

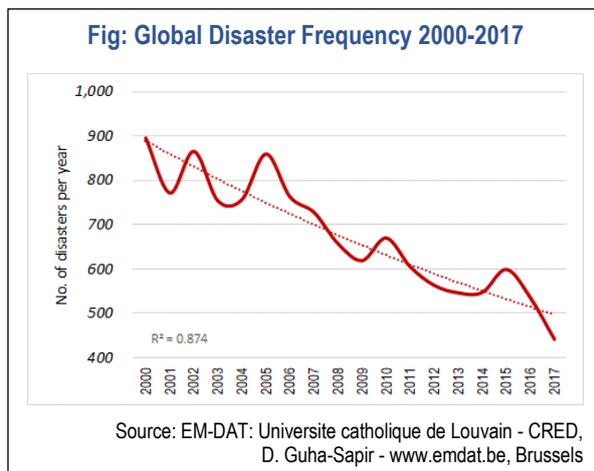
## ISDR ASIA PARTNERSHIP FORUM 2018

| 24-25 April 2018 | Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia |

### Concept Note

#### THE STATE OF PLAY

While the frequency in disaster occurrence has declined over years (Figure) the impact of disasters remains high. In year 2017 alone a total of 441 disasters of a given intensity caused the death of over 1100 people per month and affected 0.25 million people per day.



The Asia-Pacific region continued to bear a major proportion of the disaster occurrence and impact – accounting for around half of the total disasters and mortality associated with them, and over 70 percent of the total affected people.

At the same time, the Asia-Pacific region has also led the disaster risk reduction agenda. The *Asia Regional Plan for Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030*<sup>1</sup> provides a regional blueprint to advance disaster risk reduction in the region. Several countries have integrated disaster risk management into their long-term development plans. The integration of disaster risk reduction into key sectors,

including education and health, has been accelerated. Political attention on resilient infrastructure has catalysed. The focus has also moved from 'government to governance' with high engagement with and action by the stakeholders.

However, the Sendai Framework paradigm requires renewed ways and approaches by which disasters can be addressed and prevented. These can be summarised as:

- **Communication:** While significant progress has been made in understanding risk and early warnings, the communication of risk is often limited at various levels, resulting in its limited integration in development and decision-making.
- **Governance:** Almost all the countries in the region have developed and adopted DRR policies, strategies, plans, frameworks while some have relevant legislative measures and laws in place. However, the alignment of these policy frameworks and guidelines with the Sendai Framework remains a challenge. Most countries have also established institutional structures for DRR implementation and coordination, which need to be strengthened and contextualised to the needs of the new paradigm of risk-sensitive development.
- **Localisation:** The real coherence across multiple international frameworks happens at the level of implementation, i.e. at the local level. Countries have varied levels of devolution of DRR responsibilities. In

<sup>1</sup> <http://preventionweb.net/go/50922>

most cases the local authorities face implementation challenges due to budgetary and capacity constraints.

These issues also provide huge opportunities for advancing the DRR agenda. The integrated monitoring of the SDGs and the Sendai Framework also provides a good opportunity to build coherence. These monitoring mechanisms not only help assess progress but also enhance transparency and accountability in DRR governance.

### **ISDR-ASIA PARTNERSHIP**

The Asia Regional Plan provides a broad policy direction to guide the implementation of the Sendai Framework in context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the region and highlights the role of the ISDR-Asia Partnership (IAP) Forum as an instrumental means to ensure its achievement and monitor its progress. The Plan underscores the importance of strengthening the biennial AMCDRR and the biannual IAP meetings as the principal means of regional disaster risk reduction governance mechanisms to ensure its effective follow-up and implementation. The IAP thus forms a key regional governance and technical support mechanism to facilitate a periodic review of the Asia Regional Plan.

The IAP is an informal multi-stakeholder forum for disaster risk reduction through the implementation of the Sendai Framework and the Asia Regional Plan. The forum includes governments, regional inter-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, UN and international organizations, and bilateral and multilateral donors.

The forum meets twice a year and serves as the main consultation forum for the Asian Ministerial Conferences. Collectively, the IAP and AMCDRR form the regional platform for disaster risk reduction in the Asia-Pacific region.

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE IAP FORUM APRIL 2018**

The next IAP forum is being convened on 24-25 April 2018 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. The Forum will build on the outcomes of the last IAP Forum (15-16 December 2017, Bangkok, Thailand<sup>2</sup>) with the following key objectives:

- Share and review progress in disaster risk reduction and, in particular, implementation of the Asia Regional Plan;
- Consider and advance the AMCDRR outcome documents;
- Firm-up the agenda of the AMCDRR 2018.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

The IAP Forum will be held in Best Western Tuushin hotel, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Administrative details have been shared.

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#### **Event Weblink:**

<https://www.preventionweb.net/go/57132>

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.preventionweb.net/go/55818>