

# #SendaiAmericas

8 y 9 de Junio, 2016 | Asunción, Paraguay

1ra Reunión Ministerial y de Autoridades de Alto Nivel sobre la Implementación del Marco de Sendai para la Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres 2015-2030 en las Américas

## SESSION 1

### The challenge of mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction for the implementation of the Sendai Framework.

#### PANEL 1

#### Challenges in risk knowledge for the prioritization of Disaster Risk Reduction.

Please refer to the agenda by entering: <http://eird.org/ran-sendai-2016/eng/agenda-english.html>

#### 1. Introduction

**The Americas continues to be one of the most vulnerable regions to natural hazards,** and one of its main gaps is the need to integrate disaster risk reduction within the development planning processes and their related sectoral efforts.

This task is one of the biggest challenges for the region, and its advancement will only be possible if governments, civil society and the private sector integrate disaster risk reduction as a key element of their development planning and investment.

In this context, the commitment by United Nations Members States, having adopted the **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030** (March, 2015, Sendai, Japan), is to address disaster risk reduction and increased resilience to disasters with a renewed sense of urgency in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

The structure of this new Framework includes, among others, a set of principles, goals and priorities with global, regional, national and local lines of action. The new Sendai Framework thus aims to achieve the following outcome in the next 15 years:

*"The substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses caused by disasters, both in terms of lives, livelihoods and health as well as economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of individuals, companies, communities and countries."*

To attain the expected outcome, the Framework suggests pursuing the following 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 then resilience."*

The achievement of this outcome requires the strong commitment and involvement of political leadership in each country at all levels both in the implementation and follow-up of

# #SendaiAmericas

8 y 9 de Junio, 2016 | Asunción, Paraguay

1ra Reunión Ministerial y de Autoridades de Alto Nivel sobre la Implementación del Marco de Sendai para la Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres 2015-2030 en las Américas

the present Framework as well as in the creation of the necessary conducive and enabling environment. To this end, the National Emergency Secretariat of Paraguay (SNE) jointly with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), through its Regional Office for the Americas, aims to promote a discussion of ministerial representatives and high-level authorities of all countries of the Americas, to identify a regional action plan for the implementation of the Sendai Framework in the Americas.

## 2. Background

Why is this topic important and why does it justify a work session?

The First Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities on the implementation of the Sendai Framework in the Americas provides the ideal setting for authorities representing different high-level sectors in countries to contribute to the discussion on the understanding of hazards, exposure and vulnerability of people and property, as a key condition for reducing disaster risk through informed decision-making by governments, communities and individuals. Risk knowledge information should be used to prioritize development strategies and adaptation, and to define sectoral plans, programmes, projects and budgets in order to ensure sustainability of the development process.

During the last 15 years, important advances in risks knowledge such as global risk models and tools such as risk mapping, resilient infrastructure standards, loss and damage registries, as well as scientific advances in early warning systems, among others have been developed. In the coming years, as states advance in the implementation of the Sendai Framework, governments need to have access and apply the advances and tools in order to have public policies and investments that are informed by disaster risk. Understanding risk provides a solid basis for the reduction of risks in all sectors.

## 3. Objective of the session

The objective of the session is to review progress on the knowledge of risk in the last 10 years for its implementation in the region. Based on advancements and experience, the goal is to identify good practices in government sectors for the integration of disaster risk reduction in the sector planning. The aims to highlight how the understanding of risk may be applied to mainstreaming within and across all sectors and reflect on what challenges remain to achieving the use of risk information.

In particular, the session will seek to address the following objectives:

- Determine advances in disaster risk knowledge in the last 10 years that may be applicable to the mainstreaming of DRR in the sectors.
- Identify remaining challenges and their linkages with the agenda on climate change adaptation.
- Determine the relevance of risk assessments to inform development efforts and risk reduction, and what has yet to be achieved to translate risk information into action.

# #SendaiAmericas

8 y 9 de Junio, 2016 | Asunción, Paraguay

1ra Reunión Ministerial y de Autoridades de Alto Nivel sobre la Implementación del Marco de Sendai para la Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres 2015-2030 en las Américas

## 4. Session outline and issues to address

### Structure and discussion agenda

The panel will be moderated by UNISDR and SEN.

90 min.

Panel: Challenges in risk knowledge for the prioritization of Disaster Risk Reduction

The advances in Disaster Risk Knowledge in the last 10 years, supporting the implementation of the Sendai Framework, **Mr. Andrew Maskrey**, Chief Risk Knowledge Section, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)

#### 1. Welcome and Initial Remarks (5 min.)

- **Manuel Orlando Quinteros Aguilar**, Minister of Public Works, El Salvador

#### 2. Risk knowledge in the last 10 years (55 min.)

- **Andrew Maskrey**, Chief Risk Knowledge Section, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)

#### 3. National assessments of DRR (20 min.)

- **Milton Henríquez**, Minister of the Interior, Panama
- **Juan Andrés Roballo**, Secretariat of the Presidency, Uruguay (to be confirmed)

#### 4. Questions (10 min.)