

# Workshop on National Platforms 23 - 29 August 2008, Davos Switzerland



## Disaster Risk Reduction National Coordinating Mechanisms

in

# Germany

Presentation by DKKV

# Context of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in Germany

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- ✚ **Germany has a National Platform**, the German Committee for Disaster Reduction (DKKV) :
  - ✚ The National Platform was launched during IDNDR in 1991; DKKV is a non-profit association
  - ✚ The National Platform was promoted by the Federal Foreign Office as National Partner within the IDNDR based on the commitment of the Federal Government to international humanitarian and development assistance
- ✚ DKKV is the HFA focal point in Germany, mandated with reporting on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action

# Legal Framework for DRR and DRR National Plan

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- ⊕ A complex and very diverse structure in a federal system
- ⊕ The legal framework :
  - ⊞ **Risk Reduction**: Because of the cross cutting nature of risk reduction, different aspects are integrated into the portfolio of a number of ministries (internally: Interior, Environment, Research, Transport and Building; externally: Foreign, Development)
  - ⊞ **Disaster Management** : Responsibility lies with the Ministries of Interior of the Länder and the Federal Government but also with communal structures, who run the fire brigades. The governmental structures are based on a huge support structure of volunteer organisations.

# DRR in Sectoral Policies : natural resources and water management, ecosystem services

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- ✿ The main actors are governmental agencies like:
  - ✿ National meteorological service
  - ✿ Flood forecasting and monitoring centres
  - ✿ Environmental agencies
- ✿ Governmental laws with reference to standard norms are effective instruments for the implementation

# DRR in Sectoral Policies : Climate change adaptation

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- ✚ On the climate scene, mitigation is still more prominent than adaptation
- ✚ Chaired by the Federal Environment Agency (UBA) a national adaptation strategy for Germany (DAS) is under development. The strategy is developed in a participatory way, integrating all relevant stakeholders.
- ✚ DKKV is a member of the Working Group for DAS.
- ✚ DKKV is official partner to the UNFCCC in the implementation of the Nairobi Work Programme.

# DRR in Sectoral Policies: Urban planning

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The communities are in charge of the land and city planning. They are asked to integrate

- ❑ **Risk assessment**
- ❑ **Anticipated effects of climate**

into their land and city planning.

Building norms, anchored in governmental legislation, regulate resistance with regard to fire, strong winds and earthquakes

# DRR in Sectoral Policies: Water/Flood Management

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- ✚ Within the European Communities directive for flood management the Länder are in charge of risk assessment in Germany.
- ✚ Flood protection is responsibility of Länder or districts
- ✚ Flood management is responsibility of the communities with support of the Länder

# Activities and Results of the National Platform and Focal Point

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- ✚ Contribution to UN/ISDR processes and initiatives
- ✚ Founding member and current chair of a European network of National Platforms for DRR
- ✚ Improvement of disaster management
- ✚ Development of public databases
- ✚ Development of Flyers for awareness raising
- ✚ Education/Courses for school children
- ✚ Contribution to the development of a National Plan of Adaptation to Climate Change

# Activities and Results of the National Platform and Focal Point

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- ✿ Contribution to the Nairobi Work Programme of UNFCCC
- ✿ Contribution to the preparation of the white paper on climate change adaptation by European Commission (with DKKV acting as presidency of the European Network)
- ✿ Contribution to the case study by European Commission on disaster prevention
- ✿ Proposal in the framework of FP7 on coordinated research on Natural Hazards
- ✿ Ongoing projects with interior, private sector and development agencies on different aspects of DRR
- ✿ Knowledge sharing by a number of workshops, meetings, conferences

# Strengths and Weaknesses of the NP in Germany

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## **Strengths**

- *Plurality of actors engaged in the NP*
- *Dedicated members from governmental agencies, scientific institutions and organisations, media, private sector, humanitarian and development organizations*
- *NP accepted as uniquely qualified for cross-sectoral, inter-disciplinary aspects of DRR*
- *Well interlinked on the regional and international level*
- *Structure of an association*

## **Weaknesses**

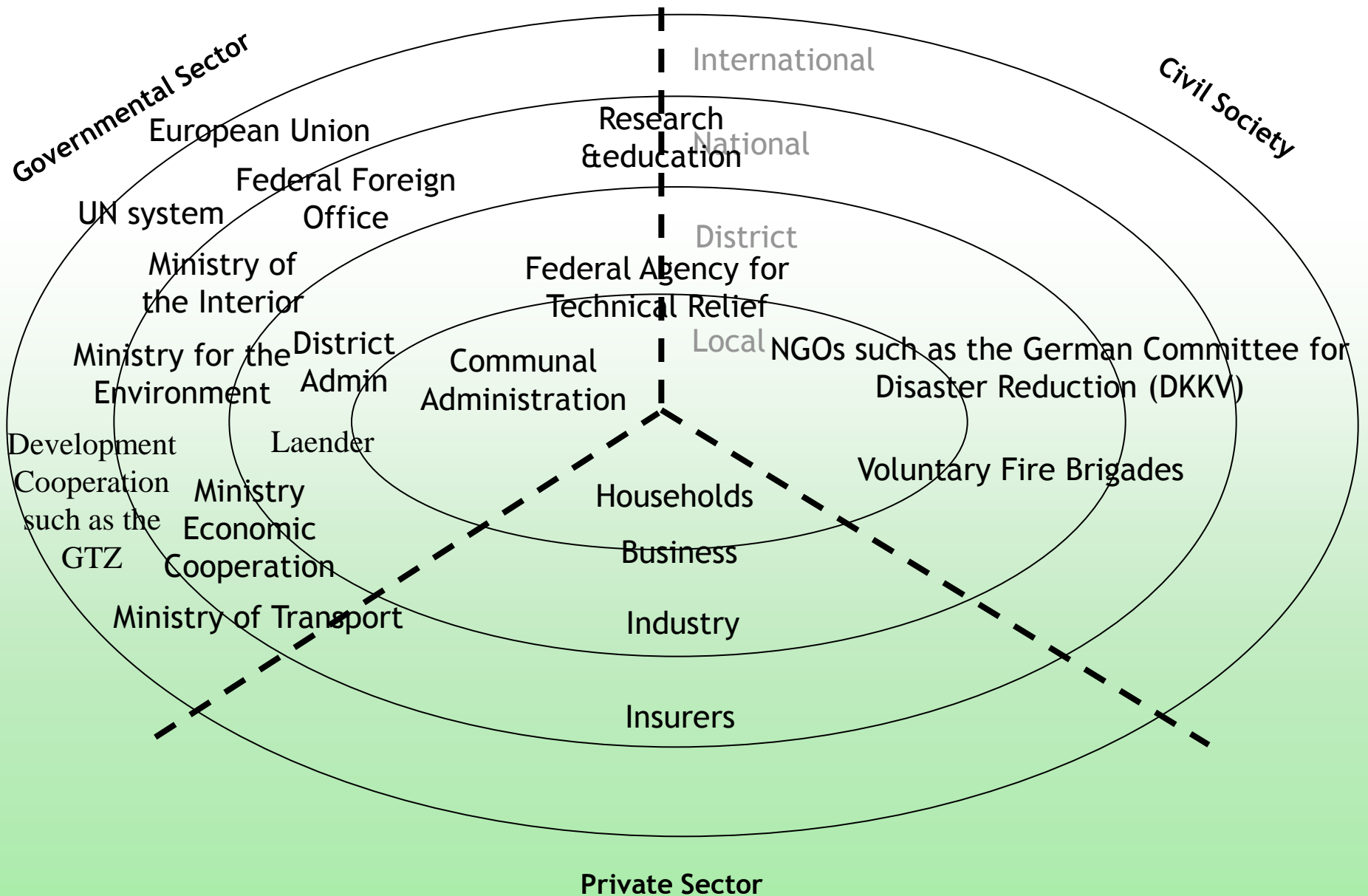
- *Limited resources and capacities*
- *Not directly involved in decision making processes at the governmental level*

# Annex

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- ⊕ Institutional Actors and Stakeholders
  - ⊞ Network in **Normal Times**
  - ⊞ Network in **Crisis Situations**

# Institutional Actors and Stakeholders in Normal Times



# Institutional Actors and Stakeholders in Crisis Situations

