IAP - the global network of science academies, includes 111 national and regional science academies as members. The expertise present in these member academies, and their reputation both in their own countries and internationally, means that IAP is considered as a credible source of up-to-date, peer reviewed and unbiased science advice. Since its establishment in 1993, IAP and its members have worked on a number of issues at the science-policy interface, including disaster risk reduction.

Recent activities
Since 2015, IAP has engaged with the Science and Technology Major Group, led by ICSU, in the UNISDR process.

In particular, representatives from the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei (Italy), the Science Council of Japan and the IAP Secretariat attended preparatory meetings in the run-up to the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in Sendai, Japan, in March 2015.

Member academies, including the Indian National Science Academy, the Islamic World Academy of Sciences, the Royal Society of Jordan, the Uganda National Academy of Sciences, and others, submitted comments on draft texts of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015.

At the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) in Sendai, Japan, 14-18 March 2015, IAP was represented by two experts from the Science Council of Japan. IAP has since appointed Prof. R.B. Singh of the Indian National Science Academy to the Organizing Committee for the UNISDR S&T Conference on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

2016 and beyond
The IAP ‘Conference on Science Advice’ in Hermanus, South Africa, 28 February - 1 March 2016, will have a panel discussion dedicated to ‘Science Advice in Times of Disasters/ Emergencies’.

With the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei (Italy), IAP is supporting the organization of an ‘International Symposium on Resilience of Art Cities to Natural Catastrophes: The role of academies’, to be held in Rome, Italy, in October 2016 (commemorating 50 years since the historic Florence flood).

IAP and its network of science academies will continue to engage in the international process of embedding science at the core of disaster risk reduction strategies, including the involvement of young scientists.

Publications
Global Natural Hazards and Disaster Risk Reduction, 2005, prepared by Program Group of InterAcademy Panel.

From February 2016, IAP will join with the InterAcademy Medical Panel (IAMP) and the InterAcademy Council (IAC) to form the InterAcademy Partnership: www.interacademies.org