Accelerating and Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction Efforts

Update on the United Nations' intensified approach

United Nations

1. Introduction: UN Accelerating Disaster Risk Reduction Efforts

"Overall losses from disasters are mounting at an alarming rate and are impacting global efforts to eradicate poverty and develop sustainably. However, the recognition that the reduction of disaster risks contributes to sustainable development can lead the way to intensify action." [1]

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

The scale of vulnerability and exposure to hazards, and resulting demand for protection and assistance, are projected to increase substantially over the next decades. The average annual losses (AAL) from earthquakes, tsunamis, tropical cyclones and river flooding are now estimated at US$314 billion in the built environment alone.[2] In 2013, the UN decided to address disaster and climate risk throughout all of its development and humanitarian work in a manner that targets the poorest and most vulnerable people on the planet, thus increasing its contribution to the efforts by countries, cities and many other stakeholders to reduce the suffering due to disasters. The UN agreed to hold itself accountable for the effectiveness of its efforts.

The principles driving the UN system's support to countries and communities to implement the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction* are found in the *UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction*

for Resilience ("UN Plan of Action").[3] The UN Plan of Action was approved by the UN's Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) in April 2013.

> **Box 1.**
> **High quality assistance to all countries where disaster losses pose a threat to people's health and development**
>
> The UN's system has committed to:
>
> Engage coherently and consistently, through country development assistance frameworks, assist countries prioritise disaster and climate risk in development planning; and,
>
> Make disaster risk reduction a priority for all relevant UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes.
>
> Source: UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience (2013)
> www.unisdr.org/partners/united-nations

1. www.unisdr.org/files/resolutions/N1452549.pdf
2. GAR15 http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/gar/2015/en/gar-pdf/GAR2015_EN.pdf This represents the amount that countries should be setting aside each year to cover future disaster losses.
3. www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/publications/v.php?id=33703

The Secretary-General and UN Executive Heads furthered their commitment, in a CEB Statement to the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, by making disaster risk reduction for resilience a core principle for the UN system's collective efforts to achieve sustainable development.[4]

2. A Sound Basis for Greater Impact: The UN Across Regions and Disciplines

UN system organizations have a wide geographic scope of impact, conduct development operations at a substantial scale and have a breadth of disaster risk reduction programmes and activities.
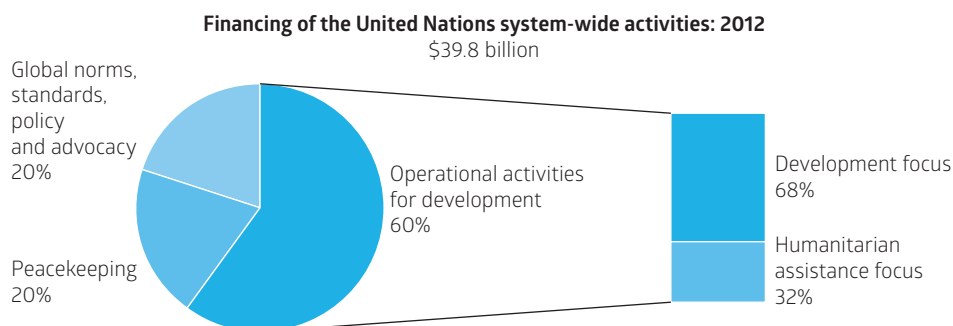
Geographically, the UN supports governments in most countries and is active in all sub-regions, regions and at the global level. This provides a number of entry points for supporting disaster risk reduction efforts.

The UN is also one of the world's largest multilateral development partners, channelling 17% of total official development assistance.[5] In 84% of least developed countries, it represents at least 10% of in-country development assistance. Not all of this assistance directly or indirectly contributes to reducing the risk of disasters, but together with other factors, underscores the importance of the commitments of the UN Plan of Action to accelerate and mainstream its disaster risk reduction impacts.

Since 2005, the UN has been active in disaster risk reduction activities in all five priority areas of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

Figure 1: A breakdown of UN system-wide expenditures. (Source: Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review: Secretary-General's Report, 2014)

Financing of the United Nations system-wide activities: 2012
$39.8 billion

Global norms, standards, policy and advocacy 20%

Operational activities for development 60%

Peacekeeping 20%

Development focus 68%

Humanitarian assistance focus 32%

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4. CEB statement available on the WCDRR, CEB and UNISDR websites:
    www.wcdrr.org – www.unsceb.org – www.unisdr.org

5. Source: Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Report, 2014 (www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/2014/10)

UN programmes and activities contribute to efforts to build national and regional capacities for disaster risk reduction, undertake research on and monitor hazards, provide services to generate weather and seasonal predictions to support early warning systems, set norms, manage awareness campaigns, address underlying risk factors, and make risk informed investments.

The UN has a specific role in integrating disaster risk reduction in key sectors:

Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition: The UN is improving the linkages across sectors, including humanitarian, development interventions and investments to reduce hazard risk for agriculture, food security and nutrition.

Education: The UN has been coordinating its efforts with its partners in the education sector through the establishment of the Global Alliance on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience in the Education Sector (GAD3RES) and by promoting the comprehensive safe school framework.

Gender: By focusing on a better integration of gender equality and women's rights into disaster risk reduction across sectors, the UN is working to ensure that efforts reduce existing inequalities, avoid assumptions and stereotypes, and promote positive change.

Health: Through a strengthening of existing measures to manage health risks associated with hazards, emergencies and disasters, the UN is engaging across society and with a range of actors to enhance capacities to reduce local health risks, enhance preparedness, response and recovery.

Infrastructure: The UN provides incentives for cities and inhabitants to protect and mitigate risks, invest in safety and achieve growth and development that enhances resilience.

> **Box 2.**
> **Impact of UN work: A look at the numbers**
> With the support and involvement of the UN:
>
> - 146 countries have reviewed their national progress on disaster risk reduction and 4 countries have initiated peer-to-peer reviews;
>
> - 120 countries have engaged in legal and policy reforms to support disaster risk reduction, with 85 establishing multi sectoral coordination mechanisms; 39 of these integrate disaster and climate risk issues;
>
> - 82 countries and 3 territories have developed disaster loss databases;
>
> - 2440 cities are taking measures to increase their resilience, with 631 local governments measuring the readiness of their city to potential catastrophic events; and,
>
> - There are now 110 Resilience Champions, including Heads of State, Parliamentarians, Mayors and Corporate Leaders.

Tourism: By taking advantage of the multi-sectoral nature of tourism activities, the UN is facilitating coordination and integration of tourism into planning and management strategies at the country level, and assisting the sector to assess and reduce risks.

Water: UN agencies are promoting, under the UN-Water umbrella, integrated water resources management at local, national and basin levels, including transboundary cooperation, to prevent water-related disasters, increase resilience and improve response.

Culture: The UN is facilitating the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction into the management of World Heritage

Sites and supporting the sector to assess and reduce risk on sites of universal value.

Together, these sectors illustrate the UN's current scope and scale of impact.[6] They also underscore the potential for enhanced engagement in the majority of the world's countries, in particular the most vulnerable, across the spectrum of disaster risk reduction areas and disciplines.

3. Contributing to Coherent Action and Coordination

Coherence of all UN disaster risk reduction activities at regional and country level involves a range of activities, stakeholders, scales and organizations. There are multiple examples of joint programming and inter-agency collaboration to provide support to countries on disaster risk reduction.

The UN system has, since 2007, engaged in effective *Delivering As One* activities at country level. This resulted in organizations and programmes working together towards common goals, a cohesive UN system and strengthened leadership. In 2014, more than 70% of all UN Programme Countries implemented all or some pillars of the *Delivering As One* approach.[7] This gives the UN a more holistic approach to address complex issues such as disaster risk reduction.

New Standard Operating Procedures for Delivering As One Countries are assuring that expertise and capacity across the UN system is available to support countries, including on disaster risk reduction. This is contributing to better alignment of the UN's normative work, such as the support to the implementation of the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction* and the UN's operational development work in countries. These measures further the delivery of coordinated disaster risk reduction assistance to countries as called for in the UN Plan of Action.

Disaster risk in UN country programmes

A central element of the UN's engagement with countries on disaster risk reduction has been efforts to integrate disaster risk and climate change into its country development programming and related engagement with national counterparts. As part of its principled approach to avoid development efforts increasing disaster risk in countries, the UN is looking to assess more systematically disaster and climate risk, along with related capacity and needs through the UN Common Country Assessments (CCAs) or other analytical tools. Risk assessments and profiles allow both a better prioritization of UN development programming through its Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) while insuring that the UN's development portfolios contribute to a country's resilience to disasters (see Box 4).

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6.   For more details on sector impacts see the WCDRR website at www.wcdrr.org/preparatory/prepcom1

7.   Source: Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Report, 2014 (http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/2014/10)

Guidelines were adopted in 2009 by the UN, through its Development Group (UNDG), on integrating disaster risk reduction into its operational development work[8]. At the same time, guidance was issued regarding the two related topics of environmental sustainability[9] and climate change[10].

A review carried out in 2013 found that 50 of 56 UNDAFs published since 2009 prioritized disaster and climate risk reduction. In terms of trends, in 2014, 79% of published UNDAFs integrated disaster and climate risk (see Figure 2 and Figure 3).

The UN is developing a new generation of guidance for its operational development work to adapt to the emerging post-2015 agenda. Lessons from the past 5 years, the outcomes of the Rio+20 Summit and the more recent S*endai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction*, point to the need to further strengthen disaster risk reduction along with climate change and environmental sustainability as pre-requisites for effective development in countries.

UN leadership on disaster risk reduction in countries

The role of the UN Resident Coordinators – the official in countries with the responsibility for coordination and impact of UN development activities – has been strengthened. UN Resident Coordinators now have enhanced responsibilities on disaster risk reduction codified in their job descriptions. They ensure that disaster

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> **Box 3.**
> **Guyana's 2011 Common Country Assessment (CCA): A replicable model**
>
> Guyana's 2011 CCA sets the context for the UNDAF by:
> - Identifying major hazards and interaction with physical, social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities.
> - Including gender-related vulnerabilities.
> - Identifying government policies and duty bearers and potential and weaknesses.
> - Recommending areas of capacity development
>
> While good practices such as Guyana exist and are being documented and shared, reviews of UN support to country's analysis or risk and related capacities have highlighted important gaps. This is recognized as a priority area for future collective engagement of the UN.
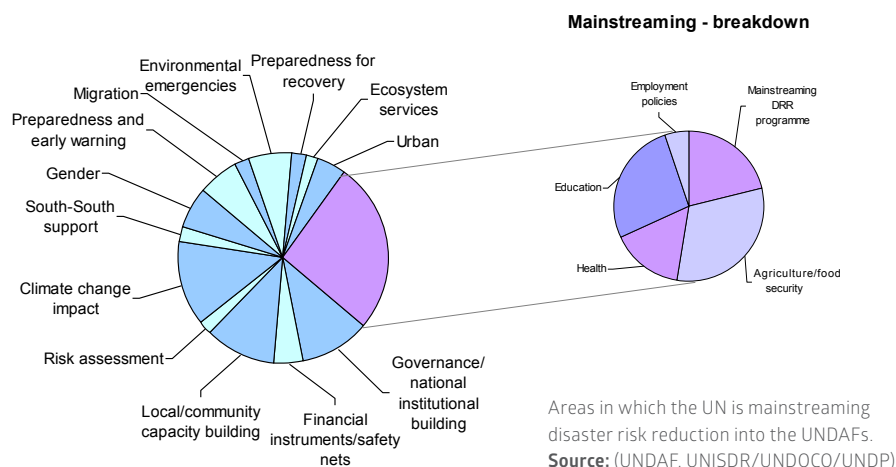
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risk reduction is effectively incorporated in to country-level programming and regularly report on progress. The inclusion of modules on disaster risk reduction in the induction and leadership trainings of UN Resident Coordinators has been effective in this regard.

In countries where the UN Resident Coordinator's Office was strengthened with expertise in coordination of disaster risk reduction, for example in Pakistan and Nepal, the result has been more coherent and effective support by the UN to national and local authorities, and more effective programming and use of resources.

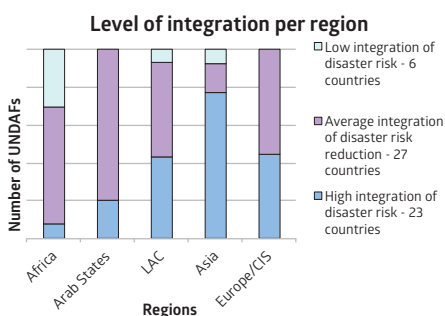8. https://undg.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/UNDG-DRR-Guidance-Note-2009_DUP_08-07-2009_11-43-02-734_AM-1.pdf
9. https://undg.org/main/undg_document/mainstreaming-environmental-sustainability-in-country-analysis-and-the-undaf/
10. https://undg.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/UNDG-GuidanceNote_ClimateChange-July2011.pdf

Figure 2: Aligning with countries diverse development needs and priorities

Mainstreaming - breakdown

Environmental emergencies
Preparedness for recovery
Migration
Ecosystem services
Preparedness and early warning
Urban
Gender
South-South support
Climate change impact
Risk assessment
Local/community capacity building
Financial instruments/safety nets
Governance/ national institutional building

Employment policies
Mainstreaming DRR programme
Education
Health
Agriculture/food security

Areas in which the UN is mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into the UNDAFs.
Source: (UNDAF, UNISDR/UNDOCO/UNDP)

Box 4.
Rational for integrating disaster risk reduction into the UNDAFs:

1 Identify root causes of disaster risk
2 Promote a multi-hazard approach
3 Develop lasting in-country capacity
4 Reduce the vulnerability of the poorest
5 Address specific risks that undermine Millennium Development Goal efforts
6 Identify the specific ways in which UN organizations contribute to the reduction of disaster risk
7 Build on experience, including lessons learned

(Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction into the CCA and UNDAF; Guidance Note for UN Country Teams, 2009)

Figure 3: Effectiveness of integration of disaster risk into UN country programmes since 2009

Level of integration per region

Number of UNDAFs

Africa | Arab States | LAC | Asia | Europe/CIS

Regions

Low integration of disaster risk - 6 countries

Average integration of disaster risk reduction - 27 countries

High integration of disaster risk - 23 countries

(Source: UNISDR/UNDOCO/UNDP)

Disaster risk information driving UN development work

The review of CCAs and UNDAFs published since 2009 has shown the low correlation between the availability of disaster risk data, related capacity assessments, and the quality of the integration of disaster risk reduction in the UN development programs in countries. Another finding is the fact that disaster risk data remains mostly insufficiently aligned with climate impact assessments, a recognized requirement to provide a more complete view of projected losses and risk to development.

These findings are in line with the Global Assessment Reports (GAR) findings. While the availability of disaster and climate risk data is increasing, both with regard to access and quality, it is still insufficiently used to drive programming and investment decisions. Also disaster risk information remains in the realm of emergency management institutions and insufficiently targets other interlocutors such as planning and financing institutions in key development sectors.

Box 5.
Status of progress in UN efforts to assist countries with risk information:

1. The UN has developed global and regional risk assessments for six hazards since 2007 and analyzed their correlation with poverty and development[11].

2. The UN, through its Specialized Agencies manages commissions and expert bodies that set the standards and assist countries in developing risk analysis for tsunamis, floods, tropical cyclones, droughts, earthquakes and forest fires.

3. As early as 2002, the UN has been working to assist countries develop national disaster loss databases.[12] This process has been accelerated further in 2005, and today 70 countries have systems in place.[13] The European Union has recently adopted the UN's standards for assessing national disaster losses. FAO are further developing guidelines for accounting for disaster losses in the agriculture sector.

4. UNISDR, in collaboration with UN partners, is piloting a new generation of disaster profiles in countries, building on the national disaster loss databases and including probabilistic analysis. Relevant information can be accessed on PreventionWeb.

5. Through the Inter-agency Standing Committee (IASC) for the coordination of humanitarian assistance, the INFORM initiative is a risk assessment for humanitarian crises and disaster, partially based on the open source hazard data of the GAR. It produces risk data that informs humanitarian action associated to both conflict and natural hazards and promotes stronger links with development needs.[14]

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11   See www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/gar/2015/

12   For more information see the comparative review by UNDP http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/crisis%20prevention/disaster/asia_pacific/lossanddamagedatabase.pdf

13   The national databases can be access through www.desinventar.net.

14   For more information see www.inform-index.org/

UN regional cooperation in disaster risk reduction

The pooling of capacities within UN Country Teams and the strengthening of regional inter-agency cooperation on disaster risk reduction are proving to be effective, particularly when these efforts are framed by regional intergovernmental policies and institutions. The work of the UN Regional Commissions, Regional UN Development Groups and Regional Offices of UNISDR and other UN agencies and programmes, is contributing to more effective and aligned assistance to countries.

In the Americas, the UN has set a high standard for cooperation on disaster risk reduction, starting with work in two pilot countries, Uruguay and Panama. Concerted efforts have allowed for disaster risk assessments to guide the prioritization of development actions through the facilitation and updating of databases on disaster loss and damage. The UN assisted the Governments of Uruguay and Panama to assess their disaster risk reduction capacity and policy contexts and provided recommendations for accelerating the implementation of the *Hyogo Framework for Action.*

This rapid progress in the Americas emerged from effective regional cooperation. A regional inter-agency working group on the implementation of the UN Plan of Action, established by the Regional UN Development Group, has integrated disaster risk reduction in the UN operational development work.

Another good example is the UN system's engagement with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations through the ASEAN-UN Strategic Plan on Disaster Management 2011-2015. Asia has the strongest regional record of integrating disaster risk reduction into country programming (see Figure 3). The UN is working through its development assistance activities to build disaster risk reduction capacity in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Iran, Lao PDR, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Box 6.
Case example: The Nepal Risk Reduction Consortium

The Nepal Risk Reduction Consortium (NRRC) unites humanitarian and development partners with financial institutions in partnership with the Government of Nepal in order to reduce Nepal's vulnerability to disasters.

The NRRC coalesces the efforts of a wide range of partners around the key priorities of: school and hospital safety; emergency preparedness and response; flood management; community based disaster risk management; and, policy and institutional support for disaster risk management.

"*The NRRC is a great example of how the UN, working together with its partners, can intensify coordination and collaboration across organizations and disciplines to produce better results. The precise model may not be applicable everywhere but the underlying theme of coherent coordination is,*" Robert Piper, former UN Resident Coordinator for Nepal.

Case example: Resilience Framework for Southern Africa

The resilience framework for Southern Africa brings together development and humanitarian partners around a collective vision:

To have, by 2020, diversified livelihoods, an improved and healthy productive sector enabling increased income, to combat poverty, food in security and malnutrition, provide more economic opportunities, access to land and employment, and increased access to quality and adaptive social/basic services, including education, health (including HIV/AIDS), WASH, social protection (including social safety nets, community empowerment governance).

Guidance and support has been provided to Malawi, Lesotho and Tanzania. The Regional Inter-Agency Standing Committee (RIASCO) Resilience Working Group is co-led by WFP and World Vision and supported by FAO. OCHA, as chair of RIASCO, is seeking to bridge the traditional divide between humanitarian relief and disaster risk reduction partners, and development actors.

Case example: Integrating disaster risk reduction in Bhutan's development assistance framework

The UN in Bhutan collaborated with the Bhutanese Gross National Happiness Commission, the central planning and coordinating government agency in the country, to integrate diverse analyses of cross-cutting issues, including disaster risk reduction, into the country development assistance framework (UNDAF). This has resulted in more effective mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues, including disaster risk reduction and resilience-building. The initiative included representatives of civil society organizations, private sector and, for the first time, youth at different levels

(Source: UN Bhutan).

In Southern and Eastern Africa there is an encouraging increase in the number of resilience and disaster risk reduction initiatives. The growing requirement for regional coherence and coordination has seen a shift towards leadership and partnerships by regional intergovernmental organizations and, for UN organizations, alignment of these efforts in longer-term support to countries through the regional UN Development Group for East and Southern Africa.

In the Horn of Africa FAO, UNDP, UNICEF and WFP are supporting the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD). IGAD's Resilience Analysis Unit carries out in-country and cross-border resilience analyses to support implementation of IGAD's Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI). Analyses are currently being carried out in Somalia, Ethiopia and Uganda.

In Europe, innovative regional cooperation by the UN has resulted in advances in early warning systems, disaster loss databases and pooled insurance schemes to address earthquake risk in South Eastern European countries. These initiatives are linked to regional frameworks such as the European Commission Instrument for Pre-Accession project.

In the Arab States, efforts are ongoing to integrate disaster risk reduction into national development programming, under the leadership of the Regional UN Development Group and with assistance from the UNISDR. UN organizations have contributed to capacity building in 12 countries with steady support to national coordination and improvement of national policy and legislative systems, with consistent progress in Morocco, Djibouti, Algeria, Comoros and Tunisia. The latter activity also benefitted from a IFRC/UNDP review of legislative systems for disaster risk reduction in selected countries including Algeria and Iraq.

In the Pacific, the 2013-2017 UNDAF for the Pacific Sub-Region (Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu) now includes disaster risk reduction and climate change as priority area of engagement with national authorities. The UN also supported an integrated regional policy agenda through the Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific (SRDP)

All five regions of the world benefitted from recovery planning and mainstreaming on disaster risk reduction into policy through the inter-agency International Recovery Platform (IRP).

4. Changing UN Cultures and Approaches

Increasingly, the global community understands the need for new approaches that prioritize the building of resilience and reducing disaster risk. The organizational approach and culture of UN system organizations is changing and evolving accordingly, through a shift to proactive risk management.

As of May 2014, twelve UN organizations[15] had prioritized disaster risk reduction within their 2014-2017 strategic work plans and included disaster risk reduction in their respective results-based monitoring frameworks. This represents a 70% increase in comparison with the previous work planning cycle.

In practical terms, this means that a growing number of organizations prioritize resilience and disaster risk across all work areas and hold themselves accountable at the level of the entire institution.

WMO, with its track record in promoting holistic and integrated approaches to early warning through its network of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services, is increasingly working with multiple stakeholders through partnerships, such as the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), to build both the capacity of national science and disaster risk management agencies and the resilience of communities to natural hazards.

15.   FAO, UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA, UNHABITAT, UNICEF, UNOPS, WFP, WMO, WHO, UNESCO and the World Bank

FAO has, through a restructuring, made resilience a cross-cutting priority in the organization, which supports a more integrated effort towards disaster risk outcomes. Similarly, UNEP's latest mid-term strategy includes disaster risk reduction as a cross-cutting issue, with a particular emphasis on capacity building and sound environmental management. UNEP has also shifted away from an earlier focus on emergency response to one that incorporates efforts to address the factors that underlie increasing levels of risk.

Reducing risk and building resilience is one of the central pillars of the WFP's Strategic Plan (2014 – 2017). Disaster risk reduction-oriented programmes are implemented by WFP in about 50 to 60 countries per year and directly benefit 15 to 30 million people with food assistance.

One of the eight thematic committees of UN ESCAP focuses on disaster risk reduction[16]. UN ESCAP currently is the only UN regional economic commission with a dedicated intergovernmental committee on this topic.

UN organizations that have a long-standing commitment to disaster risk reduction, for example UNDP are scaling-up their commitment. UNDP has aligned the focus of its work in countries to the *Hyogo Framework for Action* and now the *Sendai Framework*. It is pledging to leverage its overall investment in human development which amounts to US$ 5 billion per year to build resilience and drive change through its network of country offices to deliver risk-informed development.

16.   The committee established by UN Regional Commission (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific) to analyse disaster trends; Identify priorities, promote regional cooperation, and to propose issues for consideration by the Commission as possible resolutions.

UNESCO's disaster risk reduction programme has also increased its monetary and human resources allocations over the last ten years to position disaster risk reduction as a higher strategic priority across its multi-sectoral mandate of education, sciences and culture.

WHO has facilitated the development of an all-hazards, multi-sectoral policy framework for emergency and disaster risk management for health to guide Ministries of Health, in strengthening local and national capacities to manage health risks.

IOM is now aligning partnerships, and programme design and delivery, with disaster risk reduction outcomes and is also establishing disaster risk reduction as a measure of the organization's overall success.

UNOPS is seeking to change its organizational culture through a Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience (DRR4R) strategy. Through this risk management philosophy, the organization is exploring opportunities to influence all of its services, products, toolkits, policies and procurement, even ones that may not have an evident connection to disaster risk reduction, to ensure more sustainable and resilient programme outputs. This strategy requires internal organizational changes to embed disaster risk reduction in all core business activities; inter-agency engagement and partnerships; direct support to government at the country level; and, indirect support through joint UN programming.

UN-Habitat's organizational restructuring gave it the capacity for more integrated approaches to reducing urban risk. One result is the Cities Resilience Profiling Programme (CRPP), an initiative that helps cities take a future-oriented approach to risk

rather than a traditional remedial approach. What differs with the CRPP is both the shift in traditional urban approaches and the fact that it draws expertise to do so from across the organization, thereby making disaster risk reduction 'everybody's business' and thus increasing the organizational assets that are put in service of disaster risk reduction.

In some cases, the link between a strategic organizational focus on disaster risk reduction and the scale of efforts is remarkable. For example, UNV has both emphasized disaster risk reduction in its strategic framework, and reports that in 2013, 28% of funds they administered were spent on community resilience for environment and/or disaster risk reduction.

UN organizations are being stimulated to determine how they could take a stronger role. For example, UNWOMEN, a relatively new organization, is making disaster risk reduction a strategic priority for the organization. The Universal Postal Union (UPU) has started determining the role of disaster risk reduction in its development cooperation. The comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) is appreciating the importance of its disaster risk reduction role and accelerating its efforts.

> **Box 7.**
> **Measuring disaster risk reduction co-benefits to support mainstreaming**
>
> The World Bank is piloting an approach to harness the entire organization for disaster risk reduction by measuring results differently. Borrowing from the way that the World Bank measures program results in terms of climate change outcomes, the organization is now piloting the measurement of the co-benefits of all organizational disaster risk reduction programming. This will mean that programs that are nominally unrelated to disaster risk reduction will nevertheless be evaluated based on the benefits provided. This, in turn, should result in the leveraging of more organizational resources to increase resilience and reduce risk.

UN organizations are rapidly changing their disaster risk reduction focus from one that is program-based, and therefore the purview of only certain staff and departments, to one that involves the entire organization. This means that disaster risk reduction is increasingly a measure of the organization's overall success.

5. Stronger Accountability to Address Country and Community Needs

UN organizations are increasing their accountability by adopting a single set of indicators to measure progress as they accelerate and mainstream disaster risk reduction. The indicators, completed in January 2015, include requirements for agencies to report on: the extent to which disaster risk reduction is integrated in work plans, strategic frameworks, governing body agendas, and organizational reporting

and monitoring. Indicators will create an incentive for all UN organizations to ensure that disaster risk reduction is considered at the level of the entire organization. This, in turn, enhances the capacity of the UN to effectively support national and community emergency response and recovery efforts and commitments to build back better.

6. Beyond 2015

Intensifying disaster risks requires new and stronger approaches. The UN has made an executive-level commitment to meet this requirement. A full assessment of the UN's effectiveness has yet to be conducted and a review of progress on the UN Plan of Action will be carried out in 2015[17]. Nevertheless, there is evidence that many UN organizations have already been focusing on scaling-up and mainstreaming disaster risk reduction efforts and in some cases, bringing about important changes.

The CEB Statement to the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) sets out the commitments of the organization to support countries and communities to implement the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.* Based on these commitments, the following will guide the UN's disaster risk reduction work moving forward from the WCDRR in Sendai:

1. Engagement of UN organizations around the integration of disaster risk reduction into key development sectors, an area that will require additional capacity and resources;

2. Continued efforts to develop coherent methods and capacity for UN organizations to engage together in country programming. Over 80 countries will be determining the focus of the UN development assistance over the next three years;

3. Increased support for the UN Resident Coordinator system as the central driving force to accelerate implementation of the UN Plan of Action and the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction;

4. Pooled and harmonized current capacity and expertise across UN Country Teams and regional offices on disaster risk reduction including the expertise from UN entities not represented in the country;

5. Identify and document the expertise on disaster risk reduction for resilience required in UN regional and country offices;

6. Regular reviews and reporting of the effectiveness of the UN's work against a common set of indicators, against both internal process changes and external impacts; making disaster risk reduction everybody's business.

17. The report on progress of the UN will feed the decision of the Chief Executive Board, the UN General Assembly and the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review.

List of UN specialised Agencies, Funds and Programmes working on Disaster Risk Reduction

Food and Agriculture Organization

FAO leads international efforts to defeat hunger serving both developed and developing countries. It helps developing countries and countries in transition to improve agriculture, forestry and fisheries practices to ensure food and nutrition security for all.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Dominique Burgeon, Director, FAO Emergency and Rehabilitation Division

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Stephan Baas, Technical Officer, FAO Natural Resource and Climate Change Division, stephan.baas@fao.org

International Atomic Energy Agency

IAEA works with its Member States and multiple partners worldwide to promote the safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear technologies.

HLCP/SMG Representative & DRR Focal Point : Ms. Elena Buglova, Head of IAEA's Incident and Emergency Centre, e.buglova@iaea.org

International Fund for Agriculture Development

IFAD is a specialized agency of the United Nations dedicated to eradicating rural poverty in developing countries.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Carlos Sere, Chief Development Strategist of IFAD and Head of the Office of Strategy and Knowledge Management c.sere@ifad.org

International Labour Organization

ILO is a United Nations agency dealing with labour issues, particularly international labour standards, social protection, and work opportunities for all.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Donato Kiniger-Passigli, Head of Fragile States and Disaster Response Group, kiniger@ilo.org

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Federico Negro, Crisis Response Specialist, negro@ilo.org

International Maritime Organization

IMO is the global standard-setting authority for the safety, security and environmental performance of international shipping. Its main role is to create a regulatory framework for the shipping industry that is fair and effective, universally adopted and universally implemented.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Jesper Loldrup, Head, Executive Office of the Secretary-general and of Policy Planning, jloldrup@imo.org

DRR Focal Point: Ms. Teresa Martins de Oliveira, Senior Deputy Director, Sub-Division for External Relations, legal Affairs and External Relations Division, tmolivei@imo.org

International Telecommunications Union

ITU is the leading United Nations agency for information and communication technologies. ITU helps governments and the private sector in three core sectors: radio-communication, standardization and development.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Brahima Sanou, Director of ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau

DRR Focal Point: Ms. Gisa Fuatai Purcell, Head, Least Developed Countries, Small Island Developing States and Emergency Telecommunications (LSE) Division, fuatai.purcell@itu.int

United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and the Small Island Developing States

OHRLLS is the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and the Small Island Developing States.

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Hans Damien Sass, Associate Sustainable Development Officer, sass@un.org

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS

UNAIDS is the main advocate for accelerated, comprehensive and coordinated global action on the HIV/AIDS epidemic

DRR Focal Point: Ms. Miriam Maluwa, Chief, Office of Security and Humanitarian Affairs, maluwam@unaids.org

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

UNCCD is the sole legally binding international agreement linking environment and development to sustainable land management. The Convention addresses specifically the arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas, known as the drylands, where some of the most vulnerable ecosystems and peoples can be found.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Sergio Zalaya, Special Advisor on Global Issues

DRR Focal Point: Ms. Annette Guetgemann, Programme Assistant, External Relations, Policy and Advocacy, aguetgemann@unccd.int

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

UNCTAD is the United Nations body responsible for dealing with development issues, particularly international trade – the main driver of development.

DRR Focal Point: Ms. Anne Miroux, Director, Technology and Logistics Division,
anne.miroux@unctad.org

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

UNDESA works closely with governments and stakeholders to help countries around the world meet their economic, social and environmental goals.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Nikhil Seth, Director of the Division for Sustainable Development, seth@un.org

United Nations Development Operations Coordination Office

UNDOCO has the common objective to deliver more coherent, effective and efficient support to countries seeking to attain internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

DRR Focal Point; Special Assistant to the Director, Mr. Marco Baumann,
marco.naumann@undg.org

United Nations Development Programme

UNDP is the UN's global development network, an organization advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Jo Scheuer, Chief of Profession, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Patrick Gremillet, Partnership Advisor, Climate Change and Disaster Risk reduction, patrick.gremillet@undp.org

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

UNECE is one of five regional commissions of the United Nations, whose major aim is to promote pan-European economic integration.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Ms. Monika Linn, principal Advisor to the Executive Secretary

DRR Focal Point: Ms. Lorenza Jachia, Secretayr of the UNECE Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardized Policies, lorenza.jachia@unece.org

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

UNESCAP is the regional development arm of the United Nations for the Asia-Pacific region.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Ms. Shamika Sirimanne, Chief of Division, Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk Reduction

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Puji Pujiono, Regional Advisor on Disaster Risk Reduction, pujiono@un.org

United Nations Environment Programme

UNEP acts as a catalyst, advocate, educator and facilitator to promote the wise use and sustainable development of the global environment.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Henrik Slotte, Chief, Post-Conflict and Disaster Management Branch

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Muralee Thummarukudy, Chief, Disaster Risk Reduction, muralee.thummarukudy@unep.org

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNESCO is the United Nations' specialized agency for education, science and culture. Since its creation in 1945, the Organization has worked to promote knowledge and education worldwide.

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Alexandros Makarigakis, Chief, Disaster Risk Reduction Unit, a.makarigakis@unesco.org

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

UNFCCC is an international environmental treaty whose objective of is to "stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system".

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Youssef Nassef, Coordinator, Adaptation Programme

DRR Focal Point: Mr Xianfu Lu, Adaptation, Technology and Science Programme, xlu@unfccc.int

United Nations Population Fund

UNFPA is the lead UN agency for delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Mabingue Ngom, Director, Programme Division

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Ingo Piegeler, Humanitarian Coordination Advisor, piegeler@unfpa.org

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

UNOCHA's mission is to mobilise and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors in order to alleviate human suffering in disasters and emergencies, advocate for the rights of people in need, promote preparedness and prevention and facilitate sustainable solutions.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Rashid Khalikov, Director, Office for the Coordination of Humanitairan Affairs

DRR Focal Point: Ms. Masayo Kondo, Humanitarian Affairs Officer, kondo@un.org

United Nations Human Settlements Programme

UNHABITAT is the United Nations agency for human settlements. It is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all.

HLCP/SMG Representative & DRR Focal Point : Mr. Dan Lewis, Chief, Disaster and Post-conflict Section, dan.lewis@unhabitat.org

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNHCR leads and co-ordinates international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. It strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another State, with the option to return home voluntarily, integrate locally or to resettle in a third country. It also has a mandate to help stateless people.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Steve Corliss, Director, Division of Programme Support and Management DRR Focal Point: Mr. Yoko Kuroiwa, kuroiwa@unhcr.org

United Nations Children's Fund

UNICEF is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Ted Chaiban, Director of Programmes

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Antony Spalton, Risk Reduction and Resilience Specialist, aspalton@unicef.org

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

UNIDO is the specialized agency of the United Nations that promotes industrial development for poverty reduction, inclusive globalization and environmental sustainability

United Nations System Influenza Coordination

UNSIC ensure cooperation and coordination within the UN system in support of different initiatives underway to address the avian flu epidemic and the threat of a human pandemic.

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

UNITAR is a principal training arm of the United Nations, working in every region of the world. They empower individuals, governments and organizations through knowledge and learning to effectively overcome contemporary global challenges.

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Francesco Pisano, Director, Research, technology Applications and Knowledge Systems, franceso. pisano@unitar,org

United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

UNOHCHR represents the world's commitment to universal ideals of human dignity. They have a unique mandate from the international community to promote and protect all human rights.

United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs

UNOOSA is the United Nations office responsible for promoting international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Ms. Mazlan Othman, Director

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Luc St-Pierre, UN-SPIDER Senior Programme Coordinator,
luc.st-pierre@unvienna.org

United Nations Office for Project Services

UNOPS is an operational arm of the United Nations, supporting the successful implementation of its partners' peacebuilding, humanitarian and development projects around the world.

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Stefan Kohler, Principal Engineer, Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience Programme stefank@unops.org

United Nations Regional Commissions New York

UN Regional Commissions New York Office is a joint office for policy advice and representation at the global level for the five UN Regional Commissions (ECA, ESCAP, ECLAC, ECE and ESCWA)

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Amr Nour, Director

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees

UNRWA is a relief and human development agency.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Robert Stryk, Chief, Evaluation Division

United Nations University

UNU an autonomous organ of the UN General Assembly dedicated to generating and transferring knowledge and strengthening capacities relevant to global issues of human security, development, and welfare.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Jakob Rhyner, Director

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Fabrice Renaud, Head of Section, Institute for Environment and Human Security, Renaud@ehs.unu.edu

United Nations Volunteers

UNV is the UN organization that contributes to peace and development through volunteerism worldwide.

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Rafael Martinez Gil, Portfolio Manager, East Asia and Pacific,
rafael.martinez@unv.org

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

UNWOMEN is the   United Nations entity working for the empowerment of women

HLCP/SMG Representative & DRR Focal Point: Ms. Blerta Aliko, Head of Humanitarian Unit, blerta.aliko@unwomen.org

World Tourism Organization

UNWTO is the United Nations agency responsible for the promotion of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Dirk Glaesser, Chief, Risk and Crisis Management Section

DRR Focal Point: Ms. Lorna Hartantyo, Risk and Crisis Management Section
lhartantyo@unwto.org

Universal Postal Union

UPU is the primary forum for cooperation between postal sector players. It helps to ensure a truly universal network of up-to-date products and services.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Olivier Boussard, Coordinator for Development Cooperation

World Food Programme

WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Zlatan Milisic, Deputy Director, & Mr. Richard Choularton, Chief Climate and Disaster Risk Reduction Programmes Unit

DRR Focal Points: Mr. Anthony Craig, Chief, Emergency Preparedness and Response Branch, anthony.craig@wfp.org
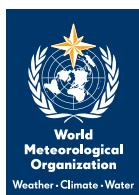
World Health Organization

WHO is a specialized agency of the United Nations that is concerned with international public health.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Richard Brennan, Director, Emergency Risk Management and Humanitarian Response

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Jonathan Abrahams, Coordinator, Risk reduction and Emergency Preparedness, abrahamsj@who.int

World Meteorological Organization

WMO is a specialized agency of the United Nations. It is the UN system's authoritative voice on the state and behaviour of the Earth's atmosphere, its interaction with the oceans, the climate it produces and the resulting distribution of water resources.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Xu Tang, Director, Weather and DRR Service Department

World Bank

World Bank is a United Nations international financial institution that provides loans to developing countries for capital programs.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Mr. Francis Ghesquiere, Head of GFDRR Secretariat

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Prashant Singh, Team Leader, Partnerships and Governance, GFDRR Prashant@worldbank.org.

International Organization for Migration

IOM is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners and is dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Ms. Jill Helke, Director, International Cooperation and Partnerships

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Louis Hoffmann, Head of Transition and Recovery Division, Department of Operations and Emergencies, lhoffmann@iom.int

Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization

CTBTO is an international organization that will be established upon the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, a Convention that outlaws nuclear test explosions.

DRR Focal Point: Mr. Patrick Grenard, Chief of the Engineering and Development Section at the International Monitoring System (IMS) Division, CTBTO, patrick.grenard@ctbto.org

Chief Executive Board

The Chief Executives Board (CEB) is the prime instrument for strengthening the coordination role of UN inter-governmental bodies on social, economic and related matters. It brings together the executive heads of 29 specialized organizations to deliver as one at the global, regional and country level.

HLCP/SMG Representative: Ms. Kayoko Gotoh, Secretary of HLCP

DRR Focal Point: Ms. Catherine Zanev, zanev@un.org

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

UNISDR's mandate is to serve as the focal point in the United Nations system for the coordination of disaster reduction and to ensure synergies among disaster reduction activities

HLCP/SMG Representative: Neil McFarlane, Chief of Regional Programme and Disaster Risk Reduction Section

DRR Focal Points: Mr. John Harding, Programme Officer, Regional Office Support and Inter-Agency Coordination Unit, harding@un.org

United Nations

About the UN High Level Committee on Programmes Senior Managers Group on Disaster Risk Reduction (HLCP/SMG):

The HLCP/SMG support the roll-out of the UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience and its three commitments. It reviews progress against the UN Plan of Action, in line with reporting provisions of the UN quadrennial comprehensive policy review that oversees UN operational development work (UN General Assembly resolution 68/211). HLCP/SMG will review the effectiveness of the UN Plan of Action implementation and delivery and make necessary adjustment based on the outcome of post-2015 international agreements.

HLCP/SMG Members:
HLCP/SMG Members: FAO, IAEA, IFAD, IFRC, ILO, IMO, IOM, ITU, UNAIDS, UNCCD, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHABITAT, UNHCHR, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNISDR, UNOCHA, UNOPS, UNOOSA, UNWOMEN, UNWTO, UPU, WFP, WHO, WMO and the World Bank.

About the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR): UNISDR is strongly committed to UN coherence and its primary objective to achieve sustainable results in an effective and efficient way. UNISDR is the focal point in the United Nations system for the coordination of disaster reduction and to ensure synergies among the disaster reduction activities of the United Nations system and regional organizations (UN General Assembly resolution 56/195). UNISDR provides updates on progress and opportunities for making further progress in mainstreaming disaster risk reduction more effectively across the whole United Nations system (UN General Assembly resolution 66/199 and 67/226).