



Scientific and Technical Advisory Group

## Workshop on the Implementation of Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia

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# Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction: the value of science, technology and public health in implementation

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*Professor Virginia Murray., Vice-chair of UNISDR STAG  
Public Health Consultant in Global Disaster Risk Reduction Public  
Health England*

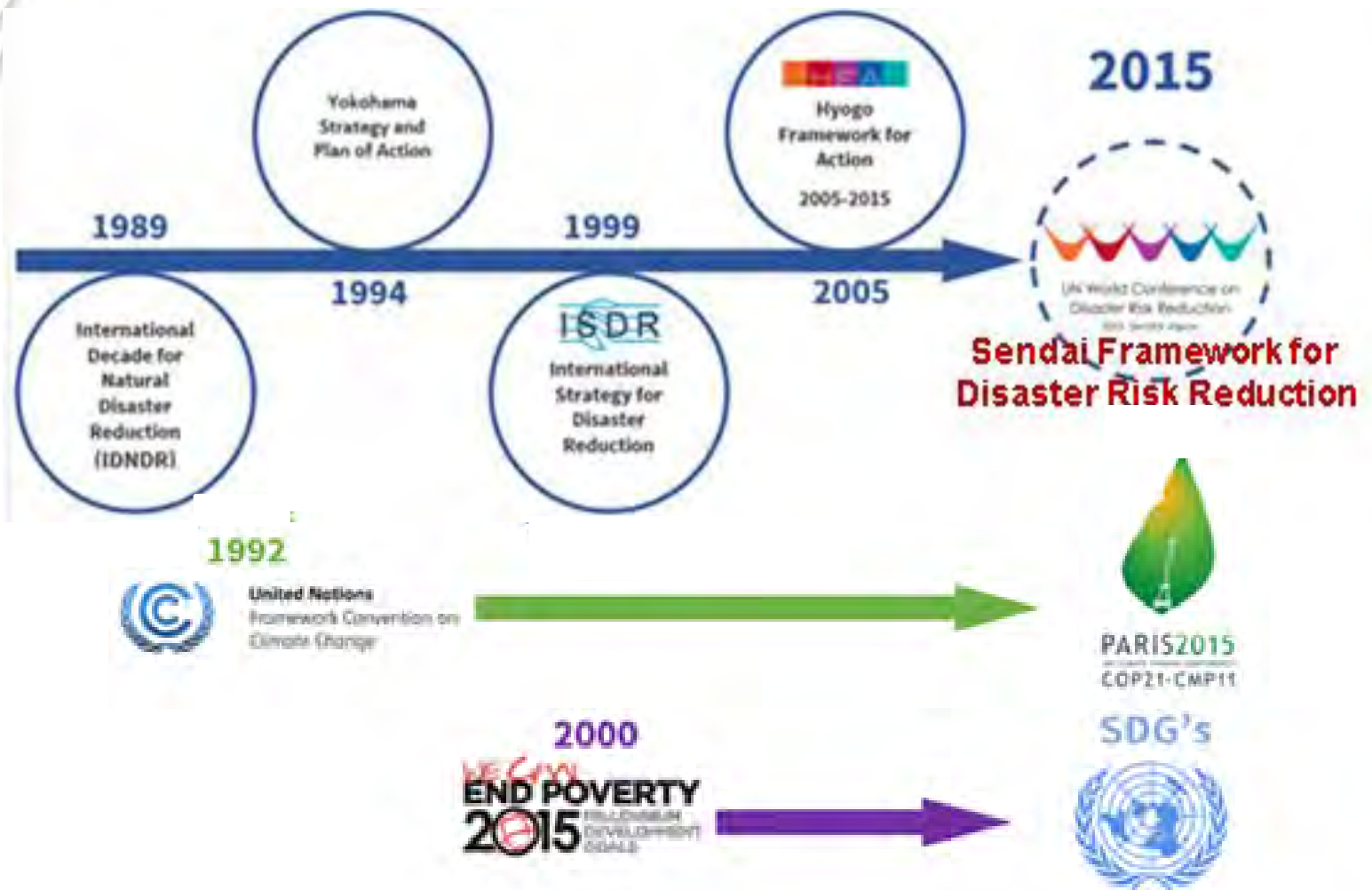
# Outline

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- The science, technology and public health road to Sendai
- The Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction signed 18 March 2015
- What does it state for science, technology and public health?
- How will it be implemented?



# 25 years of international commitment to Disaster Risk Reduction








International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

HFA



# Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 - 2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters

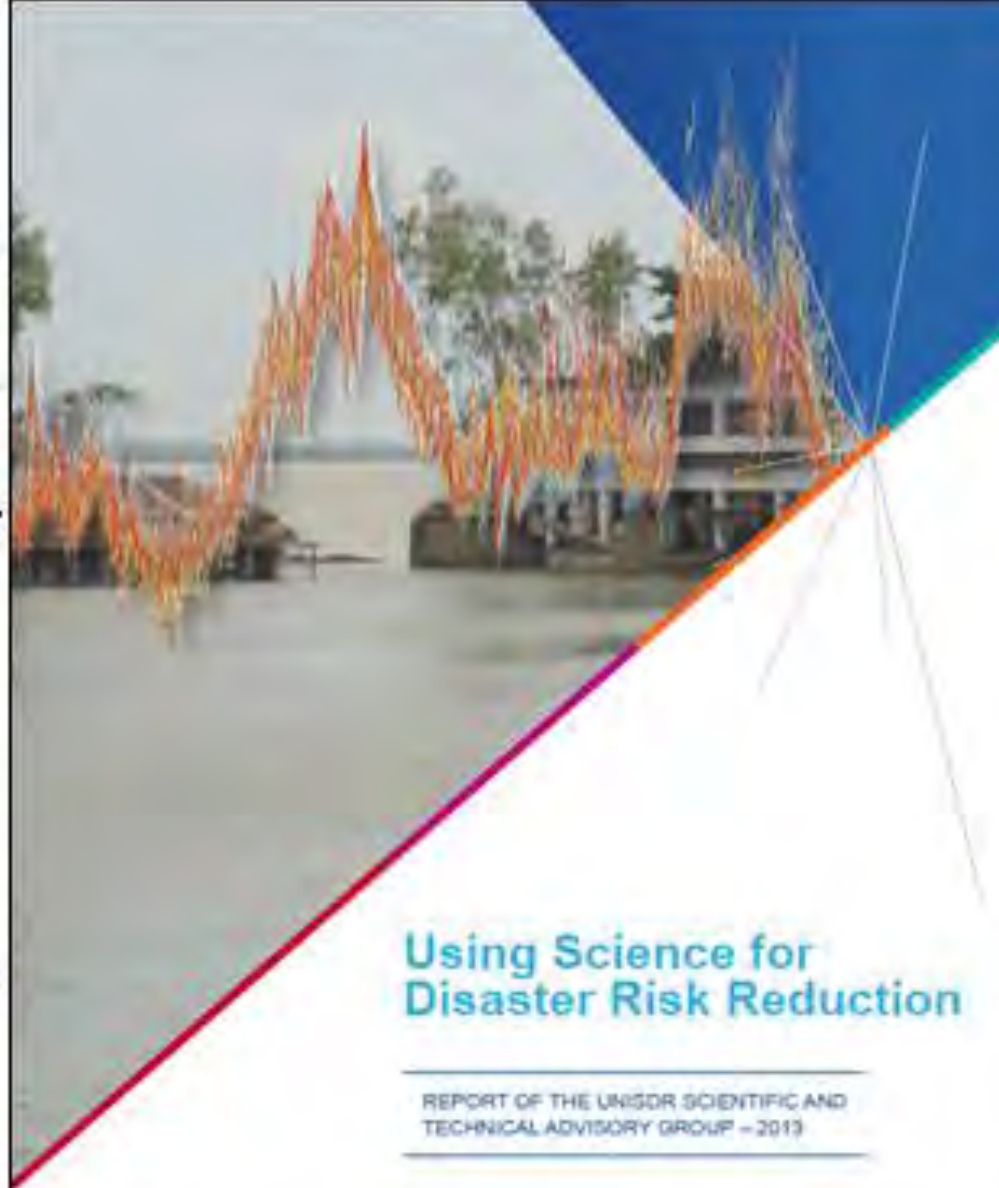
<http://www.unisdr.org/eng/hfa/docs/HFA-brochure-English.pdf>



**Report of the  
UNISDR Scientific  
and Technical  
Advisory Group  
2013**

**Using Science for  
Disaster Risk  
Reduction**

<http://www.unisdr.org/files/32609stagreport2013assembled.pdf>



**Using Science for  
Disaster Risk Reduction**

REPORT OF THE UNISDR SCIENTIFIC AND  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP – 2013



# Case studies

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The problem

The science

The impact on policy and practice

Did it make a difference?





## CASE STUDY 8:

### An Atlas of Hazards and Disaster Risks to Support Disaster Risk Reduction in China

If the country is to introduce and maintain effective and appropriate disaster risk reduction, it must first understand the temporal and spatial patterns of the hazards and disaster risks it faces.

#### The science

In response to the inauguration of the United Nations' International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction in 1989<sup>1</sup>, the Chinese government launched a project to produce an Atlas that integrates the vast array of scientific data on natural hazards and disaster risks available in China.

Data for the Atlas was systematically identified from a national database of natural hazard related disasters, official government statistics, and from newspapers and other media sources. Collated data was validated by scientists then brought together for spatial and temporal analysis of hazards, exposure and vulnerability in a comprehensive risk assessment process. This allowed disaster risks to be quantified, prioritised and communicated in an accessible, meaningful manner using learning from risk communication science.

The first edition, *Atlas of Natural Disasters in China*<sup>2</sup>, was published in 1992. This was updated and improved in the 2003 *Atlas of Natural Disaster System of China*<sup>3</sup> and again in the *Atlas of Natural Disaster Risk of China*<sup>4</sup>, published in 2011 (Image 1).

#### The application to policy and practice

Since 1997, the Atlases have been used in the development of the Chinese Government's National Comprehensive Disaster Prevention and Reduction Plans<sup>5-8</sup>.

For instance, analyses in the 2003 *Atlas of Natural Disaster System of China*<sup>3</sup> highlighted the regional variation of natural hazards across China and the projected trends of these (Figure 1). As a result, the

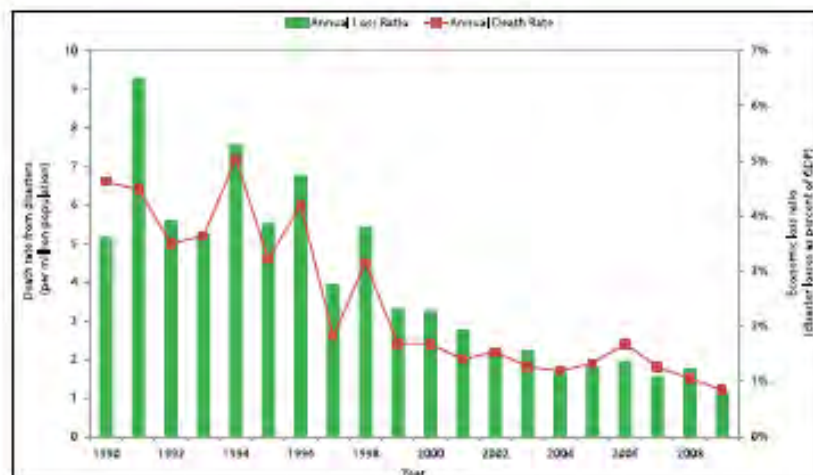


Figure 1: Loss ratio (economic losses from disasters expressed as a percentage of GDP) and death ratio from disasters (number of deaths per million people) in China, 1990-2009. Data from the Wenchuan earthquake event, 2008, is not included. Based on data from Fang et al., 2011<sup>11</sup>.

National Plan for Comprehensive Disaster Reduction During the "Eleventh Five-Year Plan"<sup>12</sup> introduced more regionally-focused plans and activities for disaster risk reduction in China.

In 2011, the *Atlas of Natural Disaster Risk of China*<sup>4</sup> was similarly used in the development of the plan for 2011-2015<sup>13</sup>. Based on the integrated natural hazard risk-mapping in the atlas, the plan laid out the task of building a multi-level, integrated disaster relief reserve system for China. This aimed to link central, regional and local activities in order to meet the Chinese government's commitment that people affected by disasters receive primary aid to sustain basic survival needs within twelve hours of a disaster striking.

At a local level, Shenzhen City, China's first Special Economic Zone, used local knowledge and experience with the Atlas' high-resolution maps of typhoon risk to develop its urban planning for disaster risk reduction policy. This policy supports the rapid urban development in the city whilst ensuring that buildings and infrastructure will be resilient to local hazards now and in the future.

The Atlases have also been used to inform disaster insurance policy and practice. For instance, the Chinese government's agriculture insurance program<sup>14</sup>, launched in 2007, used the Atlas to inform regional crop risk assessment and premium determination. The Atlases are also widely used by domestic and international insurers, re-insurers and relevant stakeholders in the industry.

#### Did it make a difference?

In the past 30 years, China has promoted and implemented disaster risk reduction, using the scientific evidence communicated in the three Atlases and with increasing emphasis on evidence-based risk assessment and on regional variations<sup>15-17</sup>. The resulting efforts have significantly increased the regional capacity in disaster prevention and risk mitigation. This work is believed to be a contributing factor to the general decrease in annual deaths from disasters, and the reduction in relative economic losses, seen in China in the last two decades (Figure 1)<sup>18</sup>.



Image 1: Covers of the three Atlases of natural disaster risk in China. Source: The People's Insurance Company of China, 1992<sup>2</sup>, SN, 2003<sup>3</sup> and SN, 2011<sup>4</sup>.

#### The problem

Covering 9.6 million square kilometres<sup>19</sup>, and with the largest population of any country in the world, China frequently experiences a variety of hazards resulting in great casualties, economic losses and damage to infrastructure.

1 SN P (Chief Editor), *Atlas of Natural Disaster Risk in China*. Beijing: Science Press, 2011.

2 Chinese Government. Official Web Portal. China Profile. Land Area. [Available at: [http://english.gov.cn/2010-03/05/content\\_170201.htm](http://english.gov.cn/2010-03/05/content_170201.htm)] (accessed 21 March 2012).

3 UNISDR. *Disaster Reduction Lexicon* (pdf page). Available at: <http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/publications-and-publications/lexicon> (accessed 21 March 2012).

4 The People's Insurance Company of China and Beijing Normal University. *Atlas of Natural Disasters in China* (Chinese and English versions). Beijing: Science Press, 1992.

5 SN P (Chief Editor), *Atlas of Natural Disaster System of China*. Beijing: Science Press, 2003.

6 SN P (Chief Editor), *Atlas of Natural Disaster Risk in China*. Beijing: Science Press, 2011.

7 China National Committee for IGDNR. *The National Natural Disaster Reduction Plan of the People's Republic of China (1998-2012)*. Beijing: China National Committee for IGDNR, 1998.

8 China National Committee of Disaster Reduction. *National Plan for Comprehensive Disaster Reduction During the "Eleventh Five-Year Plan" Period of the People's Republic of China*. Beijing: China National Committee of Disaster Reduction, 2007.

9 China National Committee of Disaster Reduction. *National Plan for Comprehensive Disaster Reduction (2011-2015) of the People's Republic of China*. Beijing: China National Committee of Disaster Reduction, 2011.

10 SN P (Chief Editor), *Atlas of Natural Disaster System of China*. Beijing: Science Press, 2003.

11 Fang W, Shi P, Wang J. *Integrated Risk Governance - Database, Risk Map and Network Platform*. Beijing: Science Press, 2011.

12 China National Committee of Disaster Reduction. *National Plan for Comprehensive Disaster Reduction During the "Eleventh Five-Year Plan" Period of the People's Republic of China*. Beijing: China National Committee of Disaster Reduction, 2007.

13 SN P (Chief Editor), *Atlas of Natural Disaster Risk in China*. Beijing: Science Press, 2011.

14 China National Committee of Disaster Reduction. *National Plan for Comprehensive Disaster Reduction (2011-2015) of the People's Republic of China*. Beijing: China National Committee of Disaster Reduction, 2011.

15 Wang M, Shi P, Ye T, Liu M, Zhou M. *Agriculture Insurance in China: history, experience, and policy learned*. International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction, 2011, 2(2): 10-22.

16 Shi P, Shuai J, Chen W, Lu L. *Study on Large-Scale Disaster Risk Assessment and Risk Transfer Models*. International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction, 2010, 1(2): 7-14.

17 Ye T, Shi P, Wang J, Lu L, Fan Y, Hu J. *China's Drought Disaster Risk Management: Perspective of Severe Droughts in 2009/2010*. International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction, 2012, 3(2): 84-91.

18 Fang W, Shi P, Wang J. *Integrated Risk Governance - Database, Risk Map and Network Platform*. Beijing: Science Press, 2011.





Image 2: A child receives a rubella vaccination.  
Source: Wellcome Images.

## CASE STUDY 7:

### Preventing Congenital Rubella Syndrome: Health disaster risk reduction through Rubella vaccination

#### The problem

When a woman contracts the disease rubella (or German measles) in early pregnancy, her unborn baby also becomes infected. While the woman may experience only a mild illness, the unborn baby will suffer major birth defects such as deafness, blindness, heart defects, and blood disorders. Severe learning disabilities can also occur; these may worsen throughout life and may also be associated with deformities of the skull (such as a small head size, as seen in Image 1). In some cases the unborn baby will die from the infection<sup>1,2</sup>.

Rubella is an infectious disease caused by a virus. It spreads from person to person through sneezing and coughing. Outbreaks of rubella are public health disasters: in the 1960s a rubella epidemic swept through the world in the United States alone, approximately

11,000 babies died and 20,000 babies were born with birth defects<sup>3,4</sup>.

#### The science

In the first half of the twentieth century, the link between rubella and birth defects was not known. At that time, the fact that intrauterine infections could cause fetal damage, birth defects and fetal loss was largely unrecognised. Rubella was a fairly common infectious disease, mostly occurring in children but also in adults, including pregnant women.

In 1941, an Australian eye doctor called Norman Gregg was treating babies born with eye problems. He noticed that there were many more such infants that year than in the preceding years. One day he overheard two mothers talking about how they had both suffered from rubella when pregnant<sup>5</sup>. This led him to review the medical records of many mothers and babies. He connected the increased numbers of such damaged infants he had observed to a large epidemic of rubella which had recently occurred<sup>6</sup>.

Gregg went on to show that rubella in early pregnancy could be linked to many serious birth defects in children<sup>7</sup>.

This was a new discovery and, at first, even the possibility that such an apparently trivial illness could be so destructive was dismissed by some influential medical voices. It took some time - and further proof from scientists in other parts of the world - before doctors and policy-makers were convinced Gregg's findings were correct. The birth defects seen in babies infected with rubella while in the womb were later named Congenital Rubella Syndrome (CRS).

#### The application to policy and practice

A vaccination to prevent rubella first became available in 1969. The world now had a way of preventing the harm caused by rubella infection.

Since that time, increasing numbers of countries around the world have introduced the vaccine into their national immunisation policies. This is mostly done by vaccinating all the children in a population when they are still young (Image 2).

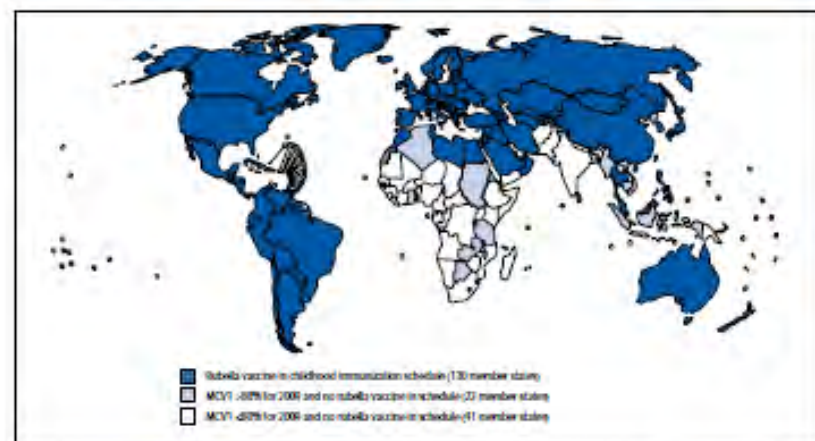


Figure 1: Countries using rubella vaccine and countries meeting WHO criteria for rubella vaccine introduction, 2009. (Source: CDC, 2010<sup>8</sup>).

Following good progress in rubella immunisation in the 1990s, the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) resolved in 2003 to eliminate rubella and CRS from the region by 2010<sup>9</sup>.

#### Did it make a difference?

The number of World Health Organization (WHO) Member States using rubella-containing vaccine in their national immunisation programmes is continuing to grow, increasing from 63 of the 190 Member States (44%) in 1996 to 130 of 194 (67%) in 2009<sup>10</sup> (Figure 1).

Rubella has been eliminated in the WHO Region of the Americas<sup>11</sup>; this means less than 1 case of CRS per 100,000 births. Their experiences have been turned into guidance to support elimination in other regions of the world. Lessons identified include: high-level commitment and partnerships are essential; link political commitment with technical strategies; use proven surveillance tools; recognise outstanding performance by individual countries; provide on-going training for surveillance staff<sup>12</sup>.

The WHO Regional Office for Europe has now set a target for elimination of CRS in its Member States<sup>13,14</sup>.

Gregg's scientific work has saved countless lives and prevented much disability, family tragedy and economic loss around the world. However, CRS still affects an estimated 110,000 infants in developing countries each year<sup>15,16</sup>, meaning the full benefits of his work are yet to be realised.



Image 1: A newborn baby with microcephaly<sup>17</sup> or small head size. Source: [mattersinhealthcare.net](http://mattersinhealthcare.net).

1. US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Rubella: Make sure your child gets vaccinated. <http://www.cdc.gov/rubella/index.html> (accessed 4 April 2013).

2. CDC. Progress Toward Control of Rubella and Prevention of Congenital Rubella Syndrome – Worldwide, 2006. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. 2010; 59(47): 1307-1310.

3. US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Rubella: Make sure your child gets vaccinated. <http://www.cdc.gov/rubella/index.html> (accessed 4 April 2013).

4. Wylie JJ, Robinson AH. Epidemiology of rubella. *American Journal of Diseases of Children*. 1959; 118:107-12.

5. De Quadros CA. Vaccines: Preventing Disease and Promoting Health. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2004. (p. 53).

6. Gregg NM. Congenital Cataract following German Measles in the Mother. *Transactions of the Ophthalmological Society of Australia*. 1941; 3:25-40.

7. Gregg NM. Further observations on congenital defects in infants following congenital rubella. *Transactions of the Ophthalmological Society of Australia*. 1944; 4:116-24.

8. Parago MR. Elimination of Rubella and Congenital Rubella Syndrome. *Wkly Rep E* Together. *The Journal of Infectious Diseases*. 2011; 204 (Suppl 2): S1.

9. CDC. Progress Toward Control of Rubella and Prevention of Congenital Rubella Syndrome – Venezuela, 2006. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. 2010; 59(47): 1307-1310.

10. Simonsen L, Giesecke J, Miller J, et al. Control of Rubella. *World Health Organization*. 2010; 2010: 100-104.

11. Parago MR. Elimination of Rubella and Congenital Rubella Syndrome. *Wkly Rep E* Together. *The Journal of Infectious Diseases*. 2011; 204 (Suppl 2): S1.

12. Ison B, Morris-Jones V, Anton A, Castello-Soborano C, Donato AJ, and the Congenital Surveillance Group. Lessons Learned From Integrated Surveillance of Measles and Rubella in the Caribbean. *The Journal of Infectious Diseases*. 2011; 204(Suppl 2): S620-S625.

13. CDC. Progress Toward Control of Rubella and Prevention of Congenital Rubella Syndrome – Venezuela, 2006. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. 2010; 59(47): 1307-1310.

14. Global Paediatric Surveillance Unit. 20th Annual Report 2008-2009. London: Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health; 2009.

15. CDC. Progress Toward Control of Rubella and Prevention of Congenital Rubella Syndrome – Worldwide, 2006. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. 2010; 59(47): 1307-1310.

16. Catta AT, Vinograd E. Measuring the incidence of congenital rubella syndrome in developing countries. *International Journal of Epidemiology*. 1986; 15(1):15-18.





# Recommendations

- 1. Encourage science to demonstrate that it can inform policy and practice***
- 2. Use a problem-solving approach to research that integrates all hazards and disciplines***
- 3. Promote knowledge into action***
- 4. Science should be key to the Post-2015 Hyogo Framework for Action***





# Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Fourth session, Geneva, Switzerland  
19-23 May 2013



## Chair's Summary

**Fourth Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction**

**Geneva, 21-23 May 2013**

## **Resilient People, Resilient Planet**

The biennial Fourth Session of the Platform was held in Geneva over 21-23 May 2013. Chaired by Switzerland, it brought together over 3,500 participants from 172 countries with representation from national and local governments, inter-governmental organizations, Red Cross and Red Crescent, non-government organizations, mayors and parliamentarians, representatives of local communities, indigenous peoples, children and youth, persons with disabilities, and leaders from business, academia and science. The session builds on regional platforms for disaster risk reduction convened in Africa, the Americas, Asia-Pacific, Arab States and Europe as well as many consultative and preparatory meetings convened by civil society, national and local governments and Red Cross and Red Crescent national societies.





## Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Fourth session, Geneva, Switzerland  
19-23 May 2013



**It is expected that the HFA2 will recognize the need to govern disaster risk reduction and resilience through clear responsibilities, strong coordination, enabled local action, appropriate financial instruments and **a clear recognition of a central role for science.****

and science. The session builds on regional platforms for disaster risk reduction convened in Africa, the Americas, Asia-Pacific, Arab States and Europe as well as many consultative and preparatory meetings convened by civil society, national and local governments and Red Cross and Red Crescent national societies.



UN World Conference on  
Disaster Risk Reduction  
2015 Sendai Japan



**UNISDR**

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

# **5<sup>TH</sup> AFRICA REGIONAL PLATFORM AND 3<sup>RD</sup> MINISTERIAL MEETING FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

**● ABUJA (NIGERIA) ● 13 – 16 MAY 2014 ●**

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## **SUMMARY STATEMENT**

### **AFRICA'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE POST-2015 FRAMEWORK FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

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[Translated in French wherein English text is the original version]

Over 900 participants from 44 countries<sup>1</sup> and partners gathered in Abuja, Nigeria, 13-16 May





**Plataforma Regional para la Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres de las Américas**  
*Invertir en RRD para proteger los avances del desarrollo*

**IV Sesión - Guayaquil, Ecuador del 27 al 29 de Mayo 2014**



Secretaría de  
Gestión de Riesgos



Ministerio de  
Asuntos Exteriores  
y Movilidad Humana



UNISDR  
United Nations Institute for  
Disaster Reduction

**Communiqué of Guayaquil, Ecuador**

**IV Session of the Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction**

**Guayaquil, 29 May, 2014**

1. We, participants at the Fourth Session of the Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas,<sup>1</sup> meeting in Guayaquil, Ecuador from 27 to 29 May 2014, thank the people and Government of the Republic of Ecuador, particularly the Risk Management Secretariat and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility, for the hospitality and support provided for the successful carrying out of this Fourth Session of the Regional Platform:
2. Acknowledge the substantial contributions of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015 to the formulation of strategies and policies for disaster risk management.<sup>2</sup> In order progress towards eradicating poverty, reducing inequality and achieving sustainable and inclusive development, it is necessary to assess progress

**MINISTERIAL  
CONFERENCE**

**4 ●**

**POST-2015  
AGENDA  
FOR  
DISASTER  
REDUCTION**

Nigeria, 13-16 May



**Plataforma Regional para la Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres de las Américas**

*Invertir en RRD para mejorar los niveles de desarrollo*

IV Sesión - Guayaquil



Secretaría  
Gestión de

**Comunicado**

**IV Session of the Regional**

**The 6<sup>th</sup> Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction  
Bangkok, Kingdom of Thailand 22 – 26 June 2014**



**Bangkok Declaration on Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia and the Pacific 2014**

1. We, participants at the Fourth Session of the Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas,<sup>1</sup> meeting in Guayaquil, Ecuador, on 13-16 May 2014, thank the people and Government of Ecuador, the Secretariat for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the hospitality and support provided during the IV Session of the Regional Platform:

2. Acknowledge the substantial contribution of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015 to the formulation of disaster risk management.<sup>2</sup> In order progress to achieving sustainable and inclusive

*We, the Ministers, and Heads of Delegation of the countries of Asia and the Pacific, attending the Sixth Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) in Bangkok, Thailand, 22-26 June 2014, hosted by the Royal Thai Government, 22-26 June 2014;*

*Deeply concerned by the increasing impact and risk of disasters in the Asia-Pacific, including the super typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines; floods in Thailand, China and India; earthquakes in Pakistan; earthquake and tsunami in Indonesia and Japan, and an increasing number of medium and small scale disasters that resulted in huge social, economic and environmental losses in the region; and the adverse impacts of climate change which countries are already experiencing increased impacts.*





Plataforma Regional para la Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres de las Américas

*Invertir en RRD para enfrentar los riesgos del desarrollo*

IV Sesión - Gua



The 6<sup>th</sup> Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction  
Bangkok, Kingdom of Thailand 22 – 26 June 2014

Unedited English Translation\*

## Second Arab Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction

Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, 14 -16 September 2014

## Sharm El Sheikh Declaration for Disaster Risk Reduction

16 September 2014

We, the Arab Ministers, the Heads of Delegations, the Mayors, the Parliamentarians the representatives of regional and international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, participating in the Second Arab Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt 14-16 September 2014, express our thanks and appreciation to the Arab Republic of Egypt and its people for hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Arab Conference for DRR. We also wish to offer our thanks to the League

Asia and the Pacific 2014

countries of Asia and the Pacific, reduction (AMCDRR) in Bangkok,

ers in the Asia-Pacific, including China and India; earthquakes in increasing number of medium and environmental losses in the region; already experiencing increased



Plataforma Regional para la Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres de las Américas

*Invertir en RRD para enfrentar los riesgos del desarrollo*

IV Sesión - Gua



The 6<sup>th</sup> Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction  
 Bangkok, Kingdom of Thailand 22 – 26 June 2014

Unedited English Translation\*

## Second Arab Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction

Sharm El



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Asia and the Pacific 2014

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**EFDRR**  
EUROPEAN FORUM  
FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

*Spanish Chairmanship*

## **5<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN FORUM FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

### **Madrid Outcomes**

6-8 October 2014

We, the participants of the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction (EFDRR), present at the Madrid Session hosted and Chaired by Spain and Co-Chaired by France;

1. Recognize the importance of the upcoming Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) (14-18 March 2015, Sendai, Japan). Acknowledge the European Union Council conclusions of 5 June 2014 on the post 2015 Hyogo framework for action: managing risks to achieve resilience, and the Outcome Document of the European Ministerial Meeting on disaster risk reduction held in Milan, Italy, on 8 July 2014. Contribute to the ongoing consultations on the pre-zero draft of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction by sharing the following considerations:
  - Recognize the need for joint actions and synergies between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, sustainable development and small-scale disasters.



**EFDRR**  
EUROPEAN FORUM  
FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

*Spanish Chairmanship*

## 5<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN FORUM FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

### Madrid Outcomes

6-8 October 2014

Champion, reinforce and better connect existing and future initiatives for integrated research and the scientific assessment of disaster risk through an adequate international scientific advisory mechanism, in order to **strengthen the evidence base to inform decision-making under the post-2015 framework.**

and climate change adaptation, sustainable development and small-scale disasters.



FINAL VERSION

**Joint UN Statement – 1<sup>st</sup> Preparatory Committee Meeting  
(PREPCOM) for the Third UN World Conference on Disaster  
Risk Reduction, 14-15 July 2014, Geneva**

PLEASE CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, colleagues,

I am pleased to read this statement on behalf of the United Nations system, including the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the World Bank that are working in support of regions, countries, and communities to reduce disaster risk and build resilience under the *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters* and the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR).

Disasters devastate families, communities, and nations, and undermine development gains. They are a growing threat to people's lives and livelihoods. In the past decade, about 1.2 million human lives were lost, while economic losses are projected to rise to US\$400 billion annually.

Development cannot be sustained unless disaster risk reduction is fully integrated into risk-informed development planning and investments within and across sectors. A comprehensive approach to reducing the health, social, economic and environmental

FINAL VERSION

## Joint UN Statement – 1<sup>st</sup> Preparatory Committee Meeting (PREPCOM) for the Third UN World Conference on Disaster

Risk Reduction – 14-15 July 2014, Geneva

The Joint Statement by the UN System delivered at the First Preparatory Committee Meeting of the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) was prepared under the aegis of the UN High Level Programmes Committee Senior Managers Group on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience (HLCP/SMG). The HLCP/SMG oversees the implementation of the *UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience*. Members are FAO, IAEA, IFAD, IFRC, ILO, IMO, IOM, ITU, UNAIDS, UNCCD, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHABITAT, UNHCHR, UNICEF, UNISDR, UNOCHA, UNOPS, UNOOSA, UNWOMEN, UNWTO, UPU, WFP, WHO, WMO and the World Bank.

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FINAL VERSION

**Joint UN Statement – 1<sup>st</sup> Preparatory Committee Meeting  
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**Risk Reduction – 14-15 July 2014, Geneva**

The Joint Statement by the UN System delivered at the First Preparatory Committee Meeting of the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) was prepared under the aegis of the UN High Level Programmes Committee Senior Managers Group on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience (HLCP/SMG). The HLCP/SMG oversees the implementation of the *UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience*. Members are FAO, IAEA, IFAD, IFRC, ILO, IMO, IOM, ITU, UNAIDS, UNCCD, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHABITAT, UNHCHR, UNICEF, UNISDR, UNOCHA, UNOPS, UNOOSA, UNWOMEN, UNWTO, UPU, WFP, WHO, WMO and the World Bank.

**The UN System supports** the proposed creation of an international science advisory mechanism to **strengthen the evidence base for the implementation and monitoring of the new framework**



UN World Conference on  
Disaster Risk Reduction  
2015 Sendai Japan

14-18 March 2015  
Sendai, Japan

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[Major Groups](#)

**[Organizing Partners](#)**

[FAQs](#)

[Other important stakeholder groups](#)

## Organizing Partners

### Major Groups

The concept of the nine Major Groups comes from Agenda 21. As will be remembered, the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio in 1992 agreed to understand civil society in the context of sustainable development negotiations at the UN as the nine Major Groups. Having made the decision to designate civil society into nine Major Groups, the outline and rationale was explained in detail in Chapter 23 of Agenda 21. The Major Groups as defined by Agenda 21 are:



Scientific and Technical Advisory Group



# Voluntary Commitments of the Scientific and Technical Community

- **Assessment** of current data and scientific knowledge
- **Synthesis** of research to make it accessible to policy makers
- **Scientific advisory** to decision makers on policy and research gaps
- **Monitoring & Review** to ensure progress towards DRR goals and up to date information
- **Communication and engagement** involving policy-makers, multiple sectors and research disciplines
- **Capacity development** to ensure all countries can produce and/or have access to scientific knowledge





14-18 March 2015  
Sendai, Japan

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## Programme

Conference Overview

**Wednesday** Daily Programme Overview

**18**

Conference Handbook

## Segments

Preparatory Meetings

Inter-Governmental Segment

Statements

Multi-Stakeholder Segment

Public Forum

## Documentation

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

Sendai Declaration

Stakeholders' voluntary commitments

**Press Release:** World Conference adopts new international framework for disaster risk reduction after marathon negotiations

Official Documents

Provisional List of Participants in Ministerial Round Tables

Provisional List of Participants in Working Sessions

Daily Journal

Accessible documentation

## News and Media

### NEWS

India to host first Asian Ministerial Conference of post-2015 era  
18 Mar 2015

Inclusion builds resilience  
18 Mar 2015

### PRESS RELEASES

Sendai UN World Conference hailed for accessibility  
18 Mar 2015

New study shows little prospect of reducing economic losses from disasters  
18 Mar 2015

## Announcements



A selection of the top photographs taken during the World Conference in Sendai, Japan



Interviews at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

Watch live the 9th day of the opening and closing of the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

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## Voluntary commitments

Government Announcements and Voluntary Commitments will be recognized as a formal outcome of the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.

Explore the commitments with clear deliverables relevant to disaster risk reduction here.

A Model Programme for Psychosocial Resilience-Building and Wellbeing for Youth Worldwide in Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery

ISDR-ICL Sendai partnerships 2015-2025 for global promotion of understanding and reducing landslide disaster

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# Day 1 - Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

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**WCDRR**  
Sendai, 14-18 March 2015  
Third UN World Conference  
on Disaster Risk Reduction

**UNISDR Science  
and Technical  
Advisory Group  
Report 2015**

**SCIENCE IS  
USED FOR  
DISASTER  
RISK  
REDUCTION**

UNISDR Science and Technical Advisory Group Report 2015  
**SCIENCE IS USED FOR  
DISASTER  
RISK REDUCTION**

**UNISDR**



# UNISDR Scientific and Technical Advisory Group Report 2015

## SCIENCE IS USED FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION



UNISDR Science and Technical Advisory Group Report 2015

SCIENCE IS USED FOR DISASTER  
RISK REDUCTION

<http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/publications/42848>



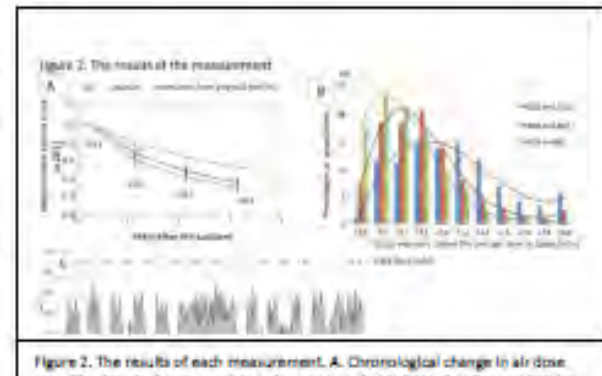


## UNISDR Scientific and Technical Advisory Group Case Studies - 2015 Eliminating residents' concerns after the nuclear disaster in Fukushima

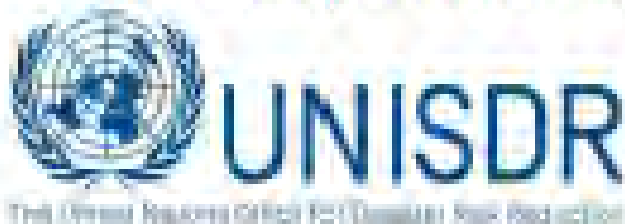
### The problem

On March, 2011 a huge earthquake and tsunami struck a nuclear power plant in Fukushima, Japan. Its explosion caused not only contamination of the environment, but also a huge social concern. Above all, lack of information on the ongoing risks fuelled anxiety among the residents on the coastal area in Fukushima (So-so Area). For example, those who evacuated outside of Fukushima couldn't decide when to return, while those who stayed

1. and agricultural areas. The residents can check the on-site real-time air dose rate (Figure 1A) and average rate published on the webpage (1).
2. Periodical measurement of yearly external exposure levels of the residents. On October 2011, So-so area launched a voluntary external radiation exposure screening program using Glass dosimetre (Glass Badge GD-450, Chiyoda Technology Co.). The participants were instructed to bring it all the time for three months and yearly dose were calculated.
3. Measurement of daily fluctuation.



A case study series published by the UNISDR Scientific and Technical Advisory Group



## UNISDR Scientific and Technical Advisory Group Case Studies - 2015 Eliminating residents' concerns after the nuclear disaster in Fukushima

The local governments, in cooperation with a technology company and researchers, launched the following measurements.

1. Installation of monitoring posts.

Another key to consider was to wash off the stigmatisation against Fukushima. To spread the knowledge broadly, these findings were also spread by:

- Peer-reviewed journals (3-5) and grey literature (6)
- Mass media (7)



## UNISDR Scientific and Technical Advisory Group Case Studies - 2015 Eliminating residents' concerns after the nuclear disaster in Fukushima

### The problem

On March, 2011 a huge earthquake and tsunamis struck a nuclear power plant in Fukushima, Japan. Its explosion caused not only contamination of the environment, but also a huge social concern. Above all, lack of information on the ongoing risks fuelled anxiety among the residents on the coastal area in Fukushima (So-so Area). For example, those who evacuated outside of Fukushima couldn't decide when to return, while those who stayed didn't know whether it is safe to go out. Therefore, information of real-time air dose rate around their home and external exposure level of the residents were in urgent need.

### The science

There are 3 types of measurements to know external radiation exposure level.

1. Monitoring posts (NaI scintillation detector)  
Due to its better durability and its large size, this type of camera is used for stationary measurements of air dose rate. (Figure 1A)
2. Radiation dosimetre (Radiophotoluminescence glass dosimeter)  
Superior in its compact size, this device is widely used to measure personal accumulation dose of radiation exposure. (Figure 1B)
3. Portable dosimetre (semiconductor detector)  
Superior in its energy- and time- resolution to the glass badge, tis device is used to detect daily fluctuation of exposure level. (Figure 1C)



### The application to policy and practice

The local governments, in cooperation with a technology company and researchers, launched the following measurements.

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2. Periodical measurement of yearly external exposure levels of the residents.  
On October 2011, So-so area launched a voluntary external radiation exposure screening program using Glass dosimetre (Glass Badge GD-450, Chiyoda Technology Co.). The participants were instructed to bring it all the time for three months and yearly dose were calculated.
3. Measurement of daily fluctuation.

The problem of Glass Badge is that it does not provide the information about when the person exposed to radiation most in daily life. Therefore, semiconductor detectors (D-shuttle, Chiyoda Technology Co.) were distributed to volunteers since 2012 so that daily fluctuation of the exposure level was clarified. (2)

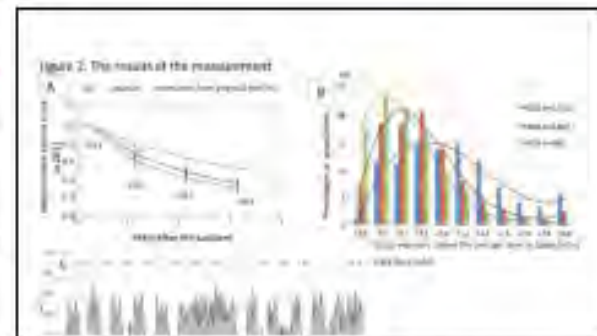


Figure 2. The results of each measurement. A. Chronological change in air dose rate. The dose is shown as relative dose rate to that in 2011. Dot line: estimation from physical half-life; black line: dose on the soil, red line: dose on asphalt. B. Chronological change in the yearly exposure levels among the residents in Minamisono City. Blue line: 2011; Red line: 2012; Green line: 2013. C. Daily fluctuation of external exposure level of a worker at the municipal office of Some City in 2012. The exposure level is lower in the daytime on weekdays, when s/he is in the building, and higher at night of weekends, when s/he is at home.

### Did it make a difference?

From these surveillance, the following knowledge has been obtained.

- Air dose rate is decreasing more rapidly than estimated (Figure 2A).
- Most of the residents showed the excessive dose of <math><1\text{mSv}/\text{year}</math> (Figure 2B).
- The determinant of external exposure level is air dose rate in the places they spend the most time. For example, for an office worker (Figure 2C), the dose decreased when s/he was working in the building, and increased when s/he was at home.

### The local government currently concludes that:

- There is no fear of external radiation exposure in So-so area
- Decontamination should focus on the places people spend most of the day e.g. houses, schools, work places, etc. rather than roads or 'hot-spots'.

### The feedback given by the local governments include:

- Residents' individual report of the exposure levels
- Webpages where the statistics are posted
- Guidance to those who showed relatively high levels of exposure
- Lectures provided for both adults and school children

Another key to consider was to wash off the stigmatisation against Fukushima. To spread the knowledge broadly, these findings were also spread by:

- Peer-reviewed journals (3-5) and grey literature (6)
- Mass media (7)



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## World Conference adopts new international framework for disaster risk reduction after marathon negotiations







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NEWS ARCHIVE

## World Conference adopts new international framework for disaster risk reduction after marathon negotiations

**18 March 2015, SENDAI** – Representatives from **187 UN member States** today adopted the first major agreement of the Post-2015 development agenda, a far reaching new framework for disaster risk reduction with **seven targets** and **four priorities for action**.

Sendai Framework

<http://www.unisdr.org/archiv>





A/CONF.224/CRP.1

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18 March 2015

Original: English only

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**Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030**

[http://www.wcdrr.org/uploads/Sendai\\_Framework\\_for\\_Disaster\\_Risk\\_Reduction\\_2015-2030.pdf](http://www.wcdrr.org/uploads/Sendai_Framework_for_Disaster_Risk_Reduction_2015-2030.pdf)

# Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

**Main result of the 3<sup>rd</sup> UN World Conference on DRR, Sendai, March 2015**

**Goal** : “Prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery, and thus strengthen resilience.”



# Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

## Seven global targets

1. Substantially **reduce global disaster mortality** by 2030, aiming to lower average per 100,000 global mortality between 2020-2030 compared to 2005-2015.
2. Substantially **reduce the number of affected people** globally by 2030, aiming to lower the average global figure per 100,000 between 2020-2030 compared to 2005-2015
3. **Reduce direct disaster economic loss** in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030.
4. Substantially **reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure** and disruption of basic services, among them health and educational facilities, including through developing their resilience by 2030.





# Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

## Seven global targets (cont)

5. Substantially increase the number of countries with **national and local disaster risk reduction strategies** by 2020.
6. Substantially enhance **international cooperation to developing countries** through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of this framework by 2030.
7. Substantially increase the availability of and access to **multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments** to the people by 2030.



# Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

## Four priorities for action

1. Understanding disaster risk;
2. Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk;
3. Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience;
4. Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

- i) *at National and Local Levels*
- ii) *at Global and regional levels*



# Science and technical paragraphs

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activities listed under each of these four priorities and a appropriate, taking into consideration respective capacity with national laws and regulations.

22. In the context of increasing global interdependence, cooperation, an enabling international environment and are needed to stimulate and contribute to developing the motivation for disaster risk reduction at all levels, in countries.

#### Priority-1. Understanding disaster risk

23. Policies and practices for disaster risk management understanding of disaster risk in all its dimensions & exposure of persons and assets, hazard characteristics & knowledge can be leveraged for the purpose of pre-dis prevention and mitigation and for the development appropriate preparedness and effective response to disaster

#### National and local levels

24. To achieve this, it is important to:

(a) Promote the collection, analysis, management and practical information. Ensure its dissemination, taking different categories of users, as appropriate;

(b) Encourage the use of and strengthening of assets disaster risks, vulnerability, capacity, exposure, their possible sequential effects at the relevant socio ecosystems in line with national circumstances;

(c) Develop, update periodically and disseminate based disaster risk information, including risk maps, to the public and communities at risk to disaster in an appropriate, geospatial information technology;

(d) Systematically evaluate, record, share and get losses and understand the economic, social, health, educational cultural heritage impacts, as appropriate, in the context exposure and vulnerability information;

(e) Make non-sensitive hazard exposure, vulnerability loss disaggregated information freely available and accessible;

(f) Promote real-time access to reliable data, risk information, including geographic information systems & communications technology innovations to enhance collection, analysis and dissemination of data;

(g) Build the knowledge of government officials, communities and volunteers, as well as the private enterprises, lessons learned, good practices and training risk reduction, including the use of existing training and peer learning;

(h) Promote and improve dialogue and co-operate technological communities, other relevant stakeholders & facilitate a science-policy interface for effective disaster management;

(i) Ensure the use of traditional, indigenous practices, as appropriate, to complement scientific knowledge and the development and implementation of and programmes of specific sectors, with a cross-sectoral tailored to localities and to the context;

(j) Strengthen technical and scientific capacity to & existing knowledge, and to develop and apply methodological disaster risks, vulnerability and exposure to all hazards

(k) Promote investments in innovation and technology, multi-hazard and solution-driven research in & address gaps, obstacles, interdependencies and social, environmental challenges and disaster risks;

(l) Promote the incorporation of disaster risk in prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery formal and non-formal education, as well as in civic education in professional education and training;

(m) Promote national strategies to strengthen public disaster risk reduction, including disaster risk in through campaigns, social media and community mobilize specific audiences and their needs;

(n) Apply risk information in all its dimensions: exposure of persons, communities, countries and characteristics, to develop and implement disaster risk

(o) Enhance collaboration among people at the disaster risk information through the involving organizations and non-governmental organizations.

#### Global and regional levels

25. To achieve this, it is important to:

(a) Enhance the development and diverse methodologies and tools to record and share disaster aggregated data and statistics, as well as to strengthen assessment, mapping, monitoring and multi-hazard early

(b) Promote the conduct of comprehensive hazard risks and the development of regional disaster risk assessment change scenarios;

(c) Promote and enhance, through information technology transfer, access to and the sharing and information, as appropriate, communications and geotechnologies and related services. Maintain and strengthen earth and climate observations. Strengthen the use

social media, traditional media, big data and mobile phone networks to support national measures for successful disaster risk communication, as appropriate and in accordance with national laws;

(d) Promote common efforts in partnership with the scientific and technological community, academia and the private sector to establish, disseminate and share good practices internationally;

(e) Support the development of local, national, regional and global user-friendly systems and services for the exchange of information on good practices, cost-effective and easy-to-use disaster risk reduction technologies and lessons learned on policies, plans and measures for disaster risk reduction;

(f) Develop effective global and regional campaigns as instruments for public awareness and education, building on the existing ones (for example, the "One Million Safe Schools and Hospitals" initiative, the "Making Cities Resilient: my city is getting ready" campaign, the United Nations *Seascope Award for Disaster Reduction* and the annual United Nations International Day for Disaster Reduction), to promote a culture of disaster prevention, resilience and responsible citizenship, generate understanding of disaster risk, support mutual learning, share experiences. Encourage public and private stakeholders to actively engage in such initiatives, and develop new ones at local, national, regional and global levels;

(g) Enhance the scientific and technical work on disaster risk reduction and its mobilization through the coordination of existing networks and scientific research institutions at all levels and all regions with the support of the UNISDR Scientific and Technical Advisory Group in order to strengthen the evidence-base in support of the implementation of this framework; promote scientific research of disaster risk patterns, causes and effects; disseminate risk information with the best use of geospatial information technology; provide guidance on methodologies and standards for risk assessments, disaster risk modelling and the use of data, identify research and technology gaps and an recommendations for research priority areas in disaster risk reduction; promote and support the availability and application of science and technology to decision-making; contribute to the update of the 2009 UNISDR Terminology on Disaster Risk Reduction; use post-disaster reviews as opportunities to enhance learning and public policy; and disseminate studies;

(h) Encourage the availability of copyrighted and patented materials including through negotiated concessions as appropriate;

(i) Enhance access to and support for innovation and technology as well as in long-term, multi-hazard and solution-driven research and development in disaster risk management.

#### Priority-2. Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

26. Disaster risk governance at the national, regional and global levels is of great importance for an effective and efficient management of disaster risk. Clear vision, plans, competence, guidance and coordination within and across sectors as well as participation of relevant stakeholders are needed. Strengthening disaster risk governance for prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery, and rehabilitation is therefore necessary and fosters collaboration and partnership across mechanisms and institutions for the implementation of instruments relevant to disaster risk reduction and sustainable development.

# Priority 1 Understanding Disaster Risk

- 25 (g) **Enhance the scientific and technical work on disaster risk reduction and its mobilization through the coordination of existing networks and scientific research institutions at all levels and all regions with the support of the UNISDR Scientific and Technical Advisory Group in order to:**



# Priority 1 Understanding Disaster Risk – 25 g)

- strengthen the **evidence-base** in support of the implementation of this framework;
- promote **scientific research of disaster risk patterns, causes and effects**;
- **disseminate risk information** with the best use of geospatial information technology;
- **provide guidance on methodologies and standards** for risk assessments, disaster risk modelling and the use of data;





# Priority 1 Understanding Disaster Risk – 25 g}

- identify **research and technology gaps** and set recommendations for research priority areas in disaster risk reduction;
- promote and support the availability and **application of science and technology to decision-making**;
- contribute to the update of the 2009 **UNISDR Terminology** on Disaster Risk Reduction;
- use **post-disaster reviews** as opportunities to enhance learning and public policy; and disseminate studies



# Public health paragraphs

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# Priority 3. Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience

## 30 i) National and local

- (i) Enhance the **resilience of national health systems**, including by integrating disaster risk management into primary, secondary and tertiary health care, especially at the local level; **developing the capacity** of health workers in understanding disaster risk and applying and implementing disaster risk reduction approaches in health work; and promoting and enhancing the training capacities in the field of **disaster medicine**; and supporting and training community health groups in disaster risk reduction approaches in health programmes, in collaboration with other sectors, as well as in the implementation of the **International Health Regulations (2005)** of the World Health Organization





# Priority 3. Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience

30 k) National and Local

- (k) People with **life threatening and chronic disease**, due to their particular needs, should be included in the design of policies and plans to manage their risks before, during and after disasters, including having access to life-saving services;



# Priority 3. Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience

31e) Global and regional

- (e) Enhance cooperation between **health authorities** and other relevant stakeholders to **strengthen country capacity for disaster risk management for health**, the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005) and the building of resilient health systems;





Priority 4: **Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction** - 33 – national and local

- (c) Promote the resilience of new and existing critical infrastructure, including water, transportation and telecommunications infrastructure, **educational facilities, hospitals and other health facilities**, to ensure that they remain safe, effective and operational during and after disasters in order to provide live-saving and essential services;







Priority 4: **Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction** - 33 – national and local

- (n) Establish a **mechanism of case registry** and a database of mortality caused by disaster in order to improve the prevention of morbidity and mortality;
- (o) Enhance recovery schemes to provide **psychosocial support and mental health services** for all people in need;



# Outline

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- The science, technology and public health road to Sendai
- The Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction signed 18 March 2015
- What does it state for science, technology and public health?
- How will it be implemented?





Preparatory Process

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

• Views and Comments

Government announcements and voluntary commitments

Preparatory Committee

- First Session
- Open-Ended Informal Consultative Meetings
- Second Session
- Open-Ended Negotiation Meetings
- Third Session
- Bureau Meetings

Multistakeholder process

- Global Platform
- Regional Platforms & Ministerial Meetings
- Other Consultations

# Government announcements and voluntary commitments

Reducing disaster risk and building resilience relies on the engagement of all members of society. Voluntary commitments from organizations and individuals are an essential complement to legal obligations for protecting lives, livelihoods, assets and the environment and will be one cornerstone of implementation of the post 2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.



Photo: UNISDR

### GOVERNMENT OF NEPAL

#### Local Disaster Reduction Management Plan

Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development will support the 130 municipalities in the country to prepare the Local Disaster Risks Management Plan. We will do so in cooperation with all stakeholders involved in disaster risks reduction in Nepal that include NGOs. This plan will guide the activities on disaster risks reduction at local level.



Photo: UNISDR

### AGEING AND DISABILITY TASK FORCE PAKISTAN

#### Establishing master trainers pool on disability inclusive DRR and building capacity of 100 key DRR actors in Pakistan

In 2014-2015, we commit to the preparation of disability inclusive DRR modules and manuals; make inputs to the governmental training institute to make sure that their training curricula on DRR are made inclusive of disability; build the capacity of 20 master trainers on disability inclusive DRR; influence 100 humanitarian projects through grassroots level technical training; and training of 150 key humanitarian actors on disability inclusive DRR.

[Submit an announcement or commitment](#)







“ In March, in Sendai,  
Japan, the World  
Conference on  
Disaster Risk  
Reduction can set  
a course to greater  
resilience ”

-- Ban Ki-moon  
UN Secretary-General

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