

# 2017 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

FROM SENDAI TO CANCUN • FROM COMMITMENT TO ACTION



22 to 26 May 2017  
Moon Palace Resort, Cancun, Mexico

Hosted by the Government of Mexico and organized by  
the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction  
(UNISDR)



*“There is a good story to tell in Cancun. Significant progress has been made in reducing loss of life from extreme weather events in many countries and the development benefits of reducing disaster risk can be enormous”*

Robert Glasser, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction

## **What is the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction?**

Launched in 2007, the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction is recognised by the UN General Assembly as the main global forum for strategic advice, coordination, partnership development and the review of progress in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 and its successor the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

The function of the Global Platform is articulated in paragraph 28 (c) of the Sendai Framework and UN General Assembly resolution 70/204. In particular, it is expected to: i) forge partnerships; ii) assess progress on implementation; iii) share practice and knowledge on disaster risk-informed policies; programmes and investments, including on development and climate issues; and iv) promote the integration of disaster risk management in other relevant sectors.

The first Global Platform since the adoption of the Sendai Framework and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the 2017 Global Platform is an opportunity for the international community to take stock of early implementation and accelerate progress towards the implementation of the Sendai Framework’s seven global targets. Specifically, the Global Platform outcome documents, including the High level Communiqué and Chair’s Summary, will provide valuable input to the work of the UN General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council through the High-level Political Forum for Sustainable Development helping to ensure that risk-informed approach is at the centre of the implementation and review of the Sustainable Development Goals.

## **Why come to Cancun?**

For many countries, the combination of increasing disaster risk and more frequent and intense extreme weather events due to rising global temperatures is one of the greatest impediments to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. It threatens to reverse progress made towards sustainable development and inclusive growth. Urgent action on disaster risk reduction is needed.

The 2017 Global Platform is a unique forum for disaster risk reduction policy makers and experts to convene with their counterparts in sustainable development and climate change adaptation to share experiences, discuss innovative solutions, and chart the course for an integrated approach at the international, regional, national and local levels.



## Who's coming to Cancun?

Heads of State and Government, ministers, mayors, parliamentarians, senior leaders from the United Nations, and leaders in the private sector, science and technology, academia, and civil society representing women, children and youth, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, and older persons will converge at the 2017 Global Platform. Over 5,000 participants are expected.

They will share successful experiences and knowledge on disaster risk-informed policies that can curtail economic losses and reduce the human toll of natural hazards. They will forge partnerships to reduce existing risks and build investment ideas for sustainable and equitable growth that does not exacerbate disaster risk.

## Key Messages

There is an urgent need to move from managing disasters to managing disaster risks in order to focus on prevention, reduce uncertainty, lower costs and create value.

Countries can improve disaster risk reduction governance and strengthen legislation and institutions in order to reduce disaster losses and to have effective national and local strategies in place by 2020.

Economic losses due to disasters are a serious threat to sustainable development, gradually eroding or wiping out years of development gains.

Disasters pose a major threat to industry worldwide with the potential to disrupt vital industries and global supply lines, creating a cascading series of problems.

Achieving sustainable development is contingent on reducing disaster risk and the Sendai Framework should be implemented in coherence with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change.

New initiatives will be launched, including on Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems, as well as publications such as the GAR Atlas: The Hidden Veins of Global Disaster Risk.



*“We are convinced that all sectors, communities of interest and constituencies, together will move forward to make the opportunities outlined in the Sendai Framework a reality for a better disaster risk-informed and prepared world.”*

Luis Felipe Puente, National Coordinator of Civil Protection, Mexico.

## What to expect at the Global Platform

Over five days the 2017 Global Platform will be full of opportunities to share progress and challenges, discuss specific aspects of disaster risk reduction in depth, and present successful approaches.

The programme is composed of:

**A Leader's Forum** will consider strategies that address increased economic losses from disasters, including elements of risk financing, risk transfer and insurance and making public and private investments risk sensitive.

**Two preparatory days** provide a space for learning and training events, regional group and stakeholder meetings, and field visits.

**Two Special Sessions** will focus on early warning and building back better.

**Four Plenaries** will address National and Local Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies, A Risk-informed Approach to Sustainable Development and Resilience for Countries in Special Situations, Sendai Framework Monitoring, and Coherence between the Sendai Framework and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**Fifteen Working Sessions** will allow for focused discussion on Sendai Indicators and terminology, Critical infrastructure, Risk insurance, Community resilience, Private sector engagement, Local authorities, Risk information and loss databases, Cultural heritage, Ecosystems and marine management, Inclusive and people-centered disaster risk reduction, Health and disaster risk reduction, Land use and spatial planning, and Disaster risk reduction governance.

**More than 40 Side Events** featuring a variety of topics related to disaster risk reduction.

**A Market Place** will showcase major projects, tools, services, networks and good practices that support the implementation of the Sendai Framework.

**An IGNITE Stage** will give selected participants 15 minutes to present a disaster risk reduction topic, project or initiative, such as a new public-private partnerships, a successful local initiative, or new knowledge or innovative approaches to disaster risk reduction.

### Register your participation at:

[www.unisdr.org/conferences/2017/globalplatform/registration/form/register](http://www.unisdr.org/conferences/2017/globalplatform/registration/form/register)

### For logistical information please visit:

[www.preventionweb.net/files/48240\\_gp17logisticnoteforparticipants.pdf](http://www.preventionweb.net/files/48240_gp17logisticnoteforparticipants.pdf)



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