

**Joint Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) Statement
for the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
(GPDRR)
13-17 May 2019, Geneva, Switzerland**

We are Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs). Our work embeds us in local communities.

FBOs and Local Faith Communities are deeply rooted in local populations and global communities, with a unique reach to people living in poverty and vulnerability through their development, humanitarian, diaconal and spiritual action. In order to support the effectiveness of SFDRR implementation actions globally, in particular in the most deprived and marginal areas of the world, we call on all governments and stakeholders to:

Support the meaningful and substantive engagement of Faith Based Organisations (FBOs) and Local Faith Communities (LFCs) in SFDRR processes in order to provide the opportunity to reach the most at-risk communities, even in remote conditions, and engage them in DRR activities and decision-making processes to generate true resilience dividend.

Specifically we call to:

1. Collaborate with FBOs and LFCs on SFDRR implementation, and involve FBOs and LFCs at all levels (international, national and local) to help monitor DRR impact at individual, household and community levels, and **use the capacity of FBOs and LFCs to communicate to communities**, using the trust communities have in FBOs.
2. To use and encourage the collaborative networks of LFCs/FBOs to engage in resilience strengthening, including **allocating resources to FBOs and LFCs** to develop and implement DRR measures, thereby generating 'resilience dividend' and contributing strongly to localisation of humanitarian response & preparedness.
3. **Enhance social capital and social safety nets** in addressing climate, conflict and disaster-related risks. Thereby collaborating with FBOs and LFCs, recognizing the role that LFCs and FBOs already play in these topics and in reaching the most vulnerable.
4. **Strengthen the synergy between the implementation of global frameworks** like the SFDRR, the Paris Climate Agreement, the WHS Commitments to Action and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and commit to translating coherence of global frameworks into policy and practice to achieve resilience at national and local levels across all sectors; recognizing that FBOs can support these efforts.
5. **Provide the enabling environment and capacity for innovations, policy dialogues, and the access to technologies** that address practical and strategic climate and disaster-related risks. FBOs can facilitate this by sharing best practices across national boundaries.

Joint FBO statement submitted by:

- Action by Churches Together Alliance (ACT Alliance)
- Baha'i International Community
- Food For The Hungry
- Islamic Relief Worldwide
- Joint Learning Initiative on Faith & Local Communities (JLI)

- Muslim Hands UK
- Soka Gakkai International (SGI)
- SMC – Faith in development
- Swedish Pentecostal Mission’s Development and Relief Agency (PMU)
- Tearfund
- World Vision International

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JOINT LEARNING INITIATIVE on FAITH & LOCAL COMMUNITIES

