RESOURCES: Words into Action guidelines: Engaging Children and Youth in Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience Building

Children and youth under age 30 currently make up more than half the world’s population. They are the ones who will benefit most from reducing the risk and impact of disasters, curtailing climate chaos and achieving the global Sustainable Development Goals. As the Words into Action guidelines: Engaging Children and Youth in Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience Building shows, their contributions are already making a difference through more inclusive DRR and resilience-building policies, better prepared households, healthier children and youth and safer communities. However more can, and must, be done to support and engage children and youth around the world in DRR to fully implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. The guide offers five interrelated sections with specific advice on how to support and engage children and youth in disaster risk reduction and resilience building.

Section 01: Engaging children and youth

This section offers four key principles to guide DRR action, specifically child and youth rights, gender equity, a lifecycle approach and inclusion. It also provides guidance for meaningfully engaging youth and safeguarding them from multiple forms of violence that can increase during times of crisis and in humanitarian settings. Related publications and links include:

CHILD AND YOUTH RIGHTS

- A Field Manual for Integrating Community-Based Protection Across Humanitarian Programs
- Child Rights and Climate Change Adaptation: Voices from Kenya and Cambodia
- Children’s Rights in Disasters Information Sheet
- Every Child’s Right to be Heard: A Resource Guide on the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child—General Comment No.12
- I am Safe. We are Safe. A Children’s Guidebook to our Rights to Survive, Adapt and Recover from Emergencies and Disasters
- Realising Children’s Rights in a Changing Climate
- The Convention on the Rights of the Child at a crossroads
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child—General Comment No. 20 on the Implementation of the Rights of the Child During Adolescence

MEANINGFUL ENGAGEMENT

(See also: Sendai Framework Priority 2: Governance)

- A Toolkit for Monitoring and Evaluating Children’s Participation
- Adolescent Kit for Expression and Innovation
- Adolescent and Youth Engagement Strategic Framework
- Change Yourself and Act: Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change
- Child and Youth Participation Options for Action
- Children and Youth Principles and Barriers for Meaningful Youth Participation
- Child Participation Assessment Toolkit
- Children’s Participation in Decision Making: Why Do It, When To Do It, How To Do It
Section 02: Implementing the Sendai Framework for DRR

This section offers ideas for children and youth participation to address the Sendai Framework’s four Priorities for Action. Global examples illustrate how strategic, creative and diverse DRR initiatives support Sendai Framework implementation. Related publications and links include:

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND RESILIENCE

- Child-Centered Disaster Risk Reduction: Contributing to Resilient Development
- Child-Centered Disaster Risk Reduction in South Asia
- Child-Centred DRR Toolkit
- Child-Centered Multi-Risk Assessments: A Field Guide and Toolkit
- Child-Led Disaster Risk Reduction: A Practical Guide
- Children and Disaster Risk Reduction: Taking Stock and Moving Forward
- Children on the Frontline: Children and Young People in Disaster Risk Reduction
- Disaster Risk Reduction Toolkit
- From Vulnerability to Resilience: A Framework for Analysis and Action to Build Community Resilience
- Guidance on Risk-Informed Programming: How to Integrate an Analysis of Risk into Child Rights-Focused Planning and Programming
- Resilient Practices: Age 12-18
- Stay Safe and Be Prepared: A Guide to Disaster Risk Reduction
  - Parent version
  - Student version
  - Teacher version
- Urban Disaster Risk Reduction Framework
- What Works: A Manual for Designing Programs that Build Resilience

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND THE SENDAI FRAMEWORK

- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
- Children’s Charter: An Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction for and by Children
• Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Guidelines for Member States to Safeguard Children’s Rights and Wellbeing

• Seeds for a Safer Tomorrow Toolkit for Promoting Cross-Generational Dialogues and Actions Towards Sendai Framework Implementation

• Summary Report: Children and Youth in the Post-2015 Framework for DRR Process

• Taking Sendai Forward: IOM Strategic Work Plan on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience 2017-2020

• Towards the Resilient Future Children Want

• Words into Action guidelines: Implementation guide for local disaster risk reduction and resilience strategies

**PRIORITY 1: ASSESSING RISK, VULNERABILITY AND CAPACITY**

• Child-Centred Hazard, Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment and Planning in Urban Settings. A Scoping Study and Needs Assessment

• Counteracting Disasters, Targeting Vulnerability

• Child-Centred Multi-Risk Assessments: A Field Guide and Toolkit

• Integrating Climate Change and Urban Risks into the VCA Ensure Effective Participatory Analysis and Enhanced Community Action

• Global Assessment Report (GAR) 2019

• Guidance on Risk-Informed Programming: How to Integrate an Analysis of Risk into Child Rights-Focused Planning and Programming

• Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA)

• Words into Action Guidelines: National Disaster Risk Assessment

**PRIORITY 2: GOVERNANCE**

(Also see Meaningful Engagement in Section 01)

• Actions for Children and Youth Resilience: Guide for Governments

• Children’s Action for Disaster Risk Reduction: Views from Children

• Child Participation in Local Governance: Case Studies

• Child Participation in Local Governance: Guidance

• Children and Disasters: Understanding Impact and Enabling Agency

• Words into Action guidelines: Developing national disaster risk reduction strategies

**PRIORITY 3 and 4: PREPAREDNESSS, RESPONSE AND RECOVERY**

• Communication for Development in Humanitarian Action

• Exploring Approaches and Strategies for Human Services and Child-Serving Institutions to Promote Resiliency and Recovery for Children and Youth Affected by Natural Disasters

• Guidelines for Working with and for Young People in Humanitarian Settings

• Igniting Hope: A Compact for Young People in Humanitarian Action

• Preparedness for Emergency Response

• Recovery Platform (Children Section)

• Words into Action Guidelines: Build Back Better in Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction

• Words into Action guidelines: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response
Section 03: Including all-of-society in DRR

This section explores inclusive DRR as called for in the Sendai Framework, which requires a meaningful commitment to leave no child or youth behind no matter where they live, who they are and the influences on their lives. It illuminates how inclusive DRR benefits all-of-society. Related publications and links include:

INCLUSION

- Building Resilience for All: Intersectional Approaches for Reducing Vulnerability to Natural Hazards and Climate Change
- Consideration of Marginalised and Minority Groups in a National Disaster Risk Assessment
- Every Last Child: The Children the World Chooses to Forget
- Evidence Brief 5: Protection and Inclusion
- Good Practice Review: Disaster Risk Reduction–Inclusion
- Including Children in Disaster Risk Reduction
- Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction
- Intersectional Approaches to Vulnerability Reduction and Resilience-Building
- Towards Inclusion: A Guide for Organisations and Practitioners
**GENDER EQUALITY**
(see Child Protection for publications on gender-based violence)

- **Actions Not Words: Confronting Gender Inequality through Climate Change Action and Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia**
- **Addressing the Gender Inequality of Risk in a Changing Climate**
- **Adolescent Girls in Disaster and Conflict: Interventions for Improving Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Services**
- **Because I am a Girl: The State of the World’s Girls in Double Jeopardy—Adolescent Girls and Disasters**
- **Building Back Better or Restoring Inequalities? Gender and Conflict Sensitivity in the Response to Nepal’s 2015 Earthquakes**
- **CEDAW General Recommendation No. 37 on Gender-Related Dimensions of Disaster Risk Reduction in the Context of Climate Change**
- **Empowerment and Accountability for Gender Equality in Humanitarian Action and Crisis Response**
- **Engendering Transformational Change: Gender Equality**
- **Gender and Disasters: Considering Children**
- **Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Disaster Recovery**
- **National Gender and Emergency Management Guidelines**
- **Nepal Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Profile for Humanitarian Action and Disaster Risk Reduction**
- **Time to Act on Gender, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction**
- **Women’s Leadership in Risk-Resilient Development**
- **Women’s Voices & Agencies in Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction**
- **Youth Leap into Gender Equality: UN Women’s Youth and Gender Equality Strategy**

**DISABILITY**

- **Checklist for Including Children with Disabilities in Preparedness, Response and Early Recovery, Recovery and Reconstruction**
- **Disability Inclusion and Disaster Risk: Principles and Guidance for Implementing the Sendai Framework**
- **Disability Inclusion and Disaster Risk Reduction: Overcoming Barriers to Progress**
- **Disability Inclusive DRR Network**
- **Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Management: Voices from the Field and Good Practices**
- **Disability Inclusive WASH Practices**
- **Guideline on Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction: Disabilities and Disasters**
- **Including Children with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action: Preparedness, Response and Early Recovery, Recovery and Reconstruction**
- **Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction: A Policy Paper Brief**
- **Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction: A Policy Paper**
- **Mainstreaming Disability into Disaster Risk Reduction: A Training Manual**
- **Module on Child Functioning: Questionnaires**
- **Take Us Seriously! Engaging Children with Disabilities in Decisions Affecting their Lives**
- **Young Persons with Disabilities: Global Study on Ending Gender -Based Violence, and Realising Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights**
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND ETHNIC MINORITIES

- A New Guiding Framework for Engaging Diverse Populations in Disaster Risk Reduction: Reach, Relevance, Receptiveness and Relationships
- Aboriginal Disaster Resilience Planning: Online Toolkit
- Engaging Indigenous Peoples in Disaster Risk Reduction
- Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Disaster Risk Reduction, Prevention and Preparedness Initiatives
- Recommendations for Engaging Indigenous Peoples in Disaster Risk Reduction: Including Approaches and Strategies to Reduce Disaster and Overcome Existing Challenges to their Implementation
- World Disasters Report 2014—Focus on Culture and Risk

MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT

- A Child is a Child: Protecting Children on the Move from Violence, Abuse and Exploitation
- Camp Management Toolkit
- Evaluation of Filles Éveillées (Girls Awakened): A Pilot Program for Migrant Adolescent Girls in Domestic Service
- Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
- Global Refugee Youth Consultations
- Global Report on Internal Migration
- Groundswell: Preparing for Internal Climate Migration
- Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster
- IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons
- IASC Operational Guidelines on the Protection of Persons in Situations of Natural Disasters
- Migrants in Disaster Risk Reduction: Practices for Inclusion
- No Place to Call Home: Protecting Children’s Rights When the Changing Climate Forces Them to Flee
- Principles and Guidelines: Migrants in Vulnerable Situations
- Refugee Education 2030: A Strategy for Refugee Inclusion
- Relocations to Protect People from Disasters and Environmental Change: A Toolbox
- Taking Sendai Forward: IOM Strategic Work Plan on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience 2017-2020
- The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants
- The Refugee Children’s Progress Report
- Uprooted: The Growing Crisis for Refugee and Migrant Children
- We Believe in Youth
- Words into Action Guidelines: Disaster Displacement—How to Reduce Risk, Address Impacts and Strengthen Resilience
AGE

- Age Matters! Age-related barriers to service access and the realisation of rights for children, adolescents and youth
- Child Poverty, Disasters and Climate Change: Investigating Relationships and Implications Over the Life Course of Children
- Child Poverty and Adolescent Transitions

SOCIO-ECONOMICS

- Global Assessment Report (GAR) 2019
- Linking Disaster Risk Reduction and Poverty Reduction
- Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction
- Putting Children First: A Policy Agenda to End Child Poverty
- Risk-Informed Development: From Crisis to Resilience
- Understanding Children’s Risk and Agency in Urban Areas and Their Implications for Child-Centred Urban Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia

Section 04: Taking a multisector approach to DRR

This section aims to increase the collective impact of DRR and resilience-building through promoting a multisectoral approach. The section offers practical guidance for DRR programming, mobilisation, and policy and protocol development for and with children and youth. Related publications and links include:

EDUCATION

- Bringing Youth Preparedness Education to the Forefront: A Literature Review and Recommendations
- Comprehensive School Safety
- Comprehensive School Safety: Working Towards a Global Framework for Climate Smart Disaster Risk Reduction, Bridging Development and Humanitarian Action in the Education Sector
- CSS Targets and Indicators and Concept Note
- Developing and Implementing Comprehensive School Safety (CSS) Policy, Inclusion of Children with Disabilities in School Safety Management
- Disaster Risk Reduction and Education
- Disaster Risk Reduction in Education: Good Practices and New Approaches
- Disaster Risk Reduction in School Curricula: Case Studies from Thirty Countries
- Global Alliance for DRR and Resilience in the Education Sector (GADRRRES) Resources
- Minimum Standards for Education: Preparedness, Response, Recovery
- Preventionweb.net Educational Materials (themes - educational materials)
- Public Awareness and Public Education for Disaster Risk Reduction: Action-Oriented Key Messages for Households and Schools
- Safe Children Safe Schools Global Community-of-Practice
- Scalable Approaches, Methods and Tools for Child-Centred Risk Reduction and Resilience
- School Disaster Risk Management Guidelines for Southeast Asia
- Stay Safe and Be Prepared: A Teacher's Guide to Disaster Risk Reduction
HEALTH AND NUTRITION

- Countdown on Health and Climate Change: Ensuring that the Health of a Child Born Today is Not Defined by a Changing Climate
- Disaster Risk Reduction and Health
- Disaster Risk Reduction and Nutrition
- Health, Nutrition and Reproductive Health Fact Sheets
- Helping Children and Young People Cope with Crisis
- Staying Alive and Well: Child Health and Disaster Risk Reduction
- The Emotional Impact of Disaster on Children and Families

WATER, SANITATION AND HEALTH (WASH)

- Disability Inclusive WASH Practices
- Disaster Risk Reduction and WASH
- Emergency WASH for Children
- Global WASH Cluster Capacity Building for Humanitarian Response
- Strategy for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene 2016-2030
- WASH Fact Sheet

SOCIAL PROTECTION

- Advancing Child-Sensitive Social Protection
- Integrated Social Protection Systems Enhancing Equity for Children
- Resilience, Humanitarian Assistance and Social Protection for Children
- Strengthening Resilience Through Social Protection Programs: Guidance Note

CHILD PROTECTION

- Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action
- A Matter of Life and Death: Child Protection Programming’s Essential Role in Ensuring Child Wellbeing and Survival During and After Emergencies
- An Introduction to Human Trafficking: Vulnerability, Impact and Action
- Child Protection in Disasters and Emergencies
- Disaster Risk Reduction and Child Protection
- Effective Law and Policy on Gender Equality and Protection from Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Disasters
- Ending Violence in Childhood
- Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action: Reducing Risk, Promoting Resilience and Aiding Recovery
- Keeping Children Safe: Organisation Self-Auditing Tool
- Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action
- Minimum Standards for Prevention and Response to Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies
• Minimum Standards for Protection, Gender and Inclusion in Emergencies
• Preparing for Disaster: Protecting Boys and Girls in Disaster Comic
• Preventing and Responding to Violence Against Children and Adolescents: A Theory of Change
• Promising Programmes to Prevent and Respond to Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation
• Unseen, Unheard: Gender-Based Violence in Disasters
• Violence Against Women and Girls and Resilience
• Violence Against Women and Girls Resource Guide: Disaster Risk Management Brief

LIVELIHOODS

• Better Policies for Better Youth Livelihoods: A Guidance Note for Development Practitioners
• Decent Jobs for Youth Website
• Disaster Risk Reduction and Livelihoods
• Livelihoods and DRR: Sustainable Livelihoods Approaches
• Responding to a Changing Climate: Exploring How Disaster Risk Reduction, Social Protection and Livelihoods Approaches Promote Features of Adaptive Capacity
• Youth and Livelihoods: Investing in a Youth Dividend

THE ENVIRONMENT (including CLIMATE CHANGE)

• An Ecosystem Approach to Disaster Risk Reduction: The Challenge of Multilevel Governance
• Are climate change policies child-sensitive? A guide for action: Summary
• Building Climate Resilience
• Children in a Changing Climate
• Ecosystem-Based Adaptation Handbook
• Girls’ education in climate strategies
• Guidelines for Ecosystem-Based Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction
• One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership
• Promoting Ecosystems for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation
• The Climate Resilience Handbook
• WeAdapt. A collaborative platform on climate adaptation issues. Search: Children; Youth
• Young Professionals Network of the World Commission on Protected Areas: Our Pact for Parks, People, Planet
• Youth Climate Report
• Youth in Action on Climate Change: Inspirations from Around the World
PUBLIC OPEN SPACES AND PLACEMAKING

- Block by Block
- Building Urban Resilience
- Child-Centred Urban Resilience Framework
- Child Friendly Cities
- Child Friendly Cities and Communities Assessment Toolkit
- Child Friendly Cities and Communities Handbook
- Child Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative: Toolkit for National Committees
- Child Friendly Places
- Child Friendly Urban Design
- Children's Charter on Urban Development
- Cities Alive: Designing for Urban Childhoods
- Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities
- Global Public Space Toolkit
- Innovating for Children in an Urbanizing World: A Use-Case Handbook
- Making Sense of the City: Developing Evidence Through Action Research and Learning
- Making Space for Children: Planning for Post-Disaster Reconstruction with Children and Their Families
- Place Standard: How Good is Our Place?
- Placemaking with Children and Youth
- PASSA Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness
- Toolkit for Measuring Community Disaster Resilience
- Toolkit for Measuring Urban Experiences of Young Children
- Trends in Urban Resilience 2017
- Urban95: Starter Kit
- Urban Green Spaces and Health
- Urban Situation Analysis Guide and Toolkit
  - Toolkit
  - Annexes
SHELTER, HOUSING AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

- All Under One Roof: Disability-Inclusive Shelter and Settlements in Emergencies
- Area-Based Approaches in Urban Settings: A Compendium of Case Studies
- Barriers to Urban Shelter Self-Recovery: Lessons for Humanitarian Policy and Practice
- Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness (PASSA Youth)
  - Website
  - Manual and Toolkit
- Self-Recovery from Disasters: An Interdisciplinary Perspective
- Shelter Kit

Section 05: Using creativity, innovation and play
This section offers the strategic and critical value of creative, fun, innovative and engaging processes in DRR and resilience initiatives to illustrate how they can build and enhance learning, confidence and agency, good behaviors, safety, a sense of belonging, governance opportunities and an understanding of rights in the context of increasing disaster risk. Related publications and links include:

PLAY, GAMES, SPORT, CREATIVE ARTS AND MEDIA

- Children in Disasters: Games and Guidelines to Engage Youth in Risk Reduction
- Climate Training Kit Youth Unit: Activities, Games, Resources, Presentations and Videos
- Sport and Physical Activity in Post-Disaster Intervention: A Handbook
- Voices of Ethnic Minority Children: How-To Guide for Using Participatory Video for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change
- When Children are Filmmakers
- Y-Adapt Curriculum for Young People Consisting of Games and Playful Activities

INNOVATION

- 30 Innovations for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Innovating for Children in an Urbanizing World: A Use-Case Handbook
- Innovation for Gender Equality
- Pathways to Scale: Pathways to Results for Every Child
- Scaling Innovation for Every Child
- Young Scientist Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
- U-INSPIRE Indonesia
- Upshift
- Water Youth Network
CHILD- AND YOUTH-FRIENDLY TOOLS AND CURRICULA

- A Half-Six-One: A Song on WASH for Children
- A Guide to Youth-led Advocacy for Disaster Risk Reduction
- ARC Resource Pack: Actions for the Rights of the Children
- Climate Change and Lifestyles
- Climate Extreme: How Young People Can Respond to Disasters in a Changing Climate. A Youth-Friendly Version of the SREX
- Climate Resistance Handbook: Or, I was Part of a Climate Action. Now What?
- Children, Do You Know What to Do During Emergencies? Video
- Disaster Risk Reduction Facilitator Cards
- Emergency Kit Scavenger Hunt
- Extreme Event Disaster Game
- Flood Snakes and Ladders Game
- Forced to Flee: Children on the Move (A Teaching Resource)
- Get Down Low, and Go, Go, Go: A Song for What to Do During a Fire
- I am Safe. We are Safe. A Children’s Guidebook to our Rights to Survive, Adapt and Recover from Emergencies and Disasters
- IggyVola: Reducing Risks Together: Version 1 and Version 2
- Making Disaster Preparedness Fun: Get Ready, Get Safe
- NASA Climate Kids
- Pillowcase Project: A Preparedness Education Program for Grades 3-5
- Prepare with Pedro: A Preparedness Education Program for Grades K-2
- Riskland Game in Let’s Learn to Prevent Disasters!
- Safe You. Safe Me. A Book for Children Age 7-12 to Learn More about Protection and Their Rights
- Stay Safe and Be Prepared: A Student's Guide to Disaster Risk Reduction
- Stop Disasters! Game
- Y-Adapt: Climate Change Curriculum for Young People, including “Map The Hazard” Activities
- Young Citizen Scorecards
- Yukon Indigenous Community Climate Change Champions Training (YIC4)

CHILD- AND YOUTH-FRIENDLY FRAMEWORKS

- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction for Children. Children in a Changing Climate
- Know Your Rights: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples for Indigenous Adolescents
- Youth Engagement for a Better World Pledge