



# MEETING REPORT & **POLICY PAPER**

ROUND TABLE MEETING for CIVIL  
SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE  
IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

14 November, 2019. Istanbul

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## ABBREVIATIONS

AFAD	Ministry of Interior Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency
CHS	Core Humanitarian Standard
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
CPMS	Child Protection Minimum Standards
CSAG	Civil Society Affairs General Directorate
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
FWSS	Family, Work and Social Services
GNDR	Global Network for Civil Society Disaster Risk Reduction
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
MHPSS	International Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Guide – IASC
S&R	Search and Rescue
Sphere MS	Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response
TDRP	Turkish Disaster Response Plan (TAMP)

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is fact that disaster risk reduction initiatives must be multi-disciplinary partnerships involving a wide range of stakeholders. But it is understandable that it takes time and effort to build up levels of trust and cooperation to the address where they can significantly improve capacity to manage big disasters. Disasters are being seen as a governance issue. It is obvious expectation that national governments should be the main actors in risk reduction, but there are some obstacles to this: lack of prioritisation DRR efforts among other mandates of institution, lack of technical capacity and resources, short-notice planning, etc. It is general acceptance that the Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) has an important role to play in DRR, but it is fact that the majority of CSOs should take self-regulatory actions so as to become better equipped and competent to steadily improve practices in DRR for taking into consideration by national organization. Therefore, a supportive and favorable environment for public agencies and CSOs

including all other stakeholders in DRR in a country is essential.

This is the same in Turkey likewise in other countries, CSOs can act on the DRR field to complement the national main body, Ministry of Interior Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) actions as long as AFAD allows. Yet in this case, CSOs can provide quality (efficient, meaningful, reliable) support to AFAD. On the other hand, CSOs need to take certain self-regulatory actions so as to better equip themselves in order to steadily improve their practices in DRR.

There is no standard mechanism for partnerships between local government and CSOs in this area – this subject deserves much more study. But it is obvious that it takes time and effort to build up levels of trust and cooperation to the point where they can significantly improve capacity to manage real disasters, as opposed to everyday emergencies.

Disasters and emergencies are complex phenomena that can only be addressed by deploying a wide range of knowledge, skills, methods and resources that requires all stakeholder's contribution. It is also needed to be in better national and international networking, especially inter-disciplinary networking, which can be very effective.

***Lack of stakeholders' cooperation and coordination in DRR are often a major contributor to people's vulnerability to hazards.***

Alongside this background, Nirengi and AKUT is strongly interested in and determined to bring related stakeholders together to discuss potential partnership, collaboration and advocacy opportunities and allow them to have a face to face contact. Aforementioned the CSOs active in Disaster Risk Reduction Round Table Policy Meeting was held in Istanbul, on 14 November 2019, with the fruitful co-organization of Nirengi Association and AKUT.

Three thematic, parallel sessions were conducted in sub-groups within the overall workshop with the aim of exploring ways in which to enhance cooperation amongst AFAD, CSOs and EU CSOs. The themes of the

parallel session were as follows:

Theme 1: Reflections about general evaluations on the experiences of working together in DRR . Sharing good examples on this subject (if any)

Theme 2 : Reflections about stakeholders' experiences working together with CSOs and public institutions (AFAD, FMSS, etc. support-solution partners) and other related stakeholders: a. What are the challenging or compelling factors while working with together with CSOs and public institutions?

b. How did you cope with the challenging or compelling factors while working with together with CSOs and public institutions? What did you use to resolve them?

Theme 3 : Reflections about CSOs' national and international network connections and how CSOs in Turkey link/connect with counterpart institutions in the EU and/or cross border to be developed to

This policy report was prepared to address how a democratic and transparent decision-making system (network) could be developed amongst the CSOs in DRR in Turkey, how AFAD disaster risk management can be supported and how the network amongst Turkish CSOs with EU (cross border) CSOs could be enhanced.



## BACKGROUND

On 14 November 2019, with the co-organization of Nirengi Association and AKUT, a round table meeting, with regards to the CSOs active in Disaster Risk Reduction - specifically focus on Search and Rescue (S&R) and MHPSS, was held in Istanbul. CSO's working in cross cutting thematic fields (women empowerment, child protection, people with special needs etc.) were included in this meeting.

It is highly important that all stakeholders participate in the Disaster Risk Reduction process, and that the participating stakeholders have the understanding and capacity necessary to work together. In addition, with regards to the current situation, we are aware that the majority of CSOs don't have enough experience in working jointly with governmental agencies and with other CSOs. It is also noted that specifically it is needed to improve the cooperation and collaboration among S&R CSOs and MHPSS CSOs.

Against this background, Nirengi and AKUT is strongly interested in and determined to bring related stakeholders together to discuss potential partnership, collaboration and advocacy opportunities and allow them to have a face to face contact. Aforementioned round table meeting has taken place within this framework.

## PURPOSE of the MEETING

Evaluating how a sustainable structure allowing all CSOs transparent, participatory, active, efficient and timely involvement in all disaster risk reduction subjects can be formed.

## SCOPE of the MEETING

Topics discussed at the meeting;

- 1 ➤ Improving dialogue and cooperation among CSOs and with related public institutions with regards to DRR.
- 2 ➤ Tackling the subject of 'networking' between stakeholders (CSO, public institutions, academy, private sector etc.) working in the DRR field.
- 3 ➤ CSOs' improvement in line with international standards and guides in terms of technical information and capacity in DRR, increased competence in advocacy and corporate communication, improving cross border CSO partnerships and network connections.

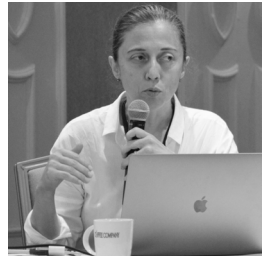
## PARTICIPANT PROFILE

The Round Table Meeting, based on the amount of fund received from GNDR, was held as an invitation-based meeting including only the organizations invited by Nirengi and AKUT because of their potential contribution to policy making within the scope of the meeting. Nirengi invited 9 CSOs and one university working in MHPSS field, while AKUT invited 8 CSOs active in S&R. Additionally, authorities from the AFAD, Istanbul Directorate of Civil Defense Search and Rescue; Istanbul Provincial Directorate of Family, Work and Social Services (FWSS) were invited to the meeting.

44 individuals from 21 different organizations attended to the meeting. It is determined that 18 of the attending organizations are CSOs, 2 are public institutions, 1 is a University and 1 is a UN organization. In addition, from 18 attending CSOs 8 works in S&R and 9 works in MHSS field. *Appendix 1: Participant List.*

## FLOW and the PROGRAM

Program took place in two main sessions and the overall evaluation session at the end. During the first session, key presentations were given. Details about the presentations are given below respectively.



**Suzan Oktay Erol from Istanbul Provincial Directorate of FWSS,** made a presentation about Strengthening the Co-operation and Communication between the Public Institutions and CSOs in DRR. Mrs. Erol explained AFAD and FWSS Ministry's role and collaboration dynamics with CSOs working in DRR and cross cutting thematic fields and other stakeholders with regards to Turkish Disaster Response Plan (TAMP).



**Meriç Kalamanoğlu Şahin, on behalf of AKUT,** made a presentation about Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Minimum Standards-INSARAG Guidelines. She also talked about INSARAG's training exercises and certification process while sharing AKUT's experience receiving an INSARAG certificate.



**Zeynep M. Sanduvaç from Nirengi Association,** made a presentation about International Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Guide – IASC Guidelines. In addition, she informed the participants about the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS), Sphere MS, Child Protection Minimum Standards (CPMS) and INEE MS.





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During the second session, sub-group works, using the World Café technique and with the accompaniment of a moderator, were done. *Appendix 2: Round Table Invitation Letter and Program.*

Themes discussed in the group works:

- Theme 1: Reflections about general evaluations on the experiences of working together in DRR.
- Theme 2: Reflections about stakeholders' experiences on a. What are the challenging or compelling factors while working with together with CSOs and public institutions (AFAD, FMSS, etc. support-solution partners) and other related stakeholders? b. How did you cope with the challenging or compelling factors while working with together with CSOs and public institutions? What did you use to resolve them?
- Theme 3: Reflections about CSOs' national and international network connections and how CSOs in Turkey link/connect with counterpart institutions in the EU and/or cross border to be developed to encourage the transfer of knowledge and experience in DRR.

**Overall Evaluation of the Round Table Meeting**, session feedback and an overall evaluation of the meeting were collected from participants through a range of methodologies, such as through one to one discussion, small talks with the participants, and also during the plenary through the Meeting Evaluation Verbal Reflections and Evaluation Form.

*Appendix 3: Round Table Evaluation Form*

Verbal reflections: the meeting was evaluated with the participants the end of each session and the meeting. Additionally, the Meeting Evaluation Form was filled in by the participants anonymously at the end of meeting. The notetakers transferred the evaluation forms in Word format. On the other hand, the moderator- reporter reviewed the evaluation forms, which were used to report the key findings and policy recommendations. See the full report of Meeting Evaluation. *Appendix 4: Round Table Evaluation Full Report*

Some of the commonly highlighted points outlined from the overall evaluation from the participants (in their own words):

## ACCORDING TO MY OPINION, THIS MEETING

Brought awareness for everyone involved. First of all, it was very enlightening to answer the questions about who we are, where we are now, what we should do, what we need.

It has been very productive, meeting the CSOs in DRR field and it will be instrumental in giving a lead to joint businesses.

It was fascinating to see how important the concept of 'individual focused non-specialized support team' was in both the search and rescue and the psychosocial support field.

I and -I believe- the majority of participants always wished to see it happen.

Revealed that there were very detailed parts of the S&R in disasters and that MHPSS had mathematics in itself.

## THE MOST USEFUL SUBJECT(S) / SECTION(S) IN THIS PROGRAM

It helped us figure out what was missing and what we needed.

Roundtable studies and working groups in different areas (S&R and MHPSS) + Moderator summarizing the reflections of the previous group and guiding us to bring different ideas.

AKUT's INSARAG and Nirengi's IASC MHPSS presentations were very enlightened

The people and institutions working in the field sharing the difficulties they experience with public institutions. It showed us that we should work all together in a fruitful network for being credited by AFAD and other public agencies.



## THE SUBJECTS I HAVE LEARNED IN THIS PROGRAM ARE

“ I agreed with that S&R teams and MHPSS teams are needed to work together in the disaster scene. I liked the idea of offering MHPSS to both S&R teams and teaching them how to offer MHPSS.”

“ The sharing of international experience and knowledge was an important part.”

“ The importance of a common network - we have seen here as well, the knowledge and experience of CSOs that are members of the common networks are different.”

“ I learned the importance of creating a CSOs network and how to work in order to overcome our shortcomings in the international arena.”

## WHAT I LIKE THE MOST IN THIS PROGRAM

“ The flow of the program, appropriately identified themes to focus on the possibility of creating a DRR network and sincere reflections.”

“ I was very impressed by the fact that everyone listened to each other in a respectful manner, without interrupting, arguing and expressed their opinions and worked for the same result.”

“ I had the opportunity to chat and exchange information with competent participants in the field. I think that we can benefit from each other in terms of information sharing.”

“ Nirengi and AKUT's ego-free approach, which created a warm and friendly atmosphere.”

## METHODOLOGY of PARALELL THEMATIC SESSIONS

**Methodology:** The World Cafe method was applied during the group works. A safe, welcoming environment was created in which to intentionally connect multiple ideas and perspectives on the CSOs in DRR by engaging participants in several rounds of small-group conversation.

- **Themes of parallel sessions, group numbers and group sizes:** Under three thematic parallel sessions, based on the pre-assignment of the participants by the Workshop moderator, three sub-groups were formed. Each group was included both S&R and PSD CSOs members.  
*Appendix 5: The Distribution Lists of Participants in Three Sub Groups*
- **Facilitation of thematic parallel sessions:** A sub-group moderator who his/her has expertise on DRR and moderation skills were hired/defined before the round table meeting for three sub groups. And, one note taker also was hired for each group.
- **In terms of World Café application,** each group rotated the group table/theme clockwise after one-hour discussion. Thus, each participant joined the discussions in three themes.

The groups themes, the group moderators, the number of groups and group sizes were as follows:



### GROUP 1 - Group Moderator: İdil Türkmen Ayaydınlı, Nirengi Association

The group consisted of 10 members; 6 from S&R CSOs, 3 from PSS CSOs, 1 from university.

*Theme 1: Reflections about general evaluations on the experiences of working together in DRR. Please share the examples on this subject (if any)*



### GROUP 2 - Group Moderator: Solmaz Havuz, Nirengi Association

The group consisted of 11 members; 6 from S&R CSOs, 5 from PSS CSOs.

*Theme 2: Reflections about stakeholders' experiences working together with CSOs and public institutions (AFAD, FMSS, etc. support-solution partners) and other related stakeholders:*

- a. What are the challenging or compelling factors while working with together with CSOs and public institutions?*
- b. How did you cope with the challenging or compelling factors while working with together with CSOs and public institutions? What did you use to resolve them?*



### GROUP 3- Group Moderator: Türker Kuş, AKUT

The group consisted of 11 members; 5 from S&R CSOs, 4 from PSS CSOs, 1 from University, 1 from UN.

*Theme 3: Reflections about CSOs' national and international network connections and how CSOs in Turkey link/connect with counterpart institutions in the EU and/or cross border to be developed to encourage the transfer of knowledge and experience in DRR*

## SUMMARY of DISCUSSIONS, KEY FINDINGS

### Facilitation questions and sub group reports *Appendix 6: The Questions Sets of Sub Group Moderations*

Each sub-group notetaker submitted the sub-group report to the meeting moderator - reporter based on the reflections of group members in regards to the questions above. The reporter analysed the group reflections and presented as Summary of discussions, Key Findings and Policy Recommendations. Reflections were considered based on the three themes-moderation questions addressed in each sub-thematic group, and summarized as follows:



**Group 1: İdil Türkmen Ayaydınlı, Nirengi Association**  
Theme 1: Reflections about general evaluations on the all stakeholders' experiences of working together in DRR (as focusing of past five years)

### Summary of discussion (based participants reflections):

- 1999 Marmara Earthquake has been a milestone regarding the joint work of all stakeholders. However, after 20 years, it's not possible to speak of a sustainable structure of co-operation neither among CSOs nor between CSOs and public institutions.
- As it appears, generally CSOs collaborate with public institutions one at a time and regarding specific projects or cases. However, CSOs have different experiences working or cooperating with specific public institutions.
  - For example, while one S&R CSO explains how they were unable to receive permission to give disaster awareness trainings at schools, another S&R CSO says they easily did just that due to having AFAD's Disaster Ready Turkey Trainer Training certificate.
  - Another example: While CSOs have a relatively easier time at a provincial level working with local public institutions like municipalities and neighborhood mukhtars, paving the way of working with public institutions linked to Ministries at a provincial level can be painful.
- There seem to be differences in public institutions motivation behind and attitude towards working with CSOs and Universities.

- For example, while Ministry of Health and Ministry of Family, Work and Social Services/Provincial Directorates are more open to and use to making project-based protocols with CSOs and universities, the same does not apply to AFAD. CSOs face serious obstacles when it comes to working with AFAD. So much so that, even the provincial AFAD Directorates' treatment to CSOs who have protocols with AFAD, differ from one province to another.
- CSOs with expertise in specific fields also experience supporting or challenging dynamics when working with public institutions.
  - For example, some specific skills/ equipment based CSOs, such as S&R at Sea or Motorcycled S&R CSOs among S&R focused CSOs are able to easily and rapidly integrate and work with public institutions in the field such as AFAD, Gendarmerie S&R, Ministry of Health, Fire Department, etc. due to public institutions accepting (open) attitude. However same or similar public institutions may not always act open and accepting towards MHPSS CSOs or regular S&R CSOs like they do in the first example.
  - In fact, MHPSS CSOs are required to make serious and long-term (sometimes going on for days) effort to persuade the public authorities to let them in the field and work with the affected population.
- CSOs have limited working together experience. This was also confirmed for both S&R CSOs and MHPSS CSOs. CSOs coming face to face in an operation field due to the circumstances can help each other out and especially tend to work together in the presence of the public institutions, however this cooperation gets left behind as they leave the disaster area and return to their ordinary lives.
  - As an example of CSOs working together efficiently, participants from PSD CSOs gave Psychosocial Services in Disasters Unit formed by four main MHPSS CSO at Turkish Red Crescent secretariat. Yet, AFAD's institution regarding centralized coordination of disaster and emergency activities and this Unit were transferred to AFAD from the Red Crescent but lost its function.
  - Some S&R CSOs mentioned that they worked with AKUT in the field and provided some equipment, including S&R dog during the operation.
- Another important remark was that S&R and MHPSS CSOs working in disaster areas do not have experience working together with regards to helping 'the affected population'. On the other hand, especially the S&R CSOs emphasized the need for co-operation with MHPSS CSOs by bringing out the topic of the necessity of 'helping the helpers' programs.
  - S&R CSOs highlighted two subjects within the scope of helping the helpers: a. S&R team members working in or may work in disaster areas need MHPSS themselves; b. there is a need for empowerment of S&R teams when it comes to communicating and providing basic psychological first aid to the 'affected population'. MHPSS CSOs stated that they found this declaration to be extremely on point and that they are open to co-operation.
- Majority of participants from both S&R and PSD CSOs mentioned that they would like to hear more about the TAMP that presented by the one of key note speaker Mrs. Suzan Oktay Erol from Istanbul Provincial Directorate of FWSS, and TAMP's application examples in the field.



## GROUP 1 KEY FINDINGS:

- 01 AFAD is the responsible body and the organizational leader to conduct comprehensive disaster risk management in CSOs' and other stakeholders' eyes.
- 02 Therefore, CSOs expect AFAD to consider CSOs and pave the way for working together in DRR.
- 03 Administrative and organizational structures are needed in order to streamline the dialogue between CSOs and AFAD.
- 04 Majority of S&R CSOs stated that they would like to learn more about TAMP and if there are any specific implementation examples from AFAD side as given by the FWSH key note speaker in the field.
- 05 In the present situation, AFAD has been working closely with a few CSOs, and most CSOs believed that they were being excluded by AFAD. This creates confusion and disappointment towards AFAD and also amongst CSOs.
- 06 On the other hand, CSOs are not a position to approach AFAD in formal and encouraging way due to the lack of a designated CSOs department unit within AFAD.
- 07 The establishment of a trust- based dialogue bridge- both ways is essential as a starting point.
- 08 The most important point in regard to this is that all Ministry of Interior (MoI), Department of Civil Society Affairs General Directorate (CSAGD) registered CSOs are treated equally by AFAD.
- 09 The majority of participants stated that it is necessary for AFAD to accept CSOs expertise, human resources and local connections which are subsequently important for AFAD's effective disaster risk management actions.



## Group 2: Solmaz Havuz, Nirengi Association

Theme 2: Reflections about stakeholders' experiences working together with CSOs and public institutions (AFAD, FMSS, etc. support-solution partners) and other related stakeholders: a. What are the challenging or compelling factors while working with together with CSOs and public institutions? b. How did you cope with the challenging or compelling factors while working with together with CSOs and public institutions? What did you use to resolve them?

### Summary of discussion (based participants reflections):

Healthy relationship among CSOs and between CSOs and the public institutions not only benefits to these parties but to each layer of society. Besides some common 'challenges', couple of common 'support mechanisms' or 'facilitating' factors also stand out in relationships among CSOs and between CSOs and public institutions. According to the participating CSOs challenging and facilitating (supporting) factors of relationship with public institutions vary depending on time, location, context, person and organizations.

As AFAD is recognized as the only leader institution responsible for coordination and operation regarding disasters and emergencies, by all the participating organizations, 'public institution' here is used to refer AFAD. However, MHPSS CSOs sometimes referred to MoFWSS when they talk about a 'public institution'.

### a. Reflection about what are the challenging or compelling factors while working with together with CSOs and public institutions?

Challenging or compelling factors stated by the participants can be summarized as such:

- Public institutions' distant attitude towards CSOs: Public institutions (AFAD and MoFWSS), because they are not quite familiar with S&R and/or MHPSS CSOs (and cross cutting CSOs), either keep them at bay and stay away from them or work with them but have hard time 'trusting'. For example, compelling areas like allowing projects, opening public areas, allowing CSOs access to disaster and emergency scenes, paying attention to information and skills put forward by CSOs, are interpreted as public intuitions not giving enough chance or trust CSOs to work with them.
- Accreditation of CSOs or a cooperation framework: Many of participant S&R CSOs emphasized that the accreditation of S&R CSOs and/ or a cooperation framework which defines roles and responsibilities from both sides (AFAD – CSO), is needed beforehand to create an efficient collaboration. Otherwise, in current situation, majority of S&R CBOs do not know their position on the AFAD side.
  - Many of CBOs mentioned that they understand that there should be a ranking system (for instance light, moderate and heavy S&R CBOs) in terms of the accreditation system.

- Many of CBOs mentioned that there are 'many things' to learn from AKUT about this subject; AFAD and AKUT could conduct the S&R CBOs' capacity building and accreditation mechanism.
- Inadequate utilization of each other's' expertise, experience and information: Inability of public institutions and CSOs to approach one another, results in neither stakeholders benefiting from the other's expertise, experience and information adequately. MHPSS CSOs gave the following example as a -even if it's not a direct match- good example: Because of the Syrian crisis, and with the facilitation of UNHCR Turkey, CSOs are able to regularly come together with relevant public institutions notably MoFWSS through coordination meetings. Thus, they can work out plans together and CSOs and CSOs and public institutions are able to work side by side in the field.
- Gaps in communication and common attitude among CSOs and between CSOs and public institutions: difficulties regarding disaster and emergency works:
  - Especially S&R CSOs voiced the strong need for the existence of a common communication channel with AFAD when it comes to communication regarding disaster and emergencies. It appeared some CSOs formed partnerships in this topic. For example, Marmara S&R and Research Association and AKUT formed a wireless communication channel among themselves- and they weekly check this channel to make sure it operates properly.
  - MHPSS CSOs pointed out how sometimes they did not have a common language and attitude among themselves and with public institutions during disaster and emergency situations and that this posed a great obstacle in the way of providing quality and timely help to the affected individuals. For instance, examples of difficulties experienced in accessing the area and working with the public institutions during the Van earthquake and the bombing in Ankara were given by the participants.
  - On the other hand, participants drew attention to a gap in communication arising from the incognizance of MHPSS and S&R CSOs when it comes to knowing the other's operating behavior, which causes a need to stay away from each other in the field.
- Public institutions disaster response reflex:
  - In some cases, CSOs arrive earlier at the scene of the event/disaster due to their close proximity or their mobility than the public institutions but because the local public institutions do not know the competence of the arriving CSO they may show resistance in letting them in the area and working with them.
  - Or CSOs arrive at the scene but since they are not adequately equipped to know what to do there, so they hesitate to act before the arrival of public S&R teams. For example, DAKSAR team arrived in 12 minutes to the scene of the helicopter crashed at the sea in İstanbul, but they did not know what to do when encountered with the helicopter fuel on the sea surface.
  - Especially MHPSS CSOs mentioned the motivation of public officers tasked with working in disaster and emergency areas, their capacity to take part in this response, their information and experience. Public officers who are not ready or equipped enough or unwilling to work in disaster and emergency situations can cause plethora of problems. First of all, these people can be traumatized themselves, they might hesitate cooperating since they are unable to efficiently evaluate relevant CSOs' capacities or in the worst-case scenario, they might

wait for the duration of the task without doing any work, participating in any of the action. On the other hand, trained and equipped S&R or MHPSS CSO volunteers, many of whom are already public officers, are unable to attend to the disaster area because their managers' do not give permission to them to do so.

- CSOs gave the following examples as support expected from the public institutions when it comes to overcoming difficulties regarding disaster and emergency works:
  - Obtaining permission to join disaster activities: Both S&R and MHPSS CSOs voiced how, in case of a disaster, difficult it was to obtain permission from their workplace as employees. CSOs believe AFAD can have an effect on private sector and other public institutions on this topic and can support volunteers willing to participate in disaster aid, in obtaining the aforementioned permission.
  - Especially some S&R CSOs voiced their expectations concerning AFAD to undertake the role of a facilitator when it comes to public institutions' (municipalities in particular) providing materials, equipment and space.

**b. How did you cope with the challenging or compelling factors while working with together with CSOs and public institutions? What did you use to resolve them?**

Facilitating / supporting factors stated by the participants can be summarized as such:

- Face-to-face communication: CSOs working with AFAD, MoFWSS and municipalities explained that they overcame challenges/difficulties they faced while working with public institutions by visiting the relevant public institutions and having a face-to-face communication with them, saying efficient and problem-solving attitude-based communication skills work.
  - Focusing on organizational impact areas:
    - Some S&R CSOs stated that they did not focus on being accredited by AFAD or having protocols but rather concentrated on their own training, preparation and works.
    - Some S&R CSOs also mentioned how, in the case of disaster and emergency, they did not wait for AFAD to invite them but went to the area fully prepared and equipped and worked with AFAD appointed team in the field.
    - Some CSOs explained how, instead of public institutions, they focus on acquiring the necessary funds from the society or private sectors using their social media accounts.
- TPA shared the difficulties experienced during the Van Earthquake and mentioned that they were in preparation of a 'guidelines' explaining how they overcame those difficulties.



## GROUP 2 KEY FINDINGS:

- 01** AFAD is recognized as the only leader institution responsible for coordination and operation regarding disasters and emergencies, by all the participating organizations. Therefore, CSOs are in a high expectation from AFAD to be taken into consideration and given a credit to work together.
  - 01.1** It was noted that CSOs' some expectations from AFAD are not convincing with AFAD's scope of authority, for instance facilitating the participation of CSOs volunteers in disaster works by obtaining permission from the workplace. This is out of AFAD's impact area. The needed regulations / adjustments are needed to be conduct at the level of different ministries, such as Ministry of Family, Work and Social Services; Ministry of Finance, etc. However, the majority of CSOs are not aware of this.
- 02** It was noted that the participating CSOs' challenging experiences with public institutions are vary depending on time, location, context, person and organizations.
- 03** According to CSOs' perception that CSOs often fall in the opposition side even there is not any known reason and the AFAD or ruling institution may see itself as the authority to be obeyed. The root cause of such perception vs. attitude warrants study.
  - 03.1** However, it is a fact that the perception about AFAD's (or FWSS's or ruling institution's) attitude creates confusion and disappointment towards AFAD and also amongst CSOs that is jeopardized the approach of working together among CSOs.
- 04** It was noticed that CSOs preference or first reaction for isolation hence reluctance to dialogue with AFAD (or FWSS's or ruling institution's), and poor coordination with one another.
- 05** Some CSOs prefer to keep well separated from the AFAD (or FWSS's or ruling institution's) or orbit to avoid drawing attention to their activities. However, seems these CSOs are not aware that by keeping a low profile and separated they may actually be making themselves vulnerable to ruling institution or weaker to capacity building, knowledge and experience sharing etc.
- 06** It is noted that some CSOs are aware that they should take self-regulatory actions so as to become better equipped and competent to steadily improve practices in DRR for taking into consideration by AFAD (or FWSS's or ruling institution's), however, some CSOs are not aware of it.
- 07** It is noted that most of CSOs is needed to understand and work together to improve overall organization and also the capacity staff (including volunteers) to provide input to relevant DRR authorities in order to influence social policies.

- 08** It is also noted that CSOs need to have good advocacy skills, and technical knowledge in order to reflect DRR related issues in a reliable way, in a SMART manner and in ways which will influence DRR related authorities, in this case, AFAD (or FWSS).
- 09** The first requirement for this AFAD is needed to open a space for all registered CSOs in the field of DRR. It is also needed for implementing of TDRP (TAMP).
- 10** Finally, AFAD is needed to accept and promote the idea to all DRR related ruling institutions, when AFAD steps up to support CSOs advocacy skills and technical knowledge, it will bring an immense positive impact on efficient DRR actions.





**Group 3: Group Moderator: Türker Kuş, AKUT**  
 Theme 3 : Reflections about CSOs' national and international network connections and how CSOs in Turkey link/connect with counterpart institutions in the EU and/or cross border to be developed to encourage the transfer of knowledge and experience in DRR

**Summary of discussion (based participants reflections):**

- It was determined that most of the participating CSOs did not have any network in DRR.
- Two of the network examples mentioned were an application on Telegram sharing Kandilli Observatory's information about the Last Earthquakes, and AYDES application developed by AFAD for the online management of all stages of a disaster.
- Only a couple of participating organizations stated that they were a part of an international network about disaster and emergencies. These organizations and their networks are as follows: Turkish Psychologists Association is an active member of Europe Psychology Community. AKUT is a member of MoDEX (Module exercises) and INSARAG. Nirengi is a member of GNDR (Global Network of CSOs for DRR), Sphere MS and The Alliance Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (CPHA).
- It was found striking that only a very limited number of CSOs were a member of international networks and were exchanging technical information, skills and experience with other CSOs. Especially many of the S&R CSOs' participants stated how they weren't able to give thought to the importance of being a part of a network and the benefits provided by such network to the development of a CSO because they needed guidance and direction in this topic. Some S&ACSOs mentioned AKUT could act as a mentor in this subject.
- Almost all of the participating CSOs shared how they expected support regarding the forming of national networks and also participating in international networks. They mentioned that this workshop could be a starting point for forming up a DRR related network with co-facilitation of AKUT and Nirengi.
- Almost all of the participants voiced their opinion concerning the importance of AFAD taking part in capacity development of CSOs including the formation of networks.
  - For example, the idea that the existence of meetings where participants share 'good examples', 'lessons learned' from international networks AFAD (and FWSS) or CSOs they work with take part in would be



beneficial received wide acceptance.

- It was also highlighted that international network member CSOs have been working based on some common values, approaches and standards that were presented by Nirengi and AKUT in the morning session, such as Code of Conduct, Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS), Sphere MS, INSARAG, etc. Therefore, it is expected from AFAD to coordinate /facilitate the capacity building activities for CSOs in Turkey.



## GROUP 3 KEY FINDINGS:

- 01 It was noted that there was a lack of information and experience in order to develop sustainable partnerships and networks with counterpart institutions in Turkey and the EU or cross-border. However, it is also noted that the majority of participant CSOs are eager to be part of the national and international CSOs network.
- 02 The majority of CSOs need AFAD's support or AFAD's facilitation in order to get fund and technical assistance from the relevant DRR stakeholders to set up a DRR Network. And the DRR Network is needed to focus on conducting a comprehensive capacity building strategy to leverage the network member CBOs competencies in DRR and working together among themselves and with AFAD in emergencies.
- 03 There could be several ways in which to do this, such as;
  - 03.1 Cooperation with the credible and reliable organizations experienced in the civil society sector, bringing forward lessons learned, or good examples from Turkey or abroad (from CBOs). This could also be supported using exchange programs and study visits for CSOs in Turkey,
  - 03.2 Conducting capacity building trainings for CSOs in Turkey in order to have a common language and understanding with national and in EU (and cross border) CSOs, for example, INSARAG, Sphere MS,CHS, IASC MHPSS, etc.
  - 03.3 AFAD could organize some bilateral, trilateral drills or knowledge sharing meetings with the participation of CSOs in Turkey and the EU (and cross border).
  - 03.4 Organizing/supporting some DRR-related public agencies, private sector or CSOs for the organization of thematic knowledge and information sharing meetings, conferences, fairs, etc. with the participation of CSOs in Turkey and the EU.
- 04 The importance of development and strengthened national and international CSOs partnerships was emphasised by all participants. All of them agreed that strong and well equipped (skillful) CSOs are essential for effective DM, and that it is also important for the AFAD to also take this into consideration.

It was observed that the participants' interests were high on the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) active in DRR Round Table Meeting. They conducted productive discussions and provided comparative reflections during the entire program.

## THE COMMON KEY FINDINGS and RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

The common key findings gathered from CSOs and subsequent recommended actions were consolidated and analyzed in line with the Guiding Principles for European Commission Support of the Development of Civil Society in Turkey (Guiding Principles) Objective 2.

### THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES OBJECTIVE 2: Strengthening the capacity of organised active citizens.

- a) Organised citizens more effectively mobilise support from citizens and decision makers.
- b) Organised citizens more effectively network, share information and collaborate.

The key findings and recommended actions were formulated in light of the thematic group's reflections (in Section 7). These are for AFAD and for CSOs in the DRR field to ensure that the government mechanisms will be established and the CSOs will be well equipped that will enable structured cooperation between AFAD and CSOs.

The key findings and recommended actions are summarized below under two main sections.

### A) Organized CSOs more effectively mobilize support from citizens and decision makers.

CSOs can act on the DRR field to complement AFAD (ruling institution's) and actions as long as AFAD allows. This is directly related with the governmental approach to CSOs. Yet in this case, CSOs can provide quality (efficient, meaningful, reliable) support to AFAD. On the other hand, CSOs need to take some self-regulatory actions so as to better equip themselves in order to steadily improve their practices in DRR.

### RECOMMENDED ACTIONS for AFAD

- Develop a favorable and encouraging environment for the development and involvement of CSOs in DRR action.
  - Treat and equally, mutually accept all registered CSOs.
  - Deal with CSOs perception that AFAD works just a few CSOs and others are being kept away from AFAD's area of interest.

- ✓ Give an opportunity to CSOs to act on policies to complement government actions.
- ✎ Develop an AFAD-CSOs strategy, including a two-way communication strategy with a participatory and inclusive approach with the participation of CSOs.
  - ✓ Select partner CSOs based on their added value, and fully eligible CSOs should play a role in the DM cycle as a mutual partner.
  - ✓ Set up an accreditation of CSOs and/or cooperation framework with a mutual trust-based, participatory and inclusive approach.
  - ✓ Conduct introductory works on different AFAD DRR programs and projects. Programs already under way with CSOs can be used as examples of best practice.
  - ✓ A Regular network: Regular information, knowledge and experience-sharing meetings with CSOs need to be organized by AFAD with an inclusive and participatory approach
  - ✓ Develop an interactive web-based CSO database as a tool for communicating and reaching out to CSOs in the first instance. A regularly updated, multi-purpose, interactive and user-friendly database of CSOs would be a good start in order to open up two-way communication.
- ✎ Support- encourage and accelerate Civil Society DRR Network: Support the setting up a Civil Society DRR Network that aims to bring together DRR and cross cutting related stakeholders is needed to work all together in the area of minimizing disaster risks and responding to disasters.

- RECOMMENDED ACTIONS for CSOS**
- ✎ Take self-regulatory actions so as to become better equipped to steadily improve practices in DRR. Also, improve overall organization and also the capacity staff (including volunteers) to provide input to relevant DRR authorities in order to influence social policies.
    - ✓ Equipped with the necessary knowledge, capacity, skills and self-confidence to provide quality (efficient, meaningful, reliable) support to AFAD.
    - ✓ Improve monitoring and evaluation skills, including the recording and documenting of projects, lessons learned, and evidence-based practices in DRR.
    - ✓ Improve advocacy skills, especially in order to overcome the lack of interest in/motivation of public officials, including those at both AFAD level and at province level (ruling institution)

**B) Organized citizens more effectively network, share information and collaborate**

It is well understood that coordination, information sharing and collaboration amongst CSOs and other stakeholders is essential for an effective and efficient disaster reduction and response. Therefore, there should be a considerable effort in order to develop an interactive network of CSOs committed to achieving excellence in the field of disaster reduction and response. Also, there is a need to provide a mechanism for sharing reliable information and facilitating capacity building amongst network members and other stakeholders. Consequently, the interest in CSO networks is growing.

- RECOMMENDED ACTIONS for AFAD**
- ✎ Conduct a Gap Analysis on the advocacy strategy of AFAD. Aware and define the strengths and gaps of both AFAD's advocacy strategy, and also AFAD's approach (in the light of CSOs' perception about AFAD's attitude), including support mechanisms to CSOs' advocacy attempts in DRR in terms of the gap analysis.
  - ✎ Develop a road map to improve legal and institutional mechanisms, processes and means to support CSOs and/or to apply DRR advocacy efforts with CSOs.
  - ✎ Recognize and decelerate an effective, sound advocacy strategy for AFAD, based on a participatory and inclusive approach with the embracing of CSOs.
  - ✎ Lead- facilitate the ways to provide advocacy and technical knowledge for CSOs in Turkey, such as bringing together national or international lessons learned, showing good examples and also sharing these over AFAD website whilst supporting exchange programs and study visits for the CSOs.
  - ✎ Facilitate to conduct basic capacity building introductory (to give a taste/an idea) trainings for CSOs and related public agencies, such as introductory INSARAG, Sphere MS, IASC MHPSS, etc.
  - ✎ Set up an interactive and comprehensive database, featuring both CSOs in Turkey and also those cross- border. Share periodically the updated cross-border institutions database and good partnership practices over the AFAD's website.

- RECOMMENDED ACTIONS for CSOS**
- ✎ Recognize the importance of all partners, local and national institutions and other stakeholders in promoting the adoption- implementation of DRR. Therefore, take heed of DRR related sound advocacy



actions of all stakeholders.

- ✓ Conduct an organizational Gap Analysis on advocacy strategy. Aware and define the strengths and gaps of own organization's advocacy strategy.
- ✓ Develop an action plan to improve legal and institutional mechanisms, processes and means to apply DRR advocacy and lobbying efforts in DRR.
- ✓ Develop an effective, organizational approach, a sound advocacy strategy based on a participatory and inclusive approach, embracing other stakeholders.
- ✓ Conduct basic capacity building introductory (to give a taste/an idea) trainings for CBOs and related public agencies, such as introductory INSARAG, Sphere MS, IASC MHPSS, etc. and invite the representatives of AFAD, FWSH and other ruling institutions.
- ✓ Conduct internal capacity building activities for being well-equipped (skillful) CSOs to join, supporting AFAD, and cross border partners in DRR.
- ✓ Develop an action plan to improve institutional mechanisms and processes to apply for grants.
- ✓ There are eligibility requirements for applying to grants, proposal writing skills and the creation of budgets are essential elements, and this isn't an easy job. But, it should be practiced and could be learned
- ✓ The grants encourage CSOs to apply jointly for them, therefore finding a partner CSO from the national and/or EU (cross border) was highly recommended.



## TEAMWORK GAME





## APPENDIXES:

Appendix 1: Participant List.

Appendix 2: Round Table Invitation Letter and Program

Appendix 3: Round Table Evaluation Form

Appendix 4: Round Table Evaluation Full Report

Appendix 5: The Distribution Lists of Participants in Three Sub Groups

Appendix 6: The Questions Sets of Sub Group Moderations

Appendix 7: The link of Meeting video and Photographs from the Meeting

## APPENDIX 1: PARTICIPANT LIST

ORGANIZATION	NAME SURNAME	POSITION	S&R	MHPSS
<b>CSO's</b>				
BK Search And Rescue Association (BKSAR)	Erkut Doyran	President	*	
BK Search And Rescue Association (BKSAR)	Ahmet Ferit Şahin	Board Member and Vice President	*	
Search and Rescue at Sea Association (DAKSAR)	Murat Kaya	Vice President of the Board	*	
Search and Rescue at Sea Association (DAKSAR)	Tunç Buyruklar	Boat Captan/Doctorate Professor	*	
Immediate Disaster Support Association	Ayşe Nur Koç	Board Member		*
Immediate Disaster Support Association	Ayşe Zeynep Akkoyun	Secretary		*
IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation	Ömer Kars	Communication	*	
IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation	Erdal Altıntaş	Training Coordinator	*	
Turkish Red Crescent	Mehmet Oğuzhan Bostancı	Manager of Community Center		*
Istanbul Neighborhood Disaster Volunteers Association	Hüseyin Karadayı	President of the Board	*	
Istanbul Neighborhood Disaster Volunteers Association	Nilüfer Kurt	Training and Program Coordinator	*	
Motorcycled Search, Rescue and Support Association (MAKUDDER)	Kaan Çetinkaya	Training Supervisor	*	
Motorcycled Search, Rescue and Support Association (MAKUDDER)	Hakan Aktemur	Training Supervisor	*	
Marmara Search Rescue and Research Association	Ahmet Süleyman Demiroğlu	President of the Board	*	
Marmara Search Rescue and Research Association	Ersin Üren	Trainer Assistant	*	

## APPENDIX 1: PARTICIPANT LIST (cont.)

ORGANIZATION	NAME SURNAME	POSITION	S&R	MHPSS
<b>CSO's</b>				
Mavi Kalem	Arzu Karacanlar	Capacity Improvement Manager		*
National Emergency Search and Rescue Association	Hasan Çelen	Training Unit Leader	*	
Positive Living Association	Azra Fit	Protection Manager		*
Positive Living Association	Nurcan Acat	Psychologist		*
Social Service Specialists Association	İkram Doğan	Istanbul Branch Chairperson		*
TOHUM Turkey Autism Early Detection and Education Foundation	Sermin Kağan	Human Resources Director		*
TOHUM Turkey Autism Early Detection and Education Foundation	Demet Uncu	Administrative Affairs Coordinator		*
Turkish Psychologists Association	Berçem Görktürk Duru	President of the Trauma, Disaster and Crisis Unit		*
Turkish Psychologists Association	Buse Bilgin	Vice President of the Trauma, Disaster and Crisis Unit		*
Citizenship Association	Zafer Altunbezel	Physiotherapist		*
Citizenship Association	Zeynep İclal İncioğlu	Psychosocial Support Manager		*
<b>PUBLIC INSTUTITONS</b>				
Istanbul Family, Work and Social Services Directorate	Suzan Oktay Erol	Istanbul Provincial Directorate of FWSS Community Center Branch Chairperson		*
AFAD Istanbul	Cengiz Karakuş	Unit Manager	*	
AFAD Istanbul	İlker Ünal	Search and Rescue	*	

## APPENDIX 1: PARTICIPANT LIST (cont.)

ORGANIZATION	NAME SURNAME	POSITION	S&R	MHPSS
<b>UNIVERSITY</b>				
Kocaeli University	Ayşen Coşkun	Head of the Department of Faculty of Medicine Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Illnesses		*
Kocaeli University	Şafak Ebru Toksoy	Psychological Counsel Specialist		*
<b>UN</b>				
UNFPA	Altuna Söylemezoğlu	Istanbul Field Associate		*
<b>AKUT Search and Rescue Association</b>				
AKUT	Meriç Kalamanoğlu Şahin	2. President	*	
AKUT	Semih Şengün	Board Member and Treasury	*	
AKUT	Türker Kuş	Grant Project Manager	*	
AKUT	Nuray Doğal	Local Relations Department Vol.	*	
AKUT	Göktürk Şahin	Volunteer	*	
<b>Nirengi Association</b>				
Nirengi Association	Zeynep M. Sanduvaç	Programs Coordinator		*
Nirengi Association	Solmaz Havuz	President		*
Nirengi Association	İdil Türkmen Ayaydınlı	Comms and Visibility Coordinator		*
Nirengi Association	Burcu Asena Şahin	Project Assistant		*
Nirengi Association	Suzan Gürhan	Volunteer		*
Nirengi Association	Murat Altunbezer	Volunteer		*
Nirengi Association	Ruhat Sevgin	Volunteer		*



**ROUND TABLE MEETING FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

To whom it may concern,

We as Nirengi Association with the co-organization of AKUT will be holding a round table meeting with regards to the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) active in Disaster Risk Reduction -specifically focus on Search and Rescue (S&A) and MHPSS. CSO's working in cross cutting fields (women empowerment, child protection, people with special needs etc.) are included in this sense. We would be pleased to have two representatives of your institution with technical capacity in the field of SR and/or MHPSS among us in the meeting detailed below.



14 November 2019



09:00- 16:30



Elite World İstanbul Hotel, Taksim

**BACKGROUND**

It is highly important that all stakeholders participate in the Disaster Risk Reduction process, and that the participating stakeholders have the understanding and capacity necessary to work together. In addition, with regards to the current situation, the majority of CSOs don't have enough experience in working jointly with governmental agencies and with other CSOs. It is also noted that specifically it is needed to improve the cooperation and collaboration among Search and Rescue (S&R) CSOs and MHPSS CSOs.

Against this background and within the Nirengi's and AKUT's strong interest in bringing related stakeholders together to discuss potential partnership, collaboration and advocacy opportunities and meet their members this Round Table Meeting for CSOs active in DRR is organized.

**OBJECTIVES**

- Evaluating how a sustainable structure allowing CSOs transparent, participatory, active, efficient and timely involvement in all disaster risk reduction subjects can be formed. Topics to be discussed at the meeting; improving dialogue and cooperation among CSOs and with related public institutions with regards to DRR, CSOs' improvement in line with international standards and guides in terms of technical information and capacity in DRR, increased competence in advocacy and corporate communication, improving cross border CSO partnerships and network connections, etc.
- Tackling the subject of networking between stakeholders (CSO, public institutions, academy, private sector, etc.) working in the disaster risk reduction field.

**EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

DRR Round Table Policy Report including the following subjects will be formed:

- Developing/improving strategic and sustainable dialogue in DRR with Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (or as an example of solution partner: with FWSS) and among CSOs.
- Developing a sustainable structure in line with Guiding Principles for EC Support of the Development of Civil Society in Turkey regarding CSOs active, effective and timely involvement in DRR field.
- Increasing information, experience and capacity-opportunities forming/improving sustainable partnerships and networks with EU and other cross border CSOs for learning from one another.

[ONLINE REGISTRATION HERE](#)

We kindly request institutions wanting to join the workshop to fill the registration form until 11th of November.

We will not only enjoy the inputs and experiences you share as attendees of our stakeholders meeting titled Civil Society Organizations active in Disaster Risk Reduction but these will also enrich our workshop.

Kind regards,

Zeynep M. Sanduvaç  
Nirengi Association

Recep Şalcı  
AKUT



\*This workshop is supported by GNDR funds.

[nirengidernegi.org](http://nirengidernegi.org)

**AGENDA**

ROUND TABLE MEETING FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

(Moderator: Zeynep M. Sanduvaç, Nirengi Association)

**09:00 - 09:30** REGISTRATION

**09:30 - 10:00** WELCOME, INTRODUCTION

**PRESENTATIONS**

- FWSS, Suzan Oktay Erol  
*Improving dialogue and communication among national civil society organizations (MHPSS and cross cutting themes focused).*
- Nirengi Association, Zeynep M. Sanduvaç  
*International Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Guide- IASC Guidelines*
- AKUT, Meriç Kalamanoğlu Şahin  
*Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Minimum Standards- INSARAG Guidelines*

**11:00 - 11:15** COFFEE BREAK

**11:15 - 11:30** Nirengi Association, Zeynep M. Sanduvaç, *Introduction of of EU CSOs Guidelines*

**GROUP WORKS**

- Introduction of setting up the working groups and the methodology (15 min)
- Working groups (30 min)
- In the working groups, participants are expected to come prepared to share their organization's views and suggestions regarding the following themes:  
**Theme 1:** Reflections about experiences of working together in DRR  
**Theme 2:** Reflections about how can CSOs, public agencies (AFAD, MoFWSH, etc), and other relevant stakeholders effectively work together  
**Theme 3:** Reflections about how CSOs in Turkey link/connect with DRR related CSOs in for exchanging knowledge and experience

**12:30 - 13:20** LUNCH

**13:20 - 14:30** GROUP WORKS (cont.)

**14:30 - 14:45** COFFEE BREAK

**GROUP WORKS (cont.)**

- Group presentations by the moderators
- Participants exchanging thoughts

**15:15 - 15:45** NEXT STEPS (IN SHORT -MEDIUM/LONG TERM)

**15:45 - 16:30** EVALUATION AND CONCLUDING REMARKS

[nirengidernegi.org](http://nirengidernegi.org)

## APPENDIX 3: ROUND TABLE EVALUATION FORM

### ROUND TABLE MEETING FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION EVALUATION FORM

14 November, 2019. Istanbul

➤ According to my opinion, this meeting:

➤ The most useful subject (s) / section (s) in this program according to my opinion:

➤ The subjects I have learned in this program are:

➤ What I like the most in this program:

➤ I wish that in this program:

➤ About the organisation of this program:

➤ Other topics I would like to add:

## APPENDIX 4: ROUND TABLE EVALUATION FULL REPORT

➤ According to my opinion, this meeting:

- First of all, it was a very excited meeting I always wished to see it happen. I think it was very useful. Even if there is one representative of the association, the number of people that will be reached will be very high since there are more people involved in an association.
- It was very useful to bring together different teams and share ideas, and it is also important to ensure continuity.
- The promises made by CSOs to get to know each other and to get support from each other on the issues they needed were also important outputs.
- It has been very productive, meeting the associations and platforms trained in the same field and it will be instrumental in giving a lead to joint businesses.
- It was useful in helping CSOs to get to know each other and take action to work together.
- Brought awareness for everyone involved. First of all, it was very enlightening to answer the questions about who we are, where we are now, what we should do, what we need.
- Revealed that there were very detailed parts of the search and rescue in disasters and that psychosocial support had mathematics in itself.
- It was fascinating to see how important the concept of 'individual focused non-specialized support team' was in both the search and rescue and the psychosocial support field.
- It influenced with its appropriate, right and unifying feature. More is a must! Having public institutions included would have produced better results.
- A drop of life water for inadequate works.

➤ The most useful subject (s) / section (s) in this program according to my opinion:

- Roundtable studies and working groups in different areas (search / rescue and psychosocial support) + Moderator summarizing the shares of the previous group and guiding us to bring different ideas.
- Knowing that CSOs and institutions have a common idea to gather under one roof in particular for sharing and solidarity.
- In three-sessions, coming together to discuss issues, options and solutions under the effective management of a moderator.
- The people and institutions working in the field sharing the difficulties they experience with public institutions. Learning that the CSOs that we think to be working very well with the public institutions are actually experiencing similar problems.
- Information about the organizations and their actions working in disaster response field and sharing of interactive information in group work.
- It helped us figure out what was missing and what we needed.
- The presentation of the MoFWSS about TAMP was important. I would like to listen to the S&R's point of view in implementation.
- AKUT's INSARAG and Nirengi's IASC presentations were very helpful.

## APPENDIX 4: ROUND TABLE EVALUATION FULL REPORT (cont.)

### The subjects I have learned in this program are:

- Since I served in the field of psychosocial support, I learned more about the S&R.
- We are working in the S&R area, but for the first time I learned about the MHPSS area. I met people from the MHPSS area.
- Search and rescue systems are very advanced + psychosocial support is very necessary.
- I believed that search and rescue teams and psychological support teams will work together in the disaster period. I liked the idea of offering MHPSS to both S&R teams and teaching them how to offer MHPSS.
- Other CSOs and institutions finding awareness, empowerment and training important, and talking about issues such as taking measures to minimize obstacles or problems.
- The importance of a common network - we have seen here as well, the knowledge and experience of CSOs that are members of the common networks are different.
- In the field of search and rescue, many CSOs are passing to each other but there is a lack of accreditation due to the difference in technique and style. I never thought that. We have to work to eliminate our shortcomings.
- I learned about the existence of Insarag-Usar + MHPSS standards and child protection standards set-up booklet + general information about disaster management practices in our country.
- I have found that CSOs, where communication is the most important problem, can be more useful if they are gathered under a single roof, and that acting with a sharing model can lead us to be better organized in terms of time and personnel.
- The sharing of international experience and knowledge was an important part. I learned how to work in order to overcome our shortcomings in the international arena.

### What I like the most in this program:

- Increasing the motivation of the group by including a psychodrama activity (the game was very meaningful).
- I was very impressed by the fact that everyone listened to each other in a respectful manner, without interrupting, arguing and expressed their opinions and worked for the same result.
- Getting to know other search and rescue associations, psychological associations and brainstorming.
- Everyone wants to gather and unite – everyone is in search of it. The majority of those who think that this time it will happen.
- The flow of the program, appropriately identified themes and sincere sharings.
- The fact that it was an interactive meeting, moderators paid attention to time and group play.
- I had the opportunity to chat and exchange information with competent participants in the field. I think that we can benefit from each other in terms of information sharing.
- Nirengi and Akut's ego-free approach, which created a warm and friendly atmosphere.

## APPENDIX 4: ROUND TABLE EVALUATION FULL REPORT (cont.)

- Discussion groups and free discussion environment provided at the end of the meeting.
- The fact that participants are knowledgeable, organization is qualified and practiced.
- Each group was allowed to discuss and express their knowledge on 3 different topics. At the same time, the psychodrama event was very pleasant.
- Working together and sharing experiences.

### I wish this program:

- I wish there were public institutions like the Ministry and that they could listen to problems and suggestions. In the last session, there could be a panel of public institutions. If there was an authorized person from Afad, he could hear difficulties and challenges.
- Had it been done in a longer time; we could examine the issues of logistics, first aid, lack of training, expertise skills, creating professional workspaces.
- If AFAD, MoFWSS, UMKE, JSR, FIREFIGHTERS participated. After all, this would not be complete without them.
- AFAD and MoFWSS representatives participated until the end.

### About the organisation of this work:

- It's unbelievably perfect that every detail was thought of with such a small team. An informative, enlightening, sincere, warm organization.
- Everyone did their job in a friendly manner and the overall moderation mechanism was very good. Everything was discussed in a timely manner without any deviation, and the sub-group moderators managed the situation very well.
- The organization was very successful. It was designed to be very gentle and human. Thanks to everyone who contributed!
- I would like to thank the Nirengi Association and AKUT, this is a beginning and I say I hope it will continue.
- The fact that the organizers and executives of the organization were sensitive and knew their limitations had a positive effect.
- An organization prepared by an experienced and professional team. Thank you.
- If you can organize a meeting which's funds allow for more participants to join and a longer meeting to be held, I'd like to join that as well.

### Other topics I would like to add:

- I think that the issues discussed should not remain unfulfilled and should be communicated and

## APPENDIX 4: ROUND TABLE EVALUATION FULL REPORT (cont.)

- reported where necessary. Thanks for everything.
- I believe it would be appropriate to create an electronic communication network permanently with the participants and organizers of this meeting. In case of such a networking effort, I think that these participatory organizations would not hesitate to participate.
  - From time to time, I would like to attend follow-up meetings or be informed by messages about what is being done.
  - Hope to talk directly about the organization of unifying CSOs at the next meeting.
  - Thank you! I will be eagerly awaiting your contact details and meeting notes.
  - I hope this will continue. Power comes from the unity, let's go hand in hand.

## APPENDIX 5: THE DISTRIBUTION LISTS OF PARTICIPANTS IN THREE SUB GROUPS



### GROUP 1

**Moderator:**  
İdil Türkmen Ayaydınlı, Nirengi Association

**Theme 1:**  
Reflections about general evaluations on the experiences of working together in DRR.

PARTICIPANTS	
Ahmet Ferit Şahin	BK Search and Rescue Association (BKSAR)
Ahmet Süleyman Demiroğlu	Marmara Search Rescue and Research Association
Arzu Karacanlar	Mavi Kalem Association
Ayşe Nur Koç	Immediate Disaster Support Association
Ayşen Coşkun	Kocaeli University
Berçem Görktürk Duru	Turkish Psychologists Association
Erdal Altıntaş	Humanitarian Relief Foundation Search & Rescue
Hüseyin Karadayı	Istanbul Neighborhood Disaster Volunteers Association
Murat Kaya	Search and Rescue at Sea Association (DAKSAR)
Zeynep İclal İncioğlu	Citizenship Association

## APPENDIX 5: THE DISTRIBUTION LISTS OF PARTICIPANTS IN THREE SUB GROUPS (cont.)



### GROUP 2

**Moderator:**  
Solmaz Havuz, Nirengi Association

#### Theme 2:

Reflections about stakeholders' experiences on

- What are the challenging or compelling factors while working with together with CSOs and public institutions (AFAD, FMSS, etc. support-solution partners) and other related stakeholders?
- How did you cope with the challenging or compelling factors while working with together with CSOs and public institutions? What did you use to resolve them?

PARTICIPANTS	
Ayşe Zeynep Akkoyun	Immediate Disaster Support Association
Buse Bilgin	Turkish Psychologists Association
Demet Uncu	Tohum Turkey Autism Early Detection and Education Foundation
Göktürk Şahin	AKUT Search and Rescue Association
Hakan Aktemur	Motorcycled Search, Rescue and Support Association (MAKUDDER)
Erdal Altıntaş	Humanitarian Relief Foundation Search & Rescue
Hasan Çelen	National Emergency Search and Rescue Association (NESAR)
İkram Doğan	Social Service Specialists Association
Nilüfer Kurt	Istanbul Neighborhood Disaster Volunteers Association
Nurcan Acat	Positive Living Association
Tunç Buyruklar	Search and Rescue at Sea Association (DAKSAR)

## APPENDIX 5: THE DISTRIBUTION LISTS OF PARTICIPANTS IN THREE SUB GROUPS (cont.)



### GROUP 3

**Moderator:**  
Türker Kuş, AKUT Search and Rescue Association

#### Theme 3:

Reflections about CSOs' national and international network connections and how CSOs in Turkey link/connect with counterpart institutions in the EU and/or cross border to be developed to encourage the transfer of knowledge and experience in DRR.

PARTICIPANTS	
Altuna Söylemezoğlu	UNFPA
Azra Fit	Positive Living Association
Erkut Doyran	BK Search and Rescue Association (BKSAR)
Ersin Üren	Marmara Search Rescue and Research Association
Kaan Çetinkaya	Motorcycled Search, Rescue and Support Association (MAKUDDER)
Nuray Doğal	AKUT Search and Rescue Association
Ömer Kars	Humanitarian Relief Foundation Search and Rescue
Sermin Kağan	Tohum Turkey Autism Early Detection and Education Foundation
Şafak Ebru Toksoy	Kocaeli University
Zafer Altunbezel	Citizenship Association



## APPENDIX 6: THE QUESTION SETS of SUB GROUP MODERATIONS

### ROUND TABLE MEETING FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION Group Works- Themes | Moderation Questions

Note: Bear in mind that disaster and emergency here refer to either natural disasters (earthquake, flooding, avalanche, etc.) or human-made disasters (bombing, mining accident, train crash, etc.)

#### GROUP 1

##### Theme 1: Sharing experiences from the past 5 years:

Inter-organizational joint work experience in a disaster situation:

1.1 Have you had an experience working together with other CSOs and/or public institutions in a disaster and emergency situation?

- We have... share an example.
- There were difficulties... share an example.
- We haven't because... share an example.

Common Work	Year	Location	Disaster Type	Explanation	Stakeholders (public inst, CSO, Univ., private sector)
We have/ There are examples					
We have/ But it was difficult in some aspects					
We haven't... because					

## APPENDIX 6: THE QUESTION SETS of SUB GROUP MODERATIONS (cont.)

#### GROUP 1

##### Theme 1: Sharing experiences from the past 5 years:

Inter-organizational joint work experience in a disaster situation:

1.2 Have you had a connection, a joint working experience with S&R CSO- MHPSS CSO in a disaster situation?

- We have... share an example.
- There were difficulties... share an example.
- We haven't because... share an example.

Joint Work	Year	Location	Disaster Type	Explanation
We have/ There are examples				
We have/ But it was difficult in some aspects				
We haven't... because				

## APPENDIX 6: THE QUESTION SETS of SUB GROUP MODERATIONS (cont.)

### ROUND TABLE MEETING FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION Group Works- Themes | Moderation Questions

Note: Bear in mind that disaster and emergency here refer to either natural disasters (earthquake, flooding, avalanche, etc.) or human-made disasters (bombing, mining accident, train crash, etc.)

#### GROUP 2

**Theme 2:** Reflections about stakeholders' experiences on

a. What are the challenging or compelling factors while working with together with CSOs and public institutions (AFAD, FMSS, etc. support-solution partners) and other related stakeholders?

b. How did you cope with the challenging or compelling factors while working with together with CSOs and public institutions? What did you use to resolve them?

Challenges- Difficulties- first three factors	How did you cope with them? What did you use to resolve them?
a.	
b.	
c.	

## APPENDIX 6: THE QUESTION SETS of SUB GROUP MODERATIONS (cont.)

#### GROUP 2

**Theme 2:** Reflections about stakeholders' experiences on

a. What are the challenging or compelling factors while working with together with CSOs and public institutions (AFAD, FMSS, etc. support-solution partners) and other related stakeholders?

b. How did you cope with the challenging or compelling factors while working with together with CSOs and public institutions? What did you use to resolve them?

Facilitating -Supporting first three factors	Background: How did you plan this? How did you achieve these supports?
a.	
b.	
c.	

2.2 Your recommendations concerning co-operation and working close-together with stakeholders working in disasters (explain with concrete examples);

## APPENDIX 6: THE QUESTION SETS of SUB GROUP MODERATIONS (cont.)

### ROUND TABLE MEETING FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION Group Works- Themes | Moderation Questions

Note: Bear in mind that disaster and emergency here refer to either natural disasters (earthquake, flooding, avalanche, etc.) or human-made disasters (bombing, mining accident, train crash, etc.)

#### GROUP 3

**Theme 3:** Reflections about CSOs' national and international network connections and how CSOs in Turkey link/connect with counterpart institutions in the EU and/or cross border to be developed to encourage the transfer of knowledge and experience in DRR.

Networks/partnerships you are a member of	Domestic (officially or with a declaration of intention)	Abroad
a.		
b.		
c.		
Effect of being a member of and being in contact with these networks, joint working platforms in disaster field on your works (explain with concrete examples)?		



NIRENGI