

THE GLOBAL DRR PROGRAMME: DISASTER RISK REDUCTION, RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE



The Global Disaster Risk Reduction Programme managed by the UNDP Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery for Building Resilience Team (DRT) has one overarching goal: to make countries and communities resilient to disaster and climate risks.

Overview

The Global Disaster Risk Reduction Programme combines UNDP's legacy of long-term sustainable development experiences anchored in risk management, resilience building and governance with a systems approach to reduce disaster and climate risks.

The programme is aligned with the [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction](#) and the [UNDP Strategic Plan 2022-2025](#). It works through four workstreams that increase risk governance capacity, refine and expand the understanding of disaster risk reduction (DRR), foster access to risk information and enhance prevention, preparedness and recovery processes in order to reduce vulnerability.

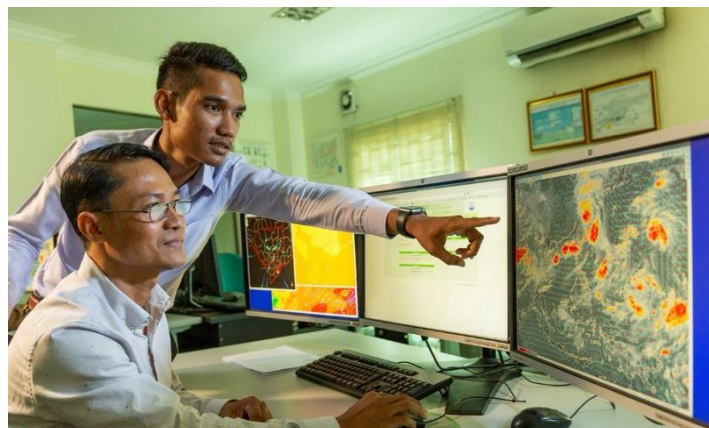
This approach integrates DRR, climate change, the Agenda for Humanity, and the SDGs; it is holistic, conflict sensitive, whole-of-government and society, gender transformative, and leaves no one behind. The project's four outputs comprise:

1. **Integrated Risk Governance:** Strengthened disaster and climate risk governance capacities that set incentives for risk reduction and resilience building (Sendai Priority 2)
2. **Climate and Disaster Risk Information:** Increased access to and application of climate and disaster risk information to support risk-informed development (Sendai Priority 1)
3. **Sustainable Recovery:** Enhanced recovery assessment, planning and preparedness capacities that ensure resilience after disasters (Sendai Priority 4)
4. **Early Warning and Preparedness:** Strengthened early warning and preparedness systems and capacities to support early action of affected populations (Sendai Priority 4)

The increasing exposure of people, assets and livelihoods to natural hazards is outpacing risk reduction efforts. Infrastructure, economic activities, and urbanization are expanding into areas exposed to natural hazards at a faster pace than ever.

Climate change, weak risk governance, human migration, environmental degradation, inequality, violence and conflict are drivers that exacerbate disaster risk.

These factors are increasingly interconnected and mutually reinforce each other with cascading effects through entire systems. In particular, the COVID-19 pandemic, with its widespread health and socio-economic impacts reverberating long into the future, will set back development gains and affect our ability to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Tracking high-tech Early Warning Systems in Cambodia. Photo: UNDP/Cambodia

Through Risk-Informed Development, Early Warning and Preparedness, Urban Resilience, we must engage a broader network of stakeholders, representing a range of perspectives at all levels: public and private, formal and informal. We can then entertain transparent dialogues on the trade-offs between decisions on risk-informed versus risk blind policies and investment, fostering resilience to a range of interconnected shocks and threats.

Four Outputs and Key Results

Output 1. Integrated Risk Governance: Strengthened disaster and climate risk governance capacities that set incentives for risk reduction and resilience building

Under this output, UNDP mainstreams a risk reduction paradigm through its deep experience in governance, institution building and policy making, while pursuing a systems approach. The activities under the risk governance output will link the institutional base for DRR, climate adaptation and development through harmonized policies and legal frameworks to foster integration of risk at the national and sub-national levels.

Output 1 Activities

- Provide integrated solutions for disaster and climate risk-informed development planning & budgeting.
- Support harmonized policy, institutional and legal frameworks that set incentives for greater coherence in risk reduction, climate adaptation and development, including through the operationalization of the UN Common Guidance on Helping Build Resilient societies at country level.
- Promote analysis of the political economy of risk to inform risk reduction policy and implementation.
- Support government and civil society to implement community-based disaster and climate risk management programs at scale, with emphasis on women's empowerment, gender equity and inclusiveness.

- Provide solutions to reduce exposure and vulnerability in urban areas.
- Strengthen disaster risk reduction and climate risk management capacities in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.

Output 1 achievements to date:

- Learning package on UN Common Guidance on Helping Build Resilient Societies developed
- UNDP Approach to Risk-Informed Development
- UNDP Strategy Tool for Integrating DRR and CCA in Development finalized and piloted
- UNDP-wide Urban Resilience Strategy developed

Other achievements to date => [2021 DRT annual report](#)

Output 2. Climate and Disaster Risk Information: Increased access to and application of climate and disaster risk information in decisions on development and recovery

This output covers the increased access to, and application of climate and disaster risk information in DRR, development and recovery. It helps to establish the empirical basis for disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation interventions, facilitate communication and support risk-informed development decision-making. Although centered on disaster risk information, this output also includes information on climate-related and other risks which is increasingly dynamic given rapidly changing conditions.

Output 2 Activities

- Support the digitalization and institutionalization of damage and loss accounting systems.
- Strengthen the capacity of responsible institutions to monitor and report on the implementation of national DRR strategies.
- Enhance national risk information systems through standardized tools and methodologies.
- Support digital solutions to enhance access to risk information to support response, preparedness and recovery of vulnerable groups.

Achievements to date => [2021 DRT annual report](#)

Output 3. Sustainable Recovery: Enhanced recovery assessment, planning and preparedness capacities that ensure building back better and resilience after disasters

This output aims to strengthen capacities to conduct Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) and develop recovery frameworks, assist with the design and implementation of gender-responsive recovery projects/programmes, provide financing solutions for recovery, develop a PDNA training package relevant to the Asia Pacific region on infrastructure related support, and formulate guidelines for recovery planning with emphasis in Southern and Western Africa.

Output 3 Activities

- Strengthen capacities to conduct Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) and develop Recovery Frameworks
- Support recovery preparedness arrangements.
- Assist with the design and implementation of gender-responsive recovery projects/ programmes.
- Provide financing solutions for recovery.

Output 3 achievements to date

- PDNAs in the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, St Vincent's and Grenadines, Haiti and Timor Leste conducted in response to tropical storms, a volcanic eruption, an earthquake and a cyclone.
- PDNAs detailed gendered impacts of the disaster with recovery framework targeting women and girls.
- Pandemic Recovery Needs Assessments conducted in Ecuador, Eswatini and Zambia.

Other achievements to date => [2021 DRT annual report](#)

Output 4. Early Warning and Preparedness: Strengthened early warning and preparedness systems and capacities to support early action of affected populations

The focus of this output is improving the efficiency of existing early warning and preparedness systems through capacity development, strengthening the monitoring capacity of hydro-meteorological and other hazard warning institutions at all levels, multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms for early warning and for disaster preparedness, promoting innovative communication to share actionable warning messages, and ensuring 'last mile' connectivity.

Output 4 Activities

- Digital solutions in early warning and early action enabling effective preparedness piloted and scaled up.
- Preparedness capacities of national and local institutions and stakeholders developed and expanded.
- Policy and programme offer on early warning and early action enabling effective preparedness articulated and marketed.

Output 4 achievements to date:

- Beta version of the "Digital Technologies Radar for Disaster Risk Management" developed
- Get Airports Ready for Disaster: GARD supported international airports in **Jamaica, Panama, Puerto Rico and Peru** to assess their surge capabilities and design a plan to strengthen their preparedness systems and procedures.

Other achievements to date => [2021 DRT annual report](#)

Newly Published Policies, Tools and Guidance

The DRT global team is primarily responsible for developing the policy frameworks, strategies and service offers enabling regional teams to provide policy and programming support to UNDP Country Offices for the design, formulation and implementation of DRR and recovery-related projects. The following results were achieved in 2021:

- A major milestone was achieved with the endorsement of the [UN Common Guidance for Helping to Build Resilient Societies](#), by the Principles of the UN Sustainable Development Group in 2021. The DRT facilitated the drafting of this document in collaboration with 18 other UN entities. The Guidance brings the UN together around a common understanding and operational approach that spans development, human rights, peace & security. An accompanying learning package has been developed, also coordinated by UNDP jointly with UNDCO and an interagency reference group.
- The [UNDP Discussion Paper on the Governance of Systemic Risk](#) was published by the DRT as a contribution to the 2022 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction. It also informs the implementation of UNDP's Strategic Plan and our ongoing work on risk governance. It calls for UNDP to approach the governance of systemic risk not from a hazard specific practice, but from an integrated and multi-risk approach to strengthened national and local governance and resilience. Six major directions are identified for moving towards an actionable framework for systemic risk governance.
- The [Urban Risk Management and Resilience Strategy](#) has been finalized based on a review of past decade of policy, programmatic and methodological work on urban resilience by key UN and international organizations. Taking a multi-risk and cross-practice approach, the Strategy seeks to address convergence of risks of all typologies in urban contexts to foster resilience building across all key dimensions.
- The [UNDP Strategy Tool for Integrating DRR and CCA into Development](#) was finalized in a joint effort that has been led by the DRT in collaboration with the Nature Climate and Energy Team. This strategy tool addresses repeated calls for practical guidance on integrating both disaster and climate related risks into development, and an approach that helps overcome policy silos for joined-up implementation and localization. It is now rolled out in selected UNDP programme countries.
- The [UNDP Service Offer on Disaster Early Warning and Preparedness](#) was developed. It provides a comprehensive mapping of UNDP's programmatic areas as they related to preparedness and early warning across various thematic areas (including disaster and climate change), as well as a snapshot of UNDP's internal early warning and crisis preparedness resources geared towards UNDP Country Offices.

Leveraging Partnerships

UNDP/UNDRR

The DRT Global Team implemented the UNDP/UNDRR Statement of Intent to strengthen collaboration under three priority areas:

1. Sendai Framework Monitor: Supporting national reporting on the implementation of the Sendai Framework.

2. Sendai Framework Target E and Coherent Agenda: Achieving Target-E at country level and ensuring coherence with the climate change agenda and the SDGs. and
3. Risk-informed Common Country Analysis and UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.

The joint Action Plan translated into collective results across five regions to support the implementation of the Sendai Framework, notably:

- The development of a vision and roadmap to guide the transformation of the current disaster loss database towards a new and innovative Disaster Loss Accounting System based on the UN Data Strategy launched in 2020.
- Joint support to 18 countries in developing National DRR strategies, to 11 on integrating DRR or climate change in DRR strategies/NAPs and to 16 providing capacity building on Target E.
- Guidance Note on integrating climate & disaster risk in Cooperation Frameworks training jointly rolled out in more than 10 countries.

CADRI

UNDP continued to lead the Secretariat of the **Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI)**, a global partnership composed of 20 organizations working towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by providing countries with a mechanism to mobilize multi-disciplinary expertise in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation to prioritize risk reduction in national and local plans, amongst others. Globally, in 2021, UNDP guided the CADRI Partnership to achieve the following results, amongst others:

- The CADRI UN joint programme supported countries in joint assessment and planning of DRR and CCA actions across nine socio-economic sectors.
- UNDP contributed to the development of the CADRI e-catalogue that consolidates 175 readily available training modules in disaster risk reduction, including disaster preparedness, across different sectors and themes provided by CADRI members.
- A CADRI Digital Tool has been designed to support countries in their efforts to assessing strengthening their national and local capacities to reduce disaster and climate risks.
- Please see the [CADRI Annual Report 2021](#)

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