



## Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) **Official Statement for AMCDRR 2018**

### **Progress and achievements since the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030**

Earlier, disaster risk reduction and management practices in the countries where ADRA has a presence were limited to emergency response and relief operations following a disaster event, which was largely dominated by traditional thinking and was reactive in nature. With support from various donor agencies ADRA has initiated the development of a National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction/Management in various ADRA offices in Asia to adhere and to align with government policies, prioritizing DRR through:

- i. School and Hospital Safety
- ii. Emergency Preparedness
- iii. Establishing Community Based Early Warning System for flood management
- iv. Community Based DRR/M Initiatives
- v. Policy Influencing Work

These priorities were set in line with HFA-1, which ended in 2015. ADRA offices across the Asia region have recognized the importance of DRR, especially in contributing to sustainable development. On this basis, DRR is often mainstreamed into development sectors like education, health, WASH, and agriculture.

After the adoption of the Sendai Framework in 2015, ADRA offices globally have committed to contribute to its achievement during 2015-2030. As a part of the ADRA regional strategy in Asia, ADRA established a “Regional DRR/CCA technical working group”, whose primary responsibility is to capacitate ADRA offices across the Asia region in DRR and CCA in understanding Sendai Framework and how ADRA offices can contribute to achieving the Sendai Framework priorities, promote integration of DRR/CCA in the various sectors that ADRA offices implement and to engage stakeholders at multi levels for its implementation and monitoring. ADRA is also committed to transfer the knowledge and information from the local levels to systematically assess and develop engagements through regional partnerships.

ADRA has committed to engage with local, national and regional platforms and stakeholders to apply Sendai Framework policies and its adaptation in country level DRR policies to ensure that no one is left behind especially most at-risk communities and people. Inclusion of at-risk groups in design and implementation is to be ensured. ADRA has set its priority for the next 5 years to ensure and build its internal capacity on the integration of DRR and resilience in to all sectoral programs, capture good practices, learning and share this to larger platforms for replication. ADRA has also adopted a global strategy to ensure ADRA offices worldwide to understand the Sendai framework and ADRA’s commitment towards it through integration of a DRR portfolio as a component of the country office strategy and share various experiences and learning’s to the larger global ADRA network through common online platform to ensure that information, lessons and documented good practices are available and easily accessible for reference by ADRA offices in more than 130 countries. As a part of the ADRA regional strategy in Asia for the next 5 years and its commitment to achieving the targets of the Sendai Framework, which will be reviewed, evaluated and updated during the course of the implementation period.

A significant strength of ADRA is access to an extremely large pool of volunteers through the Seventh-day Adventist Church. ADRA is currently piloting a project in Asia to engage and train church members as not only practitioners in DRR but also advocates of community-based



disaster risk reduction and continue to advocate for investment in building knowledge and its transfer at all levels.

ADRA strengthens capacity of community not only to cope with the disaster and climate shocks but also enhancing the capacity of community and local government for build back better engaging private sectors and local government across the stages of disaster and climate risk management so that governments' commitment in the region to translate Sendai Framework of Action and SDGs into action will be met.