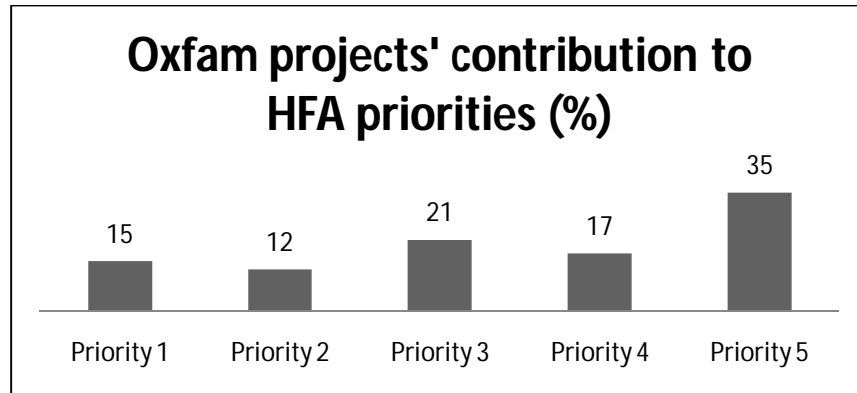


Oxfam Statement to the Regional Platform for DRR in the Americas, 3rd Session

Oxfam is an international confederation of 17 organizations networked together in more than 90 countries, to build a future free from the injustice of poverty. Oxfam's vision is a just world without poverty. We envision a world in which people can influence decisions which affect their lives, enjoy their rights and assume their responsibilities as full citizens of a world in which all human beings are valued and treated equally. We are part of a global movement for change, one that empowers people to create a future that is secure, just and free from poverty. Oxfam uses a combination of rights-based sustainable development programmes, public education, fair trade, campaigns, advocacy and humanitarian assistance in disasters and conflict. In doing so, we seek to be innovative and practical, and to learn from others in ways which will increase our impact on a larger scale. Oxfam challenges the structural causes of the injustice of poverty at global, regional, national, local, community and households levels, within the framework of rights-based development. We link global to local and we work with partners at all levels.

This statement seeks to outline Oxfam's initiatives in DRR, how it is currently applying the HFA to its work, and Oxfam's vision with respect to a post-HFA 2015 instrument.

A review of Oxfam's work since the last regional platform in March 2011 shows that we have contributed to greater disasters resilience of more than 500,000 women, men and children in 10 countries¹ in the Latin America and Caribbean Region. Our projects contribute most to HFA priorities 3 and 5 (see graph below).



Oxfam is currently developing its Strategic Plan for 2013-19, in which DRR and resilience-building is emphasized across all sectors of intervention. Resilience-building is directly embedded in three of the six Change Goals: **Saving lives and building resilience; fair and sustainable agriculture and food systems; and social and gender justice in natural resource use**, and is a cross-cutting issue in other goals as well.

Oxfam's current position on a post-2015 DRR framework

The next three years offer an outstanding opportunity to provide a crucial step change in disaster risk reduction through the development of new international instruments. 2015 is the end of the timeline for the Hyogo Framework for Action and the Millennium Development Goals. Discussions are underway for renewed action on both frameworks beyond 2015, the Sustainable Development Goals are now under development, and a new climate agreement is also expected in 2015.

These processes provide an unparalleled opportunity to go ***beyond the incremental progress*** seen to date. Stronger political pressure for countries to implement DRR strategies as a core strategy within post-2015 international development frameworks could help reduce risk for vulnerable and marginalized people all over the world.

Oxfam's position is that governments should:

1. Reflect disaster risk reduction and resilience in the post-2015 MDGs/SDGs.
2. Ensure that climate negotiations under the UNFCCC systematically address loss and damage.
3. Strengthen the HFA and ensure that it is fit for purpose for the post-2015 period.

This provides a nested approach whereby the post-2015 MDGs/SDGs framework provides the top line goal and asks on DRR/resilience, and provides political emphasis, with HFA+ providing the detail. In parallel, the UNFCCC needs to take into account the failure to adequately mitigate climate change by leading coordinated global action to address unavoidable loss and damage.

The post-2015 DRR framework: HFA+

Oxfam believes that any post-2015 framework on DRR must find the right balance of:

- ***Building on what is already successful:*** the HFA was built on 10 years' experience of the Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action² and its subsequent review³; it represents a strong basis for DRR work. The mid-term review of the HFA suggested that the primary problem was implementation, not the framework itself.
- ***Changing to meet growing challenges.*** An evolutionary approach that strengthens/develops/gap-fills will not be sufficient and should not be supported. Business as usual, or more of the same, will not be successful, due to rapidly increasing exposure, hazards, and vulnerabilities. There is a need for more significant changes in order to guarantee resilience and security for all.

Therefore Oxfam proposes an HFA+ which keeps the broad structure of the HFA but provides significant strengthening across the framework to make it fit for purpose. An HFA+ will build on the HFA's modest achievements but also strengthen the framework by encapsulating the DRR developments since 2005, and isolating and addressing its weaknesses.

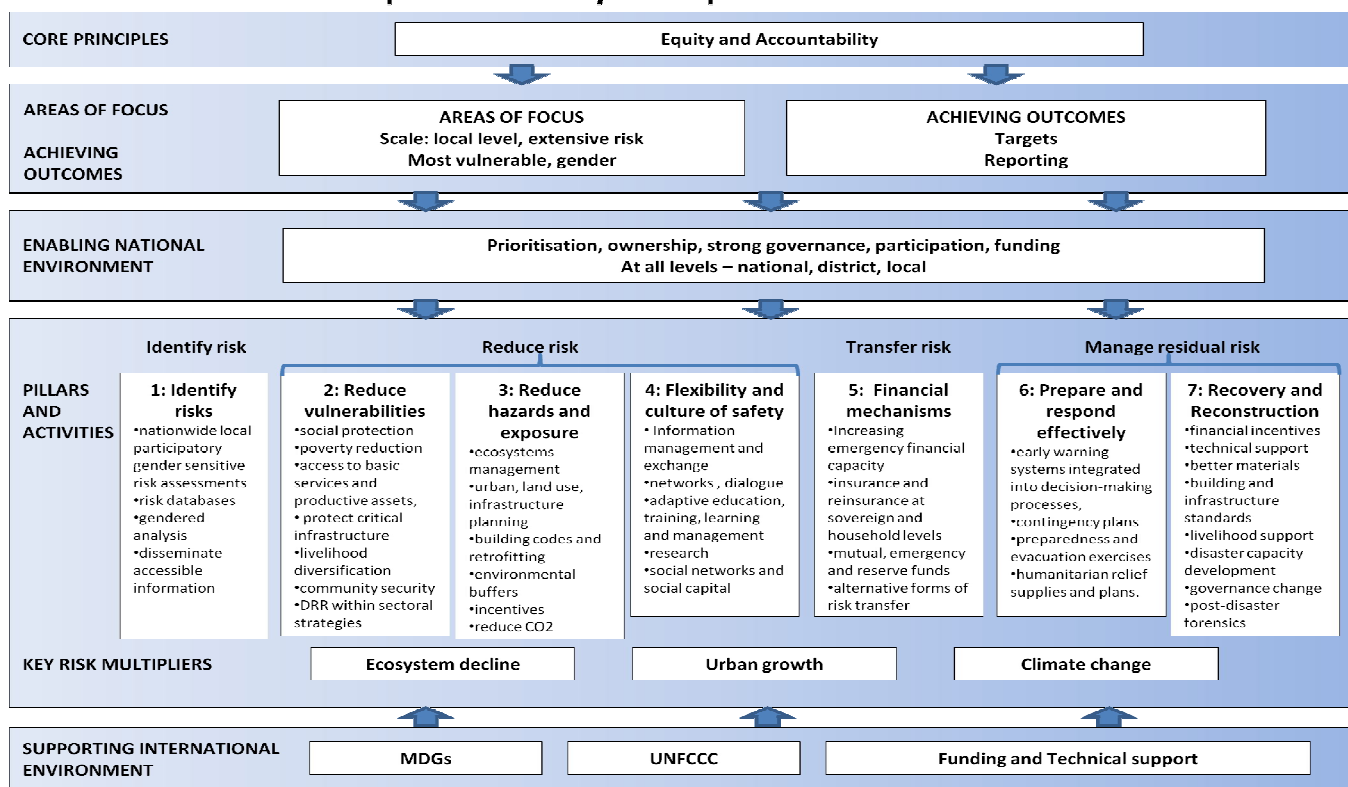
Core elements of HFA+ proposed:

Principles: Equity and accountability at the heart of the post-2015 HFA. *Oxfam proposes that the new agreement clearly articulates the principles of equity and accountability as the core drivers of DRR in order to provide an unambiguous direction*

for the negotiation of the agreement and its subsequent implementation at local, national, regional and international levels.

- Focus on local-level action
- Focus on the most vulnerable and excluded
- Focus on extensive risk
- Focus on gender equity
- Focus on indicators and targets
- Focus on accountability and reporting
- Building an enabling national environment
- Increased funding and technical support for implementation

Oxfam Proposal: Summary of the post 2015 HFA framework



The summary diagram of Oxfam’s proposed framework provides some activities under each of the pillars. These are indicative and require further elaboration.

For detailed information of Oxfam’s position see Briefing Note online in <http://policy-practice.oxfam.org.uk/our-work/climate-change-drr>

¹ Haiti, Dominican Republic, Cuba, San Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, and Paraguay

² http://www.preventionweb.net/files/8241_doc6841contenido1.pdf

³ <http://www.unisdr.org/2005/wcdr/intergover/official-doc/L-docs/Yokohama-Strategy-English.pdf>