



**Submission by UN Office of Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)
to Parties and non-Party stakeholders on the Adaptation Committee (AC) and Least Developed
Countries Expert Group (LEG) mandates stemming from decision 1/CP.21**

Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 41: Requests the Adaptation Committee (AC) and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) to jointly develop modalities to recognize the adaptation efforts of developing country Parties, as referred to in Article 7, paragraph 3, of the Agreement, and make recommendations for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties serving as meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement at its first session (CMA 1).

What is the range and scope of adaptation efforts? How do you define and document adaptation efforts? Do you encounter any difficulties in terms of data sourcing or completeness?

Over the past two decades climate-related events, such as floods, storms, heatwaves, and drought have accounted for 90% of major disasters. These events exact a huge toll on economic and social development. For less developed countries, average annual losses from disasters equate to over 20% of social expenditure. In many countries the figure is over 50%.

Climate change will further increase the frequency and intensity of weather-related hazards, with cascading impacts on poverty, the supply of food and water, urban systems, the spread of disease, people movements and conflict. In 2014, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change¹ concluded that, in many cases, the world is ill-prepared for risks from a changing climate. There are opportunities to respond to such risks; however the risks will be difficult to manage with high levels of warming.

The importance of disaster risk-reduction is well-reflected in the Paris Agreement, as in the Cancun Adaptation Framework. Reducing exposure to climate-related hazards and the vulnerability of people is a critical shared priority for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction and ultimately is essential for achieving the 2030 Agenda.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030², recognized in the Paris Agreement, set out global goals for preventing new disaster risk and reducing existing disaster risk which are central to adaptation efforts. The Sendai Framework also identifies integrated and inclusive measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery, and strengthen resilience; these fall within the scope of adaptation efforts particularly as the Sendai Framework aims to guide the multi-hazard management of disaster risk and applies to risk of small-scale and large-scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden and slow-onset disasters among others.

Through a new Sendai Framework Monitoring mechanism countries and stakeholders will be able to communicate progress in implementation to the High Level Political Forum periodically.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction includes seven global targets that help governments and partners to better assess the effectiveness of their efforts:

¹ Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability», as contribution of Working Group II to the 5th Assessment Report

² <http://www.unisdr.org/we/coordinate/sendai-framework>

- a) Substantially reduce global disaster mortality by 2030, aiming to lower average per 100,000 global mortality between 2020-2030 compared to 2005-2015.
- b) Substantially reduce the number of affected people globally by 2030, aiming to lower the average global figure per 100,000 between 2020-2030 compared to 2005-2015.
- c) Reduce direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030.
- d) Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, among them health and educational facilities, including through developing their resilience by 2030.
- e) Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020.
- f) Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of this framework by 2030.
- g) Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to the people by 2030.

The *Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Indicators and Terminology Relating to Disaster Risk Reduction*, established by the Sendai Framework and confirmed by the General Assembly, is preparing core indicators to measure the global targets and agreeing on related terminology. Work will be concluded by November 2016.

Though the process, the Open Ended Working Group has reviewed difficulties in terms of data sourcing and completeness including issues related to temporal dimensions, disaggregation and statistical processing. Some of these lessons are included in technical papers that support the process (<http://www.preventionweb.net/drr-framework/open-ended-working-group/sessional-intersessional-documents#second-inter-sessional-between-second-third-session>).

Progress in reducing disaster risk is a critical input to global stocktaking called for in the Paris Agreement. A report on trends in implementation of the Sendai Framework could be established as a standing annual or biennial agenda item of the Adaptation Committee (AC) and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) or other appropriate mechanism. Parties may also find it helpful to invite a briefing or question and answer session after the Working Group has completed its work in November, 2016.

Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 45(b): Also requests the AC and the LEG, in collaboration with the SCF and other relevant institutions, to develop methodologies, and make recommendations for consideration and adoption by CMA 1 on reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support referred to in Article 7, paragraph 14(c), of the Agreement.

What information/data or metrics are needed for the review of adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support for adaptation? Which lessons learned, good practices, challenges and barriers have been encountered in such reviews? What methods can be used to review the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support for adaptation?

Disaster risk and loss data and metrics, classified by hazard, are used to track progress in implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and can serve as an important input

to review the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation at the national and subnational level. In addition to measuring the reduction of losses, people affected and other global targets, the Sendai Framework also supports national efforts to benchmark and track progress across four priority areas³ and a wide range of key activities. These key activities directly support adaptation.

The work on refining a draft set of optional national level indicators focused on the four priority areas and key activities will continue in 2017, in order to align as appropriate to the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement as appropriate.

The global risk model used in the preparation of the Global Assessment Report on disaster risk reduction is continuously being refined, and will provide data for trend analyses to monitor the impact of disaster risk reduction actions.

The Sendai Framework also sets an important target of substantially increasing the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020 which can be important instruments and information sources for reviewing adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation, particularly where Joint National Action Plans on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management are prepared, as in some Pacific Islands.

Disaster risk and loss data and metrics, national level indicators focused on the four priority areas of the Sendai Framework, disaster risk reduction strategies all play an important role in informing policy-decisions and encouraging course-corrective actions.

The process of developing core indicators for monitoring progress in the Sendai Framework has focused attention on the importance disaggregating data by hazard type as well as by other dimensions; this allows for more nuanced analyses with regards to climate related extreme events and follows the approach advanced by the Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR)⁴ which is increasingly adopted by the statistical divisions of regional commissions who are involved in reviewing progress in the sustainable development goals. In this regard, working through and strengthening capacities of national statistical offices (including for the collection of disaster loss data) is especially important.

Upon completion of the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Indicators and Terminology Relating to Disaster Risk Reduction, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) is prepared to submit more detailed views as appropriate. UNISDR looks forward to continue strengthening its cooperation with the UNFCCC.

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³ Understanding disaster risk; Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk; Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience; and Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

⁴ IRDR is a decade-long research programme co-sponsored by the International Council for Science (ICSU), the International Social Science Council (ISSC), and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)