



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

# Task Force on Emergency Preparedness

# Why is APEC interested?

- APEC: free and open trade
  - human security agenda
- Virtual Task Force in 1997
- Leaders: lessen impact of future disasters and improve collective response capability (2005)



# Some statistics

- APEC: over 54% of world GDP, about 44% of world trade, more than 40% of the world's population, 52% of earth's surface area
- Over 70% of the world's disasters.
  - Pacific Ring of Fire (75% of volcanoes, 90% of earthquakes), plus El Niño South Oscillation & La Niña
- 2008: 321 disasters killed 235,000+, affected 211 million, cost US\$181 billion+
- \$1 of disaster reduction, \$2-10 saved in avoided costs

# Trends

- Disasters are increasing in frequency, scale and impact
  - weather-related disasters increasing significantly
- Disaster impacts are being exacerbated by:
  - increases in global population
  - unplanned urbanisation
  - growing settlement in high-risk coastal areas
  - deforestation
  - poor land-use management
  - inadequate enforcement of building codes



# TFEP Mandate

1. build capacity in the region to mitigate, prepare for, and respond to, emergencies and disasters
2. improve coordination and enhance intra-APEC cooperation and integration of best emergency practice, disaster preparedness and response efforts

# TFEP Strategy 2009-15

## Objectives :

- Help political decision-makers better understand the economic and social costs of disasters
- Develop practical mechanisms to build business and community resilience
- Identify gaps in disaster risk reduction approaches and address through capacity building initiatives

## Approach:

- Disasters should be prepared for jointly
- Recovery should be long-term
- Risk should be managed prospectively
- Supports Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA)
- Complement, not duplicate

## Early achievements:

- APEC Principles on Disaster Response and Cooperation
- Stocktake of region's capacity-building needs

# 2009 Priorities

- business and community resilience
- public-private partnerships
- disaster risk reduction
- cooperation among heads of APEC emergency management agencies
- preparing for the recovery phase
- integration of disaster risk awareness and management education into school curricula

## 2009 activities

- Cusco Declaration on Disaster Risk Reduction, with the Caribbean, Central American and Andean groupings
- Workshop on Damage Assessment Techniques, Yogyakarta, 3-6 August
- Third APEC Emergency Management CEOs' Summit, Hanoi, 15-17 September
- Workshop on Long-Term Capacity Building for Disaster Risk Reduction in APEC, Taipei,
- Social Economic Recovery and Development Program after Large-scale Disaster, Sichuan, December
- Electronic library of disaster risk reduction school education material

## 2010 activities

- Fourth APEC Emergency Management CEOs' Summit, Kobe, 17 January
- Workshop on Public-Private Partnerships for Business Resilience, Thailand
- International Disaster Management Course, Singapore
- Study Course on Improving Regional Cooperation in Emergency Training and Response, Moscow, July
- Cooperation to Prevent Forest Fires, Russia, October
- Year 2 (of 4) of the Social Economic Recovery and Development Program after Large-scale Disaster, China,

# Disaster Risk Reduction

- analyse and manage the causes of disasters
- avoidance of hazards
- reduced social and economic vulnerability to hazards
- improved preparedness for adverse events

UNISDR

Importance of climate information  
for emergency preparedness?



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