of Australians. Its major planned outcomes are: enhanced global attractiveness of Australia's offshore and onshore exploration, improved resource management and environmental protection, safer communities and transportation. <http://www.agso.gov.au/>

Benfield Greig Hazard Research Centre (BGHRC), University College London, United Kingdom

The BGHRC is an academic research centre which comprises three groups: Geological Hazards, Meteorological and Space Hazards, and Disaster Management. The BGHRC provides a conduit for the transfer of cutting-edge natural hazard and risk research, practice, and innovation from the academic environment to the business world and government and international agencies. www.bghrc.com

Bureau de la protection des infrastructures essentielles et de la protection civile, Canada (BPIEPC). Also Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Preparedness (OCIPEP)

Its mission is to enhance the safety and security of Canadians in their physical and cyber environment. <http://www.ocipep-bpiepc.gc.ca/index.html>

Business and Industry Council for Emergency Planning and Preparedness (BICEPP)

In 1983, the Mayor of Los Angeles and a group of business leaders met to discuss disaster preparedness. This group subsequently became a steering committee and formed the Business and Industry Council for Emergency Planning and Preparedness (BICEPP). It was established as a private sector, self-help association funded by annual sponsorship donations. BICEPP later evolved into a non-profit corporation, lead by an Executive Committee and a Board of Directors. Its goal is to provide a forum for information exchange, to enhance emergency preparedness and contingency planning within the business community.
<http://www.bicepp.org/>

Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

CIDA supports sustainable development activities in order to reduce poverty and to contribute to a more secure, equitable and prosperous world. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/index.htm>

Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

Its mission is :”To provide dynamic leadership and service, in partnership with Community institutions and Groups, toward the attainment of a viable, internationally competitive and sustainable Community, with improved quality of life for all.” <http://www.caricom.org/>

Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), St. Michael, Barbados

CDB intends to be the leading Caribbean development finance institution, working in an efficient, responsive and collaborative manner with its borrowing members, leading towards the systematic reduction of poverty in member countries, through social and economic development. <http://www.caribank.org/>

Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA), St. Michael, Barbados

CDERA is an intergovernmental, regional disaster management organization with 16 participating states, headquartered in Barbados. CDERA's main function is to launch an immediate and coordinated response to any disastrous event affecting any participating state, once the state requests such assistance. www.cdra.org

Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), Honduras

CABEI, as a development bank and the financial arm of integration, has as its mission to promote progress and integration in the Isthmus, to foment economic growth with equity and to respect the environment, by means of supporting public and private projects and programs that create productive employment and contribute to improve productivity and competitiveness, as well as to increase the human development indices of the region. Headquartered in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, CABEI was founded on December 13, 1960, by the Republics of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica to promote regional integration and development. The bank's membership has since grown to include the extra-regional members of Mexico, the Republic of China (Taiwan), Argentina and, most recently, Colombia. <http://www.bcie.org/>

Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control (CCFSC), Viet Nam

The CCFSC Control is responsible for emergency responses to disastrous events in Viet Nam.

Central European Disaster Prevention Forum (CEUDIP)

This Forum has been established in 1999 by decision of the Central European Committees for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction of the United Nations (IDNDR). This was done in order to continue the efforts initiated during the Decade by the countries of Central Europe (Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia) in activities requiring collaboration of neighbouring countries in all types of disasters, in particular in floods on rivers which are shared by these countries. The main focus was on early warning, but other important issues are being mutually considered, including the media's role, disaster prevention and mitigation and legislation on states of emergency. <http://www.unisdr.org/unisdr/dirregional.htm>

Centre International de Formation des Acteurs locaux (CIFAL), France (International Training Centre for Local Actors)

The objectives of the center are: to contribute to crisis management by UN agencies; to focus on the role of local community for emergency humanitarian response and aids for reconstruction and to establish partnership with UN agencies and other international actors. <http://www.unitar.org/cifal/>

Center for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH), United Kingdom

The Centre for Ecology and Hydrology's site at Wallingford is home to the hydrology research centre for the United Kingdom (the former Institute of Hydrology), as well as the British Geological Survey's hydrogeology research group, the publishing office of the International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS Press) and a section of the Natural Environment Research Council's (NERC) central IT Solutions and Services Group. www.nerc-wallingford.ac.uk www.ceh.ac.uk

Center for Integration of Natural Disaster Information (CINDI), United States Geological Survey

CINDI is a research and operational facility that explores methods for collecting, integrating, and communicating information about the risks posed by natural hazards and the effects of natural disasters. <http://mac.usgs.gov/isb/pubs/factsheets/fs00301.html>

Center on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP), Dhaka, Bangladesh

CIRDAP is a regional, intergovernmental and autonomous institution established in July 1979 by the countries of Asia and the Pacific region. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, which had the support of several other UN bodies and donor countries and agencies such as Japan, and the Swedish International Development Agency took the initiative for its creation. The member countries of CIRDAP are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam. <http://www.cirdap.org.sg/>

Centre européen de prévention des risques (CEPR), France

The CEPR is a center on applied sciences in the field of prevention. Its work is founded on the expertise of insurers, researchers, and manufacturers of products and services. <http://www.cepr.tm.fr/fr/index.htm>

Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED), Catholic University of

Louvain, Brussels, Belgium Although the main focus of the Centre is on safeguards, public health and the sanitary aspects of disasters, CRED also studies the socio-economic and long-term effects of these large-scale disasters. Increasingly, preparedness, principally at the level of human resource development as well as problems linked to the management of crises, have gained a higher profile within CRED's activities. It maintains the OFDA/CRED international disaster database EM-DAT. <http://www.cred.be/>

Centre Régional AGRHYMET, Niamey, Niger

Created in 1974, AGRHYMET is a specialized hydro-meteorological institute of the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) <http://www.agrhymet.ne/AGRHYMET>

Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de Desastres Naturales en América Central (CEPREDENAC), Republic of Panama (Coordinating Centre for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America)

CEPREDENAC was established in 1988 as a coordination center for strengthening the capacity of the region as a whole to reduce the vulnerability of the population to the effects of natural disasters. In May 1995, CEPREDENAC became an official organization set up to foster the Central American Integration System (SICA) with the Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama as members. www.cepredenac.org/

Centro Nacional de Prevención de Desastres (CENAPRED), Mexico (National Center for Disaster Prevention)

The National Centre for Disaster Prevention was created by an Agreement of Cooperation between the governments of Mexico and Japan for the use and transfer of technology for the prevention of disasters. <http://www.cenapred.unam.mx/>

Centro Peruano Japonés de Investigaciones Sísmicas y Mitigación de Desastres (CISMID), (Peruvian-Japanese Centre for Seismic Research and Disaster Mitigation)

<http://www.cismid.uni.edu.pe/>

Centro Regional de Información de Desastres (CRID), San José, Costa Rica (Regional Disaster Information Centre)

CRID is an initiative sponsored by six organizations that decided to join efforts to ensure the compilation and dissemination of disaster-related information in Latin America and the Caribbean. Its mission is to promote the development of a prevention culture in the Latin American and Caribbean countries, through the compilation and dissemination of disaster-related information, and the promotion of co-operative efforts to improve risk management in the region. www.crid.or.cr

Center for Disease Control and prevention (CDC) Atlanta, United States

CDC is recognized as the lead federal agency for protecting the health and safety of people – at home and abroad, providing credible information to enhance health decisions, and promoting health through strong partnerships. CDC serves as the national focus for developing and applying disease prevention and control, environmental health, and health promotion and education activities designed to improve the health of the people of the United States. <http://www.cdc.gov/>

Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte Contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel (CILSS), Ouagadougou,

Burkina Faso (Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel)

Its mission is to be involved in the research of food security and to combat the effects of drought and desertification for better ecological stability. <http://www.cilss.org/>

Comisión Centroamericana de Ambiente y Desarrollo (CCAD), El Salvador (Central American Commission for Environment and Development)

It is called to protect and, at the same time, give value to the regional patrimony, which is characterized by its biological diversity and ecosystems. Accordingly, it is also called to be a bridge of collaboration between the countries of the region seeking the adoption of the themes of sustainable development by soliciting the collaboration of all the parties that work in the field of development. It is the regional institution in Central America responsible for the coordination of Corridor activities and other regional environment and development initiatives in Central America. <http://ccad.sgsica.org/>

Comisión Nacional de Prevención de Riesgos y Atención de Emergencias (CNE), Costa Rica

(National Risk Prevention and Emergency Response Commission)

The National Commission for Risk Prevention and Emergency Management is the entity responsible for the coordination of prevention work on risk and for the mitigation and response to emergency situations (Article 19 of the Legislature). The development of the National Law for Emergencies, on the 14th of August, 1969, was the foundation for the National Commission. www.cne.go.cr

Comisión Permanente de Contingencias (COPECO), Honduras (The Permanent Commission for Contingencies)

Presently, the Executive Council is organizing the lobbying of a new law which will make the management of contingencies more efficient and which will support the creation of a National System for the prevention, mitigation and management of disasters and emergencies. <http://www.copeco.hn/>

Commission for the Geological Map of the World (CGMW)

The CGMW's aims are to promote, coordinate and publish synthetic Earth sciences maps, at small scale, of continental and / or oceanic areas of the World. It is a non-profit scientific and pedagogic body governed by French law.

http://ccgm.free.fr/ccgm_gb.html

-*World Geological Maps Search System* : <http://www.aist.go.jp/RIODB/g-mapi/welcome.html>

Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS)

CEOS is an international organization charged with coordinating international civil spaceborne missions designated to observe and study planet Earth. Comprising 41 space agencies and other national and international organizations, CEOS is recognized as the major international forum for the coordination of Earth observation satellite programs and for interaction of these programs with users of satellite data worldwide. <http://www.ceos.org/>

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), United Nations

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space was set up by the United Nations General Assembly in 1959 to review the scope of international cooperation in peaceful uses of outer space, to devise programmes in this field to be undertaken under United Nations auspices, to encourage continued research and the dissemination of information on outer space matters, and to study legal problems arising from the exploration of outer space. <http://www.oosa.unvienna.org/COPUOS/copuos.html>

Consejo Regional de Cooperación Agrícola (CORECA) para América Central, México y la República Dominicana (Regional Council for Agricultural Cooperation in Central America, Mexico and the Dominican Republic)

The development of Regional Council for Agricultural Cooperation (CORECA) began in 1980 when a meeting of the International and Regional Committee on Agronomic Security, under the guidance of Panama and the Dominican Republic, put forward the idea of establishing a political forum at the Ministerial level for the agricultural sector. The Council's principal objective was to serve as a permanent forum for consultation and cooperation between the various political parties of the regions' agricultural sectors. Particularly, it would focus on raising the quality of life for farmers, improving the environment, initiating technological development and offering wide-ranging cooperation. The Member States of CORECA include : Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and the Dominican Republic. <http://www.sagarpa.gob.mx/Dgai/coreca.htm>

Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)

The CGIAR was created in 1971, when its first formal meeting was held at the World Bank. Its mission is now to contribute, through its research, to promoting sustainable agriculture for food security in developing countries. Membership of the Group has increased from eighteen to fifty-eight, the number of CGIAR centers has grown to sixteen, and their research interests have been diversified.

<http://www.cgiar.org/>

Coordinadora Nacional para la Reducción de Desastres (CONRED), Guatemala (National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction)

<http://www.conred.org/>

Coordinating Committee for Coastal and Offshore Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia (CCOP), Bangkok, Thailand

CCOP is an Intergovernmental Organization focused on regional geo-scientific aspects. It consists of 11 member countries i.e., Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, The Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and is supported by 14 cooperating countries and several international organizations. <http://www.ccop.or.th/>

Coordinating Council for Disaster Management (CCGC), Mozambique

The Co-ordinating Council for Disaster Management (CCGC) is the government body responsible for policy decisions relating to disasters. The Prime Minister chairs the CCGC and his deputy is the Minister of Foreign Affairs & Co-operation.

Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE)

CARE, an NGO, consists of 11 member organizations, working as a global force dedicated to achieving lasting victory over poverty. <http://www.care.org/>

Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF), Caracas, Venezuela (Andean Development Corporation)

The CAF is made up of Latin American and Caribbean shareholders (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, and Trinidad and Tobago and 22 private

banks in the Andean region). It has the mission of backing the sustainable development of its shareholder countries and of integration by raising funds to provide a range of financial services.
<http://www.comunidadandina.org/ingles/who/caf.htm>

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), South Africa

Constituted as a Science Council by an Act of Parliament, the CSIR operates as a market-oriented contract and consortium research partner to its clients and stakeholders. CSIR focuses on building Africa's capacity in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) project management. CSIR Water, Environment and Forestry Technology (Environmentek) has been involved in the development and presentation of EIA capacity building courses for the past 10 years. www.csir.co.za

Council of Europe – EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe has set up the Open Partial Agreement in 1987. This intergovernmental Agreement is a platform for cooperation in the field of major natural and technological disasters between Eastern Europe, the Mediterranean area and Western Europe concerning knowledge about prevention, risk management, post-crisis analysis and rehabilitation.

http://www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural_Co-operation/Disasters/
<http://ps.superb.net/icod/OPA.HTM>

Cranfield Disaster Management Center, University of Cranfield, United Kingdom

The Disaster Management Centre was founded in 1985. Its aim is to save lives and livelihoods at risk from disaster impact through the promotion of risk and vulnerability reduction, preparedness and effective disaster response. The Disaster Management Centre believes that disaster risks and vulnerabilities can be reduced through the application of sound management principles and practice. <http://www.cranfield.ac.uk/deptsshr.htm>

Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM), Nepal

DHM is an organisation under the Ministry of Science and Technology. The department with headquarters in Kathmandu has four basin offices: Karnali Basin Office in Surkhet, Narayani Basin Office in Pokhara, Bagmati Basin Office in Kathmandu, and Kosi Basin Office in Dharan. DHM has a mandate from to monitor all the hydrological and meteorological activities in Nepal. The scope of work includes the monitoring of river hydrology, climate, agrometeorology, sediment, air quality, water quality, limnology, snow hydrology, glaciology, and wind and solar energy. General and aviation weather forecasts are the regular services provided by DHM. As a member of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), DHM contributes to the global exchange of meteorological data on a regular basis. DHM actively participates in the programs of relevant international organisations, such as, UNESCO's International Hydrological Program (IHP) and WMO's Operational Hydrology Program (OHP). <http://www.dhm.gov.np/>

Department of International Development (DFID), United Kingdom

DFID is a United Kingdom Government department, working to promote sustainable development and eliminate world poverty. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/>

Deutsches Forschungsnetz Naturkatastrophen (DFNK), Germany (German Research Network for Natural Disasters)

The German Research Network for Natural Disasters is an initiative of German research programmes and institutions. The Network's goal is to collect, organize and disseminate information from research, knowledge and methodology on the topic of natural disasters taken from technical, environmental and social research sources working in this field. <http://dfnk.gfz-potsdam.de/index.html>

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), Germany (German Agency for Technical Cooperation)

GTZ is a government-owned corporation for international cooperation with worldwide operations. In more than 120 partner countries, GTZ is supporting many development projects and programmes, chiefly under commissions from the German Federal Government. GTZ's aim is to improve the living conditions and perspectives of people in developing and transition countries. <http://www.gtz.de/>

Deutsches Komitee für Katastrophenvorsorge e.V. (DKKV) (German Committee for Disaster Reduction)

The tasks of the DKKV for disaster reduction are numerous and to a degree very particular: From technical projects researching the effects of disasters on society to political programmes encouraging the growth of disaster reduction initiatives. <http://www.dkkv.org/>

Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU), Zambia

In 1998, the Government of Zambia established the DMMU as part of the Vice President's Office to coordinate disaster related activities. The DMMU is supported by a Technical Committee, which includes the Ministry of Agriculture's Office of Early Warning Systems (EWS), the Ministry of Agriculture Food and Fisheries, the Central Statistical Office, and key line ministries such as Health, Finance and Economic Development.

Disaster Management Center, University of Wisconsin, USA.

The center's goal is to help improve the emergency management performance of non-governmental organizations, local and national governments, and international organizations, through a comprehensive professional development program in disaster management. Distance learning is the principal approach for this international program. <http://dmc.engr.wisc.edu/about/edlinks.html>

Disaster Management Facility (DMF), World Bank, Washington D.C., USA

DMF aims to reduce human suffering and economic losses caused by natural and technological disasters. Making sure that disaster prevention and mitigation are integral parts of development requires action, the DMF takes action by providing technical support to World Bank operations, promoting capacity-building, and establishing partnerships with the international and scientific community working on disaster issues. <http://www.worldbank.org/dmf/mission.htm>

Disaster Management Institute of Southern Africa. (DMISA), South Africa

DMISA is an organisation where everyone involved in Disaster Management can relate to others with similar interests, and creates opportunities for the improvement of disaster management in Southern Africa. <http://www.cmc.gov.za/pht/DMISA.htm>

Disaster Management Technical Council (CTGC), Mozambique

The CTGC provides technical back-up to the National Disaster Management Institute (INGC), an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

Disaster Management Unit, (DMU), Standing Office of the Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control (CCFSC), Vietnam

The Vietnam Disaster Management Unit (DMU) is the mechanism chosen by the Government of Vietnam and UNDP to join together over 1000 years of Vietnamese flood protection culture with twenty-first century western technology to better protect the entire population of Vietnam against the annual natural disasters that ravage the country. <http://www.undp.org.vn/dmu/index.html>

Disaster Recovery Business Alliance (DRBA)

DRBA is an organization, a process and a product that is designed to provide an improvement in a community's ability to deal with disaster recovery by the formation of an effective alliance between the private and public sectors of a community. It offers a tested model to assist local leaders in forming and facilitating a lifeline-based planning organization to serve a local community. It was established and funded by the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) and co-founded by the Department of Energy, and the Association of Contingency Planners (ACP). DRBA has formed partnerships with many public and private sector organizations such as the Central United States Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC), National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), the Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS) and many others. <http://www.acp-international.com/drba/>

Disaster Research Center, University of Delaware, USA

DRC, is a social science research center devoted to the study of disasters. It was established at Ohio State University in 1963 and moved to the University of Delaware in 1985. The center conducts field and survey research on group, organizational and community preparation for, response to, and recovery from natural and technological disasters and other community-wide crises. DRC researchers have carried out systematic studies on a broad range of disaster types, including hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, hazardous chemical incidents, plane crashes. <http://www.udel.edu/DRC/nodhtml.html>

Drought Monitoring Centre (DMC), Harare, Zimbabwe and Nairobi, Kenya

The Drought Monitoring Centres (DMCs) for Eastern and Southern Africa are charged with the responsibility of monitoring of drought and other climatic conditions in a timely manner with respect to intensity, geographical extent, duration and impact upon agricultural production and to give early warning for the formulation of appropriate strategies to combat any anticipated adverse effects. <http://www.meteo.go.ke/dmc/contact.html> <http://lion.meteo.go.ke/dmc/>

Earthquake Disaster Mitigation Research Center (EDM), Miki, Japan

The main purpose of the EDM is to produce "Frontier Research on Earthquake Disaster Mitigation for Urban Regions." The major research activities are performed by three research teams: the disaster process simulation team, the disaster information system team and the structural performance team. <http://www.edm.bosai.go.jp/english.htm>

Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI), Oakland, California, USA

The objective of EERI is to reduce earthquake risk by advancing the science and practice of earthquake engineering, by improving understanding of the impact of earthquakes on the physical, social, economic, political and cultural environment, and by advocating comprehensive and realistic measures for reducing the harmful effects of earthquakes. <http://www.eeri.org/>

EMERCOM Russia

Ministry of Civil Defense and Emergencies. <http://emercom.on.ufanet.ru/>

Emergency Management Australia (EMA)

EMA provides national leadership in the development of measures to reduce risk to communities and manage the consequences of disasters. It is the Federal Agency responsible for reducing the impact of natural and man-made disasters on the Australian community. <http://www.ema.gov.au/>

Emergency Management Australia Institute (EMAI), Mt. Macedon, Australia

Emergency Management Australia's research and training centre at Mt Macedon was renamed the "Emergency Management Australia Institute" (EMAI) in January, 2002. The change was made to better reflect the Institute as an integral part of EMA's core business and to stress the holistic nature of the organisation's operations across its sites in Canberra and Mt. Macedon Victoria. EMAI conducts a program of activities which includes the National Studies Program, education and training activities, resource development to support the curriculum and the provision of information through the Australian Emergency Management Information Centre. EMAI is the education and information arm of Emergency Management Australia (EMA). <http://www.ema.gov.au/fs-education.html>

Emergency Preparedness Canada (EPC)

see: Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Preparedness (OCIPEP). http://www.ocipep-bpiepc.gc.ca/home/index_e.html

Environment and Society Institute (ESI), State University of New York, Buffalo, USA

It offers courses on engineering and applied sciences and hosts the National Centre for Geographic Information and Analysis (NCGIA), the Center for Urban Studies. The Multidisciplinary Center for Earthquake Engineering Research (MCEER) is an affiliated research center. <http://www.buffalo.edu/>

European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO)

The European Union's mandate to ECHO is to provide emergency assistance and relief to the victims of natural disasters or armed conflict outside the European Union. The aid is intended to go directly to those in distress, irrespective of race, religion or political convictions. http://europa.eu.int/comm/echo/en/index_en.html

European Environment Agency (EEA), Copenhagen, Denmark

The EEA aims to support sustainable development and to help achieve significant and measurable improvement in Europe's environment through the provision of timely, targeted, relevant and reliable information to policy making agents and the public. <http://www.eea.eu.int/>

European Directorate General Joint Research Centre (JRC)

The Joint Research Centre (JRC) Directorate-General is an integral part of the European Commission. It provides independent scientific and technical advice to the Commission, the European Parliament, the Council of Ministers and EU Member States in support of European Union (EU) policies. Its main aim is to help to create a safer, cleaner, healthier and more competitive Europe. Its seven scientific institutes carry out research of direct concern to EU citizens. It provides technical know-how both directly and through co-ordinating and contributing to numerous broader networks linking industry, universities and national institutes. The JRC is playing an important role in helping establish the European Research Area (ERA). <http://www.jrc.org/>

European Laboratory for Structural Assessment – Earthquake Engineering (ELSA), Ispra, Italy

The construction of bridges, viaducts, buildings or tunnels, which can withstand earthquakes, involves using particularly sophisticated simulation laboratories. The most prestigious of these is ELSA, which is a technological flagship for the European Commission's Joint Research Centre. <http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/success/en/env/0071e.html>

European Research Area (ERA)

On 18, January 2000 the European Commission adopted this Communication "Towards a European Research Area" which is meant to contribute to the creation of better overall framework conditions for research in Europe. ERA is regrouping all Community supports for the better coordination of research activities and the convergence of research and innovation policies, at national and EU levels. http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/era/index_en.html

European Union (EU)

The European Union (EU) was set through the process of European integration was launched on 9 May 1950 when France officially proposed to create 'the first concrete foundation of a European federation'. Six countries (Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands) joined from the very beginning. Today, after four waves of accessions (1973: Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom; 1981: Greece; 1986: Spain and Portugal; 1995: Austria, Finland and Sweden) the EU has 15 Member States and is preparing for the accession of 13 eastern and southern European countries. Its main agencies are: European Parliament, Council of the Union, European Commission, Court of Justice, Court of Auditors, European Central Bank, European Economic and Social Committee, Committee of the Regions, European Investment Bank, European Ombudsman. <http://www.europa.eu.int/>

Experimental Climate Prediction Center (ECPC), USA

ECPC is developing an integrated regional climate prediction capability by undertaking basic research to identify coupled land-atmosphere-ocean linkages. ECPC models are being used to make routine experimental forecasts, which are continually evaluated in order to demonstrate their utility to various sectors on temporal scales ranging from seasonal to interannual but also touching upon daily and decadal to centennial time scales. Once ECPC has demonstrated the usefulness of various forecast tools and methodologies, its goal is to transfer these experimental methodologies to NCEP, IRI and various regional application centers.

<http://ecpc.ucsd.edu/>

Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLASCO), (Latin American Social Science Faculty)

The faculty's creation is based on the recommendation of UNESCO and the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean. Its objective is to promote education, research and technical cooperation in the field of social sciences for the entire region. www.flasco.cl

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), US Government

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is a part of the U.S. Department of Transportation, headquartered in Washington, D.C., with field offices across the United States. Its mission is to provide leadership, expertise, resources and information in cooperation with partners to enhance the country's economic vitality, the quality of life, and the environment. The FHWA directly administers a number of highway transportation activities including standards development, research and technology, training, technical assistance, highway access to federally owned lands and Indian lands, and commercial vehicle safety enforcement. Further, FHWA has a significant role, working through partnerships, programs, policies, and allocating resources which facilitate the strategic development and maintenance of State and local transportation systems as effective and efficient elements of the national intermodal transportation system. <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/>

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)

FICCI was established in 1927, on the advice of Mahatma Gandhi, to garner support for India's independence and to further the interests of the Indian business community. Today, after five decades of Indian independence, FICCI is in the vanguard of nation building and is moving ahead to integrate the Indian economy with the global mainstream. <http://www.ficci.com/ficci/index.htm>

Fondo para la Reconstrucción y el Desarrollo Social del Eje Cafetero (FOREC), Armenia, Colombia

The Fund for Reconstruction and Social Development in the Coffee Region is a specialized agency with its headquarters in Armenia administered by a legal staff under financial and political autonomy. Its objective is to promote the necessary work on economic, social and ecological reconstruction in the Andean region affected by the earthquake of 25 January, 1999. FOREC's mission is to manage the public commitment of national institutions and agencies in the reconstruction work with honesty, clarity, will and efficiency in the use of the public resources and technological assistance offered for this work. FOREC received the UN Sasakawa Award for Disaster Reduction in 2000. <http://www.forec.gov.co/>

Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) - Development Unit, Harare, Zimbabwe

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) is promoting regional Cooperation in economic development. It has adopted a Programme of Action covering cooperation in various sectors, including food security and natural resources management. In order to enhance food security for all in the region, SADC established a Food Security Programme. Its secretariat is formed by the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) Development Unit. <http://www.sadc-fanr.org.zw/>

Foundation for International Community Assistance (FINCA)

FINCA has been helping families to create their own solution to poverty since 1984. FINCA provides financial services to the world's poorest families so they can create their own jobs, raise household incomes and improve their standard of living.

<http://www.villagebanking.org/>

Foundation for the Support of Women's Work (FSWW)

The FSWW established in 1986 by a group of women from different backgrounds, is a non-profit NGO. It aims to build social, economic and community assets for and by grassroots women, and support their leadership throughout Turkey in improving the quality of their lives and of the community. http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/env_manage/documents/EP11-2001Nov07.pdf

Fundación Nacional para el Desarrollo (FUNDE), El Salvador (National Development Foundation)

FUNDE's mission is to offer critical thinking, analysis and proposals for sustainable development and to engage the different parties and leading institutions of the country with research and assistance in order to better the quality of life and opportunities of the marginalized. <http://www.funde.org/>

Fundación para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Communal (CORDES), El Salvador (Development Corporation)

Founded in 1988, CORDES is a non-governmental organization dedicated to the management of socio-economic development of the rural communities in El Salvador, where the poverty and destruction from the war have affected human settlements by forcing the people out of their land. http://www.geocities.com/lia_hernandez/Perfil.html

Fundación Salvadoreña para la Asistencia Integral (FUSAI), El Salvador (Salvadorian Foundation for Integral Assistance)

Its mission is to support the socioeconomic integration of sectors, regions and parties marginalized in society with the benefits of development <http://www.fusai.org/>

GeoHazards International (GHI), California, USA

GHI was established in 1993 as a nonprofit organization to reduce death and injury caused by earthquakes in the world's most vulnerable communities. In particular, GHI makes a community safer by raising awareness of its risk, building local institutions to manage that risk, and strengthening schools to protect and train the community's future generations. <http://www.geohaz.org/>

Geological Survey of Japan (GSJ)

GSJ is one of the 15 research institutes of the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST). <http://www.aist.go.jp/GSJ/>

General Directorate of Civil Protection, Governorate of Grand Alger, Algeria

The General Directorate has carried out significant training activities on disaster prevention and the organization of international forums on disaster prevention.

Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), Freiburg, Germany

The Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC) was established in 1998 at the Fire Ecology and Biomass Burning Research Group, a subdivision of the Biogeochemistry Department of the Max Planck Institute for Chemistry (Mainz, Germany). Founded in the 1970s at Freiburg University (Germany) the Fire Ecology Research Group was incorporated into the Max Planck Institute for Chemistry in 1990. <http://www2.ruf.uni-freiburg.de/fireglobe/>

Gujarat State Disaster Management Authorities (GSDMA), India

The Government of Gujarat established the Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority in February, 2001 to co-ordinate the comprehensive earthquake recovery program. The GSDMA is registered as a society with a vision to go beyond reconstruction and make Gujarat economically vibrant, agriculturally and industrially competitive with improved standards of living and with a capacity to mitigate and manage future disasters. <http://www.gsdma.org/>

High Powered Committee (HPC) on Disaster Management Plans, Government of India

HPC has been constituted to review existing arrangements for preparedness and mitigation of natural and manmade disasters including industrial, nuclear, biological and chemical disasters; recommend measures for strengthening organizational structures, and recommend a comprehensive model plan for management of these disasters at National, State and District Level. <http://www.ndmindia.nic.in/committee/hpcomm.html>

Hungarian National Directorate General for Disaster Management (HNDGDM), Budapest

From January, 2000 an integrated organization, the National Directorate for Disaster Management, Ministry of Interior has been established in Hungary as the central organ of the integral national disaster management. It was established on the basis of the legal predecessors, that is, the Civil Protection and the Fire Service. The system of protection against disasters is divided into three levels : international, national, the level of municipalities.

Ibero-American Association of Civil Defense and Civil Protection, Spain

The Ibero-American Association for Civil Defense and Protection emerged from a 1-5 July 1996 meeting organized in Santiago, Chile, by the Pro Tempore Secretariat of the Space Conference of the Americas and Chile's ONEMI. The subject of the meeting was the use of aerospace technology in disaster prevention and mitigation.

<http://www.proteccioncivil.org/asociacion/aigo0.htm>

http://www.crid.or.cr/crid/EIRD/DIRDNINF/No1_a1_2000/INGLES/pagina30.htm

Institute for Business Home Safety (IBHS), Boston, USA

The Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS) is a nonprofit association sponsored by the insurance industry that engages in communication, education, engineering and research. Its mission is to reduce deaths, injuries, property damage, economic losses and human suffering caused by natural disasters. <http://www.ibhs.org/>

Institute of Physical and Chemical Research (RIKEN), Japan

RIKEN carries out high level experimental and research work in a wide range of fields, including physics, chemistry, medical science, biology, and engineering extending from basic research to practical application. <http://www.riken.go.jp/>

Instituto Nacional de Gestao de Calamidades (INGC), Mozambique (National Disaster Management Institute)

Day-to-day management of matters relating to disasters is the responsibility of the National Disaster Management Institute. This is an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Cooperation.

Instituto Nicaraguense de Estudios Territoriales (INETER), Managua, Nicaragua, (Nicaraguan Institute for Territorial Studies)

INETER is the technical and scientific body of the State that provides its services to the entire population in such areas as basic information (Cartography, Meteorology, Hydrology, etc.) as well as projects and studies of the environment which contribute to socio-economic development and the lowering of vulnerability to natural disasters, continuously tracking dangerous natural phenomena. <http://www.ineter.gob.ni/>

Inter-American Committee for Natural Disaster Reduction (IACNDR)

The IACNDR is the main forum of the OAS and the Inter American System for the analysis of policies and strategies aimed at natural disaster reduction in the context of the sustainable development of member states. The OAS General Assembly established the IACNDR based on the need to strengthen the role of the OAS in natural disaster reduction and emergency preparedness.

Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), Washington , DC, USA

The IADB is the oldest and largest regional multilateral development institution. It was established in December 1959 to help accelerate economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean. <http://www.iadb.org/>

Inter-departmental Disaster Management Committee, South Africa

In April 1999, the Interim Disaster Management Centre was replaced with the Inter-departmental Disaster Management Committee to deal with disasters and other phenomena and to give advice to the Committee. The National Disaster Management Centre came into operation on 1 April 2000. <http://www.gov.za/structure/disaster.htm>

Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti (Autorité Intergouvernementale pour le développement)

IGAD's vision is based on determination of the Governments of the Sub-region to pool resources and co-ordinate development activities in order to tackle the present and future challenges more efficiently, and enable the sub-region to interact and compete in the global economy. www.igadregion.org

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), Paris, France

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO was founded in 1960 on the basis of the recognition that "the oceans, covering some seventy percent of the earth's surface, exert a profound influence on mankind and even on all forms of life on Earth... In order to properly interpret the full value of the oceans to mankind, they must be studied from many points of view. While pioneering research and new ideas usually come from individuals and small groups, many aspects of oceanic investigations present far too formidable a task to be undertaken by any one nation or even a few nations." <http://ioc.unesco.org/iocweb/default.htm>

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

In 1988, UNEP and WMO jointly established the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as concern over climate change became a political issue. The purpose of the IPCC was to assess the state of knowledge on the various aspects of climate change including science, environmental and socio-economic impacts and response strategies. The IPCC is recognized as the most authoritative scientific and technical voice on climate change, and its assessments had a profound influence on the negotiators of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol. The IPCC continues to provide governments with scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant to evaluating the risks and developing a response to global climate change. <http://www.grida.no/climate/vital/16.htm> www.ipcc.ch

Inter-ministerial Committee for Disaster Management (IMC), South Africa

The IMC provides leadership for the development and implementation of national policy on disaster management. Under the leadership of the IMC, the Department of Constitutional Development published the Green Paper on Disaster Management for South Africa for comment in February 1998. After consultation with key role players and comments from both the private and public sectors around the Green Paper, the White Paper evolved. www.polity.org.za

International Association of Earthquake Engineering (IAEE), Japan

The IAEE aims to promote international cooperation among scientists and engineers in the field of earthquake engineering through interchange of knowledge, ideas, and results of research and practical experience. <http://www.iaee.or.jp/>

International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior (IASPEI)

The purpose of IASPEI is to promote the study of problems relating to earthquakes, to the propagation of seismic waves, and to the internal structure, properties and processes of the Earth; to initiate and co-ordinate the conduct of researches which depend on cooperation between different countries, and to provide for their scientific discussion; to facilitate particular researches on scientific and applied seismology, such as the comparison of instruments used in different countries, researches on blasting and generally all matters to which seismology is related. <http://www.seismo.com/iaspei/home.html>

International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior (IAVCEI)

The Association represents the primary international focus for: (1) research in volcanology, (2) efforts to mitigate volcanic disasters, and (3) research into closely related disciplines, such as igneous geochemistry and petrology, geochronology, volcanogenic mineral deposits, and the physics of the generation and ascent of magmas in the upper mantle and crust. <http://www.iavcei.org/>

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), The World Bank

Established in 1945, IBRD aims to reduce poverty in middle-income and creditworthy poorer countries by promoting sustainable development, through loans, guarantees, and other analytical and advisory services.

International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Nepal

ICIMOD is committed to developing an economically and environmentally sound ecosystem and improving living standards of mountain communities, mainly in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas area. <http://www.icimod.org.sg/>

International Center for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy

Founded in 1964 by Abdus Salam (Nobel Laureate), ICTP operates under the aegis of two United Nations Agencies: UNESCO and IAEA and is regularised by agreement with the Government of Italy which provides the major part of the Centre's funding. One of the main aims of ICTP is to foster the growth of advanced studies in developing countries. <http://www.ictp.trieste.it/>

International Center for Disaster Mitigation Engineering (INCEDE), University of Tokyo, Japan

Established in 1991 as a national contribution of Japan towards the United Nations IDNDR, INCEDE serves as a forum for national and international researchers in disaster-mitigation engineering and as an information clearance house. <http://incede.iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp/>

International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR), (Internationalen Kommission zum Schutz des Rheins (IKSR))

Nobody is more aware of the fact that water protection is an international affair than the Dutch. The Rhine pollution has always shown particularly negative effects in the Netherlands. That is why the Netherlands united the Rhine-bordering countries (Switzerland, France, Luxembourg, Germany) to discuss problems of water protection and to look for common solutions. The "International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution" (ICPR) was founded in Basel on July, 1950. <http://www.iksr.org/index.htm>

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

ICRC is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of war and internal violence and to provide them with assistance. It directs and coordinates the international relief activities conducted by the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in situations of conflict. It also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles. <http://www.icrc.org/>

International Council of Science (ICSU), Paris, France

ICSU is a non-governmental organization, founded in 1931 to bring together natural scientists in international scientific endeavour. It comprises 98 multidisciplinary National Scientific Members (scientific research councils or science academies) and 26 international, single discipline Scientific Unions to provide a wide spectrum of scientific expertise enabling members to address international, interdisciplinary issues which none could handle alone. www.icsu.org

International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), Switzerland

The International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), founded in 1962, is a global network of human rights, humanitarian, and development NGOs, which focuses its information exchange and advocacy efforts primarily on humanitarian affairs and refugee issues. <http://www.icva.ch/>

International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR), 1990-1999

An International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, beginning on 1 January 1990, was launched by the United Nations, following the adoption of Resolution 44/236 (22 December 1989). The Decade was intended to reduce, through concerted international action, especially in developing countries, loss of life, poverty damage and social and economic disruption caused by natural disasters. To support the activities of the Decade, a Secretariat was established at the United Nations Office in Geneva, in close association with UNDRO.

International Development Association (IDA), The World Bank

The International Development Association, IDA, is the World Bank's concessional lending window. It provides long-term loans at zero interest to the poorest of the developing countries. IDA helps build the human capital, policies, institutions, and physical infrastructure that these countries urgently need to achieve faster, environmentally sustainable growth. IDA's goal is to reduce disparities across and within countries, especially in access to primary education, basic health, and water supply and sanitation and to bring more people into the mainstream by raising their productivity. <http://www.worldbank.org/ida/>

International Drought Information Center, University of Nebraska, USA

The University of Nebraska at Lincoln established the International Drought Information Center (IDIC) to better understand the problem of drought. IDIC strives to improve communication about prediction, monitoring, impact assessment, adjustment and adaptation, and planning and response to drought.

<http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/seg/hazard/resource/methaz/drtinfoa.html>
www.enso.unl.edu/agmet/centers.htm

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

IFRC is the world's largest humanitarian organization, providing assistance without discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. <http://www.ifrc.org/>

International Institute for Disaster Risk Management (IDRM), Manila, Philippines

The IDRM promotes international standards and best practices in disaster and risk management. It works on principles of continuous learning, organizational and individual professional development. IDRM experts and partners are committed to applying appropriate, innovative and inexpensive solutions to development and disaster risk management. <http://www.idrmhome.org/>

International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology (IIEES), Tehran, Iran

The main goal of IIEES is seismic risk reduction and mitigation both in Iran and the region by promoting research and education in science and technology related to seismotectonic, seismology and earthquake engineering. IIEES activity in research covers all aspects of earthquakes from tectonic study to retrofitting complex structure; and in education from public education to Ph.D program in earthquake engineering. http://www.iiees.ac.ir/English/eng_index.html

International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Its mission is to champion innovation, enabling societies to live sustainably. It advances policy recommendations on international trade and investment, economic policy, climate change, measurement and indicators, and natural resource management to make development sustainable. By using the Internet it covers and reports on international negotiations and brokers knowledge gained through collaborative projects with global partners, resulting in more rigorous research, capacity building in developing countries and a better dialogue between North and South. IISDnet identifies issues, sets goals, and compiles information on sustainable growth. www.iisd.org/default.asp

International Organization for Standardization (ISO), Geneva, Switzerland

ISO is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies from some 140 countries, one from each country. ISO is a non-governmental organization established in 1947. The mission of ISO is to promote the development of standardization and related activities in the world with a view to facilitating the international exchange of goods and services, and to developing cooperation in the spheres of intellectual, scientific, technological and economic activity. ISO's work results in international agreements which are published as International Standards. www.iso.org

International Research Institute for Climate Prediction (IRI), NY, United States

IRI was established as a cooperative agreement between US NOAA Office of Global Programs and Columbia University. IRI is a unit of the Columbia Earth Institute located at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. The vision of the IRI is that of an innovative science institution working to accelerate the ability of societies worldwide to cope with climate fluctuations, especially those that cause devastating impacts on humans and the environment, thereby reaping the benefits of decades of research on the predictability of El Niño-Southern Oscillation phenomenon and other climate variations. By orchestrating a wide network of collaborations and comprehensive programs that couple physical science research and applications research with capacity building, the IRI is a unique institution in the international development of applications of climate prediction. <http://iri.ldeo.columbia.edu/>

Internationale Kommission zum Schutz des Rheines, (IKSR), Germany. See: International Commission
for the protection of the Rhine(ICPR). <http://www.iksr.org/>

International Tsunami Information Center (ITIC), Honolulu, Hawaii

ITIC was established on 12 November 1965 by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic UNESCO. In 1968, IOC formed an International Coordination Group for the Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific (ICG/ITSU). ITIC monitors the activities of the Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific.

<http://www.shoa.cl/oceano/itic/frontpage.html>

Instituto Nacional de Gestao de Calamidades, (INGC), Mozambique (National Institute for Disaster Management)

The National Institute for Disaster Management was created in June 1999, under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. It has an executive role in preventive actions and assistance for victims and areas at risk or affected by disasters. http://www.teleda-ta.mz/ingc/default_eng.htm

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

JICA is responsible for the technical cooperation aspect of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) programs. Technical cooperation and a variety of programmes are aimed at the transfer of technology and knowledge that can serve the socio-economic development of the developing countries. <http://www.jica.go.jp/>

Japan Meteorology Agency (JMA)

The major activities of JMA are: (1) to issue warnings, advisories and forecasts in short-range, one-week and long range ; (2) to deal with the global environmental issues such as global warming and ozone depletion; (3) to provide information on earthquake and volcanic activities. <http://www.kishou.go.jp/english/index.html>

La Red de Estudios Sociales en Prevención de Desastres en América Latina (LA RED), (The Latin American Network for the Social Study of Disaster Prevention)

Initially conceived as a mechanism to facilitate comparative research of natural disasters from a social perspective, LA Red has developed into the focal point for hundreds of individuals and institutions working in the field of disaster and risk management in the different countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. <http://www.desenredando.org/>

Médecins sans Frontières (MSF)

MSF is an international humanitarian aid organization that provides emergency medical assistance to populations in danger in more than 80 countries. In countries where health structures are insufficient or even non-existent, MSF collaborates with authorities such as the ministries of health to provide assistance. MSF works in rehabilitation of hospitals and dispensaries, vaccination programmes and water and sanitation projects. MSF also works in remote health care centres, slum areas and provides training of local personnel. All this is done with the objective of rebuilding health structures to acceptable levels. <http://www.msf.org/>

Megacities 2000 Foundation, Netherlands

The Megacities Foundation in the Netherlands was started as a direct result of an initiative taken by UNESCO which asked the International Academy of Architecture (IAA) to focus attention on the problems of the explosively growing megalopolises. The Megacities Foundation was created in December 1994 and has since organised the following events: Step-up conference, May 1995 in Rotterdam: "Megacities 2000" First Megacities Lecture, February 1997 in The Hague: Peter Hall, "Megacities, world cities and global cities" Second Megacities Lecture, November 1998 in The Hague: Saskia Sassen, "Urban Economy and Fading Distance, Cities in the Unlimited Space of a Global Network" (working title) http://www.megacities.nl/main.htm_

Mekong River Commission (MRC), Cambodia

MRC promotes and co-ordinates sustainable management and development of water and related resources among countries bordering the Mekong River in Southeast Asia. <http://www.mrcmekong.org/>

Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (MARN), El Salvador (Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources)

Its mission is to direct an effective management of the environment through the clear policies and all-encompassing initiatives which help sustain development of the Salvadorian society. <http://www.marn.gob.sv/>

Ministry of Science and Technology (MCT), Venezuela

Its mission is : To develop policies, strategies and plans which support the creation of a scientific and technical entity that carries out research and initiatives in pursuit of satisfying the needs of the population and promoting the national industry; To strengthen research and development initiatives for the improvement of innovations and national production; To support postgraduate programmes that foment scientific, technical and humanitarian development in the country; To collaborate with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and other regional organizations in the support of the national industry; To support and strengthen the scientific and technical community as an important tool for socio-economic development. <http://www.mct.gov.ve/>

Multi-disciplinary Center for Earthquake Engineering Research (MCEER), Buffalo, NY, USA

MCEER's overall goal is to enhance the seismic resiliency of communities through improved engineering and management tools for critical infrastructure systems (water supply, electric power, hospitals, transportation systems). Seismic resilience (technical, organizational, social and economic) is by reduced probability of system failure, reduced consequences due to failure, and reduced time to system restoration. MCEER works toward this goal by conducting integrated research, outreach, and education activities in partnership with the users of the center products. <http://mceer.buffalo.edu/>

Munich Reinsurance, Germany

MunichRe is not only a world leader in reinsurance but it has also strategically strengthened its business with strong involvement in primary insurance and in asset management. Knowledge and expertise, client services and preferred partner in risk: these are the attributes which characterize Munich Re. It covers a range of special subjects such as: risk management and industrial insurance, alternative risk transfer. In "Topics", a publication which appears twice a year, Munich Re experts look at the current situation of natural disasters throughout the world and current topics and trends in the insurance industry. "Topics" also presents new Munich Re products and services, as well as the world map on natural catastrophes. <http://www.munichre.com/index.html>

Musokotwane Environment Resource Centre for Southern Africa (IMERCESA), Zimbabwe

IMERCESA is a unit established in 1994, within the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC). IMERCESA has bibliographic databases with more than 6,000 records on the environment and disaster management issues. Its contacts databases, which list individual experts and organizations involved in environment and disaster management issues in the SADC region, have a total of about 2,600 entries. The centre also has a public library with reading facilities for policy planners, researchers, diplomats, journalists, and others interested in issues with a regional perspective. IMERCESA provides in-house training for young documentalists and journalists. In collaboration with regionally-based organizations, IMERCESA also carries out training workshops mainly for environmental journalists in southern Africa. Although the centre does not carry out primary research, it responds to information requests from researchers who are involved in this activity. IMERCESA has produced several books and environmental articles, factsheets and reports on topical environmental issues in the SADC region. <http://www.sardc.net/imercesa/>

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), USA

Since its inception in 1958, NASA has accomplished many great scientific and technological feats in air and space. NASA technology also has been adapted for many non-aerospace uses by the private sector. NASA remains a leading force in scientific research and in stimulating public interest in aerospace exploration, as well as science and technology in general. <http://www.nasa.gov/>

National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), Boulder, Colorado, United States

It is NCAR's mission to plan, organize, and conduct atmospheric and related research programs in collaboration with the universities and other institutions, to provide state-of-the-art research tools and facilities to the atmospheric sciences community, to support and enhance university atmospheric science education, and to facilitate the transfer of technology to both the public and private sectors. Created in 1960, the Center is operated by the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) under a cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation. <http://www.ncar.ucar.edu/ncar/index.html>

National Center for Disaster Management (NCDM), New Dehli, India

NCDM has been established by the Government of India and located in the Indian Institute of Public Administration with the objectives of providing training programs for senior and middle level administrative government officials which sensitize them for disaster mitigation; coordinating the research activities in different aspects of disaster management at national level.

National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM), Phnom Penh, Cambodia

In 1995, as a result of the country's experience with regularly occurring disasters, the Royal Government of Cambodia established NCDM. Its responsibilities are defined in terms of, not only providing timely and effective emergency relief to the victims of disasters, but also developing preventive measures to reduce loss of lives and property. This is accomplished by applying scientific and technical knowledge to mitigate disasters. www.cred.be/centre/research/ncdm.pdf

National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC), Pretoria, South Africa

Its mission is to improve knowledge, awareness and understanding of disasters, and to coordinate and facilitate Access to information and resources in order to promote and support comprehensive, integrated and effective disaster management in South Africa. <http://sandmc.pwv.gov.za/>

National Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Formerly known as the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission. It was first established in June 1974 following the outbreak of famine in the two northern provinces of Ethiopia. In August 1995, it was re-established as the DPPC. The objectives of the Commission cover prevention, preparedness and response aspects of disaster management.

National Directorate of Water (DNA), Mozambique, (Direcção Nacional de Aguas)

DNA is responsible for water policy and its implementation, strategic and integrated planning on the management of water resources as well as water supply and sanitation services. The Directorate is a government agency working under the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. <http://www.dna.mz/>

National Institute for Meteorology, Mozambique (INAM), (Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia)

Its mission is to minimize the impacts of hydrometeorological hazards and contribute to sustainable development and the reduction of poverty. <http://www.inam.gov.mz/>

National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), Japan

AIST is an Independent Administrative Institution under the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. On April, 2001, the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology began operations. It comprises 15 research institutes previously under the former Agency of Industrial Science and Technology in the Ministry of International Trade and Industry and the Weights and Measures Training Institute. http://www.ais.t.go.jp/index_en.html

National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad, India

NIRD is India's apex body for undertaking training, research, action research and consultancy functions in the rural development sector. It works as an autonomous organization supported by the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment, Government of India. www.nird.org

National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), USA

NEMA is the professional association of state, Pacific and Caribbean insular state emergency management directors committed to providing national leadership and expertise in comprehensive emergency management. It serves as a vital information and assistance resource for state and territorial directors and their governors, while forging strategic partnerships to advance continuous improvements in emergency management. <http://www.nemaweb.org/index.cfm>

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Washington DC, USA

NOAA's mission is to describe and predict changes in the Earth's environment, and conserve and wisely manage the Nation's coastal and marine resources. NOAA's strategy consists of seven interrelated strategic goals for environmental assessment, prediction and stewardship. <http://www.noaa.gov/>

National Science Foundation (NSF), Washington DC, USA

NSF is an independent agency of the US Government, established by the National Science Foundation Act of 1950. Its mission is to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; and to secure the national defense. <http://www.nsf.gov/>

National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET), Kathmandu, Nepal

NSET strives to assist all communities in Nepal to become earthquake safer by developing and implementing organized approaches to managing and minimizing earthquake risks. <http://www.nset.org.np/home.htm>

Natural Hazards Research and Applications Information Center, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, USA

The Center is a national and international clearinghouse that provides information on natural hazards and human adjustments to these risks. The center's prime goal is to increase communication among hazard and disaster researchers and individuals, agencies, and organizations who are actively working to reduce disaster damage and suffering. The Natural Hazards Center carries out its mission in four principal areas: information dissemination, an annual workshop, research, and library services. <http://www.colorado.edu/hazards/intro.html>

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), United States

NRC is an independent agency established by the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 to regulate civilian use of nuclear materials. <http://www.nrc.gov/who-we-are.html>

Office Fédéral de l'Environnement, des Forêts, et du Paysage (OFEFP), Suisse (Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape, (SAEFL), Switzerland)

SAEFL is the responsible federal office for environment. It is integrated into the Federal Department of Environment, Transportation, Energy and Communication. <http://www.umwelt-schweiz.ch/buwal/fr/index.html>
<http://www.umwelt-schweiz.ch/buwal/eng/index.html>

Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance/U.S. Agency for International Development (OFDA/USAID)

OFDA/USAID has been the principal US agency to extend assistance to countries recovering from disaster, trying to escape poverty, and engaging in democratic reforms. USAID is an independent federal government agency that receives overall foreign policy guidance from the Secretary of State. http://www.usaid.gov/hum_response/ofda/

Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM), Kingston, Jamaica

The Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management is committed to taking pro-active and timely measures to prevent or reduce the impact of hazards in Jamaica, its people, natural resources and economy through its trained and professional staff, the use of appropriate technology and collaborative efforts with national, regional and international agencies. <http://www.odpem.org.jm/>

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Paris, France

The OECD groups 30 member countries sharing a commitment to democratic government and the market economy. With active relationships with some 70 other countries, NGOs and civil society, it has a global reach. Best known for its publications and its statistics, its work covers economic and social issues from macroeconomics, to trade, education, development, science and innovation. <http://www.oecd.org/>

Organization of American States (OAS), (Organización de Estados Americanos), Washington, DC, USA

The nations of the Americas are working more closely together than ever before –strengthening democracy, advancing human rights, promoting peace and security, expanding trade and tackling complex problems caused by poverty, drugs and corruption. Together they are building a better future for the next generation. At the outset of a new century and a new millennium, the challenge is how to turn citizens' high expectations into reality. OAS is playing a central role in working toward many of the goals that are shared by the countries of North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. <http://www.oas.org/>

Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), Castries, St Lucia

The OECS came into being on 18 June, 1981, when seven Eastern Caribbean countries signed a treaty agreeing to co-operate with each other and promote unity and solidarity among the Members. It is composed of 9 Member States: Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and 2 Associated Member States: Anguilla, British Virgin Islands. <http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/decdo/oecs.htm> <http://oecs.org>

Organization of Rural Associations for Progress (ORAP), Zimbabwe

ORAP was founded in 1981 by a small group of people in Matabeleland Province to discuss development options following the independence war which ended in 1980. ORAP aims at creating employment and greater self reliance through promoting culturally relevant self-help activities. The organisation also aims at encouraging grassroots programme development and promoting economic and financial autonomy.

<http://iisd1.iisd.ca/50comm/commdb/desc/d41.htm>

Overseas Development Institute (ODI), United Kingdom

Its mission is to inspire and inform policy and practice which lead to the reduction of poverty, the alleviation of suffering and the achievement of sustainable livelihoods in developing countries. It does this by locking together high-quality applied research, practical policy advice, and policy-focused dissemination and debate. It works with partners in the public and private sectors, in both developing and developed countries. <http://www.odi.org.uk/>

Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre (PTWC), Honolulu, Hawaii

Established in 1949, the PTWC in Ewa Beach, Hawaii, provides warnings for tsunamis to most countries in the Pacific Basin as well as to Hawaii and all other U.S interests in the Pacific outside of Alaska and the U.S West Coast. Those areas are served by the West Coast / Alaska Tsunami Warning Center (WC/ATWC) in Palmer, Alaska. PTWC is also the warning center for Hawaii's local and regional tsunamis. <http://www.prh.noaa.gov/pr/ptwc/>

Philippine Commission on Higher Education (CHED)

CHED is mandated to undertake the following tasks: 1. Promote quality education; 2. Take appropriate steps to ensure that education shall be accessible to all; and 3. Ensure and protect academic freedom for the continuing intellectual growth, the advancement of learning and research, the development of responsible and effective leadership, the education of high level professionals, and the enrichment of historical and cultural heritage. www.info.com.ph/~chedco

Philippine Institute for Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS), Quezon City, Philippines

The principal goal of PHIVOLCS is to formulate up-to-date and comprehensive disaster preparedness and loss reduction action plans for volcanic eruption, earthquake occurrences and related geotectonic processes/phenomena (e.g. faulting, landslides and tsunamis) which imprint significant impacts on man and his environment. A corollary goal is to exploit the positive aspects of these processes to uplift of the people's quality of life. In line with its role in the promotion of science and technology in the country, PHIVOLCS undertakes activities geared towards making people aware of volcanoes and volcanology, earthquakes and seismology, and to understand why, where and how natural disasters of volcanic and seismic origins occur in the Philippines.

<http://www.phivolcs.dost.gov.ph/>

Phnom Penh Regional Platform on Sustainable Development for Asia and the Pacific, Phnom Pehn, Cambodia

The High-level Regional Meeting for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) reviewed the progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 in the region and identifies key policy issues, priorities, goals, constraints and actions in preparation for the WSSD.

http://www.johannesburgsummit.org/html/prep_process/asiapacific.html

PLANAT (Swiss National Platform for Natural Hazards), Bern, Switzerland

The Federal Council aims to improve prevention in the field of natural hazards. To this end, it created the national PLATform for NATural hazards - PLANAT. This consultative body of the Confederation is organized as an extra parliamentary commission.

Whilst taking care to avoid a duplication of efforts, it also ensures a better use of the existing structures.

<http://www.planat.ch/e/index.htm>

Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), Potsdam, Germany

The founding of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research in 1992 arose out of the growing need among political decision-makers to be informed about the consequences of Global Change. Of particular importance in this respect was the question of increasing concentrations of CO₂ in the atmosphere and the effect this would have on climate, the environment and society. Since then PIK has been involved in investigating the ecological, geophysical and socioeconomic aspects of worldwide climatic change, and climate-impact research has become part of a comprehensive Earth system analysis. <http://www.pik-potsdam.de/>

ProVention Consortium (Disaster Management Facility, World Bank)

Its mission is "to help developing countries build sustainable and successful economies and to reduce the human suffering that too often results from natural and technological catastrophes". The ProVention Consortium is a global coalition of governments, international organizations, academic institutions, the private sector, and civil society organizations aimed at reducing disaster impacts in developing countries. The Consortium functions as a network to share knowledge and to connect and leverage resources to reduce disaster risk. It focuses on synergy and coordination so that efforts, and benefits, are shared. <http://www.proventionconsortium.org/>

Regional Consultative Committee (RCC) in Disaster Management, Bangkok, Thailand

Within the framework of the Advisory Council, an ADPC Consultative Committee on Regional Cooperation in Disaster Management has been established. The Committee comprises members of the ADPC Board of Trustees/Advisory Council who are working in key Government positions in the National Disaster Management systems of countries of the Asian region. The role of RCC is to provide an informal consultative mechanism for development of action strategies for disaster reduction in the region and promotion of cooperative programs on a regional and sub-regional basis; so as to guide ADPC's work.
<http://www.adpc.ait.ac.th/pdp/consultative.html>

Regional Early Warning Unit (REWU), SADC, Harare, Zimbabwe

The SADC Regional Early Warning Unit is an institution of the Southern African Development Community financially supported through contributions from Member States. The SADC Regional Early Warning System operates as an integrated project, comprising a Regional Early Warning Unit (REWU), based in Harare, and autonomous National Early Warning Units in each of the ten original SADC member states.
<http://www.sadc-fanr.org.zw/rewu/rewu.htm>

Regional Remote Sensing Unit (RRSU), SADC, Harare, Zimbabwe

The main objective is to strengthen national and regional capabilities in the area of remote sensing and GIS for use of early warning for food security and natural resources management. <http://www.sadc-fanr.org.zw/rrsu/rrsu.htm>

Regional Unit for Technical Assistance (RUTA), (Unidad regional de asistencia técnica), Costa Rica

RUTA is the collaboration between governments and international development agencies in the sustainable development of rural areas in Central America. Its mission is to contribute to sustainable rural growth in order to reduce rural poverty in the Central American region by means of national and regional development agendas – a common effort between governments, civil societies and social agencies. www.ruta.org

Save the Children Fund, United Kingdom (SCF-UK)

SCF-UK is the leading United Kingdom charity working to create a better world for children. <http://193.129.255.93/>

Secretaría General de Planificación (SEGEPLAN), Guatemala (Planning Secretariat)

The Secretariat of Planning and Programming (SEGEPLAN) is an institution that supports decision making, within the Presidency and other centers of public policy formulation in the Executive Branch, by providing specific social-economic information that facilitates informed decisions related to the country's development. <http://www.segeplan.gob.gt/>

Sistema de Integración Centroamericana (SICA)

SICA, and its secretariat, is a regional organization created by the Central American Presidents in the Declaration of Tegucigalpa with the purpose of offering its technical services as well as political expertise to the initiatives of regional integration, and particularly to the development of the Central American Union.
<http://www.sicanet.org.sv/>

Sistema Nacional para la Prevención, Mitigación y Atención de Desastres (SNPMAD), Nicaragua (National System for Disaster Prevention, Mitigation and Attention)

On March, 2000, the "Legislation 337" was approved for the establishment of the National System for the Prevention, Mitigation of, and Attention to Disasters (the System). The National Committee is the administrative entity of the System, whose role it is to define the policies and plans of the System, as well as to assist the President of the Republic with the declaration of a State of Emergency and approve the annual budget directed to the National Fund for Disasters. In order to meet its objectives in terms of the prevention, mitigation of, and attention to disasters, the System has established Commissions for Sectorial Initiatives for the execution of the plans adopted by the National System. Legislation 337 stipulates that the Commissions shall be organized and coordinated at the Ministerial level.
<http://www.sosnicaragua.gob.ni/>

Sistema Nacional de Protección Civil (SINAPROC), Panama (National Civil Protection System)

SINAPROC is an infrastructure of programmes, institutional relationships, methodologies and processes, which coordinates the common efforts of the institutions of the three governmental hierarchies, as well as the public and private social agencies, to protect society against the dangers of natural risks and disasters.
<http://www.c-com.net.pa/~snpce/>

South African Qualifications Authorities (SAQA)

The South African Qualifications Authority is a body of 29 members appointed by the Ministers of Education and Labour. The members are nominated by identified national stakeholders in education and training. Its *National Qualifications Framework* is the set of principles and guidelines by which records of learner achievement are registered to enable national recognition of acquired skills and knowledge, thereby ensuring an integrated system that encourages life-long learning.
<http://www.saqa.org.za/>

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Kathmandu, Nepal

SAARC was established when its Charter was formally adopted on 8 December, 1985 by the Heads of State or Government of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. SAARC provides a platform for the peoples of South Asia to work together in a spirit of friendship, trust and understanding. It aims to accelerate the process of economic and social development in Member States. <http://www.saarc-sec.org/>

South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), Fiji

Its mission is to improve the well being of the peoples of Pacific Island developing states through the application of geoscience to the management and sustainable development of their non-living resources. SOPAC member countries include: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia (Associate), Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia (Associate), Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu. www.sopac.org.fj/

Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), Gaborone, Botswana

The primary role of SADC is to help define regional priorities, facilitate integration, assist in mobilizing resources and to maximize the regional impact of projects. The approach is to address national priorities through regional action. The SADC Programme of Action is made up of all the programmes and projects approved by the Council of Ministers. www.sadc.int <http://www.sadcreview.com/>

- SADC Food and Natural Resources Coordination Unit (See FANR)**- SADC Environmental and Land Management Coordination United Nations**

The SADC Environment and Land Management Sector (ELMS) has been given the responsibility to catalyse the transition towards environmentally sustainable development within the SADC countries. Thus the overall objective of the sector, like its mandate, is long term and conforms to the SADC Treaty "to achieve sustainable utilisation of natural resources and effective protection of the environment."

<http://www.sadcreview.com/sectoral%20reports%202001/environmentandland.htm>

- SADC Water Resources Coordination Unit

In view of the importance of the role that water plays in ensuring the well-being of the peoples of SADC, a distinct Water Sector was established by the community in 1996. The day-to-day coordination activities of the sector are undertaken by a dedicated unit known as the SADC Water Sector Coordinating Unit (SADC WSCU), located in the Ministry of Natural Resources, in Lesotho. The vision of the SADC Water Sector is, "to attain the sustainable, integrated planning, development, utilisation and management of water resources that contribute to the attainment of SADC's overall objectives of an integrated regional economy on the basis of balance, equity and mutual benefit for all member States". <http://www.sadcwscu.org.ls/>

Southern Alliance for Indigenous Resources (SAFIRE), Harare, Zimbabwe

SAFIRE was founded in October 1994 and since then it has steadily evolved to become one of the larger environmental NGOs in Southern Africa, and is associated particularly with natural products development, forestry related issues in communal lands, and with participatory approaches to community based natural resource management. <http://www.safireweb.org/>

Southern African Research and Documentation Center (SARDC), Harare, Zimbabwe

SARDC's objective is to improve the base of knowledge about economic, political, cultural and social developments, and their implications, by making information accessible to governments and policy makers, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, regional and international organizations, development agencies, parliaments, and the media. <http://www.sardc.net/>

Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) Agreement

The Treaty establishes a Common Market between the Argentine Republic, the Federal Republic of Brazil, the Republic of Paraguay and the Eastern Republic of Uruguay. <http://www.sice.oas.org/trade/mrcsr/mrcsrtoc.asp>

Sustainable Environment and Ecological Development Society (SEEDS), New Delhi, India

SEEDS, a non-profit voluntary organization, is a collective endeavor of young professionals drawn from development related fields. It originated as an informal group of like-minded people, getting together for the purpose of creative research projects of academic interest. The group was later formalized in early 1994 and has been active in the field ever since. It is involved in research activities in community development, disaster management, environmental planning, transport planning, and urban and regional planning. Activities are carried out on behalf of government, semi-government and international development agencies. Independent programs on vital issues are also taken up. <http://www.gdrc.org/uem/seeds.html>

Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)

SIDA creates the preconditions for change and sustainable development. <http://www.sida.org/>

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), (Agencia Suiza para el desarrollo y la cooperacion (COSUDE))

SDC is part of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. Its mandate is based on the Federal Law on International Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid enacted on 19 March 1976, and on a federal decree of 24 March 1995 on cooperation with the countries of Eastern Europe. In order to make the greatest contribution, SDC concentrates its long-term efforts on cooperating in development in specific sectors and with a limited number of countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe. In Latin America, the Swiss Cooperation has chosen to focus its efforts on Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador and Central America, particularly Nicaragua. http://www.eda.admin.ch/lima_emb/s/home/devcop.html
http://194.230.65.134/dezaweb2/frame_ie.asp?bgstyle=bg_homepage

Swiss Reinsurance Company (SwissRE), Zurich, Switzerland

Swiss Re - the global reinsurer: With more than 70 offices in 30 countries. The Financial Services Business Group brings together world-class capital management expertise and risk-taking capabilities. Swiss Re's success in business is attributable to two factors: intelligent risk management and, at its heart, an in-depth analysis of the nature of risk. The product of the first is a contract; the product of the second is published work (top topics, Sigma). <http://www.swissre.com/>

Technicon, University of Technology, Free State, South Africa

The research mission of the Technikon Free State, a South African university of technology is in line with the higher education mission of teaching, research and community service: To advance, transfer and sustain knowledge and understanding, through the conduct of career teaching, research and scholarship, as well as community capacity building and services, at the highest international standards, for the benefit of national and international communities and that of the Free State Province in particular. <http://www.tofs.ac.za/index.asp>

Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), Italy

The Third World Academy of Sciences is an autonomous international organization, founded in Trieste, Italy, in 1983 by a distinguished group of scientists under the leadership of the late Nobel laureate Abdus Salam of Pakistan. It was officially launched by the then Secretary General of the United Nations in 1985. Since 1986, TWAS has been supporting research work of scientific merit in 100 countries in the South through a variety of programmes. In addition, joint activities have been developed with UNESCO, the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), ICSU, the International Foundation for Science (IFS) and the International Science Programme (ISP).

Tropical Cyclone Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres (RSMCs), World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

RSMCS is a network of five centres designated by WMO as Tropical Cyclone Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres (RSMCs) and located in:

La Réunion, www.meteor.fr/temps/domtom/La_Reunion/trajGP/data/home_trajGP

Miami, www.nhc.noaa.gov/products

Nadi (Fiji), www.met.gov.fj/advisories

New Delhi, www.imd.ernet.in/services/cyclone/cyclone-warning-services

Tokyo, <http://ddb.kishou.go.jp/typhoon/cyclone/cyclone.html>

and six specialized tropical cyclone warning centres with regional responsibility to carry out activities coordinated at the global and regional levels by WMO through its World Weather Watch and Tropical Cyclone Programmes. They are located in:

Brisbane, www.bom.gov.au/weather/qld/cyclone

Darwin, www.bom.gov.au/weather/nt/inside/cyclone/cyclone.shtml

Perth, www.bom.gov.au/weather/wa

Wellington, www.metservice.co.nz/forecasts/high_seas.asp

Port Moresby,

and **Honolulu**, www.nws.noaa.gov/pr/hnl/cphc/pages/cphc.html

Turkana Drought Contingency Planning Unit (TDCPU), Kenya

The Early Warning System of Turkana was set up in 1987. It operates at the sub-national level, for the district of Turkana in the northern part of Kenya. It is run by local government, by the TDCPU. It provides information on how early warning data can be translated and communicated to decision makers.

Uganda's Seismic Safety Association (USSA)

In 1997, following the WSSI High Level Meeting in Kampala, the Uganda Seismic Safety Association was formed. USSA is a non-profit professional organization some of whose members are affiliated to the Uganda Institution of Professional Engineers, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Government Ministries, NGOs, insurance industry, community leaders, and members from the general public.

Ukuvuka – Operation Firestop, South Africa

Operating within the scope of the authority of the local municipal authorities and the Cape Peninsula National Park, the Ukuvuka Campaign intends to accomplish the work identified by a public awareness campaign, through management support, funding, communication, monitoring and facilitation. <http://www.ukuvuka.org.za/>

Unit for Sustainable Development and Environment of the Organization of American States (USDE/OAS), Washington DC, USA

The Unit for Sustainable Development and Environment is the principal technical arm of the OAS General Secretariat for responding to the needs of member states on issues relating to sustainable development within an economic development context. Technical issues addressed by the USDE include transboundary management of water resources, reduction of vulnerability to natural hazards, public participation in decision-making, climate change, sea-level rise, coastal-zone management, renewable energy planning, and biodiversity. <http://www.oas.org/usde/USDE.htm>

United Nations Center for Regional Development/Disaster Management Planning Hyogo Office (UNCRD/DMPHO), Japan

UNCRD/DMPHO was established in Kobe in 1999 after the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake of 1995. While applying the lessons learned from the experience of the earthquake of 1995, the Hyogo office has formulated integrated projects for 'Sustainable Development through Disaster Management'. The office has three basic research programs: 1) Design of community based projects for disaster management planning, 2) School earthquake safety project, and 3) Disaster management capacity building program to introduce best practices case studies on disaster management in developing countries. http://www.hyogo.uncrd.or.jp/ws2002/index_e.html

United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Washington DC, USA

USAID is an independent federal government agency that receives overall foreign policy guidance from the Secretary of State. The agency works to support long-term and equitable economic growth and advancing U.S. foreign policy objectives by supporting: economic growth, agricultural and trade; global health; and, democracy, conflict prevention and humanitarian assistance. <http://www.usaid.gov/>

United States Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Washington DC, USA

FEMA is an independent agency of the federal government, reporting to the President. Its mission is to reduce loss of life and property and to protect the nation's critical infrastructure from all types of hazards through a comprehensive, risk-based, emergency management program of mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. www.fema.gov

United States Geological Survey (USGS), Reston, Virginia, USA

The USGS provides reliable scientific information to describe and understand the Earth; minimize loss of life and property from natural disasters; manage water, biological, energy and mineral resources and enhance and protect the quality of life. <http://www.usgs.gov/>

Universidad Nacional de Trujillo, Peru (National University)

Peru's National University at Trujillo operates as the Technical Secretariat for the General Coordination of EDUPLAN in Latin America and the Caribbean. <http://www.unitru.edu.pe/>

University of Cape Town, South Africa

The Environmental Evaluation Unit and the Disaster Mitigation for Sustained Livelihoods Project (DIMP) are associated with the department and operate from the Shell Environmental and Geographical Science building. The staff of these units consult on a wide range of practical environmental issues and problems, and also contribute to the teaching and research activities of the academic department. <http://www.uct.ac.za/>

University of Potchefstroom, South Africa

The university is in the process of establishing an African Centre for Disaster Studies (ACDS). (<http://www.puk.ac.za/fakulteite/lettere/sosialestudies/acds/>) <http://www.puk.ac.za/>

Other universities dealing with disaster management and related issues

Universidad de Costa Rica (UCR), (University of Costa Rica) <http://www.ucr.ac.cr/>

Universidad del Valle, Bogota, Colombia <http://www.univalle.edu.co/>

Universidad del Valle, Guatemala <http://www.uvg.edu.gt/>

Universidad de los Andes, Bogota, Colombia <http://www.uniandes.edu.co/home-visitantes/>

Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, Mendoza, Argentina <http://www.uncu.edu.ar/nueva/index.html>

Universidad Nacional de Nicaragua (UNAN), (National University of Nicaragua) <http://www.unan.edu.ni/>

Universidad Nacional, Heredia, Costa Rica (UNA), (National University, Heredia, Costa Rica) www.una.ac.cr

University of Cranfield, United Kingdom <http://www.cranfield.ac.uk/>

University of the Free State, South Africa <http://www.uovs.ac.za/>

University of Mutare, Zimbabwe <http://www.carbon.org/AfricaUniv.htm>

University of Nairobi, Kenya <http://www.uonbi.ac.ke/>

University of Witwatersrand, South Africa <http://www.cs.wits.ac.za/>

Wetlands International

Wetlands International is a leading global non-profit organisation dedicated solely to the crucial work of wetland conservation and sustainable management. Well-established networks of experts and close partnerships with key organisations provide Wetlands International with the essential tools for catalysing conservation activities worldwide. Activities are based on sound science and have been carried out in over 120 countries. Its mission is to sustain and restore wetlands, their resources and biodiversity for future generations through research, information exchange and conservation activities worldwide. <http://www.wetlands.org/>

World Conservation Union (IUCN), Switzerland

IUCN's mission is to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable. <http://www.iucn.org/>

World Organization of Volcano Observatories (WOVO),

The World Organization of Volcano Observatories was established as the result of a meeting of representatives from world-wide volcano observatories, held in Guadeloupe in 1981. WOVO became the International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior Commission in the following year. <http://volcano.und.nodak.edu/vwdocs/wovo/>

World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)

WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by: conserving the world's biological diversity ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption. Since it was founded in 1961, WWF has become one of the world's largest and most effective independent organizations dedicated to the conservation of nature. <http://www.panda.org>

Zambesi River Authority (ZRA)

The bi-national Zambesi River Authority (ZRA) was established through an agreement between Zambia and Zimbabwe. ZRA now has the responsibility for operation and maintenance of the Kariba Dam, while the two power plants are operated by power companies of the respective countries.

Zentrum für Naturrisiken und Entwicklung (ZENEb), Germany (Center for Natural Hazards and Development)

The objective of ZENEb is the creation of a "culture of a prevention" for the advancement of sustainable development. Accordingly, initiatives in the reduction of vulnerability of natural hazards are being made in cooperation with issues of science and policy. <http://www.giub.uni-bonn.de/zeneb/>