

***Development of a Cross-Disaster Knowledge
Management Kit to Support Better Recovery***
---Learning from Good Practices and Lessons---
(Draft Proposal)

International Recovery Platform (IRP)
ADRC / ISDR

1 Background

Natural disasters increasingly and repeatedly destroy lives and livelihoods and put a high economic burden on countries and the population. At the same time, recovery from natural disasters can provide a valuable opportunity for change if the appropriate leadership exists in the country and the affected district. Therefore, applicable external knowledge support based on actual recovery processes can play a crucial role in promoting post disaster recovery.

In this context, IRP was launched in May 2005 in Kobe Hyogo aiming to serve as an international repository of knowledge and clearing-house mechanism for recovery that did not exist within the international community. The IRP Office (hereinafter IRP Hyogo Office) was inaugurated during the International Seminar on Post Disaster Recovery, and it is mainly in charge of knowledge management of recovery information and experiences.

Various booklets, research reports on good practices, lessons learned, case studies of major disasters on recovery already exist. They are mostly summarized and analyzed by each major disaster except for some examples. However, when experts on recovery visit disaster affected countries, they are frequently asked to provide them with so to say “cross-disaster” knowledge support on topical thematic lines* which are necessary and crucial for post disaster recovery to realize safer and more secure society.

2 Project Objectives

This project will be led by UN/ISDR and ADRC at the IRP Hyogo Office** in collaboration with OCHA’s “Development of a cross-disaster knowledge”, using the world-wide network of the IRP. It aims to provide the key persons in charge of planning and implementing the recovery activities of disaster affected countries and communities with useful knowledge for post disaster recovery through;

- creating a database with multiple keywords including the thematic lines* for knowledge support drawn from existing knowledge resources.

- publishing a “Cross-disaster Knowledge Management Kit” to support better recovery, which will be summarized and analyzed based on the thematic lines* on post disaster recovery

3 Specific Activities and Time Table **(Duration; from June 2005 to March 2007)**

1) Initial phase (by the 12th IATF; Nov. 2005)

(1) Complete the framework of the project

- Complete the framework of project and establish a team with consultant(s) in IRP Hyogo (by the end of Oct.2005)
- Develop a format of database from view of thematic lines* such as institutional arrangements and role of international organization etc.

(2) Collect “Good practices” and “Lessons learned” of post-disaster recovery

- The IRP Hyogo Office has developed a preliminary database linking to around 60 data sources on good practices, lessons, case studies mainly on post disaster recovery and it will be expanded using the IRP network.
- Other examples such as presented at the WCDR and/or IRP related seminars will also be used as the data resource.
- Above data sources will be stored in a list and it will be published on the IRP web with hyper-link to each data owner for easy access. (continued to the next phase)

2) The 1st phase (from the 12th IATF to March 2006)

(1) Development of the database on the best practices, and draw lessons learned from past recovery activities (by January 2006)

- Discuss the outline of the project and format of the database with wider organizations at the occasion of 12th IATF (22-24 November)
- Target major disasters will be selected from disasters occurred from 1984 to 2004 worldwide.
- A format to summarize recovery experiences and lessons will be prepared including the topical thematic lines* and key-codes***.
- The data sheets with the format will be filled by each selected major disaster, and the filled data sheets will be stored in a new database. (partially by March 2006, continued to the next phase)

(2) Organize a workshop to review and highlight critical issues and lessons

(around January 19)

- The Second International Seminar on Post Disaster Recovery will be organized taking the opportunity of the 11th anniversary of the Great

Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake in Kobe Hyogo. The status of this project will be reported and reviewed highlighting the critical issues and lessons.

3) The 2nd phase (by March 2007)

Compile technical documents as a guideline for better recovery for policy makers; Cross-disaster Knowledge Management Kit” to support better recovery

- Using the above database, review and analysis will be carried out based on the thematic lines*. A cross-disaster publication by the thematic lines* with effective and efficient analysis will be compiled.
- Establish a review committee to review and develop the document through discussion with international organizations, governments, NGOs and other end-users. (from September to November 2006)
- The results will be published by the thematic lines*, with effective and efficient analysis, as a “Cross-disaster Knowledge Management Kit” to support better recovery

4) Expected Outcome

- The created database will be published on the IRP Website with effective search engine.
- The “Cross-Disaster Knowledge Management Kit” will be printed and also published on the Web.
- The “Cross-Disaster Knowledge Management Kit” will contribute to the key persons in charge of planning and implementing the recovery activities of the disaster affected countries and communities to create safer and more secure society.

4 Research Budget

- The whole project, including consultants’ professional fees, is budgeted at US \$ 50,000 (amount to be agreed) for 2005 and 2006, shared between UNDP, ISDR, ADRC and etc.

* Draft of the thematic lines are shown on the next page

** The Programme Analyst of the IRP Hyogo Office, in consultation with the Programme Coordinator and the Recovery Expert, will be the person in charge of this project

*** The key-codes should include the GLoBal IDentifier Number (GLIDE)

Topical Thematic Lines and Database Items and Cross-Reference Field

Thematic Topics	Item	Field
1) Organizational/ Institutional Development for Recovery	B, D, E, H, L, M	1
2) Risk Reduction Factors	A, J, K	2
3) Methodologies for Needs and Damage Assessment	C	3
4) Dilemmas in Recovery Planning	I	4
5) The Continuum from the Initial Emergency Phase to Full Recovery	F, G	5

Item	Sub Topics	Field
A	How risk reduction was integrated	2.2
B	Institutional arrangements to implement recovery programs	1.1
C	Damage and needs assessment methodology (for immediate response/relief and recovery)	3
D	Roles of UN, international organizations and interface with national partners	1.1 b
E	Long run contributions to enhancing national and local recovery management capacities	2.1
F	The long term consequences of decisions taken during the emergency relief phase.	5.1
G	The sheltering process, examining the continuum from initial shelter to permanent reconstruction of dwellings.	5.2
H	The link between various sectors of recovery: psycho-social, economic (livelihood development), environmental and physical recovery actions.	1.3
I	A review of key dilemmas in recovery management such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ political pressure for speed of recovery vs. safety ▪ to relocate unsafe communities or not? ▪ speed of recovery vs. the full participation of the affected community in decision making or actual involvement in the building process. ▪ balancing essential reform with essential continuity 	4
J	The growth or reduction of vulnerability within the recovery process	4.4
K	The development of Disaster Management Capacities as part of the recovery process	2.1
L	Governmental structures to manage the recovery process	1.1, 2.1
M	The Monitoring and Evaluation of Recovery Progress	1.1 a