

Third UN Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction
Technical Workshop on Indicators, Monitoring and Review Process for the Post-2015 Framework
17 November 2014

Major Group on Science and Technology Statement

With thanks to our moderator Minister Cornejo of Ecuador and in response to the second question on how targets and indicators would work at global and national levels from Ambassador McCook, the **Major Group on Science and Technology** (MGST) welcomes the inclusion of outcome-oriented global targets in the zero draft of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (annex 1).

We consider these as vital for assessing DRR progress internationally, for encouraging visibility and political commitment and for guiding the establishment of national and sub-national DRR targets and indicators.

The MGST also underscores the key role that scientific and technical organisations can play in collecting data, establishing baselines and monitoring progress towards DRR targets at all levels and geographical scales.

The MGST proposes tests that should be applied to every proposed target:

- Can the global targets be translated to all scales – i.e. do they make sense locally, nationally and globally?
- Are they measurable, including in promoting disaggregated data and having a clear baseline?
- Are they politically motivating?
- Are they universally applicable to all countries?
- Do they incentivise positive actions?
- Are they aligned with the SDGs?
- Do they add clarity to the internal coherence and results framework for the post-2015 Framework for DRR?

Consequently, MGST offers the following views which we summarise in part from our paper presented at the **Consultation with Major Groups last week**:

1. The targets in zero draft are vital and we consider that the coherence of the results framework will guide stakeholders in making implementation choices. Therefore we would discourage the discussion of targets in isolation from the post-2015 Framework for DRR's outcome and goal. These all need to fit together to provide clear, logical guidance for stakeholders at all levels.

2. Assessing the utility of numerical global outcome targets: Global numerical targets mask considerable differences in the risk profile between countries. Countries should be encouraged to establish numerical targets and to include these in a global registry.

3. DRR data: although there are current metrics many others will be needed it will be vital that these should be standardised

4. A Global System for Monitoring Progress is vital with baselines established nationally and globally and to be developed on a sound evidence base. Science supports evidence-based DRR practices but the ultimate arbiter in DRR is evaluation and the gathering of systematic practice-based evidence.

5. Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals, Climate Change Agreement, Finance for Sustainable Development process and World Humanitarian Conference are essential and this has already been called for by many Member States.

In summary the MGST are anxious to contribute and are willing to support the Targets and Indicators which we gather may be taken forward in further ways.

Annex 1

Informal Working Group on Targets and Indicators [Report to the Co-Chairs of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee of the Third UN Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction](#) “To support the assessment of global progress in achieving the expected outcome, [seven global targets are identified:

- 1. reduce disaster mortality by [a given percentage in function of number of hazardous events] by 20[30/35];*
- 2. reduce the number of affected people by [a given percentage in function of number of hazardous events] by 20[30/35];*
- 3. reduce direct disaster economic loss by [a given percentage in function of number of hazardous events] in relation to the GDP by 20[30/35];*
- 4. reduce disaster damage to health and educational facilities by [a given percentage in function of number of hazardous events] by 20[30/35];*
- 5. increase number of countries with national and local disaster risk management strategies by [a given percentage] by 20[20/30/35];*
“ To increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk management strategies as well as integrated multi-hazard risk assessment and assessment of their capacities to manage the identified risk by 20[XX].”
- 6. international cooperation to stimulate the creation and strengthening of national capacities and technology including technology transfer and capacity building*
- 7. increase the number of people, including vulnerable people, with access to early warning and risk information by [given percentage] by 20[XX].”*

*As noted in the **Informal Working Group on Targets and Indicators, [Fourth Meeting Wednesday 12 November](#)**, that “considering that the nature and timing of disasters differ from place to place and so too the vulnerability and losses, no sufficient data is available to make a scientific assessment of timing and extent of impact and damage from various kind of disasters.”*