



Statement of Voluntary Commitments for Disaster Risk Reduction - Private Sector Partnership – Asia for the 6th Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction

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The private sector plays an important role in building the resilience of nations and communities. However, factors such as rapid urbanization, climate change and globalized supply chains have contributed to a public and private sector that is more economically exposed to disasters than ever before (UNISDR 2012 & 2013).

In this complex, globalized world, the private nor the public sector can act alone if the complex challenge of reducing the risk of hazards is to be effectively addressed. In response to this, UNISDR has been working with the private sector to build the resilience of the private sector and of society. In 2011, UNISDR developed two mechanisms to engage the private sector in its work: The Disaster Risk Reduction Private Sector Partnership (DRR-PSP) has welcomed 13 Asian businesses and the Private Sector Advisory Group (PSAG) has representation of 4 Asian Members. All members signed and committed to two key documents:

- The 'Statement of Commitment by the Private Sector for Disaster Prevention, Resilience and Risk Reduction'; and
- The 'Call for Action: Five Essentials for Business in Disaster Risk Reduction'

Members support and advise UNISDR activities at regional level and promote the DRR agendas in different fora and programmes.

1. Actions related to evolving HFA2 priorities:

The Private Sector Partnership - Asia's core area of interest is 'strengthening resilience'. The focus will be to increase engagement between the private sector and government and non-government entities, creating partnership and information sharing opportunities to strengthen resilience.

2. Each action to specify:

- I. Improved collaboration of the private sector in DRR through improved engagement and greater partnership between the public and private, and private and non-government sectors, and also through increased collaboration within the private sector.

- a. Levels:
Global, regional, national and local
- b. Targets:
- Qualitative improvement of the nature of partnerships and platforms for collaboration. This includes increased trust in partnerships and a more equal footing in platforms, to encourage more inclusive policy making.
 - Quantitative increase in private sector engagement with public sector, non-government organisations and/or academia. This includes greater participation of private sector members on national and other multi-sectorial platforms, with UNISDR, and in development of public policies that encourage and incentivise DRR practices in the private sector, and partnerships where the private sector will collaborate with local governments and NGOs to build their competencies into proficiencies.
 - Improved risk information sharing between the private, public and non-government sectors (including academia) in Asia. This includes making risk information comprehensible and communicable in standard form for other stakeholders as well as SMEs.
- c. Indicators:
- Qualitative improvement of collaboration (long term)
 - Increased involvement of private sector in DRR meetings and events at both at the national and international level by AMCDRR 2016
 - Increased engagement of private sector partners with government, CSOs and academia (long term)
 - Meaningful increase of Private Sector Partnership numbers in Asia, i.e. new members from currently underrepresented categories that are especially important in Asia, including the extractive industries and MSMEs that form integral parts of global supply chains, by WCDRR 2015 and AMCDRR 2016 by 20%.
 - Guidance and examples of how the private sector can partner with governments/NGOs to build resilience, prevent and reduce risks, and increase preparedness for disasters developed, and strong ambassadors identified who can illustrate the story and assist other stakeholders in understanding the multiple ways of engaging with the private sector by AMCDRR 2016
 - Two examples of risk information sharing developed by AMCDRR 2016

- d. Means of verification:
Stakeholder group reporting to member states through HFA and UNISDR mechanisms.
 - e. Timeframe:
 - Short term by WCDRR 2015
 - Medium term by AMCDRR 2016
 - Long term
- II. Increase knowledge and capacity in resilient business practices among the private sector, with focus on improving the resilience of the global supply chain from grassroots level
- a. Levels:
Global, regional, national, and local
 - b. Targets:
 - Reduce business failure related to disasters.
 - By raising awareness and building the capacity of corporations notably SMEs in the use of Business Continuity Management and Planning (BCM/BCP) as a fundamental element in long-term business resilience through the protection of assets, production of goods and services, supply chains and growth plans from possible hazards.
 - By addressing the need for increased knowledge and capacity in basic business planning where needed before BCM/BCP, perhaps by mentoring and coaching between larger and smaller enterprises with the support of business, federations and associations
 - By making sure that communications are clear and toolkits are practical and actionable.
 - c. Indicators:
 - SME BCM/BCP case studies, describing how resilient business practices may be encouraged from the grassroots level, developed by AMCDRR 2016
 - Local governments approached to assist in reaching SMEs with BCM/BCP message (longer term)
 - Partnerships and mentorships between large-and-small businesses developed and collected as case studies by 2020, describing how resilient business practices may be encouraged top-down
 - Practical and actionable toolkits developed or adapted for Asian SMEs, including the translation and distribution of APEC SME BCM/BCP toolkit for

- APEC countries by AMCDRR 2016, and adopted to additional languages, industries, and conditions (long term)
 - Practical toolkits developed for better business planning, so that SMEs will have capacity to implement BCM/BCP (long term)
 - Numbers of businesses, associations and federations having developed BCM/BCP mentoring or coaching
 - Method to monitor business failure due to disasters developed by AMCDRR 2016, business failure due to disasters demonstrably reduced (long term)
 - d. Means of verification:
Stakeholder group reporting to member states through HFA and UNISDR mechanisms.
 - e. Timeframe:
 - Short term by WCDRR 2015
 - Medium term by AMCDRR 2016
 - Long term by 2020
- III. Promote standards and reporting for resilience
- a. Levels:
Global, regional, national, and local
 - b. Targets:
 - Develop standards and certification to stimulate self-adoption and increased visibility of good practices of risk prevention, risk reduction, and resilience.
 - Increase transparency on disaster risk awareness and business continuity management in Annual/ Sustainability / Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) / any other Business reports to stimulate self-adoption and increased visibility of good practices of risk prevention, risk reduction, and resilience.
 - c. Indicators:
 - Industry-specific certification programmes developed and launched. Certification programme to help hotel tourism industry to be more resilient (already in development) launched by WCDRR 2015.
 - A baseline study towards promoting standards and reporting, including the identification of key sectors for building resilience in Asia, together with the strategies to reach them, conducted by AMCDRR 2016.

- Practical and actionable guidelines, including recommendations on minimum items to report, and simplified reporting requirements for resilience developed for SMEs.
- Increase in number of companies referring to DRR in Annual/ Sustainability / Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) / any other Business reports (long term)

d. Means of verification:

Stakeholder group reporting to member states through HFA and UNISDR mechanisms.

e. Timeframe:

- Short term by WCDRR 2015
- Medium term by AMCDRR 2016
- Long term