



Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction Fourth Session - Invest Today for a Safer Tomorrow

Geneva, Switzerland, 19-23 May 2013

Name and Type of Event	Save the Children – Preparation Meeting
Date	Sunday 19 May 2013
Reporters name and contact details	Nick Ireland
Number of Participants	19

1) What were the key messages, outcomes and recommendations from your event?

At this critical moment in the HFA 2 negotiations, Save the Children as the leading international child rights organisation proposes the following recommendations:

- **Governments should support an inclusive age-appropriate child-centred approach to risk reduction in the HFA 2 that focuses on the specific risks faced by children.**
 - Children are not only vulnerable but they can play vital roles in their communities in risk assessments, planning and preparing for future disasters and climate related impacts.
 - Children’s rights to survival, protection, participation and development are non-negotiable.
 - HFA2 needs to include strong accountability mechanisms with clear measurable outcomes and indicators for children as an at-risk group.
 - Children and youth must be involved in actions and priority setting for and within the World Conference on DRR in 2015 and related HFA2 decision-making processes.
- **DRR frameworks and development investments must minimise all risks, including those associated with climate change, conflict, technological and other manmade hazards.**
 - We call on governments and the international community to ensure that HFA 2 is reinforced by post-2015 agreements especially MDGs and SDGs.
 - Reducing the risk of technological disasters such as the Fukushima nuclear plant crisis must be included in the HFA 2 agenda.
 - Risk reduction in violent conflict settings must be included in the HFA 2 agenda.
- **Donors, governments and the private sector should act early, manage the risk and not only focus on the crisis.**
 - Donors and governments need to invest in anticipatory activities and act early to reduce the vulnerabilities of those most at risk to minimize the likelihood of disaster.
 - There must be a shift from response to risk management, risk proofing development interventions and prioritizing multi-sectoral, participatory and forward looking risk analysis.
 - Flexible funding e.g crisis modifiers should be built into development plans and programmes.
- **Ensure that every new school is disaster-resilient and educational continuity is safeguarded in the face of hazard impacts.**
 - Standards and guidelines for disaster-resilient school construction and reconstruction are developed for global and regional application.
 - National education authorities should protect children and education sector workers and safeguard educational continuity through systematic school disaster management practices.
 - DRR education should be incorporated in formal and non-formal learning for in school and out of school children.