



# Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

22-26 May 2017 - Cancun, Mexico

## Special Event

### “Women Leadership in Disaster Risk Reduction”

#### Final Draft Concept Note

<b>Schedule</b>	Thursday 25 May, 13:00-15:00
<b>Room and Venue</b>	Arena E
<b>Organizers</b>	UNISDR, UN Women, IFRC
<b>UNISDR and Mexico Focal Points</b>	<u>UNISDR</u> : Christel Rose (HQ), Madhavi Ariyabandu (ROAP), Rocio Diaz Agero Roman (NYLO)
<b>Background and Rationale</b>	<p>Due to existing socio-economic conditions, cultural beliefs and traditional practices, women and girls are more likely to be disproportionately affected by disasters, including increased loss of livelihoods, gender-based violence, and even levels of mortality during, and in the aftermath of, disasters.</p> <p>In the 1991 cyclones in Bangladesh, some 90% of those who died were women. When Cyclone Nargis hit Myanmar in 2006, the death rate among adult women was double that of men. More women than men were killed by Ebola because they were the ones who washed and prepared the bodies of those who died from the disease for burial, thereby exposing themselves to infection. Also, at the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, women and children made up 77% of the victims in Indonesia.</p> <p>Women are often the drivers, strong networkers, managers, organizers, and caretakers in the community, playing a constructive and productive role in disaster risk reduction. There are plenty of success stories of women’s achievements in reducing disaster risk and in building resilience at the community level. Yet, still today, women tend to be categorized as “victims” and as a “vulnerable group” in need of protection from the impact of disasters, failing to recognize women’s capacities and contribution to disaster risk reduction and to promote their leadership, and role as change agents In building community resilience to disasters.</p> <p>The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the 2030 Agenda for</p>



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Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement include the common objective of reaching gender equality and parity by 2030 whilst building coherent approaches between sustainable development, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.

Specifically, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 emphasizes that *“women and their participation are critical to effectively managing disaster risk and designing, resourcing and implementing gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes; and adequate capacity building measures need to be taken to empower women for preparedness as well as build their capacity for alternate livelihood means in post-disaster situations.”*

Alongside these international frameworks, in 2016 the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) has developed General Recommendations on “Gender-related dimensions of Disaster Risk Reduction in a Changing Climate”. The General Recommendations provide guidance to States parties to promote and protect human rights of women at all stages of disaster prevention, preparedness, response, recovery and adaptation.

The 2016 Regional Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction have reconfirmed gender equality and women’s empowerment and leadership at the core of disaster risk reduction efforts to achieve the Sendai Framework targets and Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. They have highlighted the importance to develop gender-sensitive risk management national policies and plans; set aside dedicated budgets; create plans that provide adequate capacity building and that fully recognize woman’s existing capabilities and roles; collect sex-disaggregated data; ensure that women can access social protection and insurance, and promote and mobilize women’s leadership and gender equality.

## **Rationale**

Governments and partners are in the initial phase of developing strategic framework and plans of action at the national and local levels to reach the Sendai Framework Target E (2020).

The 2017 Global Platform represents a critical time and unique opportunity to provide policy and implementation guidance to Governments to facilitate gender integration as part of national and local disaster risk reduction policies and plans by 2020, and to secure their commitments towards enhanced and sustained efforts in



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	<p>women’s empowerment and leadership in disaster risk reduction, to be supported, reviewed and monitored through the Sendai Monitor.</p>
<p><b>Session Objectives</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To discuss how to support the development of gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and actions by 2020, and how to facilitate their implementation and monitoring by 2030.</li> <li>• To address critical challenges and highlight opportunities for women’s systematic participation in the decision-making process and the shaping of an effective and inclusive disaster risk reduction governance and accountability framework in support of gender sensitive disaster risk reduction at the national and local levels.</li> <li>• To share experience and highlight good practices and success stories of effective women’s participation and leadership and in “genderizing” disaster risk reduction with concrete impact in meeting the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction global priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals at national and local levels</li> <li>• To launch UN Women, UNISDR and IFRC’s “Global Flagship Partnership Programme for Gender-Responsive Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction: Addressing the Gender Inequality of Risk”</li> </ul>
<p><b>Discussion agenda and structure</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction by Robert Glasser, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction (5mns)</li> <li>• Welcoming remarks, by Ms. Amina Mohamed, United Nations Deputy Secretary-General (7mns)</li> <li>• Reading the message from Ms. Tarja Halonen, former President of Finland (3mns)</li> <li>• <b>Keynote speaker:</b> H.E. Mrs. Inonge M.Wina, Vice President of the Zambia (7mns)</li> <li>• <b>Panel discussion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Mr. Joaquín Gonzales, Governor, Quintana Roo Province, Mexico (5mns)</li> <li>✓ Ms. Madeleine Redfern Mayor of Iqaluit, Capital of Nunavut, Canada (5mns)</li> <li>✓ Ms. Sandra WU, CEO Kokusai Kogyo, Japan (5mns)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



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22-26 May 2017 - Cancun, Mexico

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Mr. Elhad As Sy, Secretary General, IFRC (5mns)</li> <li>✓ Ms. Ana Lucy Bengochea, Community Leader from Garifuna, Honduras (5mns)</li> <li>✓ Mr. Yanick Glemarec, Head, UN Women (5mns) - Brief presentation / launch of UN Women, UNISDR and IFRC's "Global Partnership Programme for a Gender-Responsive Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction: Addressing the Gender Inequality of Risk"</li> <li>• Announcement of commitments (by Governments and grass-root women associations - 3mns per intervention)</li> <li>• Open the floor to the audience (approx. 40mns)</li> <li>• Final feedback from panelists (1mn each)</li> <li>• Compilation or recommendations and commitments made ( 5mns).</li> <li>• Proposed next steps and concluding remarks (3mns).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Proposed list of speakers</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations;</li> <li>• Mr. Robert Glasser, SRSR for Disaster Risk Reduction;</li> <li>• H.E. Mrs. Inonge M. Wina, Vice President of the Zambia;</li> <li>• Ms. Sandra Wu, CEO Kokusai Kogyo;</li> <li>• Mr. Joaquín Gonzales, Governor, Quintana Roo Province, Mexico;</li> <li>• Ms. Ana Lucy Bengochea, Community Leader from Garifuna, Honduras;</li> <li>• Ms. Madeleine Redfern Mayor of Iqaluit, Capital of Nunavut, Canada;</li> <li>• Mr. Elhad As Sy, Secretary General, IFRC,</li> <li>• Mr. Yanick Glemarec, UN Women Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director for Policy and Programme;</li> <li>• Governments representatives (name and country tbc): a) to present a successful integration of gender in their national DRR strategy and b) announce commitment to the Global Programme</li> </ul>
<p><b>Expected outcomes</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concrete recommendations and core elements to serve the development of guidelines to support Governments in developing gender-responsive disaster risk reduction strategies at the national</li> </ul>



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	<p>and local levels by 2020.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global Flagship Programme for a Gender-Responsive Sendai Framework: Addressing Gender Inequalities of Risks presented with associated political and financial commitments.</li> <li>• Success stories and good practices in women’s leadership in disaster risk reduction and successful gender integration in national and local disaster risk reduction strategies..</li> </ul>
<p><b>Commitment / special announcement in support of the Sendai Framework</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch of UN Women, UNISDR and IFRC’s Global Flagship Partnership Programme for a Gender-Responsive Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, associated with political and financial commitments.</li> </ul> <p><i>(including particular focus on the development of gender-responsive national and local disaster risk reduction policies and plans by 2020 as well as capacity building efforts to promote women’s leadership in disaster risk reduction to reach the Sendai Framework targets and Sustainable Development Goals by 2030).</i></p>
<p><b>Technical Equipment Required</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 fixed mics and 4 mobile mics</li> <li>• PPT projector and screen</li> <li>• Laptop</li> </ul>
<p><b>Background documents</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asian guidelines the 2016 Regional Asia-Pacific Conference on Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction in Hanoi, Vietnam</li> <li>• European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction Declarations (October 2016, Finland)</li> <li>• 2016 Regional Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction outcome documents and commitments about gender.</li> </ul>