

## EDRR (Emerging DRR) Concept Background:

Major disasters which have been on the rise in both frequency and intensity affect the human well-being globally and more specifically in the Asia-Pacific.

In March 2015, representatives from 187 countries adopted the 'Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030'. The development catalyst framework, adopted at the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) in Sendai, Japan, was the first major agreement of the post- 2015 development agenda. Besides, at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September 2015, world leaders adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change by 2030.

**The Sendai Framework focuses on preventing new disaster risks, reducing existing disaster risks and strengthening disaster resilience. This requires a shift from stand-alone disaster risk management to a more holistic risk resilient development practice.** This shift of thinking and action from risk management to disaster risk resilient development requires support of regional and international cooperation. Therefore, this framework calls on governments and stakeholders to reaffirm their engagements in the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, the regional and sub-regional platforms for disaster risk reduction (for example the Asian Ministerial Conferences) and thematic platforms. This engagement is to: forge partnerships; periodically assess progress on implementation; share practice and knowledge on disaster risk-informed policies, 3 programmes and investments, including on development and climate issues, as appropriate; and promote the integration of disaster risk management in other relevant sectors.

In Asia, The AMCDRR is an established regional mechanism for disaster risk reduction. This regional platform mainly consists of the Asian Ministerial Conferences on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) and the ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) forum as its mechanism for consultation and technical support. So far, countries in Asia in collaboration with UNISDR, have organized six AMCDRR conferences.

Established in 2005, the AMCDRR is a biennial conference jointly organized by different Asian countries and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR). The AMCDRR serves as a forum for stakeholders to take a shared responsibility and make actionable commitments towards implementation of DRR in the Asia region through the **exchange of experiences on successful practices and innovative approaches in reducing and managing disaster risk.**

The AMCDRR 2016 will provide a unique opportunity to shape the implementation and monitoring of the Sendai Framework in Asia in order to transform the commitment of governments and stakeholders made in Sendai during the WCDRR into national and local action.

The expected outcome of the conference will be the following:

- A political declaration – consolidating the political commitment of governments towards preventing and reducing risk as well as strengthening resilience by accelerating implementation and monitoring of the Sendai Framework in the region.
- 'Asian Regional Plan for Implementation of the Sendai Framework' – a plan endorsed by the countries for the Asian region.
- Stakeholder action statements – voluntary statements of action of stakeholder groups towards a 'shared responsibility' approach in implementation of the Sendai Framework.

**Collaboration, consultation and partnership with governments and stakeholders will be at the heart of the process to achieve the intended outcome of the AMCDRR 2016 and it is expected that a multi-hazard, inclusive and local platform oriented process would be adopted to achieve results along three key areas namely risk informed development, private investments encouragement and local capacity, platforms and leadership development.**

**This translates into the four priority areas of the Sendai Framework, namely 1) Understanding disaster risk; 2) Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk; 3) Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience; and 4) Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to build back better in recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction have a focus on public, private and local action.**

## EDRR Initiative

EDRR acronym stands for Emerging DRR. The ICT led organization initiative curates emerging content along the priority areas 1) and 4) identified above and presents the information in an easy to access format. Through the initiative, we have started to take inventory of the emerging DRR practices, approaches, models, trends and innovations and present them in an intuitive manner for wider DRR stakeholders (citizens, science-policy, businesses involved in adapting disaster informed CSR practices, local civic bodies and organizations and science-policy networks working at the cutting edge of disaster science ) awareness and uptake.

Innovation, Incubation and Advocacy form the core pillars of our Foundation's work in the broader space of climate change that includes climate-induced disasters whose frequency and intensity are on the rise. The EDRR initiative aligns with the innovation and advocacy pillars.

### 1. Understanding Disaster Risk

- Models, open datasets and understanding risk initiatives

- For e.g. to facilitate a better understanding of the disaster risk many open data standards based resilience initiatives are being undertaken such as OpenDRI and Big data oriented 'GeoCosmo' model; an Early Warning System for Earthquakes' and HDX; a very comprehensive humanitarian open datasets exchange. Stakeholders would particularly benefit from gaining awareness of such 'emerging' models, data sets and risk understanding initiatives and applying them in the context of their local actions, plans and projects.
2. Disaster Preparedness, Response and Recovery to Support 'Building Back Better' paradigm
- Innovative use cases of communication and media tools
    - For e.g. many innovative use cases of communication and media (video series, disaster dialogue platforms, simulation games, massive open online courses, multimedia curriculum based scientific pedagogic principles) have been observed in order to increase the understanding of the 'science' behind natural and man-made disasters and incorporate this understanding in the design and development of local action plans, projects and/or platforms. This section captures such emerging and innovative use cases.
  - Emerging DRR Technologies
    - For e.g. some of the emerging technologies such as drone applications in DRR response, innovative local, national and/or regional resilience tools and applications for better humanitarian action and impact, satellite applications across all phases of disaster risk reduction, sensor based predictive analytical applications for advanced risk prediction are captured in this section.

## Expected Outcome

Through this ICT led information share initiative, our organization hopes to inform the DRR stakeholder audience of the emerging DRR developments and catalyze innovative local actions that are fully aligned with the priorities of the Sendai Framework and in the true spirit of AMCDRR 2016 supported theme.