

**2018 ECOSOC Integration Segment: “Innovative communities: leveraging technology and innovation to build sustainable and resilient societies”
1 – 3 May 2018, UN Headquarters, New York**

Guiding questions for Member States’ input to the 2018 Integration Segment

1. What are the main risks your country faces currently and will face in the next 10 years?

Turkey is potentially a disaster zone country. As two-thirds of Turkey’s land surface falls in the two highest earthquake hazard zones, earthquakes constitute an important risk for Turkey. In addition, like many other countries Climate Change poses different kinds of risks for Turkey. Disasters like earthquakes, floods, landslides, drought and erosion cause life and property losses.

2. Please kindly rate a short list of vulnerabilities according to your national context
3. What specific measures have been put in place by your country to reduce disaster risk, including through the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030?

Turkey has taken important steps to improve its disaster management system. Disaster risk management is one of the priorities of National Development Plan (NDP). Currently Turkey is in the process of preparing its 11th NDP. Sendai Framework will be reflected to the policies of forthcoming NDP. Different strategies have been prepared in order to prevent or mitigate possible physical, economic, social and environmental damages of disasters and design better post disaster response and recovery activities as well as to build new urban spaces which are resilient, safe, well-prepared and sustainable. In addition, many projects are being carried out to reduce disaster risks and capacity building. The Disaster and Emergency Management Administration (AFAD) was established in order to improve disaster risk reduction and preparedness activities and ensure cooperation and coordination among agencies working on disaster issues. In this context, Urban Transformation Law, is enacted for regeneration of weak and illegal structures, building safe and good quality settlements which are important elements of disaster risk reduction. Law also includes financial incentives for strengthening the cities and buildings against disasters. Disaster Insurance Law was enacted to secure the economic damages directly caused by the earthquake in buildings. Strengthening the critical infrastructure and buildings such as energy, transportation, water and communication are very important to minimize the disaster risks.

4. What has been the experience of your country in using technology and innovation to strengthen resilience and inclusion in an integrated manner?

In line with Turkey’s NDP, projects of government institutions are funded by the investment program of the country. In this context many projects related with technology and innovation are being funded and carried out. As an example, The Integrated Decision Support System For Incidents (AYDES) is a software-based management model that manages the preparation, planning and response processes of disaster management of the service groups. Turkey also conducts projects to strengthen its early warning systems namely Project for Earthquake Early Warning and Preliminary Damage Assessment Systems.

5. Do other stakeholders, such as civil society organizations, the private sector, the UN system or academia, engage in coordinated actions to enhance resilience in your country? What approaches have proven effective in this respect?

Building a resilient society requires the engagement of all segments of the country in the policy making and implementation processes. Besides governments, private sector, NGO’s and academia should have responsibilities in order to increase resilience of the country. One of the goals of Turkey’s NDP is to increase resilience. Our Plans are prepared with a participatory approach. Through 70 ad-hoc committees and working groups contributions of public institutions and organizations, academicians,

private sector and nongovernmental organization to the policy making process is ensured. In line with the development policies of the country many projects are carried out and actions taken which will contribute to a more resilient society.

6. What can the ECOSOC system do to better support countries to pursue integrated policies and apply technology and innovative solutions at the national, regional and global levels, in order to effectively enhance resilience and manage risks in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?

ECOSOC system can provide a platform for sharing knowledge and best practices of countries. In addition, ECOSOC can facilitate the formulation of policies to mobilize resources to stimulate progress in these areas.