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Developing and Strengthening Disaster Risk Reduction Fundamentals

Action Area

- 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 and Evaluation of Sendai Framework Implementation

Action Area 1.1: Ensuring Use of Loss and Risk Information

Priority 1 of the Sendai Framework (“Understanding Risk”) underpins the important actions required for full implementation of all subsequent Sendai Framework Priorities. It is a precursor to the assurance that policy, planning, and investment are risk-informed in a manner that supports a resilient society. The Sendai Framework articulates the need for improved understanding of disaster risk in all aspects, including exposure, vulnerability, mechanisms for likelihood or consequence reduction, among others. Achievement of DRR targets is fully-contingent on the development of capacities that support a full understanding of risk not only among the traditional DRR community, but also throughout government and society given the integrated nature of DRR, climate change adaptation, and sustainable development. Capacities to collect, understand and use disaster loss and risk information are therefore requisite.

- Actions**
- Strengthen the knowledge and skills to collect, understand and use risk information at all levels, and among all relevant stakeholders to: conduct risk assessment; understand the difference between damage, economic losses, and recovery needs; understand risk in all its facets: hazard, exposure, vulnerability and capacities; understand extensive and intensive risk baselines on a national level, but with locally-relevant and useful granularity; understand risk data and its application for risk-informed development planning and other relevant areas, e.g. enforcement of building codes, urban planning.
 - Increase the appreciation and understanding of risk data and associated capacity needs among management and staff at Local and National Statistics Offices.
 - Create and foster partnerships among stakeholder communities that possess skills, knowledge, access, or other capacity to enhance the coverage, depth, and accuracy of risk assessments.
 - Institutionalize existing or newly-developed standardized tools and methodologies that enable accurate and relevant calculation of disasters’ financial costs and economic impacts, and ensure the requisite procedures, policies, technologies, skills, and knowledge are developed accordingly.
 - Institute mechanisms, practices, platforms, and exchanges that help to increase the sharing of risk data and information relevant to capacity assessment and sustainable development at the regional, sub-regional, and national levels, and among relevant sectors (inter-ministerial) and groups including the insurance industry and civil society organizations.
 - Increase the availability of georeferenced risk data.
 - Place focus on increasing the collection and exchange of data and information on hydrological and meteorological risk as well as climate change scenarios.

Action Area 1.2: Disaster Risk-Informed Development Plans

Sendai Framework Target E, which shares indicators with Sustainable Development Goals 1, 11 and 13, calls for a substantial increase in the number of countries with national and local DRR strategies by 2020. Progress towards this target will be highly contingent on integration of DRR and sustainable development, but also requires a significant expansion in the scope of stakeholders targeted by DRR capacity development efforts, as well as an increased focus on transformational and inclusive planning for effective and sustainable development in risk-related CD programmes.

- Actions**
- Identify and address functional capacity needs related to monitoring and evaluation, results-based management, and results-based planning.
 - Prioritize national and sub-national training programmes focused on integrating understanding of local needs (and the plans that exist to address them) that target disaster management authorities as well as representatives from all other relevant sectors.
 - Build capacity for risk-informed development on existing mechanisms that have a country- or community-specific frame; Coordinate interventions and incorporate relevant standards of practice, information, and methods for planning inclusiveness (e.g., persons with disabilities, women, vulnerable groups) that may be drawn from existing sustainable development efforts.
 - Incorporate government-endorsed targets and timeframes into development plans that address CD needs as they align with project implementation goals, including translation of CD action plans into projects.
 - Promote expanded access to accredited training to ensure that sufficient capacity exists to support the creation of quality, sustainable, and accountable local and national DRR strategies.
 - Ensure that resources to support DRR capacity that coincide with development activities are adequately accounted for in national and local budgets.
 - Increase engagement with the Ministries of Finance and Planning, and other key ministries.
 - Utilize bottom-up approaches in plan development that contribute to public education

Action Area 1.3: Funding and Resource Mobilization for DRR

The availability of funding and other resources has been identified as one of the greatest challenges to CD for DRR efforts. Financial, human, technical, and other resources are in and of themselves capacity elements, but given the influence that information, education, partnership building, accountability, negotiation, and other forms of capacity can have on the availability and use of such resources it is important that a special focus be placed on development of funding and resource mobilization for DRR as a target of CD action. Awareness building plays a large role in this area, considering that DRR represents an investment in the protection of development gains. The long-term resilience that results from such investment represents one of many returns on that investment. Identifying, understanding and innovating for adequate funding mechanisms requires CD in resource mobilization for DRR.

- Actions**
- Collect and assess data and develop documentation that serves to justify investments in disaster risk reduction, including that which is dedicated to CD.
 - Explore the use of pooling and sharing of resources through regional centres.
 - Develop and provide training that guides recipients in the development of DRR proposals for dedicated or ring-fenced DRR resources.
 - Mainstream funding to support CD for DRR into sectoral budgets.

Action Area 1.4: Monitoring and Evaluation of Sendai Framework Implementation

The goal of the Sendai Framework as adopted by Member States is to “prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery, and thus strengthen resilience.” Ensuring that DRR strategies, plans and related actions advance this goal hinges on stakeholders’ abilities to plan, organize, and accomplish monitoring of relevant DRR implementation targets at all levels. Whilst the Sendai Framework calls on The UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction to support the follow-up and review at a global and regional level, including through the web-based Sendai Framework Monitor system, there are numerous other opportunities and capacity gaps that could strengthen overall implementation monitoring and evaluation at all levels if they are addressed.

- Actions • Increase understanding of Sendai Framework-related data collection needs and reporting requirements, including the assignment of roles and responsibilities, among all national government ministries and across all sectors, especially National Statistics Offices
- Develop technical guidance and monitoring procedures and methodologies to support coordinated and complementary CD within and across ministries and sectors.
 - Motivate and empower leadership and staff in local communities, including government officials, to use and/or contribute to Sendai Framework monitoring to support their own decision-making effectiveness.
 - Strengthen ground-level monitoring and evaluation systems by developing specially-tailored tools and guidance.
 - Engage with the private sector through the CD process to raise awareness of the existence and value of the Sendai Framework, and to motivate and empower relevant individuals and companies to support the collection, analysis, and reporting of data relevant to Sendai Framework monitoring efforts
 - Increase all-stakeholder awareness that monitoring, and evaluation of Sendai Framework implementation are more an opportunity to improve local disaster resilience and development planning effectiveness and less an obligation to external entities (e.g., global and regional intergovernmental organizations).
 - Ensure continual assessment of risks, after events, to inform policy and CD needs.