

SESSION 1:

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

PANEL 2

Disaster Risk Reduction and National Regulatory Frameworks: State of progress and relevance to the implementation of the Sendai Framework.

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

1. Introduction

The Americas continue to be one of the most vulnerable regions facing natural hazards, one of its main gaps is the need to integrate disaster risk reduction within the development planning processes and the 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 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 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 development of models of disaster risk governance first proposed in the HFA and strengthened in the Sendai Framework, with a focus on risk management rather than emergency or disaster management, is one of the areas where countries acknowledge the greatest progress. However, despite these notable advances, in practice most resources continue to be invested in strengthening disaster management capacity, while the implementation of policies, norms, standards and regulations to manage and reduce risk in the development sectors has had limited success. As noted in the Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction (GAR 2015), to achieve real sustainable change, disaster risk reduction should be embedded in the very DNA of the development processes.

The expected outcome of the Sendai Framework is "The substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries." (Sendai Framework, paragraph 16). To achieve this, the Sendai Framework states that more work is needed at all levels to reduce exposure and vulnerability, in order to avoid the emergence of new disaster risks and to ensure accountability when new risks arise. More specific measures should be adopted to combat the underlying factors that increase disaster risk. Moreover, it is necessary to further strengthen good governance in the strategies to reduce disaster risk at the national, regional and global levels and improve preparedness and national coordination for disaster response, recovery and reconstruction, and use post-disaster reconstruction and recovery to "build back better", with the enhanced support of international cooperation.

3. Objective

To achieve significant progress towards the 2030 agenda and with the recent approval of the Paris Agreement during COP21, coordination between disaster risk management, climate change adaptation and sustainable development, requires a commitment by states at the highest level. This panel seeks to explore the relevance and advancement of national policy frameworks for the implementation of the Sendai Framework from the perspective of different sectors and with a focus on the consistency of policies, plans, practices and mechanisms between the different sectors and agendas.

Objectives

- Identify guidelines agreed to by the participating ministers on how to achieve progress towards DRR as a state policy.
- Identify how to support and what is needed from existing legislation to mainstream DRR into development processes.

4. Session outline and issues to address

<p>Structure and the discussion agenda</p> <p>120 min.</p>	<p>Panel: Disaster Risk Reduction and National Regulatory Frameworks: State of progress and relevance to the implementation of the Sendai Framework</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduction and welcome remarks (10 min.)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Robert Glasser, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction2. Regional policy frameworks on Disaster Risk Reduction (20 min.)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alejandro Maldonado, Vice-president Pro Tempore, Coordination Centre for Natural Disaster Prevention in Central America (CEPRENAC)• David Álvarez, Security Director and Civil Justice, UNASUR3. National regulatory frameworks for DRR (60 min.)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Susana Dueñas de la Torre, Minister, Risk Management Secretariat, Ecuador• Oscar Cabrera Coca, Vice-Minister, Civil Defense, Bolivia• Ricardo Toro, Director, National Emergency Office of the Ministry of the Interior (ONEMI), Chile• Iván Hernando Caicedo, Technical Deputy-Director, National Unit for Disaster Risk Management, Colombia• Carlos Picado, Chief of the Strategic Development Unit, National Emergency Commission (CNE), Costa Rica• Colonel Luis Veliz Macareño, 2nd Chief, Civil
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#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

Defense, Cuba

4. Gender, youth and vulnerable groups (10 min.)

- **Alpheus Frederick Stephenson**, Minister of National Mobilization, Social Development, Family, Gender Affairs, Person with Disabilities and Youth, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

5. Questions (10 min.)