

## Suva expert dialogue of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage

Bonn, Germany, May 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018

### Synthesis report

The purpose of the discussion was to scale down the conversation at the national level to share challenges, current status of comprehensive risk management (CRM) for extreme events and new approaches.

#### 1. Common understanding around main challenges/current landscape

##### **Funding**

- How are we going to keep up with demand and minimize the impacts in the light of increasing climate uncertainty?
- How do we bring **more solidarity in funding**: how are we going to mobilise the needed finance in the light of exploding climate associated risks?

##### **Inclusivity**

- Reach all, through a comprehensive approach, including the most vulnerable: **risk management in the case of extreme weather events must be inclusive of all and barrier free**;
- Avoiding putting additional burden to vulnerable communities and affected countries;
- Inclusivity is also about bringing the right communities together: climate, humanitarian, DRR and development communities need to come together for CRM.

##### **Understanding risks and capacities**

- Do we fully understand the nature of the risks? Who owns the risk and who should be paying for them? Are we aware of what financial tools are available, are they affordable and what do they effectively cost;
- Understanding risk is also understanding emerging challenges, such as people being displaced due to climate change;
- Disaster risk management Legislation contributes to an enabling environment – but it has to take into account changing climate risks and have resources and capacities for implementation, and create connections between all relevant agencies.

#### 2. Innovative solutions were brought up/current approaches

- **Early financing for early action is one of the ways to reduce these risks and impacts on affected people**; it is also cost effective as prior investment in preparedness reduces the impacts of loss and damage, as well as helps us to move from “risk responders to risk managers”?

- **Call to have a greater inclusion of local actors to foster inclusive and locally led approaches:** people are the first responders, we need a sustained investment in local institutions as they are the ones who will be staying in the affected country once international aid leave and thus are best positioned to secure this continuum; there is also the need to support already existing local led initiatives and how can we make them work together more systematically – and in complementarity - with broader international initiatives;
- **There is a need and effective added value in promoting greater connection between science and humanitarian action on the ground to reduce impacts on the ground, and especially to DRR/DRM strategies, and private sector:** we heard about some strategies and frameworks taking a holistic resilience approach;
- **Foster Multistakeholder approach is very important:** we should not stop at creating partnerships, but also seek how to make them effective and building program alliances noticeably to tackle these funding issues;
- Work of finding **innovative financing solutions which are equitable and climate smart** – adaptive social protection was one suggestion that was brought up a number of times.

### 3. Way forward

Addressing the risk in a comprehensive manner, which is basically the best suited for the affected country itself as any country faces different risks:

- **Whatever is developed, any framework should include the need of the most vulnerable;**
- **Resilience:** how can we invest in building resilience at the local community prior to disasters; building resilience strategies is also a way to convene/foster dialogue within the same government as this is also a way to bridge/promote communication within different ministries – this means connecting DRR, adaptation planning and development plans;
- **Sustainability** of these approaches and economically viable in the light of ever evolving climate change challenges;
- **Insurance is useful but might not be the golden solution, in can be inaccessible for many and not cover the severity of events and impacts we must consider in loss and damage.**

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