**Official Statement of Duryog Nivaran**

Duryog Nivaran (DN), a South Asia network for disaster mitigation has, since its inception in the mid 90s, called for holistic approaches to disaster management, going beyond popular approaches at the time which considered disasters solely as events that needed humanitarian responses. DN focused on showing the links between risks and vulnerability and the issues of poverty, environment, livelihoods, social norms, governance etc., and argued for the need to address disaster management primarily via changing the manner in which development is designed and implemented.

Duryog Nivaran would like to emphasize some key issues that need priority attention within the post 2015 frameworks for moving towards and achieving DRR

**Time to Address the ‘How’** **Question**

Since the formulation of the HFA in 2005 many DRR priorities have been formally recognized and endorsed, progress close to the end of another decade of DRR strategy shows that practice change continues to be quite a difficult challenge. As there is understanding of the key concepts of DRR, it is not enough to only have more refined concepts to address conceptual gaps that the HFA may have; but also need to tackle the important aspect of ‘how to do, what is needed to be done’. All agree that the focus on practice must be the key objective the new framework. Therefore, the challenge is to come up with a framework that not only guides DRR but, prescribes how to do it. “

**Are we convinced? Lack of evidence**

There is a need for the research and academic establishment to come on board as a strong partner to produce convincing evidence that decision makers look for from credible sources. This is especially true at national and local levels, as research to convince and provide justifications on DRR investment is insignificant. This gap needs to be filled. A significant improvement of this area should be promoted through the new framework particularly to promote investment to build up local capacity for research and prioritize locally relevant issues in research agendas.

**Need to Look Beyond the Post 2015 DRR Framework to Deliver DRR**

The timing is also right to be linked with other interest groups at large to get their continued commitment. As 2015 also marks setting up of new global development goals and goals to reduce the impacts of climate change, now it’s time to use the opportunity. Recognition about DRR across all consultations for global framework development is the entry point, but messages we send should be articulated in such a manner that stakeholders in other sectors can continue to understand the logic and agree on prioritizing investment on DRR as a strategy to achieve their own thematic goals and objectives.

So, in Summery our suggestions are:

* **A benchmarking at global level**, so that clear guidance on processes to achieve key aspects including gender and decentralization inbuilt.
* **Use political economic realities of developing countries to promote DRR: Achieving** DRR is costly particularly for the developing countries. It needs “additional” investment and has “more” time implications. Both these issues are difficult issues for national level political decision making as South Asia would demonstrate. National budgets have competing priorities, although awareness of disasters is rising political powers do not this they would get votes for avoided disasters. Thus, financing made available for DRR to cover that “additional” investment, without linking it to trade or other international conditionality will certainly prioritize DRR in development.
* **Credible Local Research to Convey Convincing Messages** considered credible at national and local should be available to shift thinking of planners and decision makers. Research and academia in general encourage research in issues that they believe relevant. While research on social impacts of issues key to development and disasters such as gender and decentralization is relatively popular, research on financial or economic impacts of not paying adequate attention these issues are quite isolated. Decision makers the political power and the private sector are yet to be properly convinced. Credible local evidence and public awareness as mentioned above should put pressure on them to move towards this.
* **Ensure other frameworks achieve their goals:** Effective addressing of DM requires changing how development per se is designed. Thus, ways we influence other framework development will be crucial.