

Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management Fostering practical coherence for resilience



DRM in global agendas

Disaster risk management (DRM) is at the heart of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. It is also a cross-sectoral issue, as it is included

- in the Paris Agreement on Climate Change (article 8),
- the New Urban Agenda (chapter on *Environmentally sustainable and resilient urban development*),
- and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (goal 1/ no poverty, 9/ resilient infrastructure, 11/ sustainable cities, 13/ climate action).

The importance of DRM is therefore recognized by all important international post-2015 agendas and its implementation is a globally accepted requirement for all nations.

Background: Silo approach to global agendas

In 2015, the parallel development of the global agendas only led to limited alignment of the different agreements. The agendas are the result of negotiations of different specialist communities with their selective perception of global problems, their own priorities and their own technical jargon. Thus, the four agendas require different actions and commitments at national and local level to develop nationally appropriate measures, policies and strategies, e.g. for public investments. This necessitates cooperation between different ministries, but also between local government units as well as between national and local levels. At the same time, countries need to report on their progress with regard to each of the global agendas at an international level.

The situation described above potentially creates a significant additional burden: transaction costs are increased due to overlapping responsibilities and duplicated data collection and reporting. At the same time, countries incur tremendous opportunity costs when DRM is not considered in their national climate adaptation, urban development and economic and social development plans and policies. The observed segmentation of the global agendas is therefore triggering down by influencing national and local levels of governance.

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Pilot countries	Mexiko, the Philippines
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GIDRM's Approach: Fostering practical coherence

The Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management (GIDRM) wants to counteract this situation. Its goal: selected international and national, governmental and non-governmental actors will be supported in their ambition to achieve coherence between the Sendai Framework and the Paris Climate Agreement, as well as the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda, with regard to planning, implementing and reporting on DRM.

While the UN is addressing the coherence challenge through common strategies and cooperation between UN-bodies, German development cooperation is aiming to support from the "bottom-up". National and sub-national examples of successful agenda-coherence will be presented on regional platforms. The examples will then be introduced as regional recommendations at international conferences to be confirmed as regional good practices.

The Global Initiative is working in Latin America/Caribbean and Asia/Pacific, focusing on two pilot countries that are vulnerable but possess the necessary institutional capacities and an established development cooperation portfolio that can be built upon: Mexico and the Philippines.

Pilot country: the Philippines

The Government of the Philippines will be supported in its efforts to harmonize risk-assessment approaches and planning guidelines of different ministries that have to be used by the local government units. So far, the already resource weak municipalities and local government units are expected to coordinate all the different requirements related to urban- and spatial planning, economic development, civil protection and climate change and the underlying requirements stated in the global agendas. This leads to a lack of orientation and work overload.

Based on a clear prioritization of measures, improved planning will be translated into improved local project proposals that give equal consideration to climate and disaster risks (e.g. in public building codes) and can then be financed through budgets that do not focus solely on one of the topics.

Pilot country: Mexico

In Mexico, the GIDRM is advising the Office of the President on how to integrate the requirements of the Sendai Framework into the national sustainability strategy. The Ministry of Finance intends to incorporate DRM and climate adaptation measures more systematically into its processes for structuring, preparing and assessing public investment projects, and is being supported in this by the project.

The GIDRM is assisting in the development of methodologies and processes for a) prioritizing the projects that require an in-depth disaster risk analysis, and b) integrating risk mitigation and climate change adaptation measures into the prioritized projects.

BMZ budget item—international cooperation with regions (ICR)

In late 2011, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) introduced the budget item “International Cooperation with Regions for Sustainable Development”. Measures funded from this budget item fulfill specific criteria, including:

- Tackling global challenges across countries, regions and policy areas
- Building networks with stakeholders from politics, academia, civil society and the private sector
- Joint financing and partners' own contributions for the purpose of upscaling and ownership

These and other practices are introduced by partner governments at regional level:

- in the Latin American/Caribbean Network of National Investment Authorities,
- in the Asian Regional Consultative Committee on Disaster Management,
- at regional events of UNISDR, such as the biennial ministerial conference for disaster risk reduction in Asia and Latin America.

Through the establishment of a Coherence Practice Group in Asia and through the development of a Guidebook for Public Investments with relevant examples from Latin America and the Caribbean, the topic of coherence is to be further strengthened within the regions.

GIZ is a member of the Inter-ministerial Working Group Sendai, next to its other members: the BMZ, the AA (Federal Foreign Office), the BMI (German Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community), the BMU (German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety), the GRC (German Red Cross), and the BBK (Federal Office for Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance). Furthermore, GIDRM has close ties with the National Focal Point for the Sendai Framework in Germany.

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