



**“Changing the Paradigm:
Disaster Recovery as a means to Sustainable Development”**

**Conference Statement:
Strengthen Resilient Recovery and Reconstruction in the
Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction**

Preamble:

The growing incidence of high-impact disasters has made countries recognize importance of building long-term disaster resilience. Such recognition stems from the experience of post-disaster recovery which several countries have implemented in the aftermath of a disaster. Governments, parliamentarians and other stakeholders such as international agencies, NGOs, and civil society view recovery as an important context for introducing several measures which not just restore their lives, homes, and livelihoods, but build them more resilient. Though recovery was not explicitly included in the Hyogo Framework for Action, the financial and technical resources allocated for recovery across the world has placed it on the agenda for building resilience.

Going forward, the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, recovery must be viewed as part of an continuum, inseparable from preparedness, response, mitigation and sustainable development. It is important to acknowledge the critical role that recovery can play in seizing opportunities that arise through the adversity of disasters and steering countries toward a state of greater resilience. The Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction should, therefore, actively promote the institutionalization of recovery as a means to risk reduction and sustainable development, and better define and measure outcomes such as resilient recovery and "Build Back Better."

Goal:

Advance consensus, nationally and internationally, on the critical role of resilient recovery for sustainable development and poverty reduction.

Conference Statement:

We, the participants of the Second World Reconstruction Conference from 36 governments and countries, parliamentarians, civil society organizations, academia, UN agencies, regional organizations and the World Bank Group, bringing expertise and knowledge from all regions of the world, have met in Washington, D.C., from 10-12 September 2014. We support to further the actions below to include and strengthen Resilient Recovery and Reconstruction in the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, which will be deliberated and finalized through the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan in March 2015:



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1. Promote and ensure efficient, inclusive, and effective recovery and reconstruction interventions and measures through the institutionalization of post disaster needs assessments and recovery frameworks across regions and all levels of government. This would enhance risk governance, strengthen coordination, and empower communities and marginalized groups.
2. Provision for sufficient financial reserves and resources within government to manage and respond to disasters triggered by natural hazards, and formalized strategic and resource commitments towards equitable recovery planning, implementation and performance management; promoting more dependable and predictable international financial mechanisms for financing recovery.
3. Strengthening mechanisms for cooperation with services in areas of recovery and reconstruction that include standardized approaches for post-disaster needs assessments and recovery planning frameworks, and other support services such as sharing of information, data bases and rosters of experts, best practices, capacity building, tools, bi-lateral, regional and multilateral support to countries, and progress monitoring.
4. Strengthening readiness and capacity for recovery planning, implementation, and monitoring across regions and all levels of government, and establishing clear roles and responsibilities for all actors in a recovery setting.
5. Consider further consultations in the development of a “Draft Voluntary Commitment in Support of Recovery and Reconstruction in the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction” (Annex I) at Second Preparatory Committee Meeting and the Third UN World Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction, and other events ahead of the Third UN World Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction to be held in Sendai, Japan in March 2015

Supporting Participants:

Australia, Asia Dalit Rights Forum, Bangladesh, Chile, Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de los Desastres Naturales en América Central (CEPREDENAC), Costa Rica, El Salvador, Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery/ the World Bank Group, Global Network for Disaster Reduction, Grameen Development Society, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, InterAction, International Recovery Platform, Japan, Kyrgyz Republic, Lao PDR, Malawi, Mexico, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nepal, Nepal National Dalit Social Welfare Organization, Nicaragua, Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Panama, Philippines, Senegal, Tajikistan, Turkey, Uganda, Yemen , United Nations Development Program.



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Annex I

1st Consultation on the possibility for a Voluntary Commitment for Recovery *in Support of the Implementation of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction*

At the second World Reconstruction Conference, participants had initiated an in-depth discussion to explore voluntary commitments for recovery in support to the implementation of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction as per resolution of the United Nations General Assembly. While the discussions resulted in identifying proposed commitments, this initial draft is still a work-in-progress that will be further deliberated by governments at the sides of the Second Preparatory Committee Meeting, 17-18 November in Geneva and at the Third UN World Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction, 14-18 March 2015 in Sendai. This initiative is coordinated by the International Recovery Platform. Further comments should be sent to thorlund@recoveryplatform.org; jmercadante@worldbank.org

What would you like to submit?	1st Consultation on the possibility for a Voluntary Commitment for Recovery in Support of the Implementation of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
What is the goal it will address?	Goal 3 – <i>Strengthening Resilience</i> by investing in recovery
Scope of Commitment	Global
Title	Recovery as an Opportunity to Achieve Sustainable Development
Description of Commitment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promoting the institutionalization, through legislation and other means, of national recovery strategies and plans as a policy imperative to risk governance to ensure recovery readiness and enhanced resilience and to mainstream disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into post-disaster recovery and reconstruction; 2. Integrating appropriate recovery indicators into the post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction that governments and stakeholders can use to monitor progress of implementation and achievement of recovery goals; 3. Provision for sufficient financial reserves and resources within government to manage and respond to disasters triggered by natural hazards, and formalized strategic and resource commitments towards recovery planning, implementation and performance management; promoting more dependable and predictable international financial mechanisms for financing recovery; 4. Strengthening mechanisms for cooperation with services in areas of recovery and reconstruction that include standardized approaches for post-disaster needs assessments and recovery planning frameworks, and other support services such as sharing of information, data bases and rosters of experts, best practices, capacity building, tools, bi-lateral, regional and multilateral support to countries, and progress monitoring; 5. Strengthening capacity for recovery planning, implementation, and monitoring at the regional and all levels of government, and establishing



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	clear roles and responsibilities for all actors in a recovery setting.
Targets	<p>A. <i>Short and medium term</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct capacity building and Training of Trainer (ToT) on recovery planning/framework in disaster prone countries and local governments • Compile, update, and disseminate best practices through the existing platforms and mechanisms • Disseminate indicators, tools, and technical guidelines widely amongst nations via networks and capacity building events (translate tools for local use) <p>B. <i>Long term</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovery plans/programs and integrated risk reduction are aligned with national development plans • Legislative reforms pursued – regulations, legislation, standard operating procedures relating to recovery and reconstruction
Indicators	<p>A. <i>Short and mid-terms</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased local and national governments’ and other relevant actors capacity on recovery planning • Updated compilation of best practices and disseminated in existing platforms • Tools and guidelines are translated, and are available for use by local and national governments <p>B. <i>Long term</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies and legislation on recovery passed and adopted – improved regulations, legislation, and standard operating procedures to reflect the principle of build back better/smarter • Appropriate ministries or agencies of the government play a key role in the recovery process and for mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into development policy. All public investment projects to involve risk assessment and mitigation measures.
Means of Verification	<p>A. <i>Short and mid-terms</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of training events conducted, and reported on websites • Best practices published and translated • Tools and guidelines translated and made available at local and national levels of government and other relevant actors • Number of countries that have applied recovery planning concepts • Number of recovery strategies formulated based on comprehensive socio-economic analysis • Number of comprehensive recovery strategies implemented <p>B. <i>Long term</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislation, Regulation/Standard Operations Procedures amended • Joint activities between key ministries/agencies and DRR focal point • Check list for DRR for all public investment projects • Centers of Excellence operational
Timeframe	The short term activities are done within the framework of 1-2 years, while the mid-term and long term activities are for 1-3 years and 3-5 years, respectively.



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** Below is Section 16 of the pre-zero draft of Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction – it can be a reference to brainstorm in consultations*

Preparedness for Response, Recovery and Reconstruction – “Build Back Better”

16. There is a call to further strengthen early warning and preparedness systems, motivated by the increase in disaster events as well as evidence that such systems contribute to saving lives and increasing efficiency of preparedness and response. With the increase in magnitude of disaster impacts, not least in highly urbanized settings, and of disasters affecting large numbers of people and high-value national and local infrastructures and economic assets, the cost and complexity of reconstruction is rising. Actions should include:

- a) Preparing or reviewing and periodically updating disaster preparedness and contingency plans and policies at all levels, with a particular focus on ensuring in the design and planning the participation of all social groups, including the most vulnerable.
- b) Continuing to further strengthen early warning systems and tailoring them to users’ needs, including social and cultural requirements.
- c) Promoting regular disaster preparedness exercises, including evacuation drills, with a view to ensuring rapid and effective disaster response and access to essential food and non-food relief supplies, as appropriate, to local needs.
- d) Adopting specific public policies, and establishing coordination and funding mechanisms and procedures to plan and prepare for post-disaster recovery, rehabilitation, reconstruction and displacement in order to mitigate and minimize losses.
- e) Engaging diverse institutions, multiple authorities and stakeholders at all levels, in view of the complex and costly nature of post-disaster reconstruction. Learning from the reconstruction programs over the HFA decade and exchange of experience is critical to provide guidance for preparedness for reconstruction in the future.
- f) Promoting the incorporation of disaster risk management into post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes and use opportunities during the recovery phase to develop capacities that reduce disaster risk in the medium-term, including through the sharing of expertise, knowledge and lessons learned