

UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)

Inputs to the Background Note on the theme of the ECOSOC 2016 Integration Segment: “Implementing the 2030 Agenda through Policy Innovation and Integration”

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognize and reaffirm the urgent need to reduce the risk posed by disasters. As disaster risk reduction cuts across all aspects and sectors and is instrumental to sustainable development, success of the 2030 Agenda is linked to progress in implementation of disaster risk reduction.

The 2030 Agenda provides a significant opportunity to address underlying drivers of disaster risk by focusing on poorly planned urbanization, climate change, environmental degradation and poverty, all of which contribute to increased exposure and vulnerability to disasters.

Disaster risk reduction and resilience can be seen in 25 targets and in 10 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Disaster risk reduction is also inherent in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Paris Agreement on climate change.

There is much to be gained from viewing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through the lens of disaster risk reduction. The global targets and priorities for action set in the Sendai Framework contribute substantially to the achievement of the SDGs and targets. Recognizing multiple benefits and mutually reinforcing outcomes is key to promoting an integrated approach.

- For example, building the resilience and reducing disaster damage to critical infrastructure, particularly education and health facilities, which is one of the seven global targets in Sendai Framework, supports achievement SDG 9 on building resilient infrastructure and its subsequent targets. At the same time, this reinforces SDG 4 on education, for instance, through reducing the amount of educational days lost and supporting the improvement of educational facilities.

The Sendai Framework (paragraph 7) calls for a broader and a more people-centred preventive approach that is multi-hazard and multisectoral based, inclusive and accessible in order to be efficient and effective. The Sendai Framework also recognizes the need for the public and private sectors and civil society organizations to work more closely together and to create opportunities for collaboration, and for businesses to integrate disaster risk into their management practices.

The Sendai Framework (paragraph 19d) is guided by the principle that disaster risk reduction requires an all-of-society engagement and partnership. It also requires empowerment and inclusive, accessible and non-discriminatory participation, paying special attention to people disproportionately affected by disasters, especially the poorest. A gender, age, disability and cultural perspective in all policies and practices; and the promotion of women and youth leadership.

As we move forward to implementation, there is opportunity to ensure that the work underway on delivering the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 is coherent, integrated and mutually supportive.

For the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), three areas of cooperative effort can be expected to play an important role in supporting mutually reinforcing outcomes:

- **A risk-informed 2030 Agenda** where risk information is available and accessible for planning and investment decisions and that encourages national government and partners to collect national disaster loss data and risk information for governments, business and the public, building for instance on the Sendai Framework target to substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to the people by 2030.
- **Aligning tools and metrics** between the Sendai Framework and the SDGs and linking mechanisms for monitoring and reporting through alignment of indicators to allow for a systematic monitoring of the contribution of disaster risk reduction to sustainable development; and seeking a synchronized and harmonized review process. In addition, normative guidance and standards should recognize and support the design of mutually reinforcing outcomes.
- **Promoting co-benefits and partnerships** including: (i) stakeholder commitments to build resilience to the range of hazards identified in the Sendai Framework, for example those related to health and pandemics, climate-related extreme and slow-onset events and environmental and technological emergencies; (ii) participation, ownership and inclusion of all stakeholders (private sector, civil society, scientific and technical institutions, and local governments); and (iii) promoting opportunities for countries to better prevent and manage risks in development financing and investments.

In light of the cooperative efforts, and given the guidance from the Sendai Frameworks and the 2015 GA Resolution 'Sustainable Development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction' (A/70/472/Add.3), UNISDR is:

- Assisting in the development of common indicators and monitoring progress, including through the work of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Indicators (IAEG-SDG) and ensuring coherence between the IAEG-SDG and the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Indicators and Terminology relating to disaster risk reduction;
- Disseminating disaster risk information, policies and practices;
- Working through the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction to integrate the Sendai Framework monitoring instrument and global and regional platforms for disaster risk reduction into the monitoring and reporting on the 2030 Agenda; and
- Leading on a revised 'UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience Towards a Risk-Informed Approach to Sustainable Development' to help implement a mutually reinforcing risk-informed 2030 Agenda.