



National Workshop on National Strategy & Disaster Loss Accounting System in Islamic Republic of Mauritania

(Nouakchott, 25-28 February 2018)

Concept Note and Programme

Background:

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction is the focal point in the United Nations system to ensure coordination and synergies among disaster risk reduction activities of the United Nations system and regional organizations and activities in socio-economic and humanitarian fields. As leading agency for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030), UNISDR is providing technical support to countries for the establishment and maintenance of their disaster loss databases.

Hazard assessment and risk information are inadequate in many countries in Arab region mainly due to the lack of capacity that results in a failure to inform decision-making processes. Risk information, as an output of effective monitoring, dissemination and analysis, is key to addressing disasters and disaster risks in the continent. This is not only considered to be important in terms of forming the basis for early warning systems and contingency planning, but also informing investment and development decisions.

The development of national disaster loss databases represents a low-cost, high impact strategy to systematically account for disaster losses. As such, this is the crucial first step to generate the information necessary for risk estimation and to inform public investment in Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). As a second step, the physical losses recorded in the databases are translated into monetary/economic losses enabling an initial evidence-based estimate of recurrent losses.

Systematically accounting for losses and comprehensively assessing risks help governments categorize and stratify their stock of both extensive and intensive disaster risks. Cost-benefit and other analyses can then be used to assess economic and political costs and benefits of different prospective, corrective and compensatory adaptation and risk management approaches. A wellbalanced portfolio of CCA/DRM investments can produce powerful incentives for governments, including the enhanced quality and sustainability of public spending, increased public safety and business continuity, strengthened financial protection and fiscal stability, and avoidance of political fallout in the event of a catastrophic disaster.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030)

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 is the first of several international agreements of the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Building on the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005-2015), this agreement was signed by all UN Member States in March 2015 in Sendai, Japan, with the following expected outcome over the next fifteen years:

“The substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries.”

To achieve this outcome, the following targets were established:

- (a) Substantially reduce global disaster mortality by 2030, aiming to lower the average per 100,000 global mortality rate in the decade 2020–2030 compared to the period 2005–2015;
- (b) Substantially reduce the number of affected people globally by 2030, aiming to lower the average global figure per 100,000 in the decade 2020–2030 compared to the period 2005–2015;
- (c) Reduce direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030;
- (d) Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, among them health and educational facilities, including through developing their resilience by 2030;
- (e) Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020;
- (f) Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of the present Framework by 2030;
- (g) Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030.

As can be seen, four out of seven targets (a to d) point to the reduction of human, physical and economic disaster damages and losses as a crucial requirement for the achievement the Framework. This raises the importance of having disaster loss accounting systems. Accounting losses is an essential step for monitoring the progress against the Sendai Framework. Moreover, having a disaster loss accounting system equally helps countries and communities to build resilience based on reliable, nationally-sustained information that helps to take future risk-informed decisions for preventing and reducing disaster risk.

Objectives of the workshop:

- Develop national and institutional capacities for managing disaster risk information systems.
- Train participants in the concept, methodology and use of the National Loss Accounting System using the DesInventar methodology.
- Train national institutions in the implementation of the national database.
- Promote synergies between the institutions for data collection and sharing.
- Train participants for collecting and registering information in a methodical and rigorous way.
- Strengthen the capacities for developing temporal, spatial and event analysis based on the DesInventar methodology.

Agenda

Day 1	Monday, 25 February 2019
09:30-09:40	Welcome Remarks Ministry of Environment – Government of Mauritania - Ms. Saira Ahmed – Programme Management Officer (Risk Knowledge & Analysis) UN Office for Disaster Reduction
10:00 -10:20	Presentation of Workshop Objectives and Key Areas of Disaster Risk Management within the Draft National Strategy
10:20 -10:35	Phases for Implementation of National Strategy
10:35-11:00	Coffee Break
11:00-11:20	Policies under Priority One: Understanding Disaster Risk
11:20-12:00	General Discussion
12:00 - 12:20	Policies under Priority Two: Enhancing DRR Governance
12:20 - 12:45	General Discussion
12:45 - 13:30	Policies under Priority Three: Investment in DRR
13:30 - 13:45	General Discussion
13:45 - 14:30	Policies under Priority Four: Enhancing Preparedness and Response
14:30 - 14:45	General Discussion
14:45 - 15:00	Future Steps
15:00	Lunch

Day 2	Tuesday, 26 February 2019
09:00-09:30	Registration
09:30-09:40	Introduction & Overview of the workshop
09:40-09:50	Round of Introductions
09:50-10:10	Goals and objectives of the workshop
10:10-10:30	Coffee Break
10:30-12:00	Disaster Loss Databases: Characteristics Overview of DesInventar System: Environment, modules, tabbed interface Presentation
12:00-13:30	Administration Module Exercises: DesInventar Administration Module: Overview

13:30 – 14:30	Lunch break
14:30 – 15:30	Administration Module Exercises: 1. Entering disaster information on a data card 2. Dealing with the sources and the geographic disaggregation of the data.
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break
16:00 – 17:00	Administration Module Exercises: Managing the extensions (additional damage and loss indicators).

Day 3	Wednesday, 27 February 2019
09:00-09:30	Recap of previous day
09:30 – 10:30	Module Exercises: 4. Query: filtering the information for data revision/validation. <u>Roundtable: Choosing the hazard list for selected country database</u>
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break
11:00-12:30	DesInventar Analysis Module: Overview Analysis Module Exercises: Query the database for analysis purposes
12:30-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-15:30	Building Thematic Maps
15:30-15:45	Coffee Break
15:45-17:00	Building Statistical Reports: filtering and downloading the data

Day 4	Thursday, 28 February 2019
10:00- 11:00	<u>Roundtable:</u> Workflow for implementing and sustaining the database
11:00 – 12:00	Group Work: Gaps and Challenges in Collecting Data
12:00 – 12:30	Coffee Break
12:30 – 13:00	Presentation by Groups
13:00 – 13:10	Closing Remarks
13:10 – 13:45	<u>Meeting with the Technical Team</u>