

10 THINGS TO KNOW:
**DISASTER &
CLIMATE RISK
GOVERNANCE
IN UNDP**



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*



10 THINGS TO KNOW: DISASTER & CLIMATE RISK GOVERNANCE IN UNDP

This booklet provides an overview of UNDP's work in disaster and climate risk governance, an area that gained greater recognition from the international community through the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework) which dedicates one of its four Priorities for Action to "strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disasters".

The Sendai Framework, the Paris Climate Agreement, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) all highlight the need to protect hard-earned development gains from disaster and climate risks, especially in socioeconomic development sectors. They also seek to build sustainability through risk-informed development which is greatly influenced by functioning disaster and climate risk governance arrangements.





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1. GOVERNANCE: A KEY DETERMINANT OF RISK

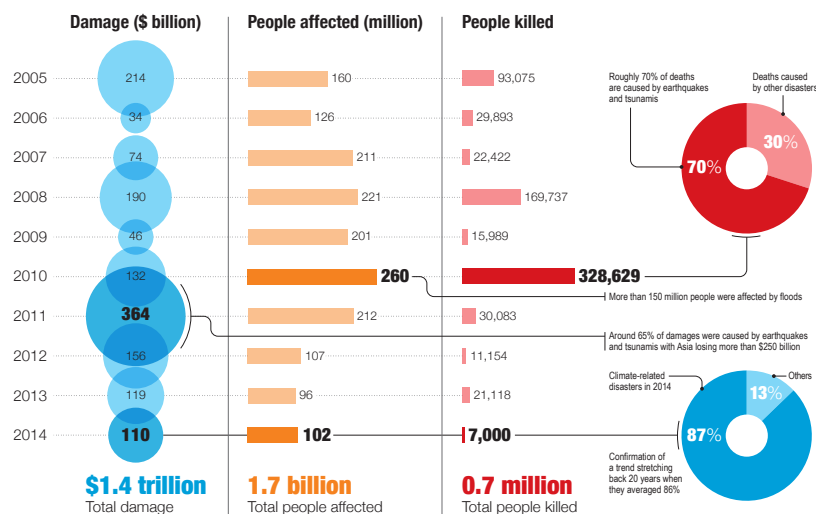
Reducing disaster risk and adapting to a changing climate have become increasingly critical for achieving sustainable development. Disaster losses continue to rise due to growing concentrations of people and assets in areas exposed to natural hazards, rapid and uncontrolled urban-

ization, and an increasing intensity and magnitude of extreme weather events due to climate change, especially in poor and fragile countries.¹ These drivers of risk are predominantly rooted in political and institutional structures, or flawed governance processes.²

For over two decades, UNDP has made strengthening disaster and climate risk governance a cornerstone of its efforts to assist its programme countries better understand, reduce and manage risk.³ Despite an increasing recognition that good governance, disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation are mutually supportive, the related risk governance arrangements still encounter many challenges:⁴

- Policy, institutional, and financing arrangements do not sufficiently prioritize disaster risk reduction, or do not have accountability mechanisms in place to follow through with their implementation.
- Disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation and environmental management and their related policy and institutional frameworks are pursued in silos.
- Disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation are only weakly connected to the broader poverty reduction agenda due to inadequate incentive systems for forging closer links to development planning at all levels.

The Economic and Human Impact of Disasters in the last 10 years



Source: UNISDR, 2015: http://www.unisdr.org/files/42862_economichumanimpact20052014unisdr.pdf.

- National disaster and climate risk management strategies, policies and plans are disconnected from local realities because the systematic participation and inclusion of the most vulnerable is neglected.
- Financing for reducing disaster and climate risks is insufficient, leading to short-term or fragmented interventions.

Against this backdrop, UNDP has developed a comprehensive policy and programme support package that seeks to strengthen the key components of a functioning disaster and climate risk governance system (see section 2 for more information). In doing so, UNDP has built upon its existing democratic governance practice area.

A keystone of UNDP's approach has been the provision of long-term and sustained support which has been instrumental in accompanying countries through the many ups and downs in their endeavours to strengthen their risk governance capacities and build resilience.

UNDP'S LONG-TERM SUPPORT TO MOZAMBIQUE⁵

UNDP has been working in Mozambique since the 1990s, providing support for disaster risk reduction on a sustained basis. Some of the key milestones have included support for the:

Establishment of the National Institute of Disaster Management (INGC) in 1999

Development of a Disaster Risk Management Policy in 2000

Development of the Master Plan on Disaster Prevention in 2006

Development of a Disaster Risk Management Law, approved in 2014, which recognizes gender considerations in all disaster risk management planning activities

Establishment of a decentralized disaster risk management system through local risk management committees

Establishment of community early warning systems

Mainstreaming disaster and climate risks in national and sectoral development plans

RESULTS

Key sectors such as agriculture, education, health, infrastructure and energy are now integrating disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation components into planning, backed by budget allocations.

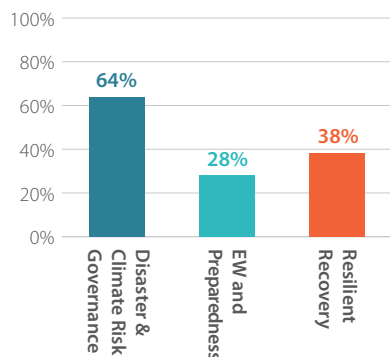
From 2001 to 2011 the total number of Mozambicans affected by disasters fell by 45 percent compared with the previous decade.

Flood related mortality in 2010 was less than 25 percent of the 10-year average, and decreased 90 percent compared with the previous decade.

2. UNDP: A SNAPSHOT OF OUR WORK IN DISASTER AND CLIMATE RISK GOVERNANCE

From 2005 to 2016, UNDP implemented approximately **1,500 projects in nearly 150 countries** with a considerable disaster & climate risk governance component. These amounted to 64 percent or US\$1.3 billion of UNDP's total disaster risk reduction portfolio of US\$2.1 billion (see figure 1). Most expenditures occurred in the Asia and the Pacific region, followed by Africa (see figure 3).

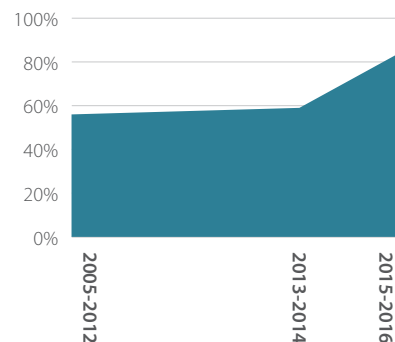
FIGURE 1: UNDP's disaster risk reduction portfolio (2005-2016) with expenditures for disaster & climate risk governance, early warning and preparedness, and resilient recovery components



DRR projects with a considerable disaster and climate risk governance component grew by nearly 30 percent with a significant increase over the past two years since the adoption of the Sendai Framework.

UNDP strengthens its disaster & climate risk governance capacities through a comprehensive set of complementary policy

FIGURE 2: Increase of UNDP's disaster and climate risk governance portfolio from 2005 to 2016



and programme support services, covering the following categories:

- Assessment and analysis
- Institutions (capacity development, training, coordination, decentralization)
- Legal and regulatory frameworks
- Plans (action plans, national, sub-nation and sector plans, and planning frameworks)
- Policies (national and sector policies and strategies, and strategic frameworks)
- Risk-informed development planning and budgeting (or mainstreaming)
- Disaster recovery governance
- Community based and urban risk management
- Gender equality

FIGURE 3: UNDP expenditures for disaster and climate risk governance distributed by region (2005-2016)

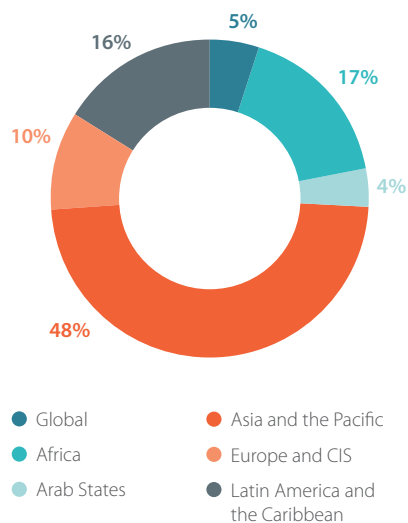
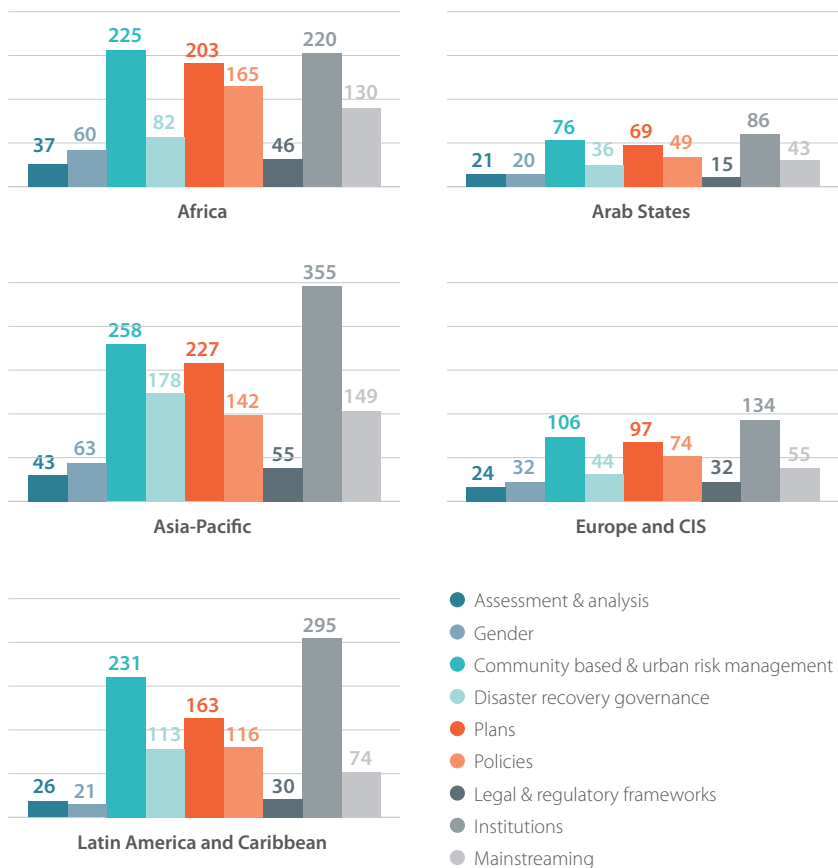


FIGURE 4: UNDP projects with a considerable disaster and climate risk governance component distributed by category of support across five regions (2005-2016)



3. RISK ASSESSMENT: CENTRAL FOR A FUNCTIONING RISK GOVERNANCE SYSTEM

Through its programmes, UNDP supports countries to gain a thorough understanding of the prevalent natural hazard and climate change related risks, the available capacities, and relevant context. This is an important prerequisite to help determine the key features of a country's risk governance arrangements to effectively manage emergencies, reduce existing risks and minimize the creation of new risks.

Risk assessments establish the empirical basis for risk-informed decision-making and investments in disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation. From 2005 to 2016, UNDP supported **more than 80 countries** to understand and communicate risks through disaggregated risk assessments for a range of applications at national, urban and local levels.

Loss and damage accounting helps to track the impacts of hazard events over time to provide information on cumulative loss and damage, their geographic distribution, the main hazards, the types of loss and

RWANDA'S NATIONAL RISK ATLAS

UNDP, in collaboration with the European Union and WB/GFDRR, supported the Government of Rwanda in preparing a National Risk Atlas that provides a comprehensive assessment of existing risks at the national and local level across all the country's 30 districts. The Atlas includes sex-disaggregated data on population exposure to risks related to earthquakes, landslides, storms and droughts. Since its launch in 2015, the Risk Atlas has shaped the government's disaster risk reduction agenda. UNDP supported the application of the new evidence base for updating the national and districts land use master plans and the Rwanda national building code, as well as the district development plans. Recent support also included the conduct of risk assessment of other hazards, such as lightning.

damage that occur, and temporal trends. UNDP recognizes that disaster and climate risk governance requires the capacity to

MACEDONIA'S FIRST NATIONAL RISK ASSESSMENT

UNDP provided technical and expert assistance for development of the country's first comprehensive National Risk and Hazard Assessment. This work was based on 81 municipal risk and hazard assessments which served as a basis for defining the national profile, as well as the exposure, vulnerability and coping capacities of the country's disaster risk reduction system. This National Assessment serves as the main tool for mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into other national strategies, policies and programmes. It includes sex-disaggregated data as the basis for the creation of gender sensitive measures and actions, as well as adequate gender budgeting.

maintain a reliable and official disaster-statistics system for reporting and analysing information on disaster losses and damages and contributing to the evidence-base for risk-informed decision-making.

From 2005 to 2016, UNDP supported the establishment of more than **30 national databases** and helped institutionalize, update and maintain them.

A new area of support in UNDP relates to **contextual analysis**.⁶ For an understanding of the decision-making processes that underpin risk-informed development, UNDP works with governments to carry out in-depth analysis of development planning, including actors, sectors, and decision-making levels. This entails careful reading of the institutional and political factors that promote or block risk reduction, and that include or exclude the poor and most vulnerable people. It also balances a focus on technical assistance with one on the enabling or disabling environment in a country, a sector, or across sectors.

UNDP programmes also offer **disaster risk reduction capacity assessment** support, including through its participation in the interagency Capacity Development for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI).

THE GLOBAL CENTRE FOR DISASTER STATISTICS

UNDP, with partners, launched the Global Centre for Disaster Statistics in 2015 to deliver quality, accessible and understandable disaster damage and loss data to partners, as well as middle and low-income countries. The centre aims to improve systems of disaster statistics and the analysis of social vulnerability to disasters; establish baselines for monitoring and evaluating loss reduction targets and indicators (SDGs/Sendai Framework); increase risk informed public investments in DRR and development; and enhance preparedness for effective response and resilient recovery.

THE VANUATU RISK GOVERNANCE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

UNDP worked with the Government of Vanuatu, under the Pacific Risk Resilience Programme (PRRP), on a risk governance needs assessment before initiating a comprehensive disaster and climate risk governance programme. The assessment brought national and sub-national leadership concerns to the forefront and helped to align the leadership at all levels in support of the country's risk reduction priorities.



4. STRONG INSTITUTIONS & COORDINATION: THE FOUNDATIONS FOR MULTI-SECTOR, MULTI- TIER AND MULTI-STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Strong and sound democratic institutions provide for good governance in the decision-making processes to reduce vulnerability and risks and prepare and respond to emergencies.⁷ UNDP fosters **multi-sector engagement** to capitalize on the comparative capacities of sectors, and builds on their mutually beneficial and dynamic tasks rather than isolated and static roles. Strengthening horizontal coordination, for example through National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction, and clarifying the roles and responsibilities of government and non-government stakeholders, are essential in this endeavour.

Since disaster and climate risks manifest themselves locally with context-specific characteristics, local capacity is required to address both the effects and underlying causes of natural hazards and climate risks.⁸ UNDP supports governments, where appropriate, to develop such decentralized disaster and climate risk management capacities through a multi-tier risk governance system.

INTEGRATED INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS IN VANUATU

UNDP supported the government to strengthen the National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (NAB) to provide high-level policymaking and strategic advice, replacing previous climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction specific parliamentary committees. This was followed in 2013 by the establishment of a Ministry of Climate Change Adaptation, Meteorology, Geo-Hazards, Energy, Environment and Disaster Management (MCC) to oversee the development and implementation of the joint national climate change and disaster risk reduction policy (approved in 2015). In 2015, the Government established six resilient development positions to mainstream risk, as well as the gender and social dimensions of risk, in sector and community development planning processes. The NAB is also formulating a Climate Finance Roadmap and is seeking accreditation at the Global Climate Fund with UNDP support.

MUNICIPAL RISK REDUCTION MANAGEMENT CENTRES IN CUBA⁹

Rather than directly supporting the establishment of disaster risk management committees at community level, UNDP opted to support the Government set up eight provincial and 84 municipal Risk Reduction Management Centres which were trained and equipped to analyse and deliver risk information and advice to 310 communities to support their disaster risk management training. This approach offered more targeted, sustainable and impactful support from UNDP. The approach is currently being replicated in other Caribbean Islands with the assistance of UNDP.

UNDP is increasingly broadening its support from a traditional focus on National Disaster Risk Management Authorities (NDMA) to include the bodies at the apex of government, such as the

DEVELOPING COUNTY-LEVEL RISK MANAGEMENT CAPACITIES IN KENYA

UNDP supported the Ministry Planning with a mapping of technical capacities in 13 counties to identify gaps in disaster and climate risk management and planning skills. The assessments were followed up with targeted training, including on Sendai Framework principles and priorities. Counties have since begun developing county-level disaster risk reduction plans and thematic groups to carry the plans forward. At national level, similar thematic groups facilitate coordination with county authorities to ensure vertical coordination.

planning and finance ministries. They are located at the centre of development and are critical for devising a risk-informed development trajectory. In parallel, UNDP continues to support NDMAs to develop their capacities in disaster management and preparedness.



5. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORKS: ASSIGNING ACCOUNTABILITY AND SETTING INCENTIVES

Legal and regulatory frameworks are the cornerstones for creating the enabling environment for reducing existing risks related to natural hazards and climate change, as well as preventing the creation of new risks.¹⁰

From 2005 to 2016, UNDP supported governments **in nearly 90 countries** in developing or revising their legal and reg-

ulatory frameworks for DRM. This included supporting governments to develop or strengthen dedicated **disaster risk management (DRM) Laws** and related regulations that prioritize risk reduction over emergency management; clarify institutional mandates; allocate dedicated resources; facilitate the participation of communities, civil society and vulnerable groups; and establish the accountability

of relevant actors.¹¹ Many DRM laws also provide legal requirements to guide the post-disaster recovery process, albeit in the majority of cases not at a sufficient level of detail.¹² This is a gap which UNDP is paying greater attention to.

UNDP has also supported **sectoral laws**— such as building and construction laws; land use regulations; regulations

UNDP DRM LAW PARTNERSHIP WITH THE IFRC

UNDP, in partnership with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has fostered a better understanding of disaster risk reduction in legislative frameworks through a multi-country report drawing on the research of 31 countries, and a Disaster Risk Reduction Law Handbook and Checklist which provide practical guidance on how to develop and review laws and regulations for reducing disaster risk.

LEGAL REFORM IN SERBIA

UNDP assisted the Government of Serbia in strengthening essential laws and regulations to guide disaster risk reduction and recovery responses to future crises. The new Law on Reconstruction Following Natural and Other Hazards, which regulates aid provided by the state to citizens and enterprises following disasters, was passed at the end of 2015, while a Second Statute on Risk Reduction and Emergency Management is about to be finalized.

SUBSIDIARY DRM LEGISLATION IN CAMBODIA

Building upon the technical inputs and programmatic support of UNDP during the Government-led process to revise the country's DRM law in 2015, assistance was subsequently extended for the development of subsidiary legislation under the law, including a technical review, which provided an opportunity to align the legislation with the Sendai Framework for DRR.

for informal settlements; environmental and natural resource management laws; climate change adaptation laws—which are key pillars of disaster risk governance. These laws underpin development and thus offer unique opportunities to address underlying vulnerabilities and risks and set important incentives for risk-informing the development planning of socioeconomic sectors.

ECUADOR'S CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

After the 2016 Earthquake, UNDP worked with the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing to conduct a rapid safety assessment of damaged buildings. A total of 594 volunteers were trained to evaluate 35,801 buildings in Esmeraldas and Manabí. To strengthen the enforcement of Ecuador's Construction Standards during the recovery process, UNDP supported the preparation of several practical guides for design and construction of dwellings and small buildings, promoting the use of appropriate construction materials and a checklist for minimum structural requirements in seismic zones. A total of 7,879 professionals completed the training on the guides.

INDIA'S BUILDING BY-LAWS

The Government of India, supported by UNDP, developed a "Model Building By-Laws for Seismic Zones III, IV and V and the Review of City, Town and Country Planning Act and Zoning Regulations" to promote safe constructions and systems to ensure compliance. Nearly 38 cities initiated a review of their city building by-laws and development plans based on the model, to integrate disaster risk reduction considerations into urban development plans and revised building by-laws.



6. DRR STRATEGIES & ACTION PLANS: ESTABLISHING COMMON GOALS AND PRIORITIES

ALIGNING MYANMAR'S NATIONAL DISASTER REDUCTION STRATEGY WITH SENDAI

In 2016, UNDP supported the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, and the National Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group, to review Myanmar's National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy in a process to align it with the Sendai Framework for DRR and localize its goals and targets.

THE CAPACITY FOR DISASTER REDUCTION INITIATIVE (CADRI)

This UN interagency initiative, which UNDP is a member of, enables the UN System to provide joint technical expertise to countries to develop and implement coherent national disaster risk reduction strategies. Since 2012, CADRI has facilitated 28 disaster risk reduction capacity assessments, supported the development of 19 national plans of action, and trained more than 2,000 professionals from governments, the UN, NGOs and other partners.

INDONESIA INTEGRATES DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLANS

UNDP worked with the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) and the Ministry of Forestry and Environment, academic experts and NGO representatives to draft Indonesia's first plan integrating measures to adapt to climate change and to reduce disaster risks. The plan explicitly recognizes that vulnerable groups, including women, may have specific needs and therefore should be involved in planning and implementation. The plan also stipulates that reducing their vulnerability is one of the factors to consider in measurement of success.

National Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Plans and Strategies are essential for implementing and monitoring a country's risk reduction priorities by setting implementation milestones, establishing the key roles and responsibilities of government and non-government stakeholders, and identifying technical resources and

financing sources.¹³ Also, many provincial and local governments are issuing such plans to further localize and adapt national implementation priorities to their context.

From 2005 to 2016, UNDP supported the development and implementation of disaster risk reduction action plans and strategies from the national to the local level in a total of **nearly 140 countries**. Increasingly, UNDP has been requested to assist with the development of plans and strategies that integrate both disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation to capitalize on synergies and increase efficiency in an environment that is increasingly characterized by scarce human and financial resources. Since the adoption of the Sendai Framework, UNDP has also assisted with aligning national plans and strategies with the Sendai Framework, or with localizing regional frameworks such as the "Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific" (SRDP).

7. RISK-INFORMING DEVELOPMENT: AN IMPERATIVE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

MAINSTREAMING INTO NATIONAL AND SECTORAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS IN UGANDA

With the support of UNDP's Integrated Climate Risk Management Programme (ICRMP), the government of Uganda made considerable progress with mainstreaming gender-responsive climate and disaster risk management into national and sectoral development plans, specifically the National Urban Policy, the National Building Control Regulations, and the "Resilience and DRM Strategic Framework and Investment Programme".

RISK-INFORMING THE PROVINCIAL BUDGET PROCESSES IN VIET NAM

UNDP supported the Government to pilot a mechanism by which disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation plans have been linked to the annual provincial budget process and targets. The approach was rolled out in eight high risk provinces, reaching more than 8,000 people, of which more than 50 percent are women. UNDP's transformative intervention is now being scaled up in more than 1,700 communes.

RISK-INFORMED PUBLIC INVESTMENT PLANNING IN CUBA AT MUNICIPALITY LEVEL

In Cuba, UNDP helped municipalities to integrate DRR into the investment planning process. Due to this work, every public entity is now legally obliged to include actions to reduce risk in its economic planning. The National Civil Defence authorities carry out regular inspections and when disaster risk reduction is not fully integrated in the local investment planning, a mandatory action plan is recommended for implementation by municipal governments within a certain time frame.

Flawed development planning is a key driver of disaster and climate risks, and hence provides an important entry point for resilience building. Governments aiming to risk-inform their development processes are placing risk considerations at the heart of development, including in policymaking, planning, budgeting, programming, implementation, monitoring and evaluations, at the national, subnational and sector level.¹⁴

From 2005 to 2016, UNDP supported governments **in more than 120 countries** with integrating disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation into development planning and budgeting. As a result, the related concepts and approaches are increasingly accepted as underlying principles of sustainable development and institutionalized in organizational procedures. In a growing number of countries integrated approaches to mainstreaming

disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation are being pursued in view of their synergies in objectives and approaches and common sources of financing.

8. COMMUNITIES & MUNICIPALITIES: IMPORTANT RISK GOVERNANCE ACTORS

Communities are key to managing disaster and climate change risk. The populations at risk are an important resource for mitigating, preparing for and responding to disasters. Community based disaster risk management (CBDRM) and adaptation builds on this by helping to capitalize local knowledge and expertise, and strengthen people's technical and organizational capacities, thereby empowering them.¹⁵ Examples of UNDP's CBDRM programme support, include:

- Community level planning and establishing linkages with provincial level governments to foster the integration of disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation measures with a community perspective.
- The establishment and training of community level risk management committees.

- Assisting municipalities to develop risk reduction plans and mainstream disaster and climate risks into land use plans, including through urban consultations for participatory planning and improved accountability.

From 2005 to 2016, UNDP provided support to community based and urban disaster and climate risk management in **more than 140 countries.**

COMMUNITY-BASED DISASTER RISK ANAGEMENT IN VIET NAM

UNDP and partners have supported the government with the roll out and institutionalization of community based disaster risk management (CBDRM) since 2005. Starting from a pilot initiative that focused on one province, the programme led to the inclusion of CBDRM in the national disaster risk reduction strategy and the design and adoption in 2009 of the National CBD-PM Programme, aiming to cover 6,000 (of a total of 11,400) communes in Viet Nam by 2020.

DISASTER AND CLIMATE RESILIENT COMMUNITY LIVELIHOODS IN ARMENIA

UNDP worked with farmers and representatives of community administration and agriculture extension services from 43 rural communities to develop disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation and mitigation capacities. Communities in the Tavush region have benefitted from: anti-hail nets; soil and infrastructures erosion protection measures; flood protection measures for the Yeghegis River; greenhouses; a mountainous terrace orchard with a drip irrigation system; and the installation of two automatic weather stations for improved early warning of extreme weather events.

COMMUNITY BASED RESILIENCE BUILDING IN ETHIOPIA

In the Oromia region, UNDP provided multi-faceted support to some 5,000 farmers to support community-based resilience building. As a result, it is the only El Niño (2015/6) affected area in Ethiopia that did not require food assistance. Support included supplying solar-powered small scale irrigation, climate early warning systems, and local capacity development. The project also featured a social safety net dimension with a local crop insurance scheme that helped farmers overcome crop failure and animal losses.

THE ARAB CITIES RESILIENCE PROGRAMME

UNDP supported the cities of Khartoum (Sudan), Ain Drahem (Tunisia) and Saida (Lebanon) to address their vulnerability to disaster and climate related hazards and build the capacity of city administrations and other stakeholders to build resilience to urban risks. A periodic Arab Cities Resilience Report is published to support analysis of risk trends and best practices. The report is an important advocacy tool to mobilize stakeholders to promote climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction.



9. ACCESS TO FINANCE: CREATING DIVERSIFIED FUNDING STREAMS

Most Governments are funding disaster risk reduction measures from general budget allocations for disaster risk management. These are, however, often limited and end up being spent primarily on emergency response and preparedness due to fiscal shortfalls.¹⁶ UNDP has provided advisory support to some countries to seek out more predictable domestic financing sources, for example by advocating for establishing dedicated budget lines for disaster risk reduction, or special funds. UNDP also assists with conducting public expenditure reviews that provide an insight on the level of spending for disaster risk reduction and climate change.

Since the international funding environment for disaster risk reduction is increasingly constrained,¹⁷ UNDP is promoting **climate finance** as an opportunity to fund disaster risk reduction. Climate finance will not, however, go far enough in supporting non-climate related disaster risks, such as for example tsunami and earthquake risks.

UNDP is also, jointly with partners, aiding governments mobilize resources for recovery in the aftermath of major disasters,

DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT PUBLIC EXPENDITURE AND INSTITUTIONAL REVIEWS (DRM-PEIR)

In partnership with the Asian Development Bank, UNDP is implementing DRM-PEIR in Thailand and the Lao PDR, drawing on UNDP's work on Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Reviews (CPEIR) which have already been undertaken in more than 30 countries globally. The DRM-PEIRs will look to develop recommendations for budget reforms that will mainstream DRM concerns across the public investment portfolio and contribute to the implementation of Agenda 2030.

through post-disaster needs assessments (PDNAs) that provide an overview of the financing required to ensure resilient recovery of key social and economic sectors. Support may also include the organization of donor conferences.

As one of the co-chairs of the Insurance Development Forum (IDF), UNDP is promoting closer collaboration with the insur-

THE NEPAL EARTHQUAKE RECONSTRUCTION CONFERENCE

UNDP assisted the Government of Nepal to host the International Conference on Nepal's Reconstruction in June 2015, "Towards a Resilient Nepal", to address Nepal's massive reconstruction challenges following the devastating Earthquake of 25 April. Over 55 delegations from 35 countries, including ministers from India, China, Japan, Bhutan, and development partners such as the United Nations, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the European Union participated in the conference. Development partners and the donor community pledged US\$ 4.1 billion in financial aid during the conference and subsequently agreements over US\$3.1 billion have been signed, which is considered a successful example of post-disaster recovery financing.

ance sector for building greater resilience to climate and natural hazards. The IDF intends to extend disaster and climate risk insurance coverage to an additional 400 million people across vulnerable countries by 2020.

10. RECOVERY:

GOVERNANCE MATTERS BEFORE AND AFTER

A post disaster situation provides opportunities to strengthen a country's existing risk governance arrangements, including the policy and institutional arrangements for disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation and recovery preparedness through institutional as well as policy reforms.¹⁸

Successful recovery is dependent on an enabling environment that can support complex decision-making and service delivery based on limited information under immense time pressure. UNDP works with government, the private sector, and civil society to strengthen their participation in and ownership of the recovery process to contribute to the prevention of future shocks and poverty reduction.

From 2005 to 2016, UNDP supported **more than 100 countries** to strengthen their *ex-ante* institutional, policy and legislative arrangements for post-disaster recovery through the following areas of support:

- Conduct of post-disaster needs assessments and development of recovery frameworks jointly with the European Union and the World Bank.

- Restoration of national and local government institutions and services that may have been damaged by crises.
- Preparedness for recovery through developing recovery policies, and strengthening or establishing institutional responsibilities at national and local levels.

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR POST DISASTER RECOVERY IN BURKINA FASO AND NIGER

UNDP supported the Governments of Burkina Faso and Niger to strengthen their capacities to conduct Post-Disaster Needs Assessment and preparedness for disaster recovery measures by training a total of 400 people at both national and local levels, thus expanding the pool of technical expertise available in post-disaster situations. UNDP also helped initiate a national framework document aiming to guide future recovery efforts. The recovery framework is being elaborated through a wide participatory process and based on a comprehensive analysis of gaps, challenges and opportunities for recovery.

SUPPORT TO RECOVER, BUILD BACK BETTER AND PROTECT RECOVERY EFFORTS IN COMPLEX GOVERNANCE CONTEXTS

UNDP played a key role after 2014 floods in a highly complex governance context in Bosnia and Herzegovina. UNDP supported all tiers of government with information management, post disaster needs assessment and design and implementation of recovery interventions. In partnership with the European Union and other bilateral counterparts, a financial package of US\$80 million was consolidated in an integrated recovery intervention for 2014-2016.¹⁹ The intervention helped restore affected communities, reaching the most vulnerable. More than 4,600 homes, 180 public institutions (municipal buildings, schools, kindergartens, healthcare centres), 150 bridges and roads, water and sanitation systems were rehabilitated, and more than 5,600 jobs retained or created. The principle of "building back better" in all recovery efforts enhanced the country's disaster resilience, increased energy efficiency, and improved access for people with disabilities.

ENDNOTES

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