

Plan of action for Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in Central Asia and South Caucasus Region

I. Background

All governments in the Central Asia and South Caucasus Region Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan have actively contributed to the consultation process of formulating the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, endorsed at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) held in March 2015.

Governments have initiated actions to take forward the guidance of the Sendai Framework in several important areas such as; review and revision of national DRR plans in line with the Priorities of Action of the Sendai Framework, developing strategies and reviewing of legislation, strengthening the institutional and coordination mechanisms, work in the areas of disaster risk assessments, critical infrastructure, school safety, building codes, preparedness for response, among others. The initiatives taken by the governments and partners were shared at the Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction meeting held in Dushanbe on 12 July 2016¹.

Regional Platform meeting held in Dushanbe discussed the strategic directions and priority actions required at the national, local and regional levels and proposed recommendations for risk resilient development in the CASC region. The outcome document, 'Dushanbe Declaration on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience Building' has captured the commitments and areas of priority action as follows: *'Develop and implement Disaster Risk Management strategies and action plans with national targets and indicators towards realizing the Target (e) of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 'Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020'*

The proposed draft plan of action is prepared on the basis of the updates and recommendations from the governments and partners shared at the Dushanbe Regional Platform as well as other relevant strategic documents for the CASC region, such as the Plan of Action for 2016-2017 on implementation the Framework of cooperation on strengthening regional cooperation of Disaster Management Authorities of Central Asian and South Caucasus region in the area of Disaster Risk. The suggestions also take reference from the 'Asia Regional Plan for Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030' agreed at the Asia Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction, as the final conference outcome document.

¹ Updates from the Governments and partners can be accessed in:
<http://cc.preventionweb.net/casc2016> - Regional Platform

II. Results required to be achieved for reaching the Target (e) of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction ‘Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020’

By end of 2016

1. All governments have identified their Sendai Framework focal point and communicated to UNISDR through the official channels
2. All countries have reviewed their status of disaster risk management as a baseline for planning, implementation and monitoring (a Guidance format to support this activity has been provided);
3. Plan of action for Implementation of the Sendai Framework in CASC for 2016-18 period and expected results and outcomes agreed;
4. Countries are prepared to implement the global monitoring system in line with the agreed indicators of the Sendai Monitor
5. Key messages and essence of the Sendai Framework translated and disseminated in national languages to increase awareness.

By end of 2017

1. National mechanism is in place in each country to collect, analyze and disseminate information on disaster losses and risk, with sex, age and disability disaggregated data to ensure to address the recommendations on social inclusion and ‘all of society approach’ of the Sendai Framework.
2. Countries strengthen/establish multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms (national platforms for DRR) as mechanisms for building stronger linkages with the SDGs, national development and resilience building
3. National level targets and indicators identified as appropriate to each country with reference to global targets, with a link to SDG targets and indicators
4. 50% countries have revised/ developed their national strategies and/ or plans for disaster risk reduction in line with the Sendai targets and indicators
5. At least 50 % countries have reviewed their initial progress in implementation of the Sendai Framework through the Sendai Monitor
6. Progress of implementation at the national and regional level reviewed and presented to the Global Platform for DRR

By end of 2018

1. At least 60 percent of countries have established a national mechanism to collect, analyze and disseminate information on disaster losses and risk, with sex, age and disability desegregated data, information and analysis to ensure to address the recommendations on social inclusion and ‘all of society approach’ of the Sendai Framework.

2. All countries have revised/ developed their national strategies and/ or plans for disaster risk reduction in line with the Sendai targets and indicators
3. At least 50% of the countries have introduced systems for local level strategies/plans for disaster risk reduction
4. All countries have reviewed their initial progress in implementation of the Sendai Framework through the Sendai Monitor
5. 2016-18 Plan of action for Implementation of the Sendai Framework in CASC is reviewed and new biennial plan adopted through the CASC Regional Platform for DRR

By 2020

1. All countries have revised/ developed their national strategies and/ or plans for disaster risk reduction in line with the Sendai Framework targets and indicators.
2. All countries have functioning systems for developing local level strategies/plans for disaster risk reduction
3. All countries have established disaster loss databases and risk profiles, with sex, age and disability segregated data, information and analysis
4. At least 50 percent of countries have developed regulatory frameworks to reinforce risk considerations and risk reduction measures in to development initiatives, in particular in infrastructure sector.
5. A mid-term review of the regional implementation of the Sendai Framework is available

III. Action plan 2016-2018²

Priority 1: Understanding disaster risk

1. Establish risk information systems and promote the collection, analysis, management, use and dissemination of the relevant data and information.
2. Assess disaster risk, vulnerability, capacity, hazard characteristics, exposure, and their possible effects (risk profiling).
3. Establish/ strengthen disaster loss accounting system (disaster loss data bases) at national level with sub-national data.
4. Develop/ strengthen national mechanisms to support risk informed policy and plans
5. Integrate application of risk information in all its dimensions of vulnerability, exposure of persons, and assets, as well as hazard characteristics into development policies and plans.
6. Consolidate/adapt guidelines for local risk assessments and their use in local development planning, ensuring the complementarity of traditional and local knowledge and practices, and scientific knowledge.
7. Develop mechanisms to ensure the use of disaster risk assessment in local socio-economic development planning and implementation.

² Action plan to be reviewed and revised in 2018

8. Initiate dialogue/Develop systems integrate disaster risk information into business investment planning and management

Priority 2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

1. Develop 'Country DRM status review' reports in consultation with development sectors and stakeholders.
2. Review/ revise existing national and local DRM strategies in line with Sendai Framework to ensure disaster risk sensitive development.
3. Develop/ revise sectoral laws and regulations, prioritizing land use and urban planning, building codes, environmental and resource management and health, education and safety standards.
4. Establish/ strengthen multi stakeholder and multi sectoral national and local platforms with participation of main stakeholders.
5. Update/develop and implement local DRR strategies/plans, involving all stakeholders

Priority 3: Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience

1. Assess human and financial resource requirements at national and local level for implementation of disaster risk reduction in the main economic and social development sectors.
2. Strengthen disaster-resilient public investments, through structural, non-structural disaster risk prevention and reduction measures in critical facilities
3. Develop/ revise building codes and standards in rehabilitation and reconstruction practices at the national or local levels
4. Establish national mechanisms for disaster risk transfer and insurance as appropriate.
5. Set up a private sector-led financial mechanism/support to provide loan incentives to businesses for risk resilient measures in cooperation with financial institutions
6. Promote partnerships between local government, the private sector and other stakeholders to increase business resilience and integrate disaster risk management into business models and practices.
7. Institutionalize Community-based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) to strengthen resilience of households and communities.
8. Promote informal education on disaster risk reduction and enhance the implementation of comprehensive school safety.
9. Develop mechanisms to formalize volunteer roles in DRR programs

Priority 4: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to "Build Back Better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction

1. Prepare/ update disaster preparedness and contingency plans at national and local levels with multi stakeholder and multi sectoral engagement and consultation.
2. Establish/ strengthen multi-hazard early warning systems and ensure last-mile accessibility (to communities at risk).

3. Integrate disaster risk reduction measures in post disaster recovery and reconstruction planning and practice.
4. Carry out regular disaster preparedness, response and recovery exercise, including evacuation drills, training and capacity building
5. Strengthen local authorities to develop disaster preparedness plans including Early Warning Systems, evacuation plans, stockpiling of necessary materials to implement rescue and relief activities.
6. Review the current access, particularly by at-risk population groups, to existing national and local early warning systems; identify gaps and implement priority actions at local level.
7. Train community members and volunteers in community-based early warning, disaster preparedness and response and recovery.
8. Strengthen instruments, mechanisms, protocols, standard procedures, and other related tools on local disaster preparedness.
9. Develop community and local government programs that address daily disaster risk.
10. Strengthen physical facilities for disaster preparedness such as emergency shelters.
11. Increase private sector involvement in response, recovery and reconstruction.
12. Promote investing and development of mobile apps and ICT tools for preparedness and response, also paying attention to needs of the specifically vulnerable groups.

IV. Proposed regional level actions to strengthen regional cooperation and support accelerated implementation and monitoring of the CASC regional plan

1. Strengthen the Regional Platform for DRR and other regional coordination mechanisms and Forums to support the implementation and monitoring of the Sendai Framework.
2. Strengthen and capacitate the Centre for Emergency Situations and DRR, and similar resource Institutions in the region with DRR and resilience building focus (enabling to build the capacities of governments and stakeholders)
3. Develop mechanisms for coherence between implementation and monitoring of the Sendai Framework and the SDGs at national and regional levels.
4. Inter-Governmental Organizations (IGOs) to make concerted efforts for coherence of regional and sub-regional strategies and support to national efforts.
5. Support the implementation of the Plan of Action for 2016-2017 of the 'Framework of cooperation on strengthening regional cooperation of Disaster Management Authorities of Central Asian and South Caucasus region in the area of Disaster Risk', with specific focus on regional cooperation for the prevention, preparedness and response to emergencies of cross-border nature
6. Increase regional cooperation towards application of science, technology and innovation in policy making for disaster risk reduction and risk prevention.
7. Promote and support gender sensitive DRR actions at national and local level.

8. Promote implementation of the 'United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience' and integration of disaster risk reduction into UN country level operations.

V. Implementation

National DRR and resilience building plans for the period 2016-2020 to be guided by the activities and the milestones of the Regional Plan in identifying targets, milestones, activities and indicators of progress.

National and local governments, DRR and sustainable development partners, development organizations, donor community to internalize and include the specified activities and the milestones of the Regional Plan into respective national/local/organizational plans and implementation mechanisms.

National DRR Platforms from the CASC region will ensure the implementation of the CASC Regional Plan by incorporating its activities into their national strategies for DRR or into other planning documents.

VI. Monitoring and review of CASC Regional Plan

The CASC regional plan for implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 to be periodically reviewed by governments and partners through the Regional Platform meetings, to be revised based on the emerging priorities and needs of the region.

Review of the National/Local DRR and resilience building plans to be aligned with the Sendai Monitor system to be introduced in 2017.