

UNDRR Submission to the Key Messages – 2021 Integration Dialogues

1. Development is never disaster neutral; it creates, exacerbates, or reduces systemic risk. Just as the interlinkages across the Sustainable Development Goals mean that interventions towards one goal may affect others, they also have an impact on the underlying risk landscape. The implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 is imperative to guide the shift from reactive responses to disasters to proactive planning and the management of disaster risk within development pathways, which is integral to the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
2. Building back better towards inclusive, sustainable, and just economies for recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic must include investment in developing/revising policies, laws, regulations and standards for risk prevention, risk reduction, and resilience, in accordance with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. COVID-19 has demonstrated that disaster risk is increasingly complex and systemic, and that hazards can trigger cascading impacts across sectors and geographies. Reducing disaster risk requires understanding the interrelation and patterns of risks across multiple dimensions and scales.
3. National disaster risk reduction strategies are the cornerstone of disaster risk governance. They provide guidance which actors in all sectors can follow to integrate disaster risk reduction into policies, strategies, and investments decisions and can ensure a coordinated and mutually-reinforcing approach between national, sub-national and local disaster risk reduction activities, and ensure development assistance supports national disaster risk reduction priorities. Through our Global Education and Training Institute and our Regional Offices, UNDRR is providing technical and capacity development support to countries to develop and implement disaster risk reduction strategies that focus on prevention. Much greater attention is needed to support developing countries to finance the implementation of their disaster risk reduction strategies.
4. Promoting policy coherence and leveraging synergies across sectors is a critical step towards a redesigned contract between people and planet. The Coherent Approach is an example of action towards this aim; it promotes policy and integrated national plans to accelerate action towards both the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and the UNFCCC Paris Agreement within the Sustainable Development Goals. Supported by a range of UN system and external partners,¹ the project accelerates climate sensitive and risk-informed development by building synergies between national disaster risk reduction strategies and National Adaptation Plans.
5. Multi-stakeholder global partnerships and initiatives are an important tool for sharing knowledge, experience, best practices and lessons learned. The members of the International Recovery

¹ FAO, ICAO, UNCTAD, UNDRR, UNEP, UNESCAP, UNESCO, UNFCCC, UN OCHA, UNOCHR, UNOHRLLS, UNU, UN Women, WHO, WFP, WMO, OECD, AAI, GCA, GIZ, REAP/IFRC, and A2R.

Platform (IRP)² have developed three documents key for COVID-19 recovery: a compendium of 21 tools and guidelines – “Applying IRP Disaster Recovery Tools and Guidelines to Pandemic Recovery,” the “COVID-19 Recovery Policy Brief,” and “Practical Lessons for Recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic: Principles for Recovery,” which offers a set of guiding, action-oriented principles and practical cases to recovering communities as they plan and implement recovery from this crisis. The Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR2030) is a cross-stakeholder initiative³ for improving local risk reduction and resilience through delivering a clear roadmap to urban resilience, establishing mutually reinforcing city-to-city learning networks, connecting multiple layers of government and building partnership, and providing access to technical expertise and monitoring and supporting tools. The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) is another example of a multi-stakeholder initiative⁴ to achieve the 2030 Agenda by promoting the resilience of infrastructure systems to climate and disaster risks, including by providing access to good practices to develop appropriate standards and regulatory mechanism to manage infrastructure development in a manner that fosters resilience.

² The Steering Committee (SC) of the IRP consists of 17 entities, namely the Governments of Japan, Italy and Switzerland, and the ADB, ILO, WB/GFDRR, UNEP, UNDP, UNESCO, UN-HABITAT, UNDRR, UNOPS, UNCRD, WHO, ADRC, Hyogo Prefecture, CEPREDENAC. The IRP is generously funded by the Government of Japan and was established in 2005 as a follow up to the 2nd World Conference on Disaster Reduction.

³ The core partners of MCR2030 are C40 Cities, the Resilient Cities Network, the ICLEI Network of Local Governments for Sustainability, the IFRC, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), UN-HABITAT, UNDRR, UNOPS, the World Bank, and the World Council on City Data.

⁴ The CDRI was launched by the Government of India with support from UNDRR. As of 28 January 2021, the country members are Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Bhutan, Chile, Fiji, France, Germany, India, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Maldives, Mauritius, Mongolia, Nepal, Peru, Sri Lanka, Turkey, United Kingdom, and the United States of America. Additional partners include partners include the Asian Development Bank, UNDP, UNDRR, the World Bank, and ARISE: The Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies.