

# 3.

## Sharing and Using Risk Information Before and After Disasters

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### Action Area

- 3.1: Conducting Effective Risk Communication and Knowledge Management
- 3.2: Enhancing Disaster Preparedness and Planning for “Build Back Better”
- 3.3: Understanding the Economics of DRR

## Action Area 3.1: Conducting Effective Risk Communication and Knowledge Management

Despite challenges, governments and societies are taking steps to increase their information sharing capacities. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction encourages improvements in how nations manage disaster information before, during, and after disasters occur, and highlights the importance of risk and emergency communications mechanisms, participatory processes for developing communications systems, and expanded use of community, traditional, indigenous and local knowledge to achieve risk reduction targets.

**Actions** • Elicit political or leadership support for and commitment to implementing and overseeing information sharing activities at every level.

- Encourage decisionmakers to support information sharing capacity through the dedication of financial and human resources.
- Support sharing through the building of understanding and trust between relevant agencies, organizations, and other key stakeholders.
- Work with stakeholders at all levels to develop data standards and information requirements that facilitate and simplify data sharing.
- Ensure that knowledge products are tailored and targeted to enable all stakeholders, including vulnerable groups, to use them effectively.
- Promote innovation and technology application (for translation) among relevant stakeholders, including academia, the private sector, and media, to ensure risk data is available and accessible, including for those with disabilities.
- Highlight the value of accurate risk data for stakeholders engaged in emergency response and continuity of operations planning, especially in key businesses sectors (e.g. energy and finance).
- Encourage and support the capture and sharing of best practices and lessons learned through resources, technical assistance, and advocacy.
- Promote the capture and use of traditional knowledge and knowledge at the community level to increase participation of all stakeholder groups in capacity development efforts.
- Convene stakeholders for establishing agreements that support communications and information sharing at the individual, the organizational, and the inter-organizational levels.
- Design CD interventions that appeal to the news media as both a provider and a recipient.
- Support the establishment of legal, regulatory, and procedural frameworks that promote more effective information sharing, including disaster statistics, risk information, and emergency messages.

### **Action Area 3.2: Enhancing Disaster Preparedness and Planning for “Build Back Better”**

The value of having in place a system that is prepared to respond to disasters, and incorporate DRR into post-disaster recovery, reconstruction, and rehabilitation, (including in pre-disaster recovery planning efforts), is unquestioned. Disaster impacted countries and communities are almost always better equipped to build back better when actions have been taken to strengthen decision-making and operational capacity prior to disaster onset. As such, the Sendai Framework included through Priority 4 a call on UN member states to address capacity development in this area by creating and strengthening recovery-focused relationships, establishing planning and coordination mechanisms, and introducing methods and procedures to ensure recovery activities, especially for livelihoods and economic recovery, are adequately informed and supported. Countries are encouraged to pursue people-centred multi-hazard, multi-sectoral forecasting and early warning systems, disaster risk and emergency communications mechanisms, social technologies and hazard-monitoring telecommunications systems to address this requirement.

- Actions**
- Develop complementarity between formal and informal groups involved in disaster response by seeking coherence of and with capability and practice standards by all.
  - Incentivize the conduct of local and sub-national disaster preparedness and disaster recovery planning; provide training materials and guidance to increase standardization and complementarity across communities and regions.
  - Provide materials and opportunities for officials in government, private institutions, and throughout society to become educated in actionable response and recovery activities, including participation in official response and recovery action teams.
  - Design drills and simulations to include those most likely to be involved in the response and recovery efforts.
  - Ensure that efforts are made to educate all stakeholders on the concept of build back better and ensure that there is common understanding among different stakeholder groups, including businesses.
  - Develop and provide nationally- and locally-relevant guidance and protocols on early warning and multi-hazard early warning systems, including low-tech options.
  - Establish and communicate ex-ante standards for reconstruction.
  - Increase the capture and use of lessons learned both before and after disasters and experience sharing to promote and inform those with inexistent or inadequate plans and strategies.
  - Engage with engineers and others traditionally involved in pre- and post-disaster recovery planning and operations to support the development of training and education and the raising of awareness about needs.

- Understand how underlying risk factors, including poverty, inadequate livelihoods opportunities, poor land use planning, inequality, climate change and variability, unplanned and rapid urbanization, inter alia, contribute to disaster risk and thus need to be addressed during recovery, reconstruction, and rehabilitation planning and operations.

### Action Area 3.3: Understanding the Economics of DRR

The Sendai Framework asserts that among the lessons learned from the implementation of its predecessor, the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 (HFA), is that investment in DRR is cost-effective in terms of prevented future losses. Indeed, over the same 10-year timeframe as the HFA, the total economic loss was more than \$1.3 trillion. Stakeholders must have a collective and common understanding and trust in the value proposition of DRR investments if there are to exist concerted efforts to pursue them. Knowledge of the true economic costs of disasters and their negative impact on development play a key role in making such an understanding possible and to ensuring public and private investment is risk-informed.

- Actions**
- Enhance capacities to collect and analyse data that supports a more complete, accurate understanding of the actual or anticipated economic, and socio-political, impacts of future hazard events such that cost-benefit analyses may be performed in the analysis of DRR and resilience-building plans.
  - Prioritize early CD efforts on increasing the awareness and understanding of the cost-effective benefits, and the economics of risk reduction and resilience, among key decisionmakers working in ministries with influence over DRR and sustainable development decisions.
  - Expand the knowledge of and capacity to utilize standardized cost-benefit analysis methodologies for risk-informed public and private investments.
  - Increase awareness and understanding of the Sendai Framework and its associated targets among ministry of finance officials and budget officers throughout government at all levels.
  - Establish private sector partnerships with entities that understand the value proposition of risk management, risk-informed private investment, and participation in community-based and national DRR efforts.
  - Support expansion of stakeholders' understanding of DRR economics to include social and behavioural influences, and the longer-term consequences of disasters (using scenario-based planning and computer-generated models).
  - Develop a diverse range of DRR financing instruments and ensure that all relevant stakeholders have adequate access.