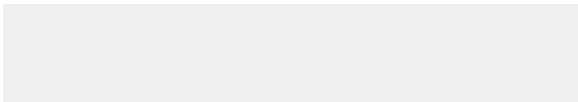
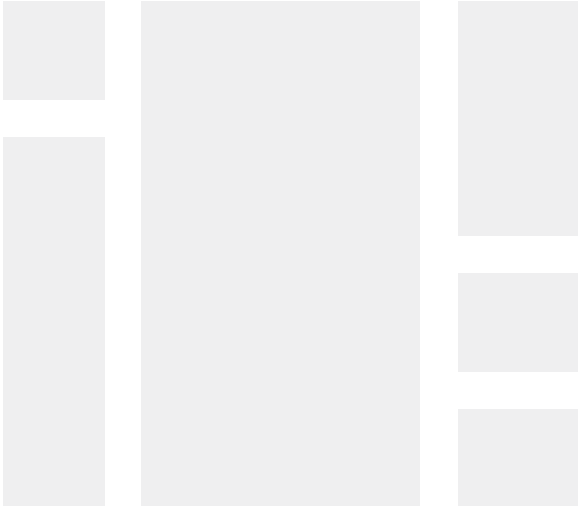




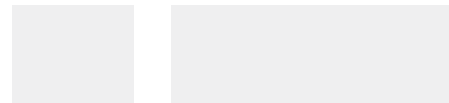
Research Projects



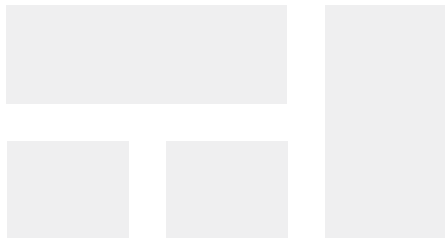
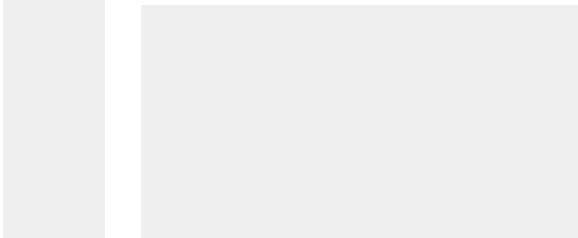
Compendium on the Post-2015 Global Agenda on Climate-Risk Governance



Tommaso Natoli



May 2020



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CCJHR Research Projects

1. *Subsidiary Protection: Case Law Project*, Siobhán Mullally, Liam Thornton et al, 2007
2. *CCTV as a Crime Prevention Strategy: A Review of the Literature*, Dorothy Appelbe, 2009
3. *Access to Justice for People with Disabilities as Victims of Crime in Ireland*, Claire Edwards, Gillian Harold & Shane Kilcommins, School of Applied Social Studies & CCJHR, February 2012
4. *Migrant Domestic Workers in the United Kingdom: Exclusions, Exemptions and Rights*, Siobhán Mullally & Clíodhna Murphy, April 2012
5. *Racism and Hate Crime in Ireland: Is the legislative and policy framework adequate?*, Conference Summary, Nasc & CCJHR, October 2013
6. *Beyond McMahon – the Future of Asylum Reception in Ireland*, Conference Summary, Nasc & CCJHR, June 2018
7. *Beyond McMahon: Reflections on the Future of Asylum Reception in Ireland*, Nasc & CCJHR, December 2018
8. *Compendium on the Post-2015 Global Agenda on Climate-Risk Governance*, Tommaso Natoli, May 2020

Dr Tommaso Natoli is an Irish Research Council/Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action CAROLINE Fellow in the UCC School of Law. His research project, entitled 'Leave No One Behind: Developing Climate-Smart/Disaster Risk Management Laws that Protect People in Vulnerable Situations for a Comprehensive Implementation of the UN Agenda 2030', is an EU-funded two-year project encompassing analysis of the global integration of the legal and policy frameworks for climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. This project has received funding from the Irish Research Council and the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No. 713279.



Compendium on the Post-2015 Global Agenda on Climate-Risk Governance

*Tommaso Natoli**

A. INTRODUCTION

A wide variety of resolutions and reports adopted at the international level in the last few years² have urged a more consistent and sustainable alignment between climate change adaptation (CCA), i.e. “the process of adjustment to actual or expected climate and its effects in order to either lessen or avoid harm”,³ and disaster risk reduction (DRR), i.e. the “systematic efforts to analyse and manage the causal factors of disasters, including through reduced exposure to hazards, lessened vulnerability of people and property”.⁴

As commonly stated in the literature,⁵ the basic connection between CCA and DRR lies in the overarching goals of both sectors, namely reduction of losses due to climate-related hazards (including both slow-onset and extreme events)⁶ and the improvement of communities’ resilience (i.e. their capacity to regain equilibrium after critical system disruptions).⁷ In that perspective, several implementing actions could indistinguishably relate to DRR and CCA and can, therefore, be mutually beneficial.⁸

Furthermore, both sectors can have direct and intertwined implications in the adoption of sustainable development measures,⁹ as well as in other fields of action (e.g. food security, reduction of social inequalities,

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² See IFRC, *The Cost of Doing Nothing: The Humanitarian Price of Climate Change and How Can Be Avoided* (2019a) 21; ECOSOC Resolution E/2019/L.18, 20 June 2019 §23-26; IFRC, *Strategy 2030: A Platform for Change* (2019) 5-6; Global Commission on Adaptation, *Adapt Now: A Global Call For Leadership On Climate Resilience* (2019) 7; IFRC, *World Disasters Report* (2018) 220.

³ IPCC, *Climate Change 2014: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Core Writing Team, R.K. Pachauri and L.A. Meyer (eds.)] (2014) Geneva, 76.

⁴ UNGA, *Report of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on indicators and terminology relating to disaster risk reduction* (1 December 2016), UN Doc. A/71/644, 41.

⁵ Tommaso Natoli, *Literature Review on Aligning Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)*, IFRC | UCC, Geneva (2019).

⁶ Beyond the capacity to influence not only the intensity, but also the frequency, duration and magnitude of sudden onset events (e.g. storms, floods, landslides and avalanches) climate patterns are also considered as having causal links with slow-onset events such as temperature extremes, drought, desertification, sea-level rise and epidemic disease.

⁷ On the prolific use of the term ‘resilience’, including its shifting conceptions from ‘bounce back’ to ‘bounce forward’ see Amy Siders, ‘Resilient Incoherence – Seeking Common Language for Climate Change Adaptation, Disaster Risk Reduction, and Sustainable Development’, in Jacqueline Peel and David Fisher (eds.), *The Role of International Environmental Law in Disaster Risk Reduction* (Brill 2016) 114-120.

⁸ IFRC and UNDP, *The Handbook on Law and Disaster Risk Reduction* (2015) 49.

⁹ Amy Siders (2016) 101; Lisa Schipper and Mark Pelling, ‘Disaster risk, climate change and international development: Scope for, and challenges to, integration’ (2006) 30 *Disasters* 15.

protection of vulnerable groups, and safety of ecosystems).¹⁰ The two sectors also recognise that the impact of hydrometeorological and climate-related hazards is felt most intensely by the poorest and more marginalised sectors of populations.¹¹ Further, it is predicted that the humanitarian “cost” of the lack of integrated and effective strategies to prevent climate-related disasters could almost double by 2050.¹²

For all these reasons, the literature widely acknowledges that a comprehensive understanding of the two sectors within national and sub-national institutions, normative frameworks and implementation mechanisms would allow for a series of benefits, including: greater impact by law and policies; more efficient use of available resources (both human and material); and more effective action in reducing vulnerabilities.¹³ This appears as pivotal for the improvement of governmental and societal responses against climate risks that threaten human beings and ecosystems all around the globe.

However, while the conceptual boundaries between normative development, policy-making and programming have progressively lessened in the past few years, a sustainable and practical approach to integrating CCA and DRR appears to still be “in its infancy”.¹⁴ The most emblematic evidence of the persistence of these gaps at the national level is the lack of a clear understanding of how existing climate risks relate to the wider sector of disaster risk management (DRM),¹⁵ and how DRR norms, policies and actions systematically considers future climate change patterns. Indeed, the literature suggests the way in which the different DRM phases (preparation, response, recovery and mitigation) are designed, incorporate new or predicted impacts and accommodate changes in the frequency and magnitude of climate-related events over time, indicates how (and if) CCA-DRR combination is taking place.

Due to the variety of sources containing normative guidance on CCA and DRR, the following pages present a collection of excerpts from relevant global frameworks and instruments adopted by the international community from 2015 onwards, namely: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; the UNFCCC Paris Agreement on Climate Change; the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030; and the 33rd Red Cross Red Crescent International Conference Resolution “Disaster laws and policies that leave no one behind.” Taken together as a coherent body of texts, these international commitments form the ‘Post-2015 Global Agenda on Climate-Risk Governance’. This Agenda has been identified as the primary tool of reference for the [Research Project](#) “Leave No One Behind – Developing Climate-Smart/Disaster Risk Management Laws that Protect People in Vulnerable Situations for a Comprehensive Implementation of the UN Agenda 2030”.¹⁶

¹⁰ European Environment Agency (EEA), *Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in Europe. Enhancing coherence of the knowledge base, policies and practices*, EEA Report 15 (2017) 12.

¹¹ IFRC (2019a) 21-23; Stephane Hallegatte *et al*, ‘Unbreakable: Building the Resilience of the Poor in the Face of Natural Disasters’, *Climate Change and Development Series*, World Bank (2017) 25-56.

¹² IFRC (2019a) 3; on the multi-faceted humanitarian impact of climate change see also Norwegian Red Cross, *Overlapping vulnerabilities: the impacts of climate change on humanitarian needs* (2019).

¹³ Gregory Pearn, *Guidance Note: Coherence Concepts and Practices – Global Initiative Disaster Risk Management – GIDRM* | GIZ (2019) 10.

¹⁴ UN FCCC/TP/2017/3, ‘Opportunities and options for integrating climate change adaptation with the Sustainable Development Goals and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030’, Technical paper by the Secretariat (2017) 46.

¹⁵ Defined as “the application of disaster risk reduction policies and strategies to prevent new disaster risk, reduce existing disaster risk and manage residual risk, contributing to the strengthening of resilience and reduction of disaster losses”, see UNGA, *Report of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on indicators and terminology relating to disaster risk reduction* (2016) UN Doc. A/71/644, 15. On the concept of (and strategies for) “understanding disaster risk” see Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (2015) paras. 14, 23-25.

¹⁶ The Project has received funding from the Irish Research Council and the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No. 713279.

The project's main aim is to investigate links, coherence and potential overlaps between the relevant normative instruments, with a specific focus on law and policy reform processes at national and sub-national level that protect the most vulnerable. A clear and consistent understanding of how the most relevant global frameworks relates one another and exert a combined influence on domestic regulatory and institutional systems is therefore instrumental for the accomplishment of this purpose.

B. UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 70/1

Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld), adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries – developed and developing – in a global partnership. They recognise that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

Source: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>

Excerpts

Planet

We are determined to protect the planet from degradation, including through sustainable consumption and production, sustainably managing its natural resources and taking urgent action on climate change, so that it can support the needs of the present and future generations.

[...]

9. We envisage a world in which every country enjoys sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and decent work for all. A world in which consumption and production patterns and use of all natural resources – from air to land, from rivers, lakes and aquifers to oceans and seas – are sustainable. One in which democracy, good governance and the rule of law, as well as an enabling environment at the national and international levels, are essential for sustainable development, including sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development, environmental protection and the eradication of poverty and hunger. One in which development and the application of technology are climate-sensitive, respect biodiversity and are resilient. One in which humanity lives in harmony with nature and in which wildlife and other living species are protected.

[...]

14. [...] Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time and its adverse impacts undermine the ability of all countries to achieve sustainable development. Increases in global temperature, sea level rise, ocean acidification and other climate change impacts are seriously affecting coastal areas and low-

lying coastal countries, including many least developed countries and small island developing States. The survival of many societies, and of the biological support systems of the planet, is at risk.

[...]

31. We acknowledge that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change¹⁷ is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change. We are determined to address decisively the threat posed by climate change and environmental degradation. The global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible international cooperation aimed at accelerating the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions and addressing adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change. [...]

[...]

33. We recognise that social and economic development depends on the sustainable management of our planet's natural resources. We are therefore determined to conserve and sustainably use oceans and seas, freshwater resources, as well as forests, mountains and drylands and to protect biodiversity, ecosystems and wildlife. We are also determined to promote sustainable tourism, to tackle water scarcity and water pollution, to strengthen cooperation on desertification, dust storms, land degradation and drought and to promote resilience and disaster risk reduction.

[...]

45. We acknowledge also the essential role of national parliaments through their enactment of legislation and adoption of budgets and their role in ensuring accountability for the effective implementation of our commitments. Governments and public institutions will also work closely on implementation with regional and local authorities, subregional institutions, international institutions, academia, philanthropic organizations, volunteer groups and others.

[...]

Goal 1. End Poverty in All Its Forms Everywhere

Goal 1.5 – By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters.

[...]

Goal 2. End Hunger, Achieve Food Security and Improved Nutrition and Promote Sustainable Agriculture

Goal 2.4 – By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality

[...]

¹⁷ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Goal 11. Makes Cities Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable

Goal 11.5 – By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations.

[...]

Goal 11.b – By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels.

[...]

Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts¹⁸

Goal 13.1 – Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.

Goal 13.2 – Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.

Goal 13.3 – Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.

Goal 13.a – Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to a goal of mobilizing jointly \$100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and fully operationalise the Green Climate Fund through its capitalisation as soon as possible.

Goal 13.b – Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalised communities.

¹⁸ Acknowledging that the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change.

C. UNFCCC PARIS AGREEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE (2015)

The [Paris Agreement](#) builds upon the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ([UNFCCC - 1994](#)) and for the first time brings all nations into a common cause to undertake ambitious efforts to combat climate change and adapt to its effects, with enhanced support to assist developing countries to do so. As such, it charts a new course in the global climate effort.

The Paris Agreement central aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Additionally, the agreement aims to strengthen the ability of countries to deal with the impacts of climate change.

Source: <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>

Excerpts

Article 7

1. Parties hereby establish the global goal on adaptation of enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change, with a view to contributing to sustainable development and ensuring an adequate adaptation response in the context of the temperature goal referred to in Article 2.
2. Parties recognise that adaptation is a global challenge faced by all with local, subnational, national, regional and international dimensions, and that it is a key component of and makes a contribution to the long-term global response to climate change to protect people, livelihoods and ecosystems, taking into account the urgent and immediate needs of those developing country Parties that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

[...]

5. Parties acknowledge that adaptation action should follow a country-driven, gender-responsive, participatory and fully transparent approach, taking into consideration vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems, and should be based on and guided by the best available science and, as appropriate, traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems, with a view to integrating adaptation into relevant socioeconomic and environmental policies and actions, where appropriate.
6. Parties recognise the importance of support for and international cooperation on adaptation efforts and the importance of taking into account the needs of developing country Parties, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

[...]

9. Each Party shall, as appropriate, engage in adaptation planning processes and the implementation of actions, including the development or enhancement of relevant plans, policies and/or contributions, which may include:

- a) The implementation of adaptation actions, undertakings and/or efforts;
 - b) The process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans;
 - c) The assessment of climate change impacts and vulnerability, with a view to formulating nationally determined prioritized actions, taking into account vulnerable people, places and ecosystems;
 - d) Monitoring and evaluating and learning from adaptation plans, policies, programmes and actions; and
 - e) Building the resilience of socioeconomic and ecological systems, including through economic diversification and sustainable management of natural resources.
10. Each Party should, as appropriate, submit and update periodically an adaptation communication, which may include its priorities, implementation and support needs, plans and actions, without creating any additional burden for developing country Parties.
11. The adaptation communication referred to in paragraph 10 of this Article shall be, as appropriate, submitted and updated periodically, as a component of or in conjunction with other communications or documents, including a national adaptation plan, a nationally determined contribution as referred to in Article 4, paragraph 2, and/or a national communication.

Article 9

4. The provision of scaled-up financial resources should aim to achieve a balance between adaptation and mitigation, taking into account country-driven strategies, and the priorities and needs of developing country Parties, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change and have significant capacity constraints, such as the least developed countries and small island developing States, considering the need for public and grant-based resources for adaptation.

D. SENDAI FRAMEWORK FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION 2015-2030

The [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030](https://www.undrr.org/publication/sendai-framework-disaster-risk-reduction-2015-2030) outlines seven clear targets and four priorities for action to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risks: (i) Understanding disaster risk; (ii) Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk; (iii) Investing in disaster reduction for resilience and; (iv) Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction. It aims to achieve 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 over the next 15 years.

The Framework was adopted at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan, on March 18, 2015, as the successor instrument to the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters.

Source: <https://www.undrr.org/publication/sendai-framework-disaster-risk-reduction-2015-2030>

Excerpts

4. [...] Disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change and which are increasing in frequency and intensity, significantly impede progress towards sustainable development.

[...]

6. Enhanced work to reduce exposure and vulnerability, thus preventing the creation of new disaster risks, and accountability for disaster risk creation are needed at all levels. More dedicated action needs to be focused on tackling underlying disaster risk drivers, such as the consequences of poverty and inequality, climate change and variability, unplanned and rapid urbanisation, poor land management and compounding factors such as demographic change, weak institutional arrangements, non-risk-informed policies, lack of regulation and incentives for private disaster risk reduction investment, complex supply chains, limited availability of technology, unsustainable uses of natural resources, declining ecosystems, pandemics and epidemics.

[...]

11. The intergovernmental negotiations on the post 2015 development agenda, financing for development, climate change and disaster risk reduction provide the international community with a unique opportunity to enhance coherence across policies, institutions, goals, indicators and measurement systems for implementation, while respecting the respective mandates. Ensuring credible links, as appropriate, between these processes will contribute to building resilience and achieving the global goal of eradicating poverty.

[...]

13. Addressing climate change as one of the drivers of disaster risk, while respecting the mandate of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,¹⁹ represents an opportunity to reduce disaster risk in a meaningful and coherent manner throughout the interrelated intergovernmental processes.

[...]

III. Guiding Principles

19. (e) Disaster risk reduction and management depends on coordination mechanisms within and across sectors and with relevant stakeholders at all levels, and it requires the full engagement of all State institutions of an executive and legislative nature at national and local levels and a clear articulation of responsibilities across public and private stakeholders, including business and academia, to ensure mutual outreach, partnership, complementarity in roles and accountability and follow-up.

[...]

19. (h) The development, strengthening and implementation of relevant policies, plans, practices and mechanisms need to aim at coherence, as appropriate, across sustainable development and growth, food security, health and safety, climate change and variability, environmental management and disaster risk

¹⁹ The climate change issues mentioned in this Framework remain within the mandate of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change under the competences of the Parties to the Convention.

reduction agendas. Disaster risk reduction is essential to achieve sustainable development.

[...]

Priority 1: Understanding disaster risk

23. Policies and practices for disaster risk management should be based on an understanding of disaster risk in all its dimensions of vulnerability, capacity, exposure of persons and assets, hazard characteristics and the environment. Such knowledge can be leveraged for the purpose of pre-disaster risk assessment, for prevention and mitigation and for the development and implementation of appropriate preparedness and effective response to disasters.

Global and regional levels

25. To achieve this, it is important:

[...]

(b) To promote the conduct of comprehensive surveys on multi-hazard disaster risks and the development of regional disaster risk assessments and maps, including climate change scenarios;

(c) To promote and enhance, through international cooperation, including technology transfer, access to and the sharing and use of non-sensitive data and information, as appropriate, communications and geospatial and space-based technologies and related services; maintain and strengthen in situ and remotely-sensed earth and climate observations;

[...]

Priority 2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

26. Disaster risk governance at the national, regional and global levels is of great importance for an effective and efficient management of disaster risk. Clear vision, plans, competence, guidance and coordination within and across sectors, as well as participation of relevant stakeholders, are needed. Strengthening disaster risk governance for prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery and rehabilitation is therefore necessary and fosters collaboration and partnership across mechanisms and institutions for the implementation of instruments relevant to disaster risk reduction and sustainable development.

National and local levels

27. To achieve this, it is important:

- a) To mainstream and integrate disaster risk reduction within and across all sectors and review and promote the coherence and further development, as appropriate, of national and local frameworks of laws, regulations and public policies, which, by defining roles and responsibilities, guide the public and private sectors in:
 - i. addressing disaster risk in publicly owned, managed or regulated services and infrastructures;
 - ii. promoting and providing incentives, as relevant, for actions by persons, households, communities and businesses;

- iii. enhancing relevant mechanisms and initiatives for disaster risk transparency, which may include financial incentives, public awareness-raising and training initiatives, reporting requirements and legal and administrative measures; and
 - iv. putting in place coordination and organizational structures.
- b) To adopt and implement national and local disaster risk reduction strategies and plans, across different timescales, with targets, indicators and time frames, aimed at preventing the creation of risk, the reduction of existing risk and the strengthening of economic, social, health and environmental resilience;
 - c) To carry out an assessment of the technical, financial and administrative disaster risk management capacity to deal with the identified risks at the local and national levels;
 - d) To encourage the establishment of necessary mechanisms and incentives to ensure high levels of compliance with the existing safety-enhancing provisions of sectoral laws and regulations, including those addressing land use and urban planning, building codes, environmental and resource management and health and safety standards, and update them, where needed, to ensure an adequate focus on disaster risk management;

Global and regional levels

28. To achieve this, it is important:

- a) To guide action at the regional level through agreed regional and subregional strategies and mechanisms for cooperation for disaster risk reduction, as appropriate, in the light of the present Framework, in order to foster more efficient planning, create common information systems and exchange good practices and programmes for cooperation and capacity development, in particular to address common and transboundary disaster risks;
- b) To foster collaboration across global and regional mechanisms and institutions for the implementation and coherence of instruments and tools relevant to disaster risk reduction, such as for climate change, biodiversity, sustainable development, poverty eradication, environment, agriculture, health, food and nutrition and others, as appropriate;
- c) To actively engage in the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, the regional and subregional platforms for disaster risk reduction and the thematic platforms in order to forge partnerships, periodically assess progress on implementation and share practice and knowledge on disaster risk-informed policies, programmes and investments, including on development and climate issues, as appropriate, as well as to promote the integration of disaster risk management in other relevant sectors. Regional intergovernmental organizations should play an important role in the regional platforms for disaster risk reduction;

Means of implementation

47. To achieve this, it is necessary:

[...]

- d) To incorporate disaster risk reduction measures into multilateral and bilateral development assistance programmes within and across all sectors, as appropriate, related to poverty reduction, sustainable development, natural resource management, the environment, urban development and adaptation to climate change.

Support from international organisations

48. To support the implementation of the present Framework, the following is necessary:

[...]

- c) The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, in particular, to support the implementation, follow-up and review of the present Framework by: preparing periodic reviews on progress, in particular for the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, and, as appropriate, in a timely manner, along with the follow-up process at the United Nations, supporting the development of coherent global and regional follow-up and indicators, and in coordination, as appropriate, with other relevant mechanisms for sustainable development and climate change,

[...]

- e) Other international organizations and treaty bodies, including the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, international financial institutions at the global and regional levels and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to support developing countries, at their request, in the implementation of the present Framework, in coordination with other relevant frameworks;

**E. 33RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT
(GENEVA, 9-12 DECEMBER 2019)**

Disaster Laws and Policies That Leave No One Behind

The 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent was held from 9 to 12 December 2019 in Geneva. Its core objective was to improve the lives of people affected by armed conflict, disasters and other emergencies. In the various commission and spotlight sessions, participants had lively and constructive discussions. They explored the challenges that people, communities and humanitarians currently face, and how best to respond in the future as societal shifts create different challenges. On the last day, eight resolutions were adopted by consensus.

The adopted resolution [“Disaster Laws and Policies That Leave No One Behind”](#) highlight the urgency and importance of strengthening domestic legislation and policy for disasters. This will include recognising the importance of integrating the protection and inclusion of vulnerable groups into relevant disaster laws and policies in order to ensure that no one is left behind in disaster risk management activities and highlighting the importance of integrating climate change adaptation and disaster risk management efforts for effective DRM laws.

Source <https://rcrcconference.org/about/33rd-international-conference/>

Excerpts

[...]

noting that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C,

noting that, in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Heads of State and Government and High Representatives pledged “that no one will be left behind”, stated that they would “endeavour to reach the furthest behind first”, and included targets in the Sustainable Development Goals related to resilience to disasters and climate change,

noting that the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction highlighted the importance of promoting “the coherence and further development, as appropriate, of national and local frameworks of laws, regulations and public policies” and of assigning “as appropriate, clear roles and tasks to community representatives with disaster risk management institutions and processes and decision-making through relevant legal frameworks”,

acknowledging that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change,

noting that the objectives of the Paris Agreement include, inter alia, “increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production”, and that the agreement states that its parties “shall, as appropriate, engage in adaptation planning processes and the implementation of actions, including the development or enhancement of relevant plans, policies and/or contributions”,

Noting the potential interplay between disasters, climate change, environmental degradation, and fragility, the catalytic role of disaster risk reduction in scaling up action on climate adaptation, and the critical role of disaster risk reduction in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

[...]

noting the initiative of the IFRC, together with academic partners, to undertake research on best practice in the effective integration of disaster risk management and adaptation to climate change,

also noting the existing work of the IFRC and National Societies to support their States with their disaster laws, disaster response and recovery and adaptation to climate change,

[...]

Effective disaster laws, policies, strategies and plans that address climate change

1. *encourages* States to assess whether their existing domestic disaster laws, policies, strategies and plans provide guidance to prepare for and address the evolving risks of weather-related disasters, ensure an integrated approach to disaster risk management and adaptation to climate change and promote gender-responsive approaches and community- engagement in risk analysis, planning and decision-making;

2. *further encourages* States that have not already done so, to consider, as appropriate, the integration of innovative approaches to disaster risk management in their laws, policies, strategies and plans, such as the use of:
 - a. anticipatory finance, including forecast-based triggers for the early and timely release of response funding to rapidly mitigate the impact of disasters
 - b. various risk transfer mechanisms
 - c. social protection programmes and mechanisms to strengthen resilience to disasters, channel assistance and restore livelihoods, as needed, after disaster events
 - d. cash and vouchers programmes to assist affected people
 - e. preventive measures to reduce existing risks and avoid the creation of new risks
 - f. risk-informed pre-disaster financing to improve the resilience of community infrastructure;

[...]

Leaving no one behind in disaster laws, policies, strategies and plans and in climate change adaptation plans, policies and contributions

6. recognises the humanitarian consequences of climate change and environmental degradation, which contribute to poverty, displacement and health risks and may exacerbate violence and conflict, as well as their disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable and the unique challenges faced by small island developing States, among others;
7. *recognises* the role of existing laws, policies, strategies and plans on disaster risk management in ensuring the adequate protection and inclusion of all people, and calls on States to ensure that they include a focus on the most vulnerable and promote their meaningful participation;
8. *encourages* States to consider, as appropriate, whether the disaster laws, policies, strategies and plans and climate change adaptation plans, policies and contributions:
 - a. guard against all forms of discrimination;
 - b. address the rights and specific needs of people who might be overlooked, and the most vulnerable;
 - c. ensure the collection and protection of sex-, age- and disability-disaggregated data;
 - d. ensure the prior and informed consent, where possible, with regards to the collection of data;
 - e. promote gender equality and encourage women and girls in leadership and decision-making roles;
 - f. ensure contingency planning for sexual and gender-based violence, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, child protection and the care of unaccompanied and separated children;
 - g. promote access to essential health services and medical support, including mental health and psychosocial support, as an element of disaster response and recovery;
 - h. promote access to services to restore family links for persons separated by disasters.
9. *recognises* the important contribution of young people in community-based volunteering and awareness-raising of climate-sensitive disaster preparedness and response initiatives, including early warning systems, and encourages all members of the International Conference to continue to engage with them;

[...]

Extending support and research

10. *encourages* National Societies, as auxiliaries to their public authorities in the humanitarian field, to continue to provide advice and support to their governments in the development and implementation of effective legal and policy frameworks relevant to disaster risk management and to climate change adaptation;
11. *requests* the IFRC to continue to support National Societies and States in the field of disaster laws, including with respect to the areas of concern mentioned in this resolution, through technical assistance, capacity building, the development of tools, models and guidelines, advocacy, ongoing research and promotion of the sharing of experiences, techniques and best practices among countries;
12. *welcomes* the efforts of National Societies to cooperate with States and other actors, particularly young people and youth volunteers, in meeting the humanitarian needs of persons affected by disasters and in promoting disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation action at the community level, including nature-based solutions, encourages them to scale up their efforts in light of the evolving risks related to climate change, and encourages States to contribute resources to enable them to do so;
13. *encourages* cooperation between States, regional organizations, National Societies and the IFRC in strengthening links between humanitarian, development and climate change adaptation efforts to reduce disaster and climate risk and enhance resilience;

Ensuring dissemination and review

14. *reaffirms* the important and continuing contributions of the International Conference as one of the key international fora for continued dialogue on the strengthening of disaster laws, rules and policies and, additionally, welcomes its contribution to dialogue on domestic legal and policy frameworks for adaptation to climate change.

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