

## **Concept Note**

### **Global expert consultation on the zero draft of the Global Capacity Development Strategy in support of the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction**

Geneva, 14-15 March 2018

#### **Introduction**

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 has set ambitious targets for 2020 and 2030. At varying levels, Member States, particularly least developed nations, small Island developing states, landlocked countries and middle-income countries facing particular conditions of vulnerability will require support in their efforts to implement the Sendai Framework and achieve its target of preventing new and reducing existing disaster risk and to strengthen resilience.

One of the areas where Member States have identified the need for technical support is in building the capacity of institutions and professionals dealing with the implementation of the Sendai Framework at the national and local level.

To fulfill this expectation, a paradigm shift in the approach to capacity development will be required. Current approaches to capacity development, as practiced, will require rationalization to bring coherence in the capacity development work done by a variety of actors, including United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, state-led and private sector stakeholders.

Consequently, the formulation of a Global Capacity Development Strategy to support the Implementation of the Sendai Framework will allow partners to work together in a complementary way to ensure that capacity development programmes lead to sustainable capacities in the Member States with the aim of reducing disaster losses and strengthening resilience.

#### **Background**

During the first session of the UN Senior Leadership Group (SLG) for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) held in April 2017, its members were informed that UNISDR is developing a capacity-building strategy that will identify gaps and opportunities to build greater focus and coherence globally, including incorporating the capacity-building efforts of key partners. The members agreed to receive updates in future SLG meetings. With that aim, an initial discussion towards the development of a global capacity development strategy was organized and facilitated by the UNISDR during the 2017 Global Platform, on 23 May 2017, in Cancun, Mexico. To date, a series of in-person regional consultations with African, Arab States, Americas, Asia-

Pacific and European representatives of Member States, inter-governmental organizations, and other relevant stakeholders and partners has concluded. To supplement the in-person consultations, an online consultation was conducted in November 2017. In addition, a desk review was conducted to inform the development of the strategy. Over 200 participants were consulted.

### **Objectives of the Strategy**

The formulation of the global capacity development strategy will help to:

- Address needs, gaps and opportunities in capacity development for implementation of the Sendai Framework.
- Establish a mechanism for ongoing mapping of key and most relevant capacity development programmes identified by Member States, and identify who does what.
- Define key priorities, minimum standards, basic principles for sustainable and effective capacity development.
- Agree on the most appropriate approaches to address the needs and gaps.
- Agree on the way forward and forge partnerships to tailor capacity development work based on the principles and priorities articulated in the strategy.

The process will also help to identify key partners and stakeholders to be engaged in capacity development for implementation of the Sendai Framework, as well as solicit their contribution to the development of the Strategy.

The outcome of the regional and online consultations has informed the zero draft of the Capacity Development Strategy. As a next step, UNISDR is organizing a Global expert consultation meeting scheduled to take place on 14-15 March 2018 at CICG Geneva. The purpose of this meeting will be to conduct a review of the zero draft of the strategy with the participation of DRR and capacity development experts nominated by Member States, inter-governmental organizations, partners, other experts and stakeholders who will be invited to contribute to the drafting process. At this meeting, key potential partnerships for the implementation and mechanisms for roll-out of the strategy will be identified for later follow up.

Participants will include representatives of Member States, Inter-Governmental Organizations involved in capacity development for DRR, UN organizations, the Capacity Development for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI), science and technology groups, academia, private sector and other stakeholder groups.

Subsequent consultations and roll out events are planned during the regional platforms for DRR.

## Objectives of the consultation and review

The objectives of the consultation are:

- Conduct a review of the zero draft of the strategy and identify any missing elements.
- Identify key potential partnerships for implementation of the strategy and discuss about means of implementation and monitoring.
- Involve key potential partners in the process of development and implementation of the strategy with a view to co-create and promote coordinated action.
- Agreement for common action, and follow up, from the participants

## Expected Outcomes

The outcomes are expected to be:

- Key partners involved in drafting of the strategy
- Key potential partners identified for implementation
- Suggested mechanism to manage the existing and potential future partnerships for coordinated action, implementation and monitoring of the strategy
- A general commitment for common action and next steps

## Methodology

The consultations have identified areas to be prioritized for action by all UN and non-UN partners and other stakeholders engaged in capacity development for DRR and in supporting Member States for the implementation of the Sendai Framework.

<b>Summary of Priority Areas and Actions for Capacity Development</b>		
	<b>Priority Area</b>	<b>Actions</b>
1	Developing and Strengthening Disaster Risk Reduction Fundamentals	1.1 Ensuring Use of Loss and Risk Information
		1.2 Disaster Risk-Informed Development Plans
		1.3 Funding and Resource Mobilization for DRR
		1.4 Monitoring of Sendai Framework Implementation
2	Institutionalizing Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity	2.1 Understanding Links Between Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development
		2.2 Understanding Climate Risk Across Sectors
		2.3 High-Level Awareness and Cross-Sectoral Understanding of DRR

3	Sharing and Using Risk Information Before and After Disasters	3.1 Conducting Effective Risk Communication and Knowledge Management
		3.2 Preparedness Planning and Understanding “Build Back Better”
		3.3 Understanding Economics of DRR
4	Establishing Collaborative Action for Disaster Risk Reduction at the National and Local Levels	4.1 Establishing an ‘All-of-Society’ Approach
		4.2 DRR at Local Government Level
		4.3 DRR at Community Level
5	Strengthening External Support Mechanisms	5.1 South-South and Peer-to-Peer Mechanisms
		5.2 UN Country Teams
		5.3 Humanitarian Development Nexus
6	Advancing and Expanding Disaster Risk Reduction Capabilities	6.1 Education for Disaster Risk Reduction
		6.2 Innovation and Use of Technology for DRR

This list is not exhaustive and includes only some of the priority needs for capacity development for the implementation of the Sendai Framework as identified during the consultations. With time, the priority needs will change.

**Day one** of the consultation will start with an overview of key findings of the regional consultation process so that participants can familiarize themselves with the broad range of aspects that need to be addressed by the capacity development strategy. This will be followed by a walk-through of the draft strategy.

The participants will discuss in break out groups about:

- (a) the challenges to effective capacity development for disaster risk reduction
- (b) the Theory of Change proposed by the draft strategy; and,
- (c) the driving principles for effective capacity development.

These discussions will contribute to the refinement of the draft Strategy, in a spirit of co-creation and collaboration.

The composition of the groups will be organized to ensure good geographic, expert and gender balance to enrich the scope of the discussions. Results of break out groups will be presented in plenary to elicit further inputs.

**Day two** will focus on issues of implementation, including mechanisms to manage partnerships for delivery of the strategy. Partners present will have the opportunity to indicate areas where they would be interested in supporting Member States in the implementation of the Capacity Development Strategy. It is understood that this is the initial step towards the implementation of the Strategy and that it will grow gradually both in terms of scope and size.

It is expected that the consultation meeting will also lay the foundation for the establishment of a “DRR Capacity Building Marketplace”, where Member States, organizations and other stakeholders can indicate their capacity building needs (demand side), and those that can provide capacity building services to meet the demand (supply side). The rules of engagement will be left to the parties to negotiate on their own terms.

The outcome of day two will consist of:

- an action plan for the implementation of the strategy with a preliminary outline of what could be its monitoring and evaluation framework.
- Basic elements to be considered for the establishment of a “DRR capacity development marketplace” the objective of which would be to facilitate the articulation of needs, as well as services available.
- Facilitate the establishment of partnerships to address the critical needs for disaster risk reduction and discuss mechanisms for implementation.

### **Proposed agenda**

The proposed agenda follows. The meeting will be held in English language only.

**Agenda**  
**Global expert consultation on**  
**the zero draft of the Global Capacity Development Strategy in support of the**  
**implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction**

14 March		
08.30 – 09.00	Registration and welcome coffee	<b>Room Number:</b> <b>CICG 5 &amp; 6</b>
09.00 – 09.30	<b>Opening session</b> <b>Opening remarks: Context, objectives and expectations</b>	Kirsi Madi, Director UNISDR
09.30 – 10.00	<b>Plenary Session 1: Capacity development for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction: Result of Consultations</b>	Ricardo Mena
10.00 – 11.00	<b>Plenary Session 2: Presentation and walk through the zero draft of the strategy</b>	Sanjaya Bhatia
11.00 – 11.15	<b>Coffee break</b>	
11.15 – 13.00	<b>Break Out Session 1: Obstacles and Challenges to Effective Capacity Development for Disaster Risk Reduction and actions to overcome</b>	Review draft and further drafting of sections of the strategy
13.00 – 14.00	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
14.00 – 15.00	<b>Report back to Plenary (discussion group rapporteurs and walk around): Obstacles and Challenges to Effective Capacity Development for Disaster Risk Reduction and actions to overcome</b>	
15.00 – 15.30	<b>Coffee break</b>	
15.30 - 16.30	<b>Plenary Session 3: reading the “The Capacity Development Process – a ‘Theory of Change’” – Identify any missing questions and actions</b>	Review draft and further inputs.
16.30 – 17.30	<b>Break Out Session 2: Story writing: Driving Principles and Foundational Elements: The Building Blocks of Effective Capacity Development Efforts – suggest/identify successful examples for the draft</b>	Review draft and further inputs. UNISDR will provide a simple template to the groups

<b>15 March</b>		
09.00 – 09.15	<b>Recap of Day 1 in Plenary</b>	
09.15– 09.45	<b>Plenary Session 4: Implementation mechanisms for effective capacity development and M&amp;E</b>	Sanjaya Bhatia
09.45 – 11.00	<b>Break Out Session 3: Implementation mechanisms for effective capacity development and M&amp;E - Action points</b>	Review draft and further inputs. UNISDR will provide questions to guide the discussion
11.00 - 11.15	<b>Coffee break</b>	
11.15 – 12.00	<b>Report back to Plenary (discussion group rapporteurs): Implementation mechanisms for effective capacity development and M&amp;E - Action points</b>	
12.00 – 13.00	<b>Break Out Session 4: Section - Implementing an Effective and Sustained Capacity Development Program - Identifying Partners to implement Capacity development for DRR</b>	This session will help to identify key partners for implementation, as the first step of an ongoing process. UNISDR will provide questions to guide the discussion
13.00 – 14.00	<b>Lunch</b>	
14.00 – 15.00	<b>Break Out Session 4: Implementing an Effective and Sustained Capacity Development Program- Identifying Partners to implement capacity development for DRR (Contd.)</b>	
15.00 – 15.45	<b>Report back to Plenary (discussion group rapporteurs and walk around): Implementing an Effective and Sustained Capacity Development Program - Identifying Partners to implement capacity development for DRR</b>	This session will create the basis for a “marketplace” of partners for implementation



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<b>15.45 – 16.00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	
16.00 – 17.00	<b>Plenary Session 4: Summary of discussions, commitment for common action and follow up</b>	
17.00 – 17.30	<b>Plenary Session 5: Next Steps and Wrap Up</b>	
17.45	<b>Reception</b>	