A Draft Framework to Guide and Monitor Disaster Risk Reduction

The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) Secretariat and UNDP are developing a framework for understanding, guiding and monitoring disaster risk reduction at all levels. The ultimate goal of this collective and iterative endeavour is to encourage and increase appropriate, effective disaster reduction practices.

Introductory note

The framework is provided as a starting point an initial core set of principles and goals to understand, and thus guide and monitor, disaster risk reduction. As one reads to the right across the framework in any thematic area and component, the columns suggest increasingly specific descriptions and measures in a systematic fashion, with the aim to define related benchmarks. (It is difficult to characterize this column without making special reference to the type of hazards affecting your unit of analysis (region, country, community, etc.) Nevertheless, these criteria are kept at a generic level).

Benefits

By systematically compiling information about disaster reduction initiatives using an agreed framework benefits are expected to include abilities to:

- Relate and integrate disaster risk management issues into sustainable development;
- Establish generic standards and guidelines for disaster reduction;
- Help establish priorities within the domain of disaster reduction;
- Develop systematic, comprehensive data and information about disaster reduction;
- Provide a basis for research in disaster reduction;
- Compare approaches and analyze trends;
- Identify existing gaps and address them through new or improved programmes, policies, or plans;

The process should result in an increased commitment by governments and other stakeholders for disaster risk reduction. The process will draw from, and feed into, existing practices, institutional and policy-making / planning processes. It strives to be transparent and engage as many actors as possible in the development and testing of the framework, starting by addressing the international community, with the objective of reaching national and local levels.

Users will include decision-makers in Governments and agencies, project managers, researchers, NGO’s, communities and educators.

Comments to: framework_consultation@un.org
ISDR Secretariat, UN
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thematic areas/ Components</th>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Criteria for benchmarks (very tentative)</th>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Data Availability Measure</th>
<th>Who</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thematic areas 1: POLITICAL COMMITMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS (GOVERNANCE)</td>
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<td>Policy and planning</td>
<td>Shift in approach from response to risk reduction</td>
<td>National risk reduction strategy</td>
<td>Intl, Regi, Natl, Local</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Promotion of disaster reduction including in reconstruction process</td>
<td>Percentage of GDP invested</td>
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<td>Integration of risk reduction in development planning and sectoral policies (poverty eradication, social protection, sustainable development, climate change adaptation, desertification, energy, natural resource management, etc)</td>
<td>Disaster reduction in Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers</td>
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<td>Participation in regional and international activities, programmes, networks and structures (including major conventions)</td>
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<td>Legislation</td>
<td>Laws, acts and regulations</td>
<td>Percentage of budget allocation</td>
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<td>Accountability</td>
<td>Experienced staff</td>
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<td>Resources</td>
<td>Resource mobilization and allocation: financial (innovative and alternative funding, taxes, incentives), human, technical, material</td>
<td>Administrative evidence</td>
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<td>Organizational structures</td>
<td>Interministerial, multidisciplinary &amp; multisectoral approaches</td>
<td>Existence of disaster reduction committees or platforms with defined scope and activities</td>
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<td>Implementing and coordinating mechanisms</td>
<td>Periodic review of committee activities and accomplishments</td>
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<td>Decentralization, civil society and community participation, local institutions</td>
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<td>Normative framework</td>
<td>Codes, standards, norms</td>
<td>Existence of systems to control compliance and enforcement</td>
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<td>Enactment mechanisms</td>
<td>Requirement of compliance by law</td>
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<td>Thematic areas 2: RISK IDENTIFICATION</td>
<td>Hazard analysis: characteristics, impacts, historical and spatial distribution, multi-hazard assessments, hazard monitoring including of emerging hazards</td>
<td>Hazard maps</td>
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<td>Risk assessment</td>
<td>Vulnerability and capacity assessment: social, economic, physical and environmental, political, cultural factors</td>
<td>Historical record of hazards and their impacts (catalogues, inventories)</td>
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<td>Risk monitoring capabilities, risk maps, risk scenarios</td>
<td>Vulnerability and capacity indicators developed and systematically mapped and recorded</td>
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| Impact assessments | • Loss/impact assessment,  
• Socio-economic and environmental impact assessment  
• Loss analysis | • Percentage of development projects and investment based on independent risk and environmental impacts assessments, including in post disaster phases |
|---|---|---|
| Forecasting and early warning systems | • Forecast and prediction  
• Warning processing and dissemination  
• Response | • Use effectiveness indicators developed by IATF WG2 (to be available in October 2003) |
| **Thematic areas 3: KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT** | | |
| Information management and communication | • Official information and dissemination programmes and channels  
• Public and private information systems (including disaster, hazard and risk databases & websites) and networks for disaster risk management (scientific, technical and applied information, traditional knowledge), timely end user products | • Documentation and databases on disasters  
• Professionals and public networks |
| Education and training | • Inclusion of disaster reduction from basic to higher education (curricula, material development and institutions)  
• Vocational training  
• Dissemination and use of traditional/indigenous knowledge.  
• Community training programmes. | • Referenced educational material  
• Number of courses and institutions |
| Public awareness | • Official public awareness policy and programmes with associated material, guidelines and instructions  
• Media involvement in communicating risk | • Coverage of disaster reduction related activities by media  
• Visibility of disaster reduction day |
| Research | • Comprehensive research agenda for risk reduction  
• Related methodological development including for planning and progress assessment  
• Regional and international cooperation in research, science and technology development. | |
### Thematic areas 4: RISK MANAGEMENT APPLICATIONS

#### Environmental and natural resource management
- Interface between environmental management and risk reduction practices, in particular in wetland and watershed protection and restoration, integrated water resource management; reforestation, agricultural practices, ecosystem conservation
- Use of wetland or forestry management to reduce flood risk
- Trends in deforestation rate
- Use of environmental impact assessments in disaster reduction planning

#### Social and economic development practices
- Social protection and safety nets (social solidarity strategies, e.g. PRSPs)
- Financial instruments (involvement of financial sector in disaster reduction: insurance/reinsurance, risk spreading instruments for public infrastructure and private assets, micro-credit and finance, revolving community funds, social funds)
- Sustainable livelihoods strategies
- Percentage of poor population having access to social protection and safety nets
- Use of safety nets and social protection programmes in recovery process
- Extent of insurance coverage.
- Coverage of micro-finance services in high disaster risk area, evidence of take up

#### Technical measures
- Land use planning, urban and regional planning
- Implementation and control mechanisms for specific risk (construction, infrastructure, desertification and flood control techniques, hazard control structures)
- Compliance with international standards, codes and norms
- Reduced percentage of construction or building projects in floodplains and other mapped hazard-prone areas
- Enforcement of zoning plans
- Percentage of official buildings in compliance with standards (health facilities, schools, lifelines, energy supplies, other critical facilities)
- Retrofitting

### Thematic areas 5: PREPAREDNESS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- Effective communication and coordination system between response entities
- Contingency planning
- Preparedness planning
- Logistics, infrastructure
- Emergency response networks and plans (national/local, private/public), regularly updated and tested
- Coverage of community training and community based preparedness
- Emergency funds and stocks

Comments to: framework_consultation@un.org  [http://www.unisdr.org/dialogue](http://www.unisdr.org/dialogue)