Risk Governance in the Post-2015 HFA

Fatma El Mallah
Member of the Advisory Group to the UN/SRSG on Post-2015 HFA
Former Advisor to SG/LAS on Climate Change
Former Director of the Dept. of Environment Housing and Sustainable Development/LAS
**Expected Outcome in HFA**

- The substantial reduction of disaster losses, in the lives and in the social, economic and environmental assets of communities and countries.

**Expected outcome in HFA2**

- Reducing existing risks and pre-empting the creation of new risks.

  - Which means:
    - reducing exposure to hazards.
    - embedding DRR in every decision making and in all development processes to achieve sustainability.
    - the Post 2015 framework for DRR be an integral part of the Post 2015 framework for Sustainable Development.
    - as such risk management + sustainability a way of life.
Necessary Adjustments to the current Frameworks of Disaster Risk Managements at all levels

- Key characteristics: Fostering Accountability, Enhancing Risk Governance; Addressing the underlying causes of increase in disaster losses and risk; Continuing vulnerability reduction; Enhancing resource mobilization.

- Key elements: Reconfirmed parts of HFA, Enhanced parts of HFA, New areas/elements not present in HFA, Enhanced monitoring mechanism.

- Potential elements to support the integration across development, climate change and DRR agendas, through policies, monitoring mechanism and formal periodic review processes. Opportunity to have targets and indicators that are at least compatible.
Enhanced Risk Governance

At the national level

- An Essential Prerequisite: Clear Commitment to the core elements of good governance (access to information, transparency, effective civic participation, accountability, rule of law, combating corruption, etc....).
- Risk governance is explicitly conceived and designed with the participation of all stakeholders, including civil society, science, local authorities, local communities, media, business, women, youth...
- A sovereign body or ministry with authority in charge of DRR to play the role of the MAESTRO overseeing performance and ensuring accountability working closely with National and Local Platforms.
- Integrate DRR in every decision making and development process (into planning, land use planning, urban planning, development and sector policies; private investment; public investment and public procurement, etc...);
- Coordinate CCA and DRR with programming and governance harmonized;
- Adequate budget allocations for DRR at the national and local levels;
At the national level (continued)

- Define measures to realize effective private/public partnerships to build resilience of communities; and for the private sector to integrate DRM in their business models and decisions and to build the resilience of SMEs.
- Push Science and technology harder into DRR, to maximize resource management and ensure that decisions are based on best available scientific evidence. Traditional science should also be encouraged and promoted.
- Determine responsibilities and accountability of different stakeholders across sectors of the society, both public and private, at the national and local levels;
- Develop an effective monitoring mechanism to ensure accountability;
- Develop appropriate social protection schemes;
- Enhance legislative and enforcement support;
Enhanced Risk Governance
at the regional level

- Strengthen and develop existing regional DRR mechanisms.
- Regional platforms should more and more support joint planning and implementation.
- Strengthened coordination and cooperation with Regional organizations and UN entities operating at the Regional level.
- More strengthened and effective UNISDR Regional Offices.
Enhanced Risk Governance
at the global level

- Post 2015 HFA should leave no one behind and should pay due attention to all including the Dry Areas that cover 40% of the Earth's total land area, and are home to over 2 billion people or 30% of world population, the majority located in the developing world.

- Post 2015 HFA should be part of the post 2015 Development Agenda and DRM should be implicit in the SDGs.

- UNFCCC/COP is still debating around what institutional arrangements could be created to address loss and damage – payments to offset losses and damages that occur despite adaptation. Funds under the adaptation Fund are minimal and expectations under the Green Fund are not foreseen.
More resources need to be pooled to finance Disaster Risk Reduction and building Resilience. Post-2015 HFA is a voluntary process with no commitments to developed countries like under the UNCCC process. However the socio-economic and political implications of climate change and extreme events could greatly affect the global, regional and national security. Developed countries should find a way to support countries, suffering from climate extremes, in their efforts to reduce disaster risks and build resilience.

The director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research warned "either rich nations will find a way to supply needy nations suffering from damaging climate effects or you will have all kinds of unrest and revolutions, with the export of angry and hungry people to the industrialized countries".
at the global level (continued)

- The need for a strengthened UNISDR with adequate resources and capabilities to implement Post-2015 HFA.
- UNISDR to mobilize technical and financial support, especially for countries with limited progress and limited resources. (e.g. Role of UNIDO in raising support to develop “cleaner production centers” in developing countries).
- International cooperation frameworks and work modalities should also be developed based on similitude in challenges, risks and characteristics.
Implementation of the Post 2015 Framework for DRR

Declarations of adherence to the Post 2015 Framework for DRR and its objectives do not necessarily translate into implementation.

**At the forefront**

There should be

- A high level of political commitment, will and support.
- Disaster Risk Management seen as part of the normal business of every stakeholder.
Thank you
f_elmallah@hotmail.com