



## Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

22-26 May 2017 - Cancun, Mexico

### Accelerating Efforts in Building Community Resilience to Disasters

#### Concept Note

<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Thursday 25 May 2017, 11:15-12:45</b>
<b>Room and Venue</b>	<b>Arena A</b>
<b>Organizers</b>	<b>Organizing Team members, UNISDR</b>
<b>UNISDR and Mexico Focal Points</b>	<b>Ms. Christel Rose (UNISDR)</b>
<b>Background</b>	<p>Evidence has shown that the exposure of persons and assets in all countries has increased faster than vulnerability has decreased, thus generating new risks and a steady rise in disaster-related losses with a significant economic, social, health, cultural and environmental impact at the local and community levels. Such impacts are being exacerbated by climate change and recurring small-scale disasters and slow-onset disasters that particularly affect communities, households and small and medium-sized enterprises, constituting a high percentage of losses and livelihood destruction. If we continue a business-as-usual approach of disaster risk management, we will not be able to manage the increasing scale of the challenges. We need a paradigm shift in the way we work with communities at risk and to act preventively to reduce exposure, vulnerability and impact at local level.</p> <p>Communities are at the forefront of disasters and are the first responders when disasters strike. They must be well prepared to overcome the immediate impact of disasters and save lives and assets in the short-term, and become resilient to disasters to recover quickly and allow for resilient livelihood and the achievement of sustainable development in the longer term. Ultimately resilient communities are the foundation of a resilient planet.</p> <p>The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction calls for a broader and more people-centred preventive approach to disaster risk. Community members benefit from a strong wealth of experience and expertise in disaster risk reduction that is often forgotten. Their role and contribution to achieving the Targets of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction should be better recognized and disaster risk</p>



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	<p>reduction practices need to be multi-hazard, multi-sectorial, inclusive and accessible in order to be efficient and effective. They should also build on indigenous knowledge and traditional practices and wisdom that should form the foundation of community-based disaster risk reduction.</p> <p>While recognizing their leading, regulatory and coordination role, Governments should engage with all community members and practitioners, including community leaders, women, children, disabled and older persons, in the design, implementation of policies, plans and standards. A stronger and more systematic cooperation and possible new model of interaction must be developed between national / local authorities and local communities should the global target of increasing national and local strategies and plans for disaster risk reduction by 2020 be achieved.</p>
<p><b>Rationale</b></p>	<p>Community resilience is often referred to as a goal in disaster risk reduction in scientific publications as well as policy papers. When it comes to the design and implementation of policies however, community resilience is often side-lined or discussed as an add-on to structural and technological measures of resilience building. This session puts community resilience at the centre of debate and at the centre of strategies to be developed for policy implementation. It is regarded as an indispensable outcome of the 2017 Global Platform to foster sustainable solutions in the mid- and long-term, to create tangible outcomes in DRR at local level and to support national Governments in achieving Target e of the Sendai Framework by 2020.</p> <p>Scientific evidence shows that new risks have emerged and that disaster-related losses have increased significantly in the last decades. Based on this evidence, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) underlines the fact that impacts are felt especially at local and community levels.</p> <p>In order to reduce risk and vulnerability and strengthen community resilience, new forms of interaction and decision making between different stakeholders are necessary. It is in particular urgent to identify new cooperation and engagement modalities with national and local governments in order to contribute to an effective, transparent and inclusive disaster risk governance that builds the foundation for resilient communities and nations to disasters by 2030.</p> <p>Disaster risk reduction can only be effective and sustainable</p>



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	<p>if local communities and their different formats of organization, different cultures and different paradigms concerning risk are recognized, taken into account and integrated in future risk governance schemes.</p> <p>Creating opportunities for community's awareness, engagement and participation in the decision-making processes at national and local levels is crucial should Governments aim at formulating inclusive national and local DRR strategies and policies by 2020.</p>
<p><b>Session description</b></p>	<p>The session will bring together representatives of communities, from around the world, to interact and engage into a dialogue with local and national authorities and organizations engaged in supporting community resilience. The debate will recognize and promote local action and community leadership in strengthening community resilience and ensure that the human face of resilience is not forgotten.</p> <p>The session will identify tangible measures and present concrete solutions to contribute to “strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk”, as called for by the Sendai Framework as part of Global Priority 2.</p> <p>The session will also address the importance of integrating disaster risk reduction, sustainable development, climate change and urban planning to promote the development and implementation of coherent local and national strategies for disaster risk reduction by 2020 (Target e) and will refer to successful examples of integration at community level.</p> <p>Finally, the session will raise awareness and guide community actors to get more familiar with funding opportunities and mechanisms for community based disaster risk reduction to scale up efforts towards long-term and sustainable community resilience to disasters.</p>
<p><b>Session Objectives</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To identify key elements and devise a set of recommendations and tangible solutions to strengthen community resilience and save lives at the community level.</li> <li>2. To identify a new model of interaction and cooperation between the community / local level and national Government to support the achievement of Target e of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (“Increasing national and local strategies and plans for DRR by 2020”)</li> </ol>



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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. To define the core components of a community resilience framework that fosters an integrated approach between disaster risk reduction, sustainable development, climate change and urban planning at the community level in support of coherent national and local DRR strategies by 2020.</li> <li>4. To raise awareness on funding and resource mobilization access opportunities to scale up community resilience to disasters</li> </ol>
<p><b>Discussion agenda and structure [85 minutes]</b></p>	<p><b>Opening Segment [6 minutes]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcoming remarks [3 minutes]</li> <li>• Session's introduction [3 minutes]</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel Discussion [30 minutes]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction of the panellists [5 minutes – 1 minute each]</li> <li>• Panellists interventions based on a set of guiding questions [25 minutes - 5 minutes each]:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Ms. Bermudes</b> – Local communities taking the lead in building their own resilience to disasters, with particular focus on women leadership role in DRR</li> <li>✓ <b>Mr. Murakami</b> – Engaging the communities in local decision-making for an inclusive recovery process.</li> <li>✓ <b>Ms. Akwango</b> – Building coherence between disaster risk reduction, sustainable development and climate change adaptation at the community level</li> <li>✓ <b>Mr. Brenes</b> – Creating a new model of interaction and cooperation between the national government and the community to foster the development of inclusive and people-centered national DRR strategies by 2020</li> <li>✓ <b>Mr. Nuñez-Flores</b> – Raising awareness and facilitating communities access to resource mobilization opportunities and financial mechanisms for enhanced community resilience.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Moderated Discussion [35 minutes]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invitation to discussant to take the floor from the audience [ 1 minutes]</li> <li>• Discussant's intervention [3 minutes]</li> <li>• Open dialogue with the audience [31 minutes]</li> </ul>



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	<p><b>Closing Segment [14 minutes]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of the session's main recommendations according to the following priority actions [7 minutes]: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Accelerate community resilience-building by 2030</li> <li>✓ Recognize women's leadership in building community resilience</li> <li>✓ Engage communities' engagement in the development of inclusive national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020</li> <li>✓ Facilitate communities' access to financial opportunities to scale up resilience at the community level</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Panelists' closing reflections on the discussion [5 minutes – 1 minute each]</li> <li>• Session's closing [2 minutes]</li> </ul>
<p><b>Proposed list of speakers (not more than six – Note that the secretariat will select possible speakers from this list)</b></p>	<p><b>Co-Chairs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E. Dr. Win Myat Aye, Minister of Social Welfare, Myanmar</li> <li>• Mr. Elhad As Sy, Secretary General, IFRC</li> </ul> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Mayra Bermudes, Community Leader, Coordinador for Mesa nacional de Gestión de Riesgos, Honduras</li> <li>• Mr. Kiyoshi Murakami, Community representative from Tohoku, Iwata Prefecture, Japan</li> <li>• Ms. Anna Akwango, Director Deniva, Uganda</li> <li>• Mr. Iván Andrey Brenes, President, National Commission for Prevention of Risks and Emergency Response, Costa Rica</li> <li>• Mr. Vicente Raimundo Núñez-Flores, Head of Regional Office for Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean, European Commission's Department for European Civil protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussants</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Elisabeth Longva, Director, Department for Analysis and National Preparedness, Directorate for Civil Protection, Government of Norway [3 minutes]</li> </ul>
<p><b>Expected outcomes</b></p>	<p>The Session is expected to come up with the following outcomes that will support the Sendai Framework priorities implementation and feed into the Chair's Summary:</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Set of recommendations and tangible solutions</b> to accelerate community-based resilience building to disasters by 2030 (<i>Sendai Framework priorities 1, 2, 4</i>)</li> <li>• <b>Proposed elements for an integrated community resilience framework</b> that:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Introduces a new model of interaction between communities, local and national Governments (<i>Priority 2</i>)</li> <li>✓ Recognizes and encourages further women's leadership in building community resilience (<i>Special area of focus d on Gender</i>)</li> <li>✓ Fosters and guides communities' engagement and participation in the development of inclusive national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020 (<i>Target e – Area of focus b</i>)</li> <li>✓ Helps integrate disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and sustainable development at the community level (<i>special area of focus c</i>)</li> <li>✓ Facilitates communities' understanding and access to financial opportunities to scale up resilience at the community level (<i>Global Priorities 1 and 3</i>)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Call for the development of innovative knowledge management tools</b> for building community resilience (Words Into Action Guide) (Priority 1)</li> <li>• <b>Good practices and lessons learned</b> in:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Community leadership in building their own resilience to disasters</li> <li>✓ Women's leadership role and empowerment in DRR</li> <li>✓ Meaningful community's engagement and participation in national and local decision making and governance processes, including the design, development and implementation of national and local DRR strategies.</li> <li>✓ Successful integration and coherence between disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and sustainable development at community level</li> <li>✓ Accessing funding mechanisms and opportunities to scale up community resilience.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Commitment / special announcement in support of the Sendai Framework</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adoption of a new model of engagement and cooperation between communities, local and national Governments in support of inclusive national and local disaster risk reduction strategies and plans by 2020.</li> <li>• Technical and financial partners' commitment to scale up</li> </ul>



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	<p>the work for strengthening community resilience by 2030</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call for the development of a Words Into Action Guide for Community Resilience</li> <li>• Opportunities identified to facilitate communities' awareness and broader access to financial mechanisms for community-based disaster risk reduction</li> <li>• Linkages established with ongoing global initiatives to enhance individuals and communities' actions for resilience such as the One Billion Coalition for Resilience</li> </ul>
<p><b>Technical Equipment Required</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 mobile mics required in the room</li> <li>• PPT projector, screen, video equipment, laptop</li> </ul>
<p><b>Background documents</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IFRC Framework for Community Resilience</li> <li>• IFRC Road Map to Community Resilience</li> </ul>