

Issue 05 Newsletter - Q1 2021 Regional Office for the Arab States (ROAS)





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News & Events



Lecture on DRR and Role of Science and Technology and the Youth towards Resilient Communities

Palestine, 11 February 2021 – Led by the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Disaster Risk Ms. Mami Mizutori, a lecture on Disaster Risk Reduction was organized by An-Najah National University (ANNU) and attended by more than 135 participants of Master's students, who showcased their projects under the umbrella of MCR campaign and presented the key outcomes.

Read more about the lecture that tackled the role of science and technology and youth towards developing resilient communities.



Protecting Human Rights in Light of Health Crises and Natural Disasters

Saudi Arabia, 16-17 March 2021 – The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Saudi Arabia

organized a two-day training program on protecting human rights in times of health crises and natural disasters. The workshop was attended by employees of the ministries, civil defense, the Red Crescent, the Food and Drug Authority, the King Salman Relief Center, private sector institutions, as well as civil society institutions.

Read more about the workshop that aimed to integrate a human rights perspective and shed the light on the international standards that ensure the protection of human rights in response to natural hazards and health crises.





UNDRR ROAS Participation at the Dubai International Humanitarian Aid and Development Conference and Exhibition (DIHAD) 2021

UAE, 15-17 March 2021 – The UNDRR Regional Office for the Arab States (ROAS) participated in the Dubai International Humanitarian Aid and Development Conference and Exhibition – DIHAD that was held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister of United Arab Emirates, Ruler of Dubai.

Read more about the UNDRR ROAS participation that was set under the umbrella of the UN Pavilion aiming to promote the Making Cities Resilience (MCR) 2030 Programme.



Infrastructure Resilience in the Real Estate Sector

UAE, 24 March 2021 – The UNDRR Regional Office for the Arab States (ROAS) and the Private Sector Alliance in the United Arab Emirates (ARISE UAE) brought together Real estate Developers and Regulators from the public sector to discuss the resilience of the Real Estate Sector through conducting an exploratory roundtable discussion.

Read more about the roundtable that was concluded with an agreement to establish a platform/ committee under the UAE ARISE with the regulators, investors, real estate developers, and operators to continue the dialogue on real estate

infrastructure resilience; pilot the development and application of a real estate infrastructure resilience standard and certification; and promote infrastructure resilience among other stakeholders.

Regional collaborations

Meeting of the MCR2030 Arab States Regional Coordinating Committee.

New partnerships and delivery mechanisms are established to move the MCR from advocacy to an implementation Programme.

The Regional Coordinating Committee (RCC) for the MCR 2030 was formalized to enhance the MCR 2030 Programme implementation in the region through developing a workplan to support the progress of cities in the region in line with the MCR2030 resilience roadmap.

Building Back Better from COVID-19 in Egypt, Jordan, and Lebanon.

With the financial support of Japan Government, UNDRR (ROAS) is coordinating closely with the Governments of Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon to promote measures that could assist these countries towards implementing the health aspects of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, including in health facilities and infrastructure, in line with the Bangkok Principles announced at the International Conference on the Implementation of the Health Aspect of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

Stakeholder Engagement

✓ 15 March 2021 - The National Private Sector Alliance for DRR (ARISE UAE) held a virtual press conference to launch the Middle East's first ever "Global Online COVID-19 Rehabilitation Program" in collaboration with RAK Hospital.

Explore how they are developing a free program to support all COVID-19 recovering patients on their journey restore their physical and mental health.





✓ 23 March 2021 – Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Voluntary Stakeholder Group for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Arab States co-organized a webinar titled "Gender, Climate Change, and Migration: Promising Policy and Programmatic Practice in addressing Linkages from a Gender Equality and a Women's Leadership Perspective."

The webinar brought together a range of stakeholders across the region working on gender, climate change, DRR, and migration.



√ 30 March 2021 – ARISE UAE participated in a special session for the private sector during the Arab Forum for Sustainable Development 2021 (AFSD-2021) under the theme "Catalyzing Private Sector Engagement in the Decade of Action."





The dialogue aimed to identify the most pressing challenges facing SMEs today in the region, the critical components to developing a business resilience framework and the tools required to leverage public-private partnerships to support business continuity and resilience.

✓ 31 March 2021 - The special session "SDG-Climate Security Nexus in the Arab State" was convened during the Arab Forum for Sustainable Development 2021 (AFSD-2021), as part of UNDR (ROAS) engagement in the regional SDG-Climate Facility project, which is developed in collaboration with the League of Arab States, UNDP, the Arab Water Council, UN-Habitat, WFP, UNEP-FI.

The session presented the impact of climate-security risk to achieve the SDGs in a resilient manner.



✓ 31 March 2021 – ARISE UAE led the development of the "Urban Thinkers Campus towards the City we Want" through a virtual discussion.

The discussion shed the light on how to make real estate more resilient, how to create resilient health systems in our cities, business continuity, and technology for urban resilience.





✓ 31 March 2021 – UNDRR (ROAS) contributed to the organization of the Plenary Session on SDG 13 titled "Advancing climate action for a green recovery and accelerated progress on the SDGs", in collaboration with UNESCWA and UNEP and facilitated the participation of the Director General for Projects and International Relations at the Environment Quality Authority of the State of Palestine as one of the panelists.

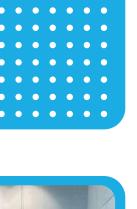
The intervention highlighted the importance of coherence between DRR and Climate Change in the development and implementation of national and local development policies and strategies towards ensuring green recovery from the COVID-19 impact.



Media Centre

DUBAI TV INTERVIEW DURING UNDRR ROAS PARTICIPATION AT DIHAD 2021







EXPLORATORY ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCE IN THE REAL ESTATE SECTOR

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