



Issues Briefs

Event title	<u>Working Session 11: National DRR strategies and climate NAPs</u>
Rationale	<p>There is a need to ensure a closer coherence and coordination of the Sendai Framework with both the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (the SDGs) and the Paris Agreement. Risk-informed development is an underlying principle to ensure the sustainability of development gains (GA Resolution A/RES/70/1).</p> <p>As Member States move forward with necessary implementation actions, limited alignment of each agreement has become evident, as one can see from the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs). Parties to the UNFCCC are just beginning to produce national adaptation plans (NAPs), and will be starting to report on their adaptation actions through adaptation communications under the Paris Agreement in time for the global stock take in 2023. The submitted NAPs to date, indicate some early progress towards aligning with SDGs, however, explicit alignment with the Sendai Framework is less pronounced.</p> <p>Each agreement is typically supported by different Ministries with primary responsibility for the issue, with varying degrees of coordination. In general, each agreement is leading to different actions and commitments from different Ministries and stakeholders at national and local level. This situation potentially creates a significant additional burden: increased transaction costs, duplicated data collection and reporting. At the same time, countries incur tremendous opportunity costs when disaster risk reduction related to climate change is not considered in their national climate mitigation and adaptation, urban development and economic and social development plans and policies. There is a need for cooperation not only between different Ministries in governments, but also between local government units, between national and local levels as well as the need for inclusion of all relevant stakeholders, leading to a restructuring of how the mandates related</p>

	<p>to DRR, CCA and SDGs are assigned, to promote more coherence and avoiding the need to coordinate after the fact.</p> <p>To be successful in the achievement of the SDGs, while addressing the three agendas concurrently, there is a need to actively plan coherent approaches to formulating plans and strategies and in the subsequent implementation of actions. it is imperative that these respective agendas be aligned both during the formulation of policies and plans but more importantly during the implementation.</p> <p>Elements recommended as part of a good DRR governance system, in itself a part of the national disaster risk reduction strategy, should include clearly identified priorities; ownership by all relevant stakeholders and adoption at the highest level of government; and, alignment with the vision, long-term goals, targets and priorities of key national policies such as the national development plan and sectoral development plans. Similar elements should be recommended for dealing with climate change and the national adaptation plans (NAPs).</p> <p>The session should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Showcase examples of how a coordinated approach to the development and implementation of National DRR Strategies and NAPs supports efforts to strengthen resilience at the national and local level. - Review challenges and barriers to such a coordinated approach at the national level - Compile recommendations to strengthen coherence of approaches at the national level including considerations for governance and financing.
State of Play and Opportunities	<p>There are key benefits to be gained from a stronger coherence and these include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) More effective policies and investments, (2) More efficient use of capacities and financial resources, advancing technical knowledge and expertise in assessing, understanding, and managing risks, and enhanced disaster preparedness and response planning. (3) Ensuring development does not exacerbate existing and future levels of natural and man-made hazards including climate risk and that development gains are protected from the impact of disasters and climate change. <p>The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction has been continuously participating and contributing to the work of relevant UNFCCC bodies,</p>

including the Adaptation Committee, the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage and the Least Developed Countries (LDC) Expert Group. With the Adaptation Committee the focus has been on building an understanding on how to leverage on the monitoring framework available for the Sendai Framework Monitoring Process to monitor the impact of adaptation activities. The work with the LDC Expert Group (LEG) focuses on supporting the development of the National Adaptation Plans. At the national level, National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) are emerging as a powerful vehicle to assemble various adaptation efforts into coherent and sustainable national strategies, and as the basis for adaptation elements of the NDCs.

More specifically, the focus of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction's support is to ensure coherence in reaching the common 2020 targets which are the development of the National Adaptation Plans - NAPs and Sendai Framework's Target E - the development of National and Local Risk Reduction Strategies. By bringing closer the implementation of Sendai Framework "Target E" as well as the National Adaptation Plans – NAPs, countries will have an opportunity to ensure coherence between disaster risk reduction, climate change and sustainable development policies and practices and also an opportunity to meet human rights obligations and the critical guiding principle of leaving no one behind including women's rights, non-discrimination and equality as well as advance risk responsive strategies, that are also gender-sensitive, for the most climate vulnerable sectors and communities.

The LEG meets twice a year to develop and review progress on the implementation of its work programme. The LEG implements its work programme through a variety of modalities including technical guidance to the countries, training activities, workshops, expert meetings, NAP Expos, case studies, capturing and sharing of experiences, best practices and lessons learned, NAP Central, monitoring of progress, effectiveness and gaps, collaboration with other bodies, programmes and organizations, and promotion of coherence and synergy.

Understanding that there is a need to ensure coherence across the various agendas the LEG, with the support of the NAP technical working group, has developed the Integrative Framework for National Adaptation Plans and Sustainable Development Goals (NAP-SDG iFrame) to help integrate different approaches and to enable the consideration of how NAPs could contribute to addressing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Furthermore, the LEG

	<p>is now focusing on providing direct country support for the process to formulate and implement NAPs through the Open NAPs.</p> <p>Open NAPs is an initiative designed to mobilize broad participation in the assessments and related activities for a given country or region, using crowd-sourcing approaches, to produce NAPs that are based on best available science and inputs from all that have something to contribute. Countries request support through the Open NAPs, and the LEG, with the support of the UNFCCC Secretariat, offers technical support in an interactive manner leading to results that the country can directly integrate into their official NAP. The Open NAPs can explore different strategies and methodologies, leading to best practices to be identified after experimentation and analysis using a scientific approach.</p> <p>At the invitation of the LDC Expert Group through the UNFCCC COP, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction has developed a supplement to the NAP technical guidelines regarding the integration of DRR in the development of the National Adaptation Plans (2020 Target). The supplement to the NAP technical guidelines has been finalized and supported a recent review of the Government of Kiribati's revision of their JNAP (Joint National Adaptation Plan). Similar support to other Member States will be carried out in 2019.</p>
Way Forward	<p>Building resilience is a shared overall objective of all post-2015 agendas. Risk and uncertainty are the common focus, and the risk components (hazards, exposure, vulnerabilities, capacities, and risk drivers) could be starting points to design effective measures. Not losing sight however, that climate change adaptation goes a step further by including transformational actions designed to 'adapt' to fundamental shifts in climate (the average changes, beyond the extremes).</p> <p>Possible pathways to ensure coherence could thus include strengthening capacities for policy processes; strengthening risk governance systems; understanding climate change and disasters risks, as well as risks induced by development and investment; developing financing strategies spanning the full spectrum of risk; converging to appropriate adaptation and risk management measures; and also agreeing on an integrated approach to implementing, monitoring and evaluation.</p> <p>At a technical examination meeting on adaptation during a UN climate conference (May 2017) participants identified various opportunities for integrating climate change adaptation, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction efforts, including through: - using the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans as a framework for practical integration</p>

	<p>of the three post 2015 agendas across various sectors and levels of governance; - joint decision-making processes, tools, metrics and strategies; - ensuring that relevant data, science and knowledge, including traditional knowledge, is generated and made available to inform progress collectively across the agendas; - working in coordination, collaboration and cooperation with all relevant stakeholders including local government and communities to ensure that the three agendas are successfully achieved in a complementing and efficient way; and, - taking a systems approach to integrating efforts and looking for cross cutting entry points such as risk management.</p>
Possible Key Messages	<p>The development and implementation of National DRR Strategies and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) provide an opportunity to having a mutually reinforcing and more coherent approach to national and local efforts to strengthen resilience under the umbrella of the 2015 global agreements. Lessons and good practices are emerging on an integrated approach to DRR and CCA, particularly in terms of institutional arrangements, assessments, and actual implementation of resilience building measures, including social and financial protection.</p> <p>Focus should continue in: 1. Capacity building for the development of integrated CCA and DRR policies; 2. Designing governance mechanisms that continue to break down institutional silos and enable engagement of relevant stakeholders from the CCA, DRR and development planning spheres; 3. Tackling data challenges, including the development of more holistic risk assessments that integrate CCA and DRR considerations into resilient planning and investment processes; 4. Innovative funding streams and incentives for more resilient investments; and, 5. Coordinating and monitoring CCA and DRR-informed development</p>