

Memorandum of Agreement

between

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

and

**Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction
(CESDRR)**

**On the Promotion and Institutionalization of the ESCAP Regional Network of
Knowledge and Innovation Centres in Disaster Risk Reduction**

**United Nations Economic and Social Commission
for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)**

United Nations Building
Rajadamnern Nok Avenue
Bangkok, 10200, Thailand

and

**Center for Emergency Situations
and Disaster Risk Reduction (CESDRR)**

73 Amangeldy street
Almaty, 050022
Republic of Kazakhstan

This Memorandum of Agreement (hereinafter referred to as the "MOA") is entered into between the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, a United Nations Regional Commission, having its headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand (hereinafter referred to as "ESCAP") and the Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction, having headquarters in Almaty, Kazakhstan (hereinafter referred to as "CESDRR"),

Whereas ESCAP is responsible for promoting economic and social development in the Asian and Pacific region,

Whereas CESDRR is a permanent intergovernmental body and an international organization, established under the agreement between the Governments of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic, to ensure effective mechanisms for regional and international cooperation to reduce the risk, mitigate the consequences, and organize a joint response to disasters through agreed measures,

Considering ESCAP member States have adopted a Regional Road Map for Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific to, among others, promote effective regional and subregional efforts to strengthen disaster risk modelling, assessment, mapping, monitoring and multi-hazard early warning systems of common and transboundary disaster and facilitate regional dialogue and cooperation in integrating disaster risk reduction into related development activities including through the creation of the 'ESCAP Regional Network of Knowledge and Innovation Centres in Disaster Risk Reduction',

Acknowledging that ESCAP is collaborating with other partners on the ESCAP Regional Network of Knowledge and Innovation Centres in Disaster Risk Reduction, including the National Disaster Management of India, National Disaster Reduction Center of China, the National Disaster Management Institute of Korea, and the Indonesian Agency for Meteorological, Climatological and Geophysics,

Considering that CESDRR has the mandate, policy, institutional, programmatic as well as physical infrastructure and facilities to organize and conduct international exercises, forums, conferences, and capacity development activities in collaboration with governmental and international organizations,

Recognizing opportunities to create synergies between the two organizations, as guided by Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030 as well as ESCAP Resolution 71/12 on Strengthening regional mechanisms for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in Asia and the Pacific, and in relation to their respective initiatives and projects with similar objectives, and complement each other's mandates, comparative advantages and strengths in promoting disaster risk reduction in the Asian and Pacific region by pursuing this cooperation,

Now therefore, based on mutual trust and in a spirit of cooperation, ESCAP and CESDRR have entered into the present Memorandum of Agreement hereinafter referred to as the "MOA":

1. ESCAP and CESDRR hereby agree to establish a partnership to promote and institutionalize the ESCAP Regional Network of Knowledge and Innovation Centres in Disaster Risk Reduction and shall collaborate in the implementation of activities under the ESCAP Regional Network of Knowledge and Innovation Centres in Disaster Risk Reduction. This may include but is not limited to regional cooperation in the areas of disaster risk identification and assessment; mitigation of disaster risks, preparedness for effective response to disaster emergencies.
2. The Parties agree to conduct joint policy development, capacity building and research on disaster risk reduction including development of regional strategies and action plans for sustainable development goals; and promotion of space technology applications and geospatial data for disaster risk reduction and sustainable development agendas.

3. The Parties will undertake the collaborative activities under this partnership, to the extent possible, to further the South-South and triangular cooperation under the appropriate platforms including the Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation and other similar regional arrangements in Asia-Pacific region.
4. The role and responsibilities of ESCAP in this partnership will include:
 - (a) To act as the United Nations' regional formal platform for inter-governmental processes in the development of regional policies and strategies; to promote regional cooperation and to develop capacities on disaster risk reduction;
 - (b) To develop and optimise the innovations on disaster risk reduction including the use of space technology applications and geospatial data for disaster risk assessment, response and damage assessment; and
 - (c) To undertake joint research on disaster risk management including disaster-related information analysis and sharing system, disaster-related statistics and resilience monitoring, and disaster risk management technology.
5. The role and responsibilities of CESDRR in this partnership will include:
 - (a) To act as a regional knowledge and innovation center for capacity building in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation of high-level policy makers and planners from ESCAP member States;
 - (b) To provide specialized training and technical advisory expertise tailored to the needs of high-level policy makers in each of the recipient countries, where conditions permit; and
 - (c) To provide, where needed and conditions permit, local costs for the trainees through discussion with ESCAP, including cost of hiring trainers, producing and distributing training materials, living allowances and accommodation during the training period.
6. ESCAP and CESDRR shall report the progress of the joint capacity development training to the ESCAP Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction.
7. Each Party shall be solely responsible the way it carries out its part of the activities under the present collaboration. No Party shall have authority to make any statements, representations, or commitments of any kind, or to take any action which shall be binding on the other Party unless this action has been authorized in advance and in writing by that Party.
8. For the avoidance of doubt, there is no transfer of funds between the two Parties under this MOA.

9. The use of emblems of each Organisation in documentation related to cooperation will be in accord with the current policies of each Organisation.
10. The CESDRR and ESCAP agree to designate as responsible contacts for the activities under this MOA:

a. **CESDRR:**

Valeriy Petrov
Director
Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction
73 Amangeldy street, Almaty,
Republic of Kazakhstan 050022
Phone: +7 727 220-7331
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b. **ESCAP:**

Tiziana Bonapace
Director
Information and Communications Technology and
Disaster Risk Reduction Division, ESCAP
United Nations Building
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With copy to:

Director, Strategy and Programme Management Division, ESCAP
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Rajadamnern Nok Avenue
Bangkok 10200 Thailand
Phone: +662 288-1935
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11. Nothing in this MOA shall constitute a waiver of the privileges and immunities, which each of the Parties enjoys by the international agreements and laws applicable to it.
12. The Parties confirm that they will exercise good faith efforts to resolve any dispute between them arising from or in connection with this MOA through mutual negotiation and consultation. Where the Parties wish to seek such an amicable settlement through conciliation, the conciliation will take place in accordance with the UNCITRAL Conciliation Rules then obtaining, or according to such other procedure as may be agreed between the Parties.

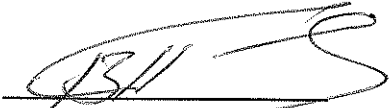
13. This MOA shall become effective upon signature by both Parties and terminate on 31 December 2019. It can be extended or modified by mutual written agreement and it may be terminated on 60 days' notice in writing to the other party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned duly authorized representatives of ESCAP and CESDRR have signed this Memorandum of Agreement in two (2) originals in English.

**United Nations Economic and Social
Commission for Asia and the Pacific**

**Center for Emergency Situations
and Disaster Risk Reduction**

Signature: 
Name: Adnan Aliani
Title: Director
Strategy and Programme
Management Division

Signature: 
Name: Valeriy Petrov
Title: Director
Center for Emergency Situations
and Disaster Risk Reduction

Place: Bangkok, Thailand
Date: 11 October 2017

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