

# UNDRR Inputs to the Paris Agreement's First Global Stocktake

2023

<b>Issue</b>	: <b>The First Global Stocktake</b>
<b>Title</b>	: Calls for inputs from Parties and observer States, UN Agencies and other international organizations and non-Party stakeholders and observer organizations to its first global stocktake
<b>Decision</b>	: 19/CMA.1 paragraph 19 requested the Chairs of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to issue a call for the inputs referred to in paragraphs 36 and 37 of the same decision, taking into account that such inputs should be submitted at least three months before their consideration in the technical assessment

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## Executive Summary

The document provides UNDRR's inputs for consideration in the Global Stocktake (GST) as part of the Information Collection and Preparation Phase.

Disasters are the shocks to social, economic, ecological, and political systems. They provide the evidence of the impact of climate change, which alters the underlying conditions of systems, creating and propagating risks, changing the global risk profile, affecting the magnitude, frequency and intensity of disasters and extreme events. Disaster risk reduction offers several means to address the climate emergency through better understanding of risk, enhanced risk governance mechanisms and approaches, including risk-informed investments and preparedness measures. These are enshrined in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, a globally agreed intergovernmental instrument to building resilience.

This document captures key Sendai Framework related processes that are of high relevance to the GST:

- **Disaster and disaster risk reduction-related metrics and data** provide a comprehensive measure for assessing the progress in disaster risk reduction which have the potential to cobenefit the GST process. For instance, the Sendai Framework Monitor, and associated SDG indicators, are structured around intergovernmentally agreed targets and indicators, being used by 155 countries. These are informed by nationally-owned disaster loss and damage databases in 110 countries. National Risk Information Portals function as risk-aggregators that collate several relevant data sources in a country, increasing data access of all stakeholders.
- **The Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework** will take stock of implementation since 2015, examine

context shifts and provide recommendations for renovated action in pursuing risk-informed sustainable and regenerative development to 2030. Informed by multi-level consultations and review by Member States and non-State stakeholders, it will conclude with a High-level Meeting of the UN General Assembly in May 2023.

- **Comprehensive disaster and climate risk management** builds upon metrics, data and risk analytics, translating them into meaningful information to develop climate-informed disaster risk reduction strategies and risk-informed National Adaptation Plans. Such integrated planning processes enhance national and local capacities to better manage (or address) current risks, and reduce (avert and minimize) future risks.
- UNDRR promotes **multi-hazard early warning systems** to strengthen disaster preparedness. UNDRR promotes the last mile outreach of early warnings, while enhancing the level of inclusiveness to consider multiple vulnerabilities.
- UNDRR ensures active **stakeholder engagement** in all aspects of disaster risk reduction, ensuring inclusion of the private sector, the civil society, and the science and technology communities, among others. The aim is to turn the communities from recipients of assistance to active agents of change.
- The 2022 **Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction** (23-28 May, Bali, Indonesia) provides an important gathering of diverse communities to consider the current state of global risks and offer specific priorities for action to accelerate the implementation of the Sendai Framework.

The recently launched **Centre of Excellence for Climate and Disaster Resilience** offers a key opportunity to advance progress in areas

including climate and disaster data, climate and disaster risk governance (including

technical assistance to countries), and multi-hazard early warning systems.

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 UNDRR and the Sendai Framework

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, supporting countries and non-State stakeholders in its implementation, monitoring and sharing what works in reducing existing risk and preventing the creation of new risk.

Established in 1999 to facilitate the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), UNDRR was mandated to be the focal point in the United Nations system for the coordination of disaster risk reduction. As such, it ensures synergy among the relevant activities of United Nations agencies and regional organizations, and related activities in socioeconomic and humanitarian fields.

In June 2015, [UN General Assembly Resolution 69/283](#) mandated UNDRR to support the implementation, follow-up and review of the **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030**, including by fostering coherence with other international instruments, such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.

In the process of taking stock of the implementation of the Paris Agreement, the role, efforts and contributions of the disaster risk reduction community, including through and with UNDRR is recommended to be considered in assessing our global collective progress in the context of sustainable development.

## 1.2 Climate and Disaster Risks

Risk-blind human activity increases risk within socioecological and technological systems. Many of these systems are on the brink of tipping points, with consequences that are potentially catastrophic. The climate emergency, the biodiversity crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic reveal the complex nature of risk. They show how risk is created, propagates and reverberates across systems and across borders, with disaster impacts that can interconnect and cascade. From small-scale localized hazards to large-scale global events, disasters are altering and exposing weakness within economic, social, and environmental systems in ways we had not predicted and for which we are not well prepared.

The increase in risk and the corollary impacts when realized, are leaving countless communities behind on the path towards sustainable development, degrading and destroying the ecosystems upon which we depend, and increasing humanitarian caseloads to unprecedented and unmanageable levels. Without integrated risk reduction in all decision-making, we will be incapable of assuring future generations have a planet fit for human habitation. Without reducing risk, resilience and sustainability remain unattainable.

Disasters continue to take a heavy toll on life and assets, setting back the development gains of many countries. Despite remarkable progress in containing the direct human cost of disasters, disaster mortality and populations affected by disasters remain high, while economic costs of

## SENDAI FRAMEWORK FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION 2015-2030

The [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030](#) (Sendai Framework) was the first major agreement of the post-2015 development agenda and provides Member States with concrete actions to protect development gains from the risk of disaster.

The Sendai Framework works hand in hand with the other 2030 Agenda agreements, including The Paris Agreement, The Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the New Urban Agenda, and ultimately the Sustainable Development Goals.

It was endorsed by the UN General Assembly following the 2015 Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR), and advocates for *the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries.*

The Sendai Framework is the successor instrument to the [Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters](#).

disasters are increasing exponentially even by most conservative estimates, and are miniscule when compared with indirect costs (take e.g., the COVID-19 pandemic). Further, the impact of high-frequency, low-impact events has increased, often cumulatively exceeding the impact of single extreme events.

At present, climate-related disasters have almost doubled compared to the previous twenty years. This has exacerbated inequalities within and between countries, with those contributing least to global emissions often experiencing the worst impacts of the climate emergency. Driven by climate variability and change, growing vulnerability, insecurity and conflict, often interrelated humanitarian needs are at their highest-ever with one in every 33 people globally in need of assistance and protection.

Climate change continues to affect the underlying conditions of ecological, social, economic and political systems, creating and propagating risks, which when left unattended alter the global riskscape, with the result of changing the magnitude, frequency and intensity of disasters when these risks are realised. Affecting the intensive and extensive nature of risk, climate change can generate more powerful storms, exacerbate coastal flooding, and bring higher temperatures and longer droughts. Emergent climate-related risks will alter most of our current risk metrics. Growth in death, loss and damage to human and ecological systems will surpass already inadequate risk prevention, preparedness and response mechanisms in much of the developing world.

## 2. DRR metrics for the Global Stocktake

The Sendai Framework recognizes that reducing the risk of climate-related extreme and slow onset events is a fundamental aspect of climate change adaptation and sustainable development. At the same time, disaster risk reduction offers several means to address the climate emergency through better understanding of risk, enhanced risk governance and management mechanisms and approaches, including risk-informed investments, and preparedness measures.

Risk-blind planning can – and in some cases already has – created new risks and resulted in maladaptation. Disasters further reduce adaptive capacity to climate change. Disaster risk analytics, hence, offer several means to ensure risk-centred approaches can be integrated into National Adaptation Plans. Further, the disaster risk reduction community has decades of experience in managing extreme events and reducing risk related to potential climate-related disasters. Their experience needs to be brought into planning and the scaling-up of adaptation actions.

### TARGETS OF THE SENDAI FRAMEWORK

(a) Substantially reduce global disaster mortality by 2030, aiming to lower the average per 100,000 global mortality rate in the decade 2020-2030 compared to the period 2005-2015;

(b) Substantially reduce the number of affected people globally by 2030, aiming to lower the average global figure per 100,000 in the decade 2020-2030 compared to the period 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;

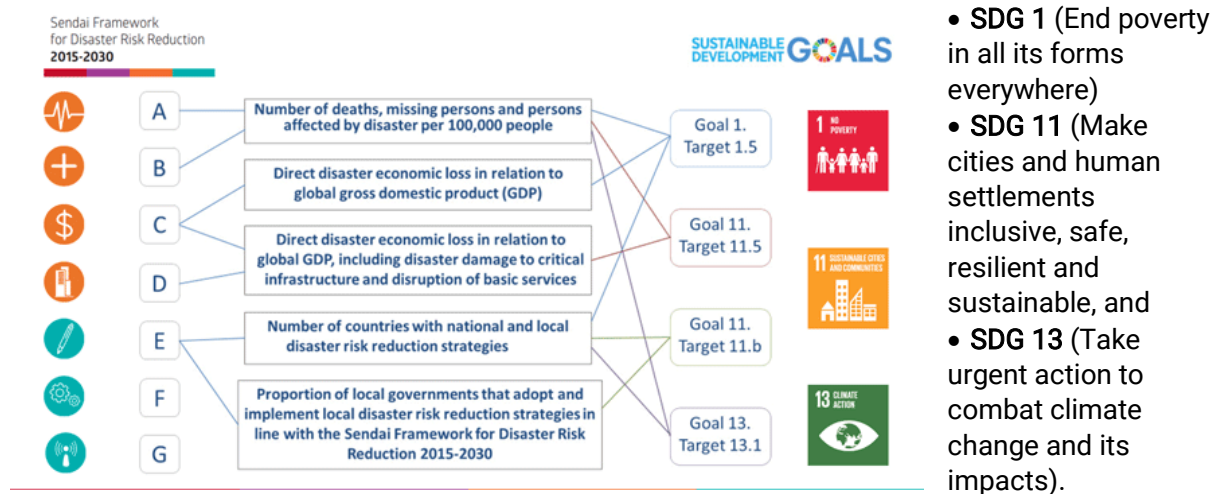
(e) Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020;

(f) Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of the present Framework by 2030;

(g) Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030.

A concrete offer from disaster risk reduction are the metrics and data related to the Sendai Framework. Progress in the implementation of the Sendai Framework is done through **seven global targets** (adjoining box), each of which has a set of [indicators \(38 in total\)](#) that have been [intergovernmentally agreed](#) and adopted by the UN General Assembly (Resolution A/RES/71/276).

Importantly, several of these indicators are shared with those of the Sustainable Development Goals (Fig). These include selected indicators of:



- **SDG 1** (End poverty in all its forms everywhere)
- **SDG 11** (Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, and
- **SDG 13** (Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts).

Several of these indicators, in particular those linked with Targets A and B of the Sendai Framework, track progress as compared against a decadal baseline period – thus, providing a time-series analysis starting 2005.

A total of **155 Member States** have so far used the [Sendai Framework Monitor](#), managed by UNDRR, to report against the Sendai Framework targets, and through this to the relevant SDGs. An increase in availability and geographical coverage of data has enabled UNDRR to better analyse progress in disaster risk reduction. UNDRR compiles and assesses the data reported by Member States, and provides a range of analytical inputs towards a series of UN processes and reports, including the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, the Special Reports of the Secretary-General (SG) on SDG Implementation, the SDG Reports, and the SG's Report on Sendai Framework implementation.

The 38 global indicators are supplemented by **custom targets and indicators**. The custom targets and indicators are national instruments defined by Member States/Parties to measure their progress against the four priorities of the Sendai Framework. They are contextual, based on the priorities of respective countries, and are reflected in the national DRR reports of the countries.

An important component of UNDRR's progress monitoring in reduction of disasters and disaster risks is the Disaster Loss Accounting System (<https://desinventar.net>). Established in 1994, this system forms the basis for national disaster loss databases in about **110 Member States/Parties**. National databases provide a comprehensive picture of human, economic and infrastructural losses at subnational levels. These databases are nationally owned, with data on disaster impact collected and validated within the country. The system is based on collection and analysis of homogeneous disaster data at all scales (small, medium and large) and at all administrative levels in a country. The databases also form an important component of the Sendai Framework Monitor, enabling countries to seamlessly collect data and report, while using the loss and damage data for analysis and planning purposes.

UNDRR is in the process of developing **National Risk Information Portals (NRIPs)** that will aggregate high resolution hazard (including climate-related), exposure, and vulnerability data. The initiative will provide national-level decision-makers, and practitioners and researchers, with improved access to the hazard, vulnerability, and exposure data for their country. This foundation

of base material will help form the base for improved planning, research and application of risk information to support climate change action. The NRIP is designed to be an open access platform that builds on national efforts and connects them to relevant regional and global initiatives tracking risk.

At the local level, the [Making Cities Resilient 2030](#) programme (MCR2030) aims to make cities sustainable and resilient by 2030. Building upon a network of 4360 cities that joined the MCR campaign during 2011-2020 and adopted the [Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient](#). Cities and local authorities use the [Disaster Resilience Scorecard](#) to self-assess their level of resilience and build resilience plans.

The ongoing [Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework \(MTR SF\)](#) runs concurrently with the Paris GST and will conclude at a High-level Meeting of MTR SF, convened by the UN General Assembly on 18-19 May, 2023. The MTR SF seeks to provide input to, and benefit from the Paris GST. The Midterm Review is designed to assist countries and stakeholders in making risk-informed and prevention-oriented decisions. It can help to mobilise and direct the necessary means of implementation, including partnerships and transdisciplinary collaboration, and support the identification of solution pathways and best practices. More details of the Midterm Review are outlined in [Section 7.1](#).

Finally, UNDRR builds and strengthens **standards in data and metrics** for disaster risk reduction and climate action. This is done through coordinating the development of [terminologies](#) used in disaster risk reduction (endorsed by the UN General Assembly), [definition and classification of hazards](#) (also [hazard information profiles](#)), and promoting [disaster-related statistics](#) – all of which complement and benefit the related processes and mechanisms in climate change.

Risk reduction cannot occur without the use of climate information; climate change adaptation will not be successful without risk reduction. Disasters provide an evidence of the impact of climate change and insights on how countries and communities can enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience, and reduce vulnerability. Trends in frequency and impact of disasters, which DRR metrics and data track, are also important inputs into assessing the ‘collective progress of efforts made to enhance understanding, action and support towards averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change.’

As noted earlier, an important feature of the DRR metrics and data, as outlined in the Sendai Framework and its monitoring progress, is that they are intergovernmentally agreed and adopted. Such disaster-related information are, hence, considered official statistics on disaster risk reduction as they are officially reported by the Member States.

#### **UNDRR Recommendations on GST measures**

- [Adopt a risk-centric approach to acting against the climate emergency, keeping prevention high on the agenda.](#)
- [Repurpose metrics and data that countries have used and officially reported for monitoring progress in disaster risk reduction through the Sendai Framework Monitor.](#)
- [Disaster-related loss and damage data offer measures to contribute in assessing the level of success in addressing the climate emergency and should be harnessed.](#)
- [National Risk Information Portals, where available, provide one-stop national risk information clearinghouse for a variety of information.](#)
- [Data standards and definitions should be optimized, including through leveraging the existing official typologies from disaster risk reduction as relevant to climate change.](#)

### 3. Mitigation

Current mitigation trajectories are leading to unmanageable disaster risk. A continued increase in carbon emissions will result in irreversible changes resulting in catastrophic events, that will overwhelm the capacity of disaster risk governance and management mechanisms and approaches to reduce the risks and manage shocks. The current state of climatic impacts underlines the urgency in developing a systems-based approach to understanding and managing risks in all dimensions, approaches that climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as disaster risk reduction, must embrace in their totality for effective planning and implementation.

Several examples of such integrated approaches can be found. For instance, massive investments are ongoing in **infrastructure development** globally. Given the long shelf lives of many infrastructure assets, risks can get locked into these structures, creating further risks that can manifest in the future. Hence, resilient infrastructure should be promoted to ensure they are designed, built, maintained or reconstructed while accounting for various climate-related risks over time, and designed to contribute to reduction in global warming through design innovations. UNDRR is a founder member of the [Coalition of Disaster Resilient Infrastructure](#) and has developed tools, including stress tests to ensure resilience is meaningfully incorporated into infrastructure projects, through assessment of past, current and future risks and tested against various disaster scenarios, including climate change impacts.

Another example is **ecosystem-based approaches** that enhance adaptive capacity, reduce carbon emissions, while acting as natural buffers against disasters. When intentionally designed, ecosystem-based mitigation helps decrease GHG emissions by sequestering and storing greenhouse gases in ecosystems through conservation, restoration and sustainable management. There are several successful examples of how ‘building-with-nature’ in urban areas has reduced the intensity of urban heat islands and urban floods. Approaches to protecting, conserving and restoring nature have also co-benefited in containing environment degradation and biodiversity loss. Environmental co-benefits enable more productive and multifunctional land use as well as climate change mitigation. UNDRR is an active member of the [Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction](#) and has developed tools and guidelines<sup>1</sup> on a holistic implementation of ecosystem-based approaches.

A major limitation in incorporating climate change in disaster risk reduction planning is the inadequacy and lack of granularity in climate change data and models. Even well-meaning operators are unable to improve resilience, and regulators are unable to create smart, efficient regulations and incentives due to lack of access to such data. Thus, integrated approaches should include investments to ensure that stakeholders have access to the right data and tools and to support improvements in how decisions are made.

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<sup>1</sup> Examples: [Words into Action Guide on Nature-based Solutions for Disaster Risk Reduction](#) and [Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction](#)

## 4. Adaptation

Building adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability of people, economies and natural resources to the impacts of climate change are common grounds between climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction efforts. Through the management and reduction of climate and disaster risks, governments and communities increase their ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster resilience of people, livelihoods and ecosystems now and in the future.

**Disaster risk reduction strategies** provide a snapshot of a country's vision and plans on reducing the risk of disasters. This is contained in Target E of the Sendai Framework that seeks to increase the number of national and local DRR strategies, These DRR strategies, like National Adaptation Plan (NAP) processes, also contribute to scaling up adaptation actions and help communities adapt to the adverse impacts of climate variability and change.

As of end-2021, 123 countries have reported the existence of national DRR strategies and 98 have reported it for local DRR strategies (noting that countries may have a DRR strategy but may not have officially reported). While reporting the strategies, countries also inform on the level of comprehensiveness of these strategies, measured through the level of alignment with the Sendai Framework, including if they 'promote policy coherence relevant to DRR such as sustainable development, poverty eradication and climate change, notably with SDGs and the Paris Agreement.'

The nature and intent of these DRR strategies differ from one country to another. In some countries these have a disaster preparedness focus, while in several others they also include elements of risk prevention and inclusion of risk into development planning and implementation. Countries have also developed integrated climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, for instance, those in the Pacific in the form of **Joint National Action Plans**. Such integrated plans reflect a recognition of the relationship among development, disaster and climate risk and the role of environmental management in development and risk management.

Building upon such good practices, and in recognition of the need to increasingly bridge the gap between climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, UNDRR has initiated a programme entitled **Comprehensive Disaster and Climate Risk Management (CRM)**. The programme builds on the risk analytics generated by UNDRR and partner organisations to translate into meaningful planning processes, for instance using long-term climate projections to inform disaster risk reduction plans, and integrating risk information into national adaptation plans. Through CRM, adaptation in shorter time-scales will also be strengthened. A critical component of climate change adaptation is to increase capacity to act on climate extremes using information on shorter timescales, including those already underway. Most of the major disasters induced by natural hazards in recent years were forecasted before they caused impact. Through CRM, adaptation plans and actions in relatively shorter timescales will be scaled up. UNDRR has released and is in the process of developing relevant tools and guidelines to catalyse this process<sup>2</sup> that have been converted into modular training packages and being used in over 15 LDCs and SIDS.

UNDRR is in discussion with partner organisations to further strengthen risk information to be integrated into NAPs, as follow-up to the launch of NAP supplemental guide entitled "Promoting Synergy and Alignment Between CCA and DRR in the Context of NAPs" and is now accessible in the UNFCCC NAP Central. For instance, UNDRR is recognized as one of the key organizations providing technical support to countries in developing and implementing their NAPs through the NAP Technical Working Group and the newly formed [UN4NAPS](#). UNDRR is also the co-lead of the

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<sup>2</sup> Examples: [Words into Action on Guide on National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies, Promoting synergy and alignment between DRR and CCA through NAPs](#).

working group on Target 1 (integrated climate-DRR planning) under the Risk-informed Early Action Partnership ([REAP](#)).

Such an approach helps address risks at different time scales – short, medium, long-term – analysing past disaster trends and future weather, seasonal and climate forecasts, to understand the full spectrum of risk for a comprehensive planning. This helps in efficient use of capacities and financial resources, and advancing technical knowledge and expertise across multiple fields.

#### **UNDRR Recommendations on Adaptation**

- A 50/50 share between adaptation and mitigation in the 100-billion USD climate finance is urgently required. This support to adaptation is especially needed in developing countries that are experiencing escalating disasters from extreme and slow onset events.
- All National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies should be based on robust data, multi-hazard and multi-dimensional risk assessments across scales, and should contribute to building long-term resilience and preventing maladaptation.
- Adaptation plans and actions should consider also shorter timescales
- Scaling-up the application of ecosystem-based approaches, achieving land degradation neutrality, restoring the oceans, halting biodiversity loss and prioritizing sustainable ecosystem management will be central to scaling up adaptation action.

## 5. Finance flows and Means of Implementation

### 5.1 Financing

In line with **Target F of the Sendai Framework** that aims to ‘Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of the present Framework by 2030’, UNDRR strengthens international cooperation in disaster risk reduction, defined by access to financing, technology transfer and capacity development.

In 2021, UNDRR published a report entitled [International Cooperation in DRR](#) which highlighted low levels of investments in disaster prevention and disaster risk reduction for the world’s most vulnerable countries. It throws into stark relief how little investment there is in disaster risk reduction against a backdrop of major planetary emergencies, including a doubling of major disaster events over the last 20 years. Despite a well-proved recognition of the costs-benefits of investing in prevention and resilience (every US\$1 invested in risk reduction and prevention can save up to US\$15 in post-disaster recovery), the report finds that of the entire Official Development Assistance (ODA) on humanitarian actions (including disaster response, relief and reconstruction), less than 5 percent was spent on risk reduction measures.

Importantly, the report finds that disasters and extreme events stimulate enhanced international funding and cooperation for prevention and preparedness. However, this funding is not consistent in most countries, making it more difficult to build long-term resilience. Better and systematic tracking of financing for disaster risk reduction is needed at national and international levels, including development budgets and investments focused on risk management.

**Risk tagging and tracking of budgetary and expenditure flows** enables a clearer understanding of how much countries ought to spend, which areas are being prioritised, and better measurement of risk reduction and adaptation approaches. UNDRR has used the OECD-DAC methodology to track public finances across several countries in Africa and Asia-Pacific and found that investments in disaster risk reduction, even at the national level, is a miniscule proportion of the overall national budgets<sup>3</sup>.

However, investment and financial systems for a prevention-centric climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction are currently not fit for purpose. Financial systems need to better quantify the extent to which their assets will retain their value in this era of climate change. Undervaluing climate risk is a particular concern for longer-term investors and sectors including insurance, pension funds, infrastructure, and agriculture.

### 5.2 Means of Implementation

UNDRR’s **capacity development** programmes, coordinated through its [Global Education and Training Institute](#) (GETI), continue to play a crucial part in supporting national and local governments, UN Country Teams and stakeholders in strengthening disaster risk reduction and resilience building capacities for risk-informed planning, implementation and monitoring. Working with partners and across the organization, UNDRR’s ability to develop and customize training modules adapted for online delivery have greatly contributed to increasing outreach to a wide range of stakeholders and facilitated the dissemination of state-of-the-art UNDRR guidance and tools.

The total number of participants reached through UNDRR training programmes, webinars and events continues to grow as online and hybrid delivery continues to enhance access. In year 2021 alone, GETI reached nearly 22,000 stakeholders in 52 training, 26 events, and 16 webinars. Of those, 4,931 from 178 countries and territories representing national and local government,

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<sup>3</sup> [Disaster Risk Reduction Investment in Africa – Evidence from 16 Risk-sensitive Budget Reviews](#); Also [Madagascar](#), [Mauritius](#), [Seychelles](#), and unpublished reports in Asia-Pacific.

regional intergovernmental and UN organisations, academia, private sector and civil society, including youth, were trained.

An important milestone in enhancing knowledge standards and capacity development is the recent launch of the [Centre of Excellence for Climate and Disaster Resilience](#) (CoE), jointly launched by UNDRR and WMO. The Centre has been designed to improve the reach of critical expertise in comprehensive disaster and climate risk management to fast-track achievement of the SDGs, Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework. Key potential areas of work of the CoE include (i) Climate and disaster data and risk knowledge products (flagship global risk reports, data standards, knowledge management, etc.), (ii) Climate and disaster risk governance (streamlined technical assistance to countries, comprehensive risk management, integrated and scaled-up DRR-CCA for investment and financing frameworks, etc.); and (iii) Enhanced preparedness through multi-hazard early warning systems (enhance effectiveness of early warning, strengthen link with anticipatory action, etc.).

### **UNDRR Recommendations on Financing and Means of Implementation**

- Pledges for an equitable allocation of climate finance to support mitigation and adaptation actions must be honoured.
- All climate and development investment and financing should be predictable and risk-informed to better respond to longer term planning needs. Funding mechanisms should be flexible to allow risk prevention, and agile to facilitate ex-ante and anticipatory actions before risks turn into disasters.
- Public finance mechanisms should be reviewed to ensure enhanced investments in disaster and climate risk management across sectors, plans and budgets and in integrated national financing frameworks.
- Partnership with the private sector should be leveraged to co-develop innovative financial instruments, including to manage residual risk e.g., through bonds, insurance products and other contingent financing mechanisms.
- The UNDRR-WMO Centre of Excellence offers a key opportunity to enhance collective efforts towards building resilience and should be harnessed.
- Financial systems need to better quantify the extent to which their assets will retain their value in this era of climate change. Investing in better understanding and quantifying of risk helps price it, which in turn informs financing and investment decisions.

## 6. Efforts related averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change

(Decision 19/CMA.1, paragraph 6(b), 1)

With the adverse effects of climate change already affecting governments and communities, especially those most vulnerable to extreme and slow onset events, efforts linked to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage should likewise be based on the solid assessment of climate and disaster risks, and the application/use of comprehensive risk management approaches.

In line with Article 8 of the Paris Agreement, and the identified areas of cooperation and facilitation to enhance understanding, action and support to avert, minimize and address loss and damage, UNDRR has been in the frontline of providing technical support to countries in the areas of early warning systems, emergency preparedness, and comprehensive risk management.

### 6.1. Early Warning Systems and Disaster Preparedness

The Sendai Framework, through Priority 4 for Action, calls for 'Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to build back better in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction' and aims to 'Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030' through its Target G.

UNDRR has been taking steady steps towards building a momentum for **multi-hazard early warning systems (MHEWS)**. UNDRR, together with WMO and the World Bank, is part of the **Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS)** initiative that currently supports over 57 countries, mostly least developed countries and small island developing States to strengthen the hydrometeorological and early warning services. In particular, UNDRR highlights the importance of greater accessibility to early warnings, by ensuring they reach the **last mile**, and making these **inclusive** through integration of gender aspects and the perspectives of children, older persons and persons with disabilities in the early warning information chain.

To bolster disaster recovery, UNDRR coordinates the **International Recovery Platform (IRP)**, a thematic platform and joint initiative of international organizations, national and local governments, and civil society to promote building back better in recovery.

### 6.2. Comprehensive Disaster and Climate Risk Management

UNDRR has embarked on a structured approach to better equip governments and communities in managing (or addressing) current risks and reducing (or averting and minimizing) future risks. The multi-level, multi-year, multi-network programme is grounded on robust systemic risk assessments, practical normative guidance, integrated tools for capacity strengthening, and in the provision of country-level technical assistance to Member States (Parties). The programme is being carried out at the global, regional and national levels and contributes to the 2020–2021 UNDRR Work Programme, including in the following areas: Policy Guidance; Aligned National Risk Reduction Strategies; Capacity Development; Intergovernmental Deliberations and Processes; and coordination of the UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience.

Initial work was carried out in 2019 and has led to the understanding that there is a need to ensure a tailored, stepwise programmatic approach in supporting countries while catalyzing the move from paper to policies to on-the-ground action and vice versa. A stronger understanding of

national contexts and associated challenges and opportunities is critical, and the pre-implementation approach highlighted the need for:

- Stronger national government ownership and capacity
- Greater mainstreaming of comprehensive risk management approaches across plans
- Dynamic approaches in risk governance
- Ensuring that national governments work through partnerships across sectors and levels
- Consideration for potential increased growth in vertical financing that is influencing domestic/subnational risk management and institutional arrangements
- Strengthening local capacity and governance systems

To help countries understand and apply comprehensive risk management approaches, UNDRR, as part of its commitment to the **Technical Expert Group on Comprehensive Risk Management (TEG-CRM)**, under the Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM) for Loss and Damage, and in cooperation with other TEG-CRM members and partner organizations, developed a “Technical Guidance on Comprehensive Risk Assessment and Planning in the Context of Climate Change<sup>4</sup>.” This document provides an orientation on how risks in the context of climate change can be comprehensively and systematically addressed through risk assessment. The guidance acknowledges that risks in the context of climate change are complex and systemic due to non-linear interactions among system components and the need for improved risk governance – hence, making understanding of the complexity of risks, a priority.

At the local level, cities are getting assistance in developing [local resilience plans](#) as part of the Making Cities Resilient 2030 programme.

#### **UNDRR Recommendations on averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change**

- Disaster risk reduction provides a concrete basis for averting, minimizing and addressing losses and damages which should be recognised, leveraged and scaled-up.
- Countries should put risk to human and ecological systems at the centre by considering the dynamic interaction between hazards, vulnerability, exposure and underlying risk drivers when assessing risks and identifying solutions. Comprehensive risk assessment is a foundation and an integral component of the risk management process and will help countries leapfrog towards SDGs and the goal of the Sendai Framework.
- Careful and in-depth assessment of climate and disaster risks, complemented by a historical analysis of past disaster events, can provide a holistic approach in averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage. Actions in these areas should be complemented by adaptation and disaster risk reduction plans and actions.
- The UNDRR-WMO Centre of Excellence offers a key opportunity to enhance collective efforts towards the provision of technical support to catalyze actions to understand, reduce and manage losses and damages.

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<sup>4</sup> To be published in March 202

## 7. Cross-Cutting Issues

### 7.1 Mid-Term Review of the Sendai Framework (MTR SF)

The COVID-19 pandemic has shed light on the characteristics and interactions of socioecological and technological systems that allow hazards to trigger disasters. It has demonstrated how society's values, demands and attendant resource management can affect ecosystems, human health and impede sustainable development. Developing capabilities to successfully meet the challenges of vulnerability and exposure in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, as laid out by Member States in the Sendai Framework, can help societies build skills to better manage and even prevent other complex risks and shocks. Called for by Member States, the timing of the MTR SF could therefore not be more opportune.

It is imperative that we change course from economic and development models that unintentionally create risk to ones that reduce risk with untold benefits for people and planet. We can embed risk reduction into every policy and investment decision made from here on out, and we already have the intergovernmental agreement needed to do this.

Adopted in 2015, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework) is a key component of the sustainable development and climate change agenda. Rooted in prevention, addressing the underlying drivers of risk, the Framework gives clear policy and practical guidance on how to manage and reduce risk and build resilience in all sectors.

Disaster risk reduction must be integrated into economic, social, development, climate, and environmental policy at all levels. The Secretary-General has recognized this by placing prevention of major global risks and the importance of strategic foresight at the core of the new Common Agenda for the United Nations. The mid-point of the Sendai Framework presents a crucial opportunity to Member States/Parties critically review our relationship with risk, to renovate risk governance and risk management mechanisms and approaches, and redouble efforts across development, climate, and humanitarian action in realizing its outcome and goal.

Following UNGA resolution A/RES/76/204<sup>5</sup>, Member States/Parties decided that the MTR SF would conclude in a high-level meeting of the General Assembly in New York on 18 and 19 May 2023 at the highest possible level. This meeting will adopt a concise and action-oriented political declaration to renew commitment, accelerate implementation and inform the quadrennial review of the SDGs at the ECOSOC High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July of 2023, the deliberations of Member States and stakeholders at the SDGs Summit during the 78<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly in September 2023, and at COP 28.

### 7.2 Inclusiveness and Stakeholder Engagement

Partnerships and all-of-society approaches lie at the heart of effective disaster risk reduction. Building resilience and promoting risk-informed decision-making and investment are collective challenges and responsibilities, which call upon a collaboration between governments, the United Nations and other international organizations and stakeholder groups at large. UNDRR works closely with other United Nations system entities, representatives of Member States and a broad range of partners and stakeholders, including; the private sector, the civil society and community-based organizations, the science and technology community, parliamentarians, children and youth, local authorities, media. UNDRR also contributes to Multi-Stakeholder Initiatives & Partnerships linked and engaged in the global risk and resilience discussions.

To convene stakeholders at all levels around the implementation and monitoring of the Sendai Framework, UNDRR leads and engages in various stakeholder initiatives. These include targeted

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<sup>5</sup> UNGA Resolution [A/RES/76/204](#) of 17 December 2021

partner networks and mechanisms, and UNDRR processes, such the Regional and Global DRR Platforms, as well as the [Sendai Framework Voluntary Commitments Online Platform](#).

### 7.3 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

The next and seventh session of the Global Platform (GP2022, <https://globalplatform.undrr.org>) is scheduled to take place from 23 to 28 May 2022, in Bali, hosted by the Government of Indonesia and organized by UNDRR.

It will be the final occasion for all stakeholders to gather globally before the Mid-Term Review of the [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030](#) and will therefore be an important opportunity to not only take stock of progress and challenges, but also to identify good practice to accelerate the implementation of the Sendai Framework at local, national, regional and global level.

GP2022 will also be the first Global Platform during the [Decade of Action](#) to report against its contribution towards the Sustainable Development Goals. The outcome will need to focus on how to accelerate implementation of the Sendai Framework to achieve tangible results and impact on the ground and on how to ensure the risk-informed and whole of society approaches necessary to achieve the 2030 Agenda are taken. Being organized in the run-up to COP 27 will ensure a stronger integration between the climate change and disaster risk governance processes.

The proposed overall theme of GP2022, *From Risk to Resilience: Towards Sustainable Development for All in a COVID-19 Transformed World*, will focus on how the COVID-19 pandemic has challenged the traditional understanding of risk and disaster risk governance. Strengthening disaster risk governance, social and economic recovery from COVID-19, financing for DRR and risk-informed investments and development, investing in local action and empowering the most at risk, and climate action, are some of the key themes of the Global Platform.

In line with the 'climate action' theme, the Global Platform will feature Leaders Forum and High-Level Dialogue on climate action, and its integration with disaster risk reduction. Several other relevant events will also be organized.