STATUS REPORT ON TARGET E IMPLEMENTATION

SENDAI FRAMEWORK
FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION 2015-2030

UNDRR
UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

STATUS
REPORT ON
TARGET E
IMPLEMENTATION

Description and Objective of the Report

With the deadline for achieving Target E of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 just around the corner at the end of 2020, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) presents this report as an overview of the status of countries' progress towards this target.

This report covers progress made by Member States from 2015 to 2019. The figures and analyses provided in this report build on self-assessments and data input by Member State Governments into the Sendai Framework Monitor as of 21 August 2020.

This report encompasses elements of analyses and reflections on accomplishments and challenges as part of the progress towards achieving Target E. It offers a set of reflections as well as policy and technical recommendations to guide action by Governments to develop their national and local disaster risk reduction strategies until the end of 2020 – and beyond.

Executive Summary

As a follow-up to their commitment to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction by 2030, Governments placed particular importance on the achievement of Target E of the Sendai Framework by 2020 as the foundation for the successful implementation of the Framework's goal, priorities for action and the achievement of all its global Targets by 2030. They also recognized the need to putting in place appropriate disaster risk reduction governance arrangements and creating a conducive institutional framework with strong multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral engagement to effectively reduce disaster risk.

As per the SFM reporting, whilst the initial years since the adoption of the Sendai Framework demonstrated a slow progress in advancing Target E at the national and local levels, there has been an acceleration since 2017 of Governments' efforts in developing disaster risk reduction strategies that are aligned with the Sendai Framework and are inclusive of core development aspects such as climate change and sustainable development. Over 2020 in particular, the COVID-19 crisis triggered Governments' awareness of the urgency to adopt multi-hazard DRR strategies that address all risks – including biological hazards / pandemics / health emergencies.

The figures below illustrate the significant progress registered since 2015, as reported in the SFM by August 2020:

- 100% increase in the number of countries that reported having either national or local or both DRR strategies in place, reaching 96 countries

- 111% increase in the number of countries that reported having national DRR strategies in place, reaching 93 countries in August 2020 - and an 85% increase in the number of countries reporting having local DRR strategies in place, reaching 72 countries

> Over 2020 in particular, the COVID-19 crisis triggered Governments' awareness of the urgency to adopt multi-hazard DRR strategies that address all risks – including biological hazards / pandemics / health emergencies

- The number of countries having reported substantial or comprehensive alignment to the Sendai Framework has also more than tripled compared to what they were in 2015, rising from 13 to 44 countries.

- The number of countries reporting on the indicator linked to promoting policy coherence and compliance, notably with the SDGs and the Paris Agreement, has increased by more than 157%, reaching 85 countries.

On the technical front, the report encourages Governments to focus on both the implementation of the Sendai Framework and its monitoring.
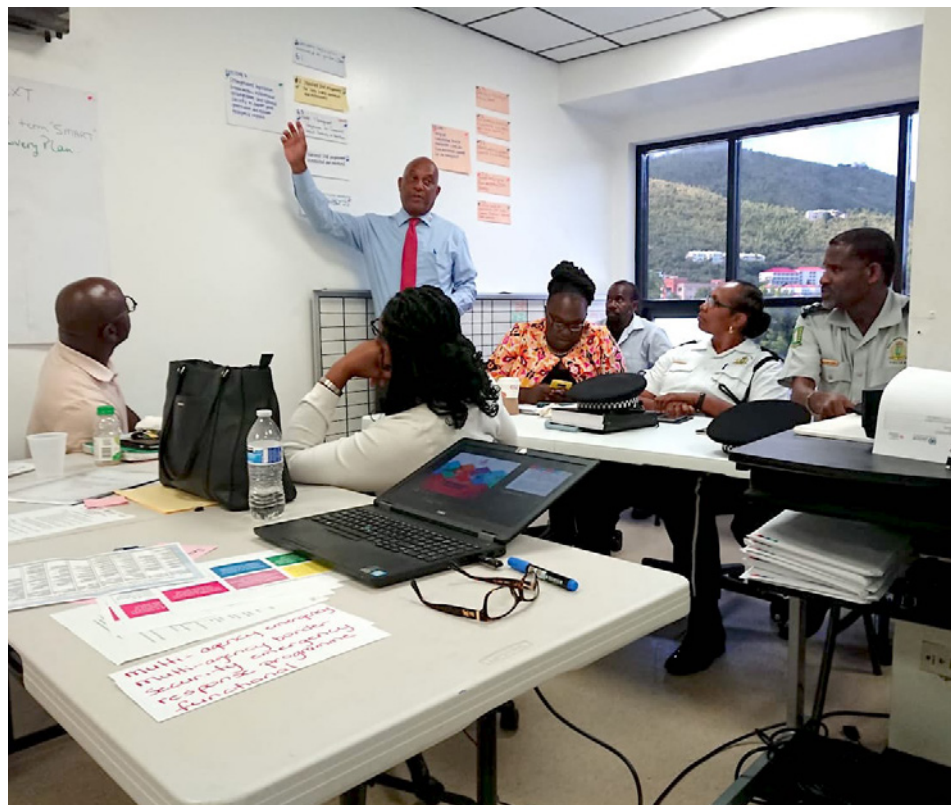
The overview of the SFM data analyses that appears on pages 8-9 provides more details on the above.

Thanks to continued capacity- building efforts, partnerships mobilization and stakeholders' engagement in accelerating the achievement of Target E, an increased number of Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) developed their national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework. LLDCs in particular have shown a high level of achievement, with 59% of the countries having reported having national DRR strategies in place by 2019 (compared to 25% of them in 2015).

The existence of regional / sub-regional strategies and / or legally binding frameworks for disaster risk reduction

also appears to act as a significant incentive for the development of DRR strategies at national level. In the Pacific, most of the SIDS developed Joint National Action Plans (JNAPs) that integrate disaster risk reduction and climate change, in line with the Pacific Resilience Framework, whilst in the Americas and the Caribbean, the Caribbean Disaster Management Strategy boosted the development of country work programmes for disaster risk reduction in that region. A similar process can be witnessed in the Asia Pacific region through the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER).

Three regions show a good rate of reporting, reaching approximately 50% of countries with a DRR strategy as at August 2020 which allow to

calculate their achievement of Target E. These include the Americas and Caribbean region (49%), Arab States (55%) and Europe and Central Asia (53%) as per the data reported into the SFM as at August 2020. Overall, the need to accelerate efforts to reach Target E by the end of 2020 remains an urgent priority.

A set of challenges faced by Governments that slowed down the development of DRR strategies at national and local levels since the adoption of the Sendai Framework are being highlighted in this report. Among the most recent ones, the COVID-19 pandemic significantly challenged national governments in developing, formalizing and adopting their national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework, the SDGs and the Paris Agreement. The access, collection, analysis and management of disaster risk and climate-related data at various scales is another challenge that needs to be addressed to enable Governments' decision-making process in support of risk-informed development and allow them to meet their reporting commitment on the implementation of Target E and other global Targets of the Sendai Framework.

In view of the above developments and challenges, the report defines a set of key recommendations to Governments and stakeholders to help them accelerate action to meet Target E by the end of 2020 and beyond and 'get ready for the Decade of Action 2020-2030'. These recommendations are of policy and technical nature to enhance disaster risk governance whilst optimizing coherence-building with climate change and sustainable development. They also encourage Governments to foster partners' engagement and mobilization to support the development of DRR strategies at the national and local levels through appropriate multi-sectoral arrangements and multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms.

On the technical front, the report encourages Governments to focus on both the implementation of the Sendai Framework and its monitoring. This can be undertaken by putting in place monitoring frameworks to follow up on implementation of their national strategies based on Custom Indicators and by scaling up DRR, climate and health related data collection and analyses. The report calls on UNDRR and partners to facilitate this process by increasing efforts and initiatives aimed at building Governments' capacity in data disaggregation (based on gender, age, disability) and enhancing cooperation with National Statistics Offices.

More targeted communications and advocacy activities are also required to promote a more systematic sharing of experiences, good practices and success stories to feature Target E more strategically at all levels. The recent commemorations of the 2020 International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR, 13 October 2020) with its theme being dedicated to Target E and risk governance landed prominently on several of the world's largest news websites, including the BBC, CNN, Al Jazeera, and ZDF, with potential to be read by many millions of people around the world. This is a nice illustration of the impact of worldwide advocacy and media mobilization in triggering Governments' and stakeholders' action in advancing Target E at their respective levels.

An overview of the analysis:
A cup half empty… or a cup half full

Indicator E1: National DRR strategies globally

1. 93 countries have reported having national DRR strategies. A rise from 44 countries in 2015, that is an increase of 111%.

2. Compared to 2015, the number of countries that have reported substantial or comprehensive alignment to the Sendai Framework (average score of 0.75 or higher, on a scale between 0 and 1) has more than tripled, rising from 13 to 44 countries. In the same period, the number of countries with limited alignment (average score of less than 0.5) has remained at 19 although with some fluctuations.

Indicator E1: National DRR strategies among Regions

3. The Americas and the Caribbean and Europe and Central Asia regions have shown the highest increase in countries that reported having national DRR strategies since 2015.

Indicator E1: National DRR strategies reported by LDCs, SIDS, and LLDCs

4. LDCs, SIDS, and LLDCs, have all enhanced in this period on national DRR strategies with the highest increment shown by the SIDS group of countries followed by LLDCs, though the absolute number of SIDS remains low. However, it is understood that SIDS in general have more such national DRR strategies than has been reported through the SFM system.

Indicator E1: Country reporting on two selected key elements of National DRR strategies

5. There is an increase of more than 157% in countries reporting on promotion of policy coherence in their national DRR strategies and more than 147% increase in countries reporting on accountability mechanisms of their national DRR strategies.

Indicator E2: Local DRR strategies globally

6. Significantly more countries have reported strengthening risk governance at the local level with 72 countries reported by 2019 having local Governments with DRR strategies. This is up from 39 countries in 2015, an increase of 85%.

7. However, the coverage of risk governance at the local level as measured by the proportion of local Governments having DRR strategies in the reporting countries (i.e. the ratio of the local governments having DRR strategies to total number of local governments in the respective reporting country) reduced from 76% in 2015 to 69%, by 2019, i.e. a drop of 9% in the same period.

Indicator E2: Local DRR strategies among Regions

8. Among the regions, countries in Asia and Pacific have seen more than 100% increase in reported proportion of local Governments having local DRR strategies since 2015. However, overall, the number of countries reporting remains low in all regions.

Indicator E2: Local DRR strategies as reported by LDCs, SIDS, and LLDCs

9. Among LDCs, SIDS, and LLDCs, local Governments in SIDS group of countries have shown relatively high progress in local DRR strategies, but the absolute numbers remain low.

Target E: National and Local DRR strategies globally

10. 69 countries have reported having both national and local DRR strategies. From the perspective of the target, this is a rise from 35 countries in 2015, an increase of 97%.

11. 96 countries have reported having either national or local DRR strategies or both, this is a rise from 48 countries in 2015, an increase of 100%.

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List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

ASEAN   Association of South East Asian Nations

CAPRADE   Andean Committee for Disaster Prevention and Assistance

CDEMA   Caribbean Disaster Management Agency

DRR   Disaster Risk Reduction

EC   European Commission

ECO   Economic Cooperation Organization

EU   European Union

GP   Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

IDMC   Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)

IFRC   International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

IOM   International Organization for Migration

LDC   Least Developed Country

LLDC   Land-locked Developing Country

MERCOSUR   Southern Common Market

NRC   Norwegian Refugee Council

OIEWG   Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Indicators and Terminology Relating to Disaster Risk Reduction

ROs   UNDRR Regional Offices

RP   Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

SFM   Sendai Framework Monitor/Monitoring

SIDS   Small Island Developing States

UNDP   United Nations Development Programme

UNDRR   United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

UNFCCC: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

UNGA   United Nations General Assembly

UNHCR   United Nations Regugees Agency

WB   World Bank

1 Introduction

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, adopted by UN Member States in 2015, identifies Target E 'to substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies by 2020'. Target E creates a foundation for countries to deliver all other Targets and reach risk-informed development and resilience by 2030.

First and foremost, this report is not an evaluation of how countries are doing in terms of a reduction of their risks to disasters. This is a report on how they are advancing in adopting and implementing national and local DRR strategies. This is measured solely with regard to the compliance with the Target E methodology as articulated in the SFM. It is a first step for a more in-depth analysis that could be undertaken beyond the SFM based on the emerging trends.

Progress towards the achievement of Target E has represented an opportunity for Governments to revisit the disaster risk reduction governance arrangements put in place as part of overall efforts in meeting their commitment to implement the Sendai Framework by 2030. In some cases, this process has allowed the design of multi-stakeholder and intersectoral approaches to reducing risk and building resilience, through inclusive and participatory dialogues around country needs and strategic visions for disaster risk reduction. This model has also highly benefited the management of the COVID-19 disaster. As much as defining the appropriate content of the strategies, including vision, objectives and priority activities, is important, the process itself of developing, implementing and monitoring the strategy is equally critical. The process helps secure a whole-of-society approach and related communities' full buy-in and ownership of the implementation of the strategy at national and local levels. The Words into Action guidelines on national and local DRR strategies,[1] developed by UNDRR in collaboration with a large number of DRR experts and practitioners, has provided relevant guidance and information for Target E achievement.

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), through United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution A/RES/69/83[2] and as the custodian of the Sendai Framework, is mandated to track progress in the implementation of the Sendai Framework at all levels of governance. In this role, UNDRR has been encouraging Governments since 2015 to develop their national and local DRR strategies. In March 2018, UNDRR launched the Sendai Framework Monitor (SFM)[3] as an online accountability tool to support countries in monitoring and evaluating progress and challenges in the implementation of DRR through self-assessment. The data reported in the SFM provides a snapshot of how countries are progressing towards Target E achievement.

In 2019, UNDRR developed an internal strategy on Target E (see Annex 1) for accelerating Governments' achievement by the end of 2020, identifying areas where support can be provided. The Strategy places particular focus on Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Land-Locked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and encompasses a 'coherent approach' (see Annex 3) that aims at fostering the integration of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation as part of DRR strategies.

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[1] UN DRR, Words Into Action on national DRR strategies, available at: https://www.undrr.org/developing-national-disaster-risk-reduction-strategies and Words Into Action on local DRR strategies available at: https://www.preventionweb.net/files/57399_57399localdrrandresiliencestrategie.pdf

[2] https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/generalassembly/docs/globalcompact/A_RES_69_283.pdf

[3] https://sendaimonitor.undrr.org/

2 Overview of Target E status as reported on the Sendai Framework Monitor (SFM)

Target E and its associated indicators at the national and local levels were defined by the 'Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Indicators and Terminology relating to Disaster Risk Reduction (OIEWG)' and appropriately matched with corresponding SDGs (1, 11 and 13) in an effort to promote risk-informed development. The OIEWG's definitions are:

- **Global Target E:** Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020.

- **Indicator E-1:** Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

- **Indicator E-2:** Percentage of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national strategies. *(Information should be provided on the appropriate levels of government below the national level with responsibility for disaster risk reduction)*

This section addresses the following questions:

- How have countries as a whole progressed on Target E from 2015 to 2019?

- How have countries progressed in their strategies both at the national and local levels?

- How has progress gone in terms of the following:
  - Number of countries reporting having national and local DRR strategies
  - Qualitative self-assessment against key elements of national DRR strategies
  - Proportional increase/decrease of local Governments with local DRR strategies

The methodology used for the analysis of data reported for indicators E1 and E2 under Target E is in Annex 1 of this Report, Methodology for Target E Reporting in the Sendai Framework Monitor.

Key considerations for monitoring and reporting on Target E through the Sendai Framework Monitor

- The entire mechanism for the countries to report on Target E is based on two fundamental references (1) The report of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Indicators and Terminology Relating to Disaster Risk Reduction (OIEWG - A/71/644); and (2) Technical Guidance for Monitoring and Reporting on Progress in Achieving the Global Targets of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFM Technical Guidance Notes).

- The SFM caters specifically to 195 countries comprising 193 UN Member States and two Observer States. The regions considered are as per UNDRR categorisation and as reflected in the Sendai Framework Monitor e.g. Africa is considered as sub-Saharan Africa.

- Indicators E-1 and E-2 contribute directly into three of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs 1, 11 and 13).

- The period of review for Target E is from 2015 to 2019. The SFM is an annual reporting mechanism.

- The entire analysis in this section is based solely on the data from the SFM as reported as of 21 August 2020. This reporting milestone is important as the SFM allows open-ended reporting and hence countries can retroactively revise their reported data at any time.

- By August 2020, 134 countries are using the SFM. Countries can register and assign different institutions (ministries, departments or even partner organizations of their choice) for reporting on different targets and indicators. There are over 220 such institutions from over 100 countries nominated or engaged in some way for reporting on Target E.

- The SFM incorporates a self-validation process undertaken by the reporting country itself, after which the data is attributable to the respective countries and made publicly available. During the process, one of the users, i.e. contributors, enters the data for E1 (after due consultation on the scoring) and E2 (as per data available from the local level) and then submits to another user, i.e. the validator, who is a senior member in the official hierarchy who validates the data received, thus making it eligible for viewing by public.

- The current SFM related analysis in this Report uses all available data in the SFM, including those that have not yet been validated through the above mentioned process. This is why no data have been attributed to individual countries and all the figures are shown were mostly analysed at a global or regional aggregate level or as a country group (e.g., LDCs, SIDS, etc.).On an average about 55% of the countries who have reported into the SFM have validated their data for indicator E1 and 59% for indicator E2.

Key issues of the SFM analysis

Indicator E1 on National Strategies

- Through interaction with Member States' Focal Points, UNDRR is aware that some countries have established a national DRR strategy but have not yet reported this to SFM. In such cases, the information has not been used for the analysis of this report. This is because, as mentioned earlier, analysis of this report is based solely on the SFM reporting by the Member and Observer States. There may be a difference in the time when the countries adopted

their DRR strategies and when they reported on them. However, in the absence of any other universal communication channel, the time of reporting in the SFM will be considered as the only source for the purposes of Target E analysis.

- The Indicator E-1 analysis is a subjective self-scoring methodology based on the following underlying assumptions:

- There is a universal understanding of the scope and scale of the 10 key elements (see Annex 1, page 46)

- While countries are not required to review their national DRR strategy documents annually, they do this judiciously on a needs basis.

- When scores are increased, it is assumed that it is based on improvements undertaken in their national DRR strategies.

- When scores are decreased, it is based on a thorough review of existing policy documentation that merit such reduction.

- The focal ministry/office in the government has undertaken required consultations internally with other ministries and departments, and also externally with relevant stakeholders making the process all-of-government and all-of-society engagement.

- In particular, this report analyses in detail two of the 10 key elements of National DRR Strategies, which are: (1) Promote policy coherence and compliance, notably with the SDGs and the Paris Agreement; and (2) Have mechanisms to follow-up, periodically assess and publicly report on progress. The first one on policy coherence is one of the more subjective key elements. Hence the scoring has been analysed based on the assumption that it reflects countries' current view of how coherent their national DRR strategies are inter-alia with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement. As mentioned above, any upgrade of country score is assumed to be as a result of an improvement of their DRR strategy. The same applies to the scoring for any key element. Any such revision is a prerogative of the countries and they are not obliged to share their strategies for any review.

- The current country score is representative of the latest level of implementation of the ten key elements that are at the heart of the indicator E1 reporting.

- Turnover of functionaries in key positions can affect the timely and efficient reporting in the Monitor.

- Further research needs to be conducted by UNDRR and/or its partners to understand other challenges countries may be facing in reporting to the SFM.

This may include a review of the SFM analysis to explore some of the qualitative facets behind the quantitative trends and outputs that have emerged.

Indicator E-2 on local DRR strategies

- For indicator E-2, the following are the underlying assumptions for the analysis of this report:

  - Given the number of local governments in a given country and the volume of local DRR strategies that need to be established, it may not be feasible for the national government to qualitatively report on the extent to which each and every local strategy is aligned with their respective national DRR strategy. Therefore as mentioned in the SFM Technical Guidance Notes, it is assumed that any local DRR strategy reported is in alignment with its national counterpart.

  - Countries can, at any time update in the SFM, the number of local governments with DRR strategies as and when the strategies are developed.

  - For the purpose of the Sendai Framework, the annotation to the E-2 indicator in the OIEWG report defines the local Governments as appropriate levels of government below the national level with responsibility for DRR. If a country reports an increase in the number of local administrative units with a DRR strategy, it is assumed that the concerned administrative units had the mandate but did not use it to develop the local strategies until now or the mandate for DRR has been newly devolved to that level.

- Since the SFM system does not allow for decentralized reporting without consolidation at the national level, the national DRR focal point will report on behalf of the local administrative units. Hence coordination between the national and local DRR authorities is important to allow comprehensive reporting on indicator E-2.

- Since the reporting on indicator E2 related to local Governments having local DRR strategies is measured in proportional terms, an increase in the number of local Governments has a direct impact on the proportional values.

Status of Target E Reporting on the Sendai Framework Monitor

Reporting on National DRR strategies (Indicator E1)

Number of countries having National DRR strategies

Ninety-three countries have reported that they have National DRR strategies that are aligned with the Sendai Framework to some extent. As Target E focuses on whether there is an increase in the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, it is important to look at the relative increase rather than the absolute numbers.

Figure 1: Number of countries having National DRR Strategies (as reported on the SFM, August 2020)
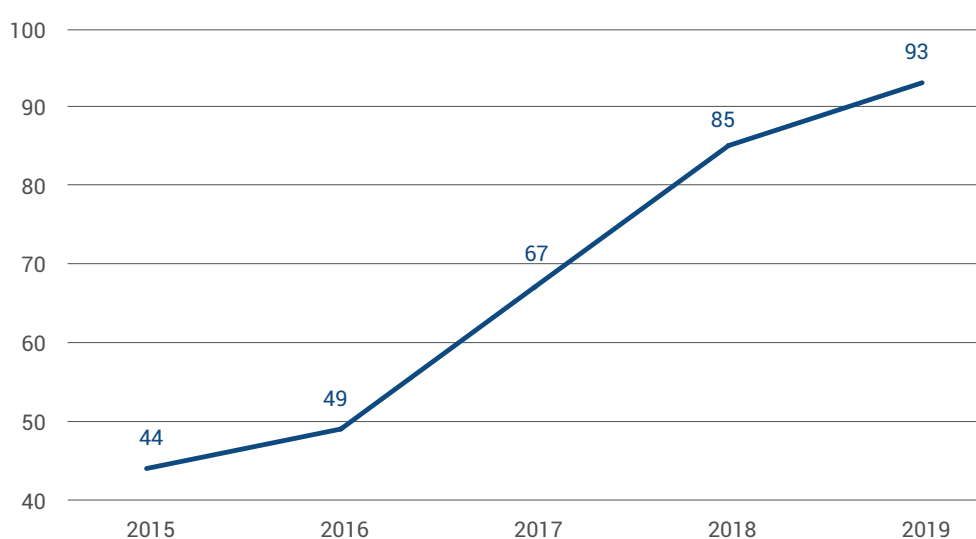
Highlights (Figure 1):

- There is a 111% increase in the number of countries that have reported having national DRR strategies, which grew from 44 in 2015 to 93 by 2019. As mentioned in the Annex 1 on methodology, all data for 2019 implies the number of countries reporting by 2019 counted only once irrespective of their reporting frequency.

- If we look at the increase in the number of countries as a proportion of the total 195 countries, there has been an increase from 23% in 2015 to 48% by 2019.

Key Takeaways:

- On the one hand it can be seen as a cup half empty with only 48% of the countries reporting they have national DRR strategies aligned with the Sendai Framework to some extent.

- On the other hand, the number of countries that have reported at least once by 2019 that they have national DRR strategies have more than doubled since the time of adoption of the Sendai Framework.

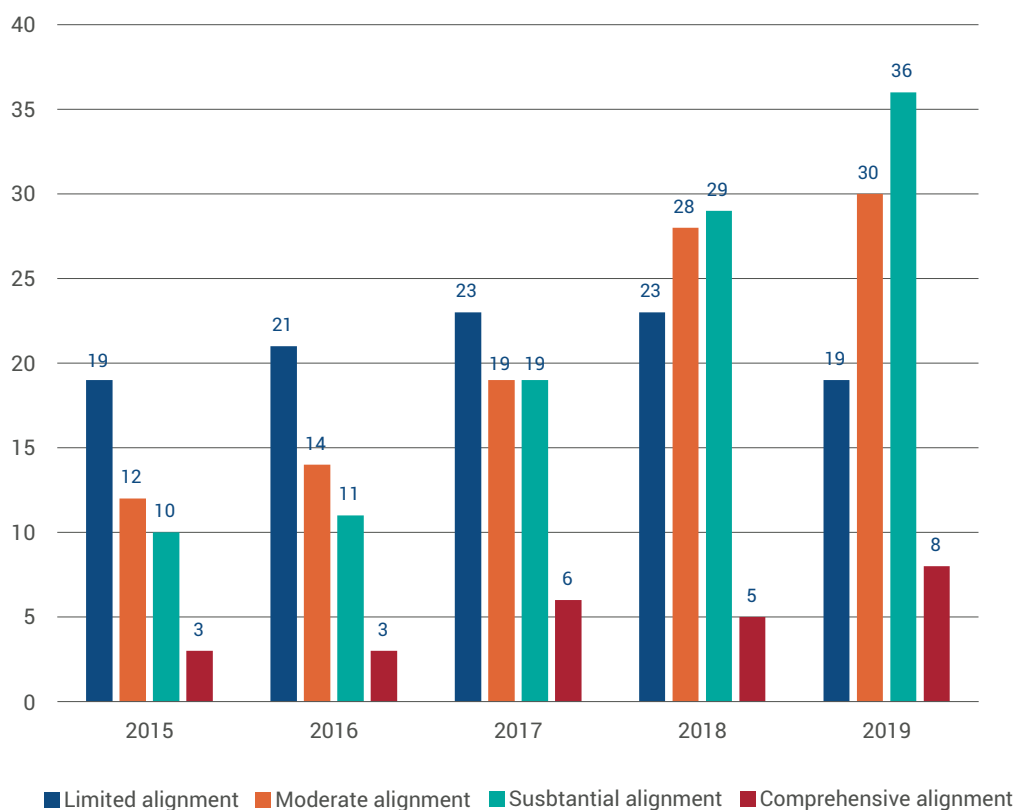# Alignment of National DRR Strategies with the Sendai Framework

As explained in the Annex I on methodology, the scoring provided by countries feed into the computation of both (1) the country score and (2) the global average score.

On the basis of the country scores, UNDRR has classified the countries according to the extent of the alignment of their National DRR strategies with the Sendai Framework. The adjacent table shows the range of scores defining this alignment.

Based on the above, the number of countries by extent of alignment has been reviewed, which yielded a status as shown in Figure 2.

Proposed classification of alignment of National DRR Strategies	
Range of country scores	**Extent of alignment**
0 < to < 0.5	Limited alignment
0.5 to < 0.75	Moderate alignment
0.75 to < 1	Substantial alignment
1	Comprehensive alignment

Figure 2. Alignment of National DRR Strategies with Sendai Framework by classification (as reported on the SFM, August 2020)

Highlights (Figure 2):

- Since 2015 the number of countries reporting that their national DRR strategies have a 'substantial alignment' with the Sendai Framework has more than tripled, growing from 10 countries in 2015 to 36 countries by 2019.

- On the other hand, the number of countries reporting that their national DRR strategies have 'limited alignment' with the Sendai Framework has fluctuated over the years between 19 and 23, with 19 in 2015 and again in 2019 at the end of the reporting period. The count of countries with 'comprehensive alignment' has risen from 3 to 8, following self-reassessments of some of their scores.
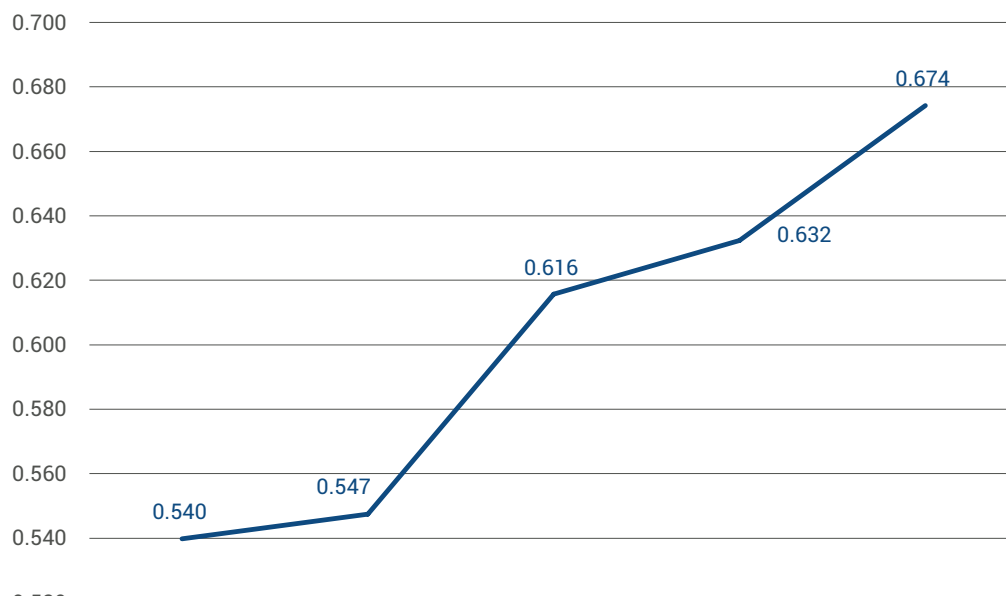
Key Takeaways:

- The above highlights may be reflective of the fact that strategies in some countries are living documents with regular updates. While in other cases, some key elements (e.g. Monitoring and Evaluation frameworks) are further developed after adoption, thus affecting the country scores.

- Changes in scores, including reductions, show countries are reflecting on their self-assessments, since these are not one-off exercises but are subject to continuous self-reassessment over time.

- From the reporting, it seems there is a probability that since 2015, most countries have either developed new national DRR strategies substantially aligned with the Sendai Framework or revised their existing ones ensuring this alignment. As mentioned in the methodology section, for the purposes of the SFM analysis, a country is considered to have a national DRR strategy aligned to the Sendai Framework to some extent only when it reports a positive score for its alignment with the Framework.

Trend of average global score on Alignment of national DRR Strategies with the Sendai Framework

Figure 3 shows the trend of reporting as per how far countries report that their National DRR strategies are aligned with the Sendai Framework as measured by the global average scores.

Figure 3. Average score of national DRR Strategies (as reported on the SFM, August 2020)

Key Takeaways:

- Seeing this trend of the global average score in conjunction with the number of countries having National DRR Strategies (Fig. 1), it shows that given the increase in the number of reporting countries, the new countries have in general reported higher scores than the previous average.

- The global average score of alignment to the Sendai Framework in 2019, which is 0.674, shows that the extent of alignment globally is 'moderate' (Please refer to table of classification in **page 17**).

Progress on National DRR Strategies by region

Figure 4 shows the number of countries that have national DRR strategies as a proportion of the total number of countries in each region, allowing a region-by-region comparison of progression between 2015 and 2019. The total numbers of countries in each region are: Africa 44, Americas and Caribbean 35, Arab States 22, Asia and Pacific 39, and Europe and Central Asia 55.

Figure 4. % of Countries having national DRR strategies by Regions (as reported on the SFM, August 2020)
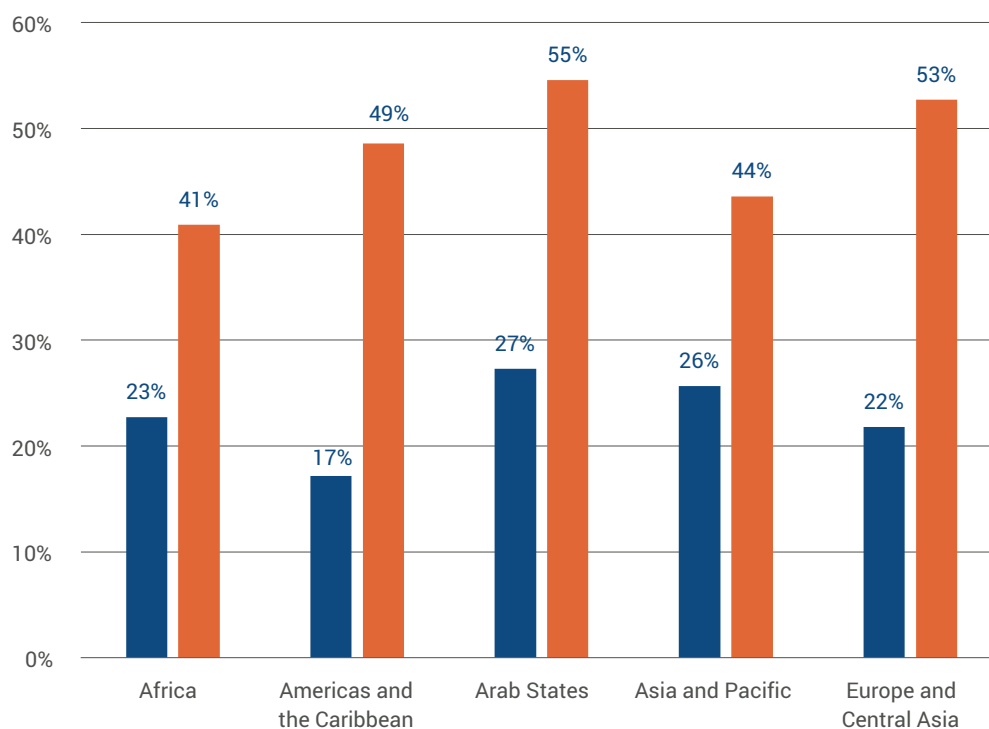
Highlights (Figure 4):

All five regions have at least 40% of their countries reporting as having national DRR strategies. Arab States and Europe and Central Asia have crossed the halfway mark, and Americas and Caribbean are almost there.

Three regions, namely Americas and the Caribbean, Arab States and Europe and Central Asia, have more than doubled the proportion of countries having national DRR strategies since 2015.

Key Takeaways:

While there has been notable progress, all the regions have to accelerate on the adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies through the engagement of national platforms for DRR and other coordination mechanisms in the country, along with support from UN system and the larger international community.

Progress by LDCs, SIDS, and LLDCs

Figure 5 shows the number of countries that have national DRR strategies as a proportion of the total numbers of LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs to demonstrate their progress between 2015 and 2019. Total numbers of each of these groups are: LDCs 47, SIDS 38 and LLDCs 32.

Figure 5. % of LDCs, SIDS, and LLDCs having national DRR strategies (as reported on the SFM, August 2020)
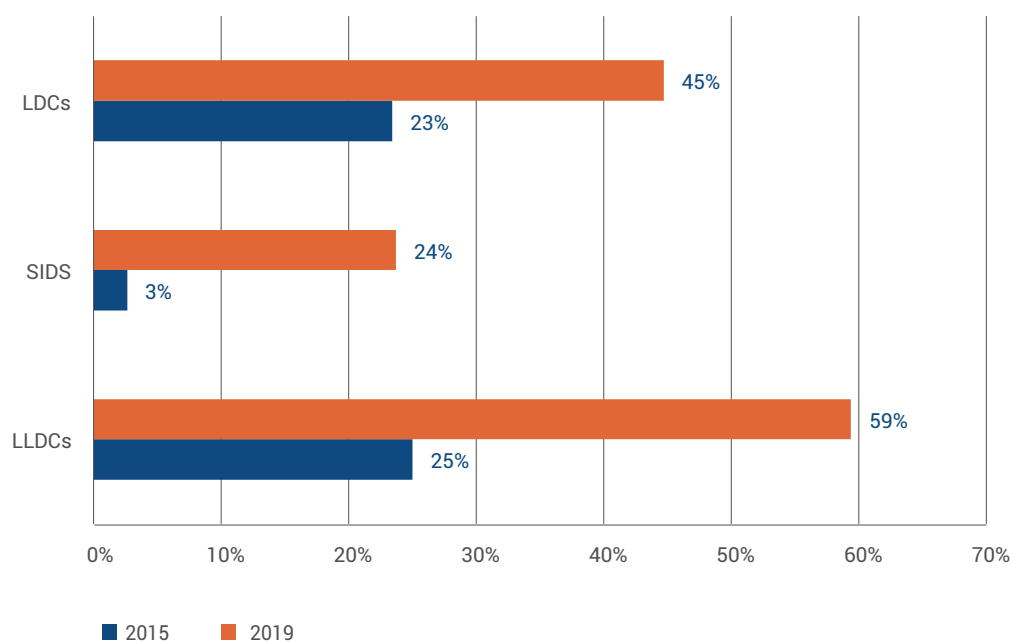
Highlights (Figure 5):

• 45% of the 47 LDCs reported having national DRR strategies by 2019, which is up from 23% in 2015.

• While only 24% of the 38 SIDS reported having national DRR strategies by 2019, this figure is significantly higher than the 3% reported in 2015.

• LLDCs have shown the highest level of achievement, with 59% of 32 LLDC countries reporting having national DRR strategies by 2019, which is an increase of more than 100% from those reporting in 2015.

Key Takeaways:

• Though 76% of the SIDS are not yet reporting having national DRR strategies, through UNDRR engagement with these countries we are aware that many of them actually do have such strategies in place. Hence, they may require support in monitoring of international frameworks to better showcase their successes.

• Concerted efforts are needed to support SIDS and LDCs in national DRR strategy development and implementation in general. Regional institutions and frameworks have a special role to play, given the common geographical and hazard risk context of the SIDS in particular.

Key Element of National DRR Strategies: Promote policy coherence and compliance, notably with the SDGs and the Paris Agreement

As mentioned in Annex 1 on Methodology, one of the 10 key elements by which the countries measured their national DRR Strategy alignment with the Sendai Framework was how much the Strategy promotes policy coherence and compliance, notably with the SDGs and the Paris Agreement.

Figure 6 No. of countries reporting on above key element (as reported on the SFM, August 2020)
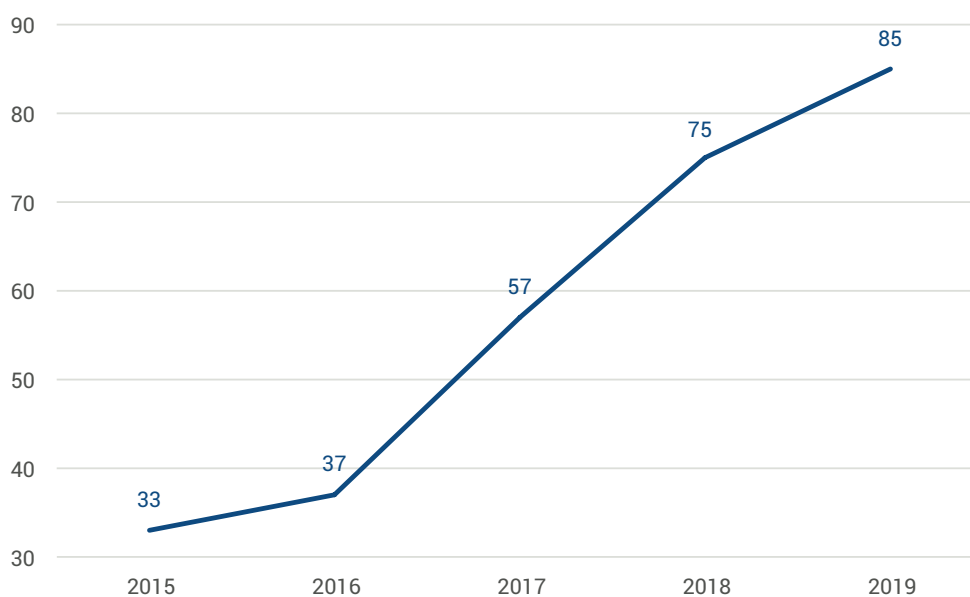
Highlights (Figure 6):

33 countries reported that they had strategies that promoted this coherence in 2015. This number rose to 85 countries by 2019, showing an increase of more than 157%.

Key Takeaways:

Less than half of the countries reported that their strategies promote policy coherence with other international frameworks, calling for a strong need to support countries to strengthen this coherence element further. International partners may focus their support on the basis of their respective organizational mandates and expertise.

However, it may also be noted here that this key element for evaluating the quality of national strategies could be subject to quite diverse interpretations. In order to decrease this subjectivity, further research on what constitutes coherence with the SDGs and climate adaptation in order to support Member State self-assessment may be necessary.

The self-assessment by countries provides a qualitative insight into how they approach the issue of coherence. Although a number on a scale of 0 to 1 cannot provide a comprehensive reflection, at the least, it can provide a snapshot of the relative importance countries give to this key element.

Figure 7. Average score of the countries reporting on above key element (as reported on the SFM, August 2020)
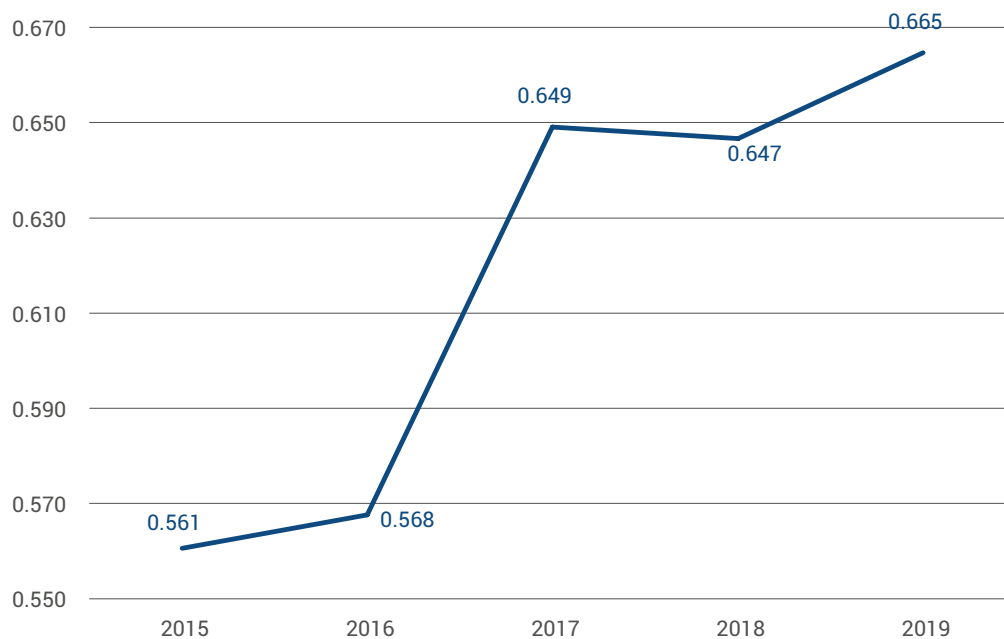
Highlights (Figure 7):

The global average score for policy coherence has gone up from 0.56 to 0.67, which is a 19% increase since 2015. Since countries can retroactively change their scores and their latest score is considered, the global average score has increased in general, either by the same countries upgrading their scores or by new countries that happened to have scored themselves higher than the previous global average.

Key Takeaways:

The numbers show that on average countries perceive that their national DRR strategies are progressively promoting policy coherence relevant to DRR, such as sustainable development and climate change, by aligning their disaster risk reduction strategies with international frameworks, in particular the SDGs and the Paris Agreement.[4] Overall, the alignment to this key element has been at a 'moderate' level as per the classification shared earlier.

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[4] As mentioned in the Key issues of the SFM analysis section, the analysis assumes that countries upgrade the score of a key element as and when they make a related improvement in their DRR strategy.

Key Element of National DRR Strategies: Have mechanisms to follow-up, periodically assess and publicly report on progress

As mentioned in the section on Key issues of the SFM analysis, a second key element under review in this report is the number of national DRR strategies that include accountability mechanisms for monitoring.

Figure 8 Number of countries reporting on above key element (as reported on the SFM, August 2020)
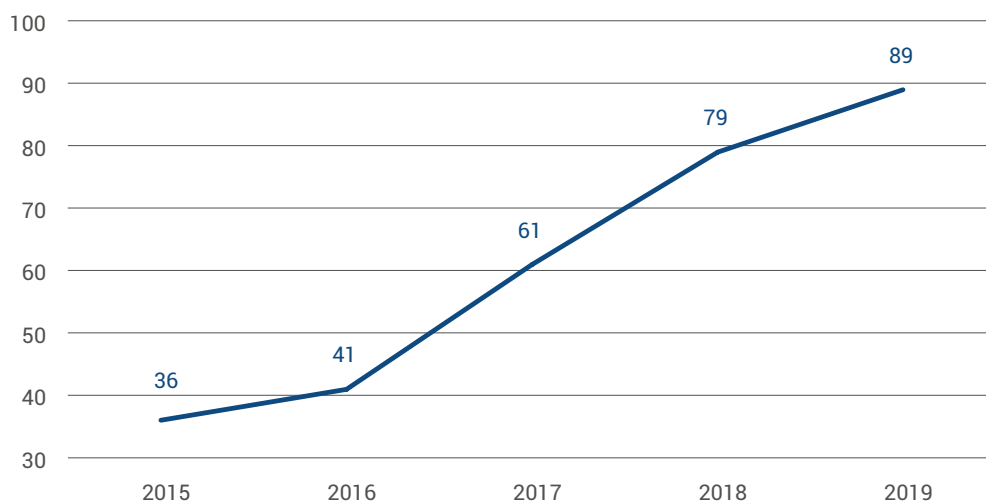
Highlights (Figure 8):

The number of countries reporting that they have such mechanisms in their national DRR strategies has increased from 36 in 2015 to 89 by 2019 – an increase of more than 147%.

Key Takeaways:

The analysis of the reporting shows that some countries are developing a monitoring framework after adopting their national strategies, while most others had it in place at the very inception of the DRR strategy development process. The latter is a good practice that should be shared and replicated in providing support to countries by the UN system and the larger international community.

As in the case of the key element of policy coherence, countries have also provided self-scoring on their monitoring frameworks.

Figure 9. Average score of the countries reporting on above key element (as reported on the SFM, August 2020)
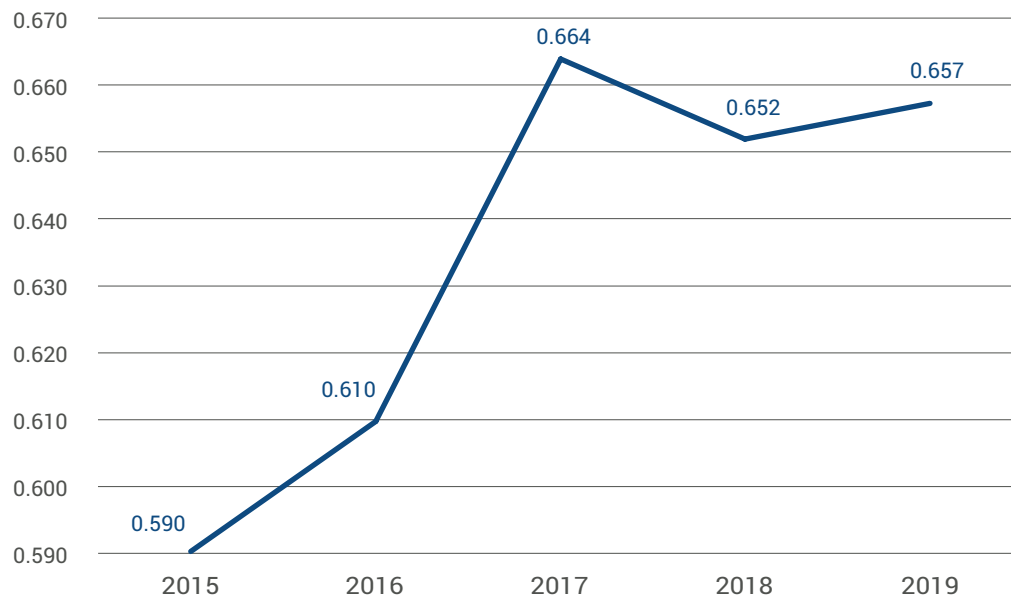
Highlights (Figure 9):

The progress of the global average was from 0.59 in 2015 to 0.66 by 2019, which is a 11% improvement. As in the case of the previous key element, the global average score has increased in general, either by the same countries upgrading their scores or by new countries that happened to have scored themselves higher than the previous global average.

Key Takeaways:

- Qualitatively, countries on average consider the effectiveness of their monitoring mechanisms in place to be 'moderate'.

- The support they require may be multi-sectoral (e.g. on health) or cross-cutting (e.g. on gender) as pertinent for their monitoring which the UN system members are well equipped to provide as per their comparative expertise.

- In order to support these mechanisms, UNDRR has developed a module on custom indicators within the SFM. This allows countries to set up nationally identified relevant indicators that may help them to better assess their progress on the Sendai Framework.

Reporting on Local DRR strategies (Indicator E2)

Number of countries reporting on local Governments having DRR Strategies

Indicator E2 of the Sendai Framework pertains to the percentage of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with their respective national strategies. The OIEWG report has an annotation to this E-2 indicator defining local Governments as appropriate levels of government below the national level with responsibility for DRR.

Figure 10 Number of countries with local Governments having DRR Strategies (as reported on the SFM, August 2020)
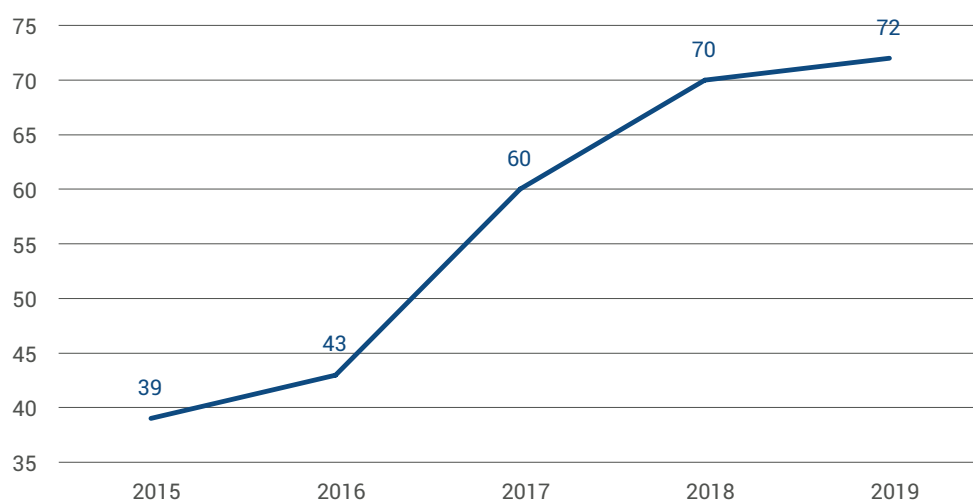
Highlights (Figure 10):

- Since 2015, 72 countries have reported having some local Governments that have adopted and are implementing local DRR strategies.

- This is an 85% rise, from 39 countries to 72 countries.

Key Takeaways:

In some countries progressively over 2015 and 2019, the local governments who had the mandate for DRR may be using it to develop local DRR strategies. In some other countries, the mandate for DRR may have been newly devolved to the local level.

Despite the above mentioned increase in number of countries reporting on E2, the progress of outreach of DRR governance at the local level in these countries, is reflected in indicator E2 as the proportion of local Governments in each of these countries that have developed such local DRR strategies.

Figure 11 Average percentage of Local Governments with DRR Strategies (as reported on the SFM, August 2020)
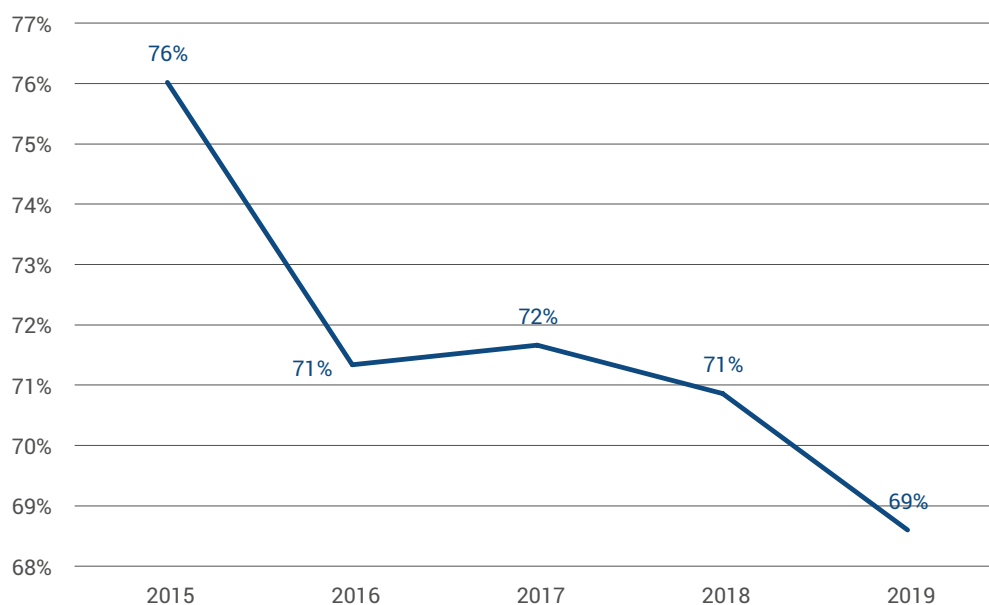
Highlights (Figure 11):

In 2015 a global average proportion of 76% of the local Governments from countries reporting on E2 had local DRR strategies. However, by 2019, the global average proportion of local Governments from countries reporting on E2 went down to 69%, a drop of 9%.

Key Takeaways:

- While the number of countries reporting on local DRR strategies has increased since 2015, the proportion of local Governments in these countries with such strategies have fallen over time.

- This fall can be attributed to more countries reporting that have a higher number of local Governments that have not yet adopted local DRR strategies.

- At any rate, all countries are recommended to strengthen DRR governance at the local level by transferring the DRR mandate to lower administrative units.

Progress on Local DRR Strategies by region

Region	Reporting in 2015	Reporting by 2019	Region total
Africa	10	16	**44**
Americas and the Caribbean	7	9	**35**
Arab States	5	9	**22**
Europe and Central Asia	10	24	**55**
Asia and Pacific	7	14	**39**

The figure 12 shows a comparison of average proportion of local Governments with DRR strategies in each region between 2015 and 2019. This can be viewed in conjunction with the adjacent chart that shows the number of countries that have been reporting on the above trends.

Figure 12. % of local Governments having local DRR strategies (as reported on SFM, August 2020)
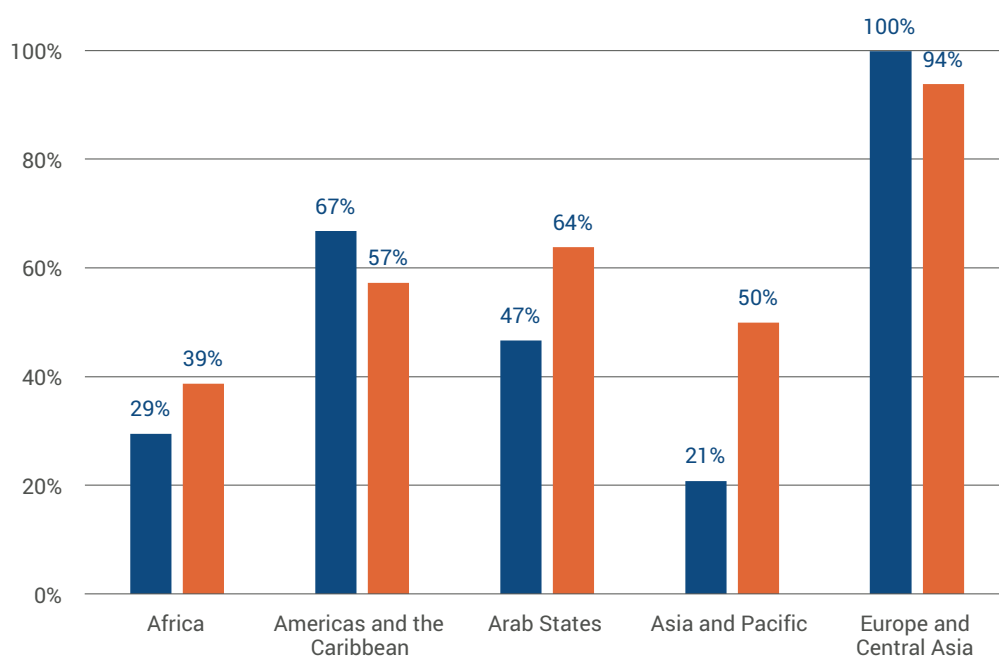
Highlights (Figure 12):

- There has been a rise in average percentage of local Governments with DRR Strategies in three regions, namely, Africa, Arab States and Asia Pacific.

- Even in the regions where the above average percentage has decreased, there has been an increase in the number of countries reporting.

Key Takeaways:

- Most regions are showing an increase in the percentage of local Governments with DRR Strategies,

- The number of countries reporting on this indicator remains relatively low across all regions. Given the importance of resilience at the local level, a strong push for more countries and their local Governments to focus on this aspect through the Making Cities Resilient 2030 and other mechanisms is vital.

Progress by LDCs, SIDS, and LLDCs

Group	Reporting in 2015	Reporting by 2019	Region total
LDCs	11	17	**47**
SIDs	1	2	**38**
LLDCs	7	16	**32**

The Figure 13 shows a comparison of average proportion of local governments with DRR strategies in LDCs SIDS and LLDCs. The adjacent chart below shows the number of LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs reporting on the percentage of local Governments with DRR strategies.

Figure 13. % of local Governments having DRR strategies in LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs (as reported on SFM, August 2020)
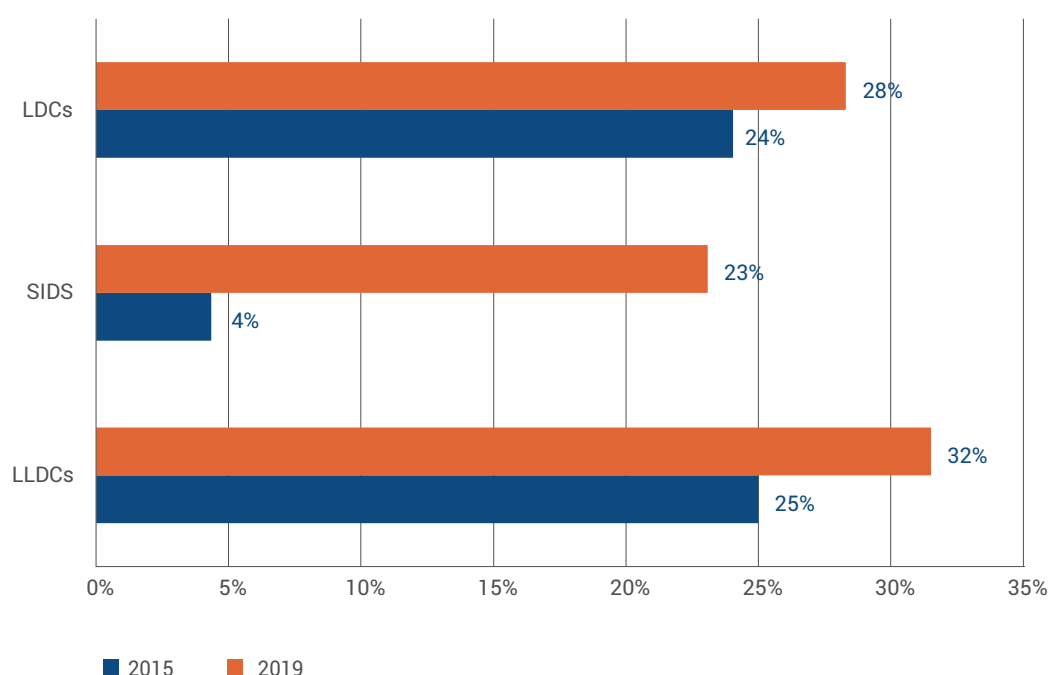
Highlights (Figure 13):

- Although the proportion of local Governments with DRR strategies in SIDS shows a considerable increase since 2015, the number of SIDS reporting on the same remains very low.

- LDCs and LLDCs as a group, on the other hand, have more or less the same level of local Governments with DRR strategies but the number of reporting countries has increased, especially in the LLDCs where it has more than doubled.

Key Takeaways:

SIDS and LDCs require support from the UN system and the larger international community for the development of local strategies focusing on the integration of climate change adaptation and DRR strategies. This support needs to take into account their specific country context as their institutional/administrative arrangements are often unique.

Target E: National and Local DRR strategies globally

Target E is concerned with substantially increasing the number of countries with both national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020. In Figure 14, countries are categorised into those that have reported (a) having both national and local DRR strategies; (b) only national DRR strategies; and (c) only local DRR strategies, and showing the trend of numbers over 2015 to 2019.

Figure 14 Countries with National and/or Local DRR strategies (as reported on the SFM, August 2020)
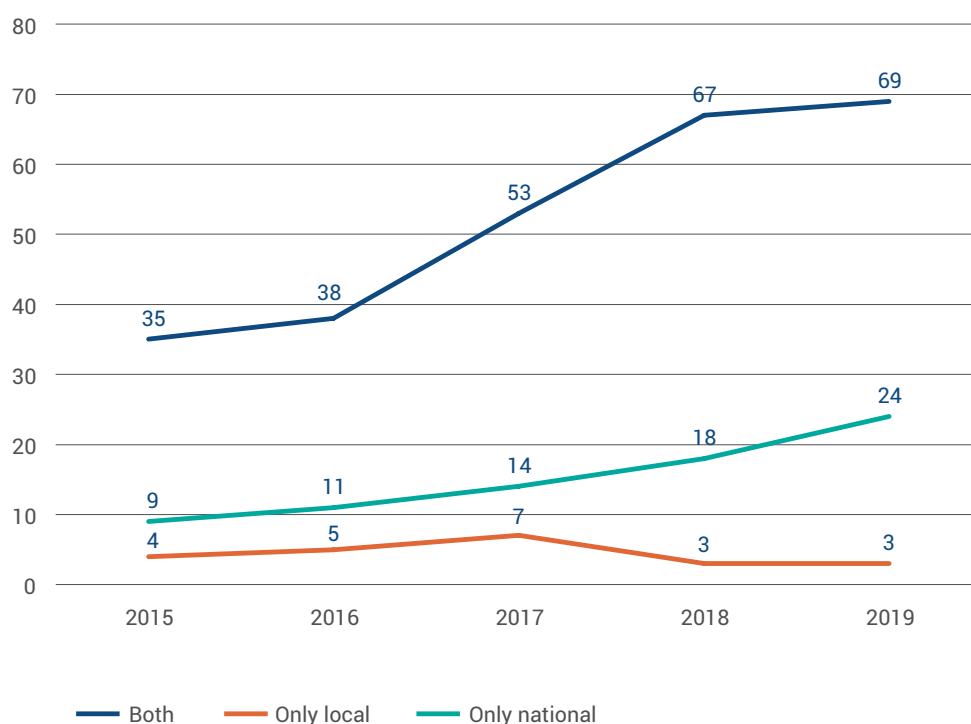
Main highlights (Figure 14):

- 69 countries have reported having both national and local DRR strategies by 2019, showing an increase of 97% from 35 countries reporting as such in 2015.

- 96 countries have reported having either national or local DRR strategies or both, a rise of 100% from 48 countries in 2015.

- As a proportion of all countries in the world, 49% of UN Member and Observer States have reported at least once by 2019 to have national and/or local DRR strategies. In 2015, 25% of these countries reported having such strategies.

Key Takeaways:

- In general, there is a substantial increase in countries reporting that they have national and/or local DRR strategies.

- Countries are encouraged to promote risk governance at the local level by supporting devolution of the DRR mandate to the lower administrative units.

- Support to countries is required in (1) overall development (and subsequent implementation) of national and local DRR strategies; and (2) strengthening monitoring mechanisms to enhance accountability for concurrent reporting where strategies are being adopted and implemented but not immediately reported on.

[5] Countries reporting only local DRR strategies may have unreported national DRR strategies for alignment, hence they are reflected here more to acknowledge the efforts of those countries at the local level.

[6] As mentioned in the section Key issues of SFM analysis, the annotation to the E-2 indicator in the OIEWG report define local Governments, for purposes of Sendai Framework monitoring, as appropriate levels of government below the national level with responsibility for DRR.

3 Qualitative assessment tools and analyses

The SFM process is acknowledged as the official repository of data being self-reported by Governments on all targets of the Sendai Framework and other related nationally defined Targets. As such, the SFM constitutes the official and unique data source for assessing the progress in implementing the Sendai Framework.

The self-reporting online tool, by definition, only reflects data uploaded by Member States into the system, The latter shows a number of 96 countries having reported on Target E (national and / or local DRR strategies) as at 21 August 2020, which is a bit less than 50% of the total number of Governments. For the purpose of compiling this report, we have opted to base the analyses on data submitted by these 96 countries. However, through our close interaction with Member States, we are aware that there are quite a few other Governments currently in the process of **developing or awaiting final endorsement/ adoption** of their national strategy for submission to the SFM. There are also Governments that have developed a strategy but have not reported it into the system for various reasons. As a consequence, it is important to state that the figures extracted from the SFM − hence contained in this report − do not provide the full picture of the efforts of Governments to develop their respective national DRR strategy.

In order to encourage reporting to SFM, UNDRR through its Regional Offices (ROs), has undertaken an internal qualitative analysis of national DRR strategies, based on information gathered through informal reviews of DRR strategies in each region, surveys and bilateral consultations with Governments and partners. These analyses help **provide a more complete picture of national DRR strategies currently under development that would soon be reported under the SFM.** This information is **also instrumental in programming and prioritizing technical support and resources** to be provided by UNDRR and partners to help Governments reach Target E by the end of 2020, and achieve the results that UNDRR has committed to in its Strategic Framework 2016-2021 and Target E Acceleration Strategy.

The internal qualitative analyses are supported by tools that help evaluate the level of integration of key elements, such as climate change, sustainable development as well as pandemics/biological hazards, displacement, human security, cyber risk, transboundary risks, etc., in the national DRR strategies based on the country's prevailing risks and priorities. Some of these tools are based on digital processes and peer-reviews whilst others build on desk-reviews, interviews or questionnaires to Governments through the nationally appointed Sendai Framework Focal Points. Some are demand-driven whilst others are triggered by UNDRR-ROs' invitation or are part of regular progress review processes (Regional Platform commitments and (sub)-regional action plans/strategies implementation). Efforts are underway to harmonize such tools to build a common baseline against which progress in the development of national DRR strategies will be assessed from a qualitative perspective.
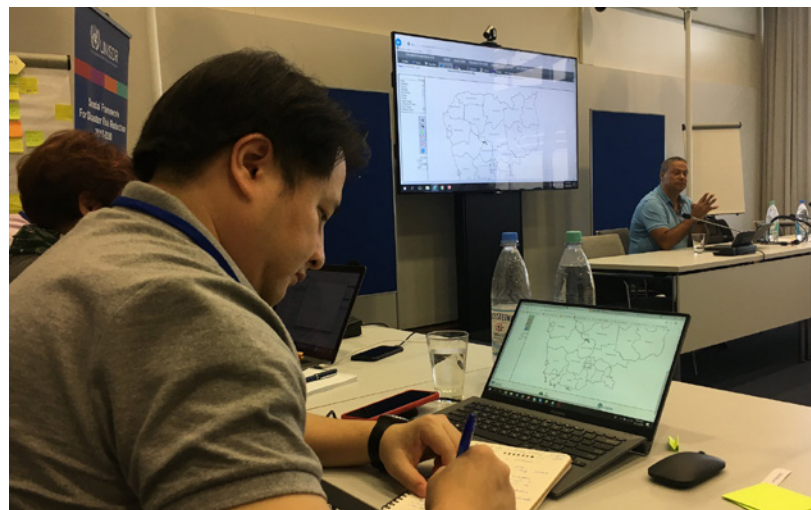
4 Analysis of successes, gaps & challenges

Successes in supporting Governments towards Target E achievement

The analysis of Target E implementation since 2015 through the SFM data and feedback from Governments and stakeholders has identified the following successes:

Sendai Framework Monitor (SFM)

Whilst the SFM builds on indicators recommended by the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Indicators and Terminology on Disaster Risk Reduction and on a self-assessment basis that cannot be modified, adjustments and improvements are continuously made by UNDRR to facilitate Governments' SFM reporting. Recent improvements relate to the broadening of national custom indicators to refine national reporting and the ability to attach the strategy or other policy documents that exist in the country, among other improvements. Through the recognition of countries that report into the SFM, it can serve as a prioritization tool for technical support to countries that are yet to report positive progress on Target E into the system and which therefore may need support (approx. 100 as at August 2020).

DRR Governance linked to Target E

Over 2015-2019, the SFM shows a significant increase in the number of national DRR strategies developed by Governments (93), with 6 more new Governments who developed their DRR strategy since August 2020, which confirms the ongoing acceleration of Governments' efforts in developing their national DRR strategies.

Three regions show a good rate of reporting, reaching approximately 50% of countries with a DRR strategy as at August 2020 which allows to calculate their achievement of Target E. These include the Americas and Caribbean region (49%), Arab States (55%) and Europe and Central Asia (53%) as per the data reported into the SFM as at August 2020.

Some good practices on DRR Governance emerged from the internal qualitative analyses and reviews across the various regions. In Africa, Benin and Malawi established joint DRR and Climate Change coordination committees that serve as effective entry points to support coherence-building and related joint monitoring efforts at national level. In Asia Pacific, the ongoing regional analysis of DRR strategies provides a good overview of the various stages of strategy development and helps identify further requirements (policy support, resources, etc.) to guide Governments to move from planning to implementation. In the Americas and the Caribbean, particular successes were achieved in fostering alignment between national and local strategies with Costa Rica, Cuba and Mexico – in each country 100% of the local strategies are reported to be aligned with the national strategy in the SFM.

Increased efforts in building coherence across core development agendas as part of DRR strategies

The SFM demonstrates increased efforts in building coherence and synergies at the national level across the core development agendas (Sendai Framework, the Paris Agreement and the SDGs) (Figure 7). Over the

period 2015- 2019, the SFM shows and increase of over 157% of Governments reporting under the indicator on policy coherence (passing from 33 to 85 countries).

The Target E Coherent Approach launched in November 2019 (see Annex 3) as a key element of UNDRR's Target E Acceleration Strategy (see Annex 2) is a critical initiative to support coherence building at the national level. Its objective is to promote dedicated support over three years (2020-2022) to 40 Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Land-Locked Developing Countries (LLDCs), selected according to their special needs and high level of exposure and vulnerability to disaster and climate hazards. Out of these, 19 countries were prioritized for urgent technical support by the end of 2020 (see Annex 2). The initiative is coordinated by UNDRR and UNFCCC (see Annex 2) with the engagement of more than 20 partners.

Target E Coherent Approach

Regional level activities include the organization of technical workshops to foster regional efforts on building alignment, integration and coherence among DRR and CC policies and strategies, complemented with peer-to-peer learning exchanges among Governments in support of Target E and SDG achievement. For example, in the Arab region, cooperation with UNDP and UNEP is underway to support UNCTs in integrating DRR and climate change into their ongoing Common Country Assessment and UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks. A similar cooperation is established with UNDP in other regions, including Africa, Americas and the Caribbean and Asia Pacific.

National-level work focuses on providing guidance and support to Governments on the development of coherent and coordinated national policies and plans for building resilience to disaster and climate risks.

Successful integration of DRR and climate change adaptation

Over 2019, UNDRR has been supporting an integrated approach to implementing risk-informed and climate-sensitive development plans through the strengthening of capacities for both global and national policies and processes and an enhanced alignment in the development of the national disaster risk reduction strategies and the national adaptation plans. At the global level UNDRR has been participating and contributing to relevant United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) bodies (Adaptation Committee, Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), Loss and Damage Executive Committee (WIM)) and has developed technical guidelines regarding the inclusion of DRR in the development of the National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) that were made available to all countries that are currently developing or updating their NAPs.

Specific guidance and technical support on fostering policy coherence for disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and sustainable development was provided to 12 African Member States (Sub-Saharan region) on the occasion of a multi-country workshop organized in Niger in 2020 with the participation of UN agencies including UNFCCC, IFRC, World Bank and the European Union, and at a Peer Learning Exchange in Malawi. A Pacific Risk Governance Workshop was also organized in Nadi, Fiji, together with IFRC and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) that brought together representatives from eight Pacific countries to review the way forward in aligning CC and DRR. Marshall Islands and Kiribati provided the basis for the discussion on the need for alignment/integration/coherence, whereas Fiji, Tonga and the Solomon Islands provided the case for the need for legislative and policy reforms. In the Caribbean, Saint Lucia is an example of successful efforts in building a solid national coherence agenda through a results-based and climate-smart 2020-2024 Country Work Programme bringing together the normative frameworks for DRM, development and climate change.

Closer linkages established between DRR and disaster-induced displacement in the context of Target E

UNDRR cooperated closely with the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) and its steering committee members (Germany, Norwegian Refugee Council, Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), International Organisation for Migration and UNHCR)

over 2018-2020 to support the development of comprehensive DRR strategies that integrate disaster-induced displacement based on Governments' interests and national priorities. This cooperation led to identify existing national DRR strategies / strategic documents (action plans, frameworks, policies etc.) of priority countries to be approached to foster disaster displacement integration as part of their strategy. A number of discussions and events were jointly organized at 2018 Regional Platforms and the 2019 Global Platform for DRR, and served as effective advocacy events and raised Governments' awareness of, and interest in, the urgency to achieve Target E with special provisions for reducing the risk of disaster-induced displacement. UNDRR Regional Offices' engagement on disaster displacement ranges from the development of knowledge products, including specific chapters of Regional Assessment Reports (Arab States), to engagement in dedicated working groups on displacement (Pacific, Africa, Americas) and support for cooperation with regional IGOs on the issue of displacement linked to transboundary risks (Americas).

Integration of biological hazards (including pandemics) into national DRR strategies

Since March 2020, the COVID-19 crisis has triggered Governments' awareness of the critical importance of addressing disaster risk through a more systemic risk lens. It also highlights both the urgency to accelerate efforts to develop multi-hazard national and local DRR strategies that address all risks and integrate biological hazards (including COVID-19 and overall pandemics and health emergencies) and the benefit from a multi-stakeholder and inter-sectoral approach to DRR governance arrangements. COVID lessons learned indeed demonstrated that countries that had in place multi-hazard disaster risk management strategies, which cover health emergencies, found themselves better prepared to respond to COVID-19.

In the UN system, regional programming and coordination through Issue-Based Coalitions (IBCs)[7] is prioritizing and advocating for a stronger integration of COVID-19 and the overall issue of pandemics as part of the UN support to countries. In Asia Pacific, the IBC on Resilience integrated COVID-19 in their Terms

The COVID-19 raised Governments' awareness of the critical importance and urgency to address disaster risk from a systemic risk approach

of Reference (TOR) and is bringing health and risk reduction partners together to address risk through a more systematic alignment between the Bangkok Principles[8] and WHO's Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Framework[9].

In the Americas, the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)'s Comprehensive Disaster Management Strategy (CDM), finalized in 2015, placed emphasis on epidemics, pandemics and biological hazards and included specific related indicators. Saint Lucia is the first and only country at this stage in the Caribbean having integrated epidemics and biological hazards as part of their national DRR strategy and serves as a model for the region.

Increased cooperation around Target E within the UN system

In 2019, UN partners started discussing how to enhance collaboration on reaching Target E and maximizing joint action and impact on integrating DRR systematically in the overall Sustainable Development agenda and climate change specific actions through the annual meetings of the UN Senior Leadership Group on DRR. Periodic UN Focal Points Group meetings at the technical level are also jointly assessing progress in implementing the UN Plan of Action on DRR for Resilience, which integrates elements of action around Target E. As part of this process, over 2019, a total of 12 UN Partners reported that they supported countries in the development or updating of national and local DRR strategies (indicator 2.1.b) and that, together, UN Partners supported a total

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[7] UNECE, What is the role of Issue-based Coalitions? Available at https://www.unece.org/runcwelcome/issue-based-coalitions.html#:~:text=What%20 is%20the%20role%20of,out%20to%20non%2DUN%20stakeholders.

[8] UNDRR, The Bangkok Principles on health risk agreed. Available at: https://www.undrr.org/news/bangkok-principles-health-risk-agreed#:~:text=The%20 so%2Dcalled%20'Bangkok%20Principles,disaster%20and%20health%20risk%20management.

[9] WHO, Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Framework. Available at: https://www.who.int/hac/techguidance/preparedness/health-emergency-and-disaster-risk-management-framework-eng.pdf?ua=1

stakeholder approach to DRR at the national level by ensuring the engagement of all stakeholders in the design, implementation and monitoring of DRR strategies in support of Target E. At the regional level, regional multi stakeholder engagement mechanisms were set up in most regions, bringing together all regional stakeholders and UN and regional international organizations, alongside government officials – such as the Arab Partnership for DRR, the Asia Pacific Partnership for DRR or the Africa Working Group for DRR – to foster inclusive and participatory discussion, planning and monitoring of the Sendai Framework and the implementation of related regional DRR strategies.

of 66 countries. Of these, 46 countries were supported to update/develop their national DRR strategy only, 16 countries to update/develop local DRR strategies and four countries to do both. Out of the 50 national DRR strategies supported, 30 were reported to take a coherent approach incorporating both DRR and climate change adaptation. Out of the 20 local DRR strategies supported, eight were reported to take a coherent approach. A Letter of Intent signed between the Heads of UNDRR and UNDP also led to the development of joint action plans, including towards the achievement of Target E. This was the case, for example, in the Sahel region in Africa and the Arab States region.

In the context of the UN Sustainable Development System Reform, UNDRR Regional Offices have been working closely with UNRCs and UNCTs in mobilizing in-country experience and expertise to support Governments in developing national DRR strategies as instruments to reach the SDGs and risk-informed development by 2030. A UNDRR Briefing Package[10] highlighting proposed core areas of support to UNRCs and UNCTs' work – including accelerating efforts towards Target E achievement – was shared with all UNRCs. As mentioned in the above paragraph, UNDRR Regional Offices have also been working through the IBCs as the core regional coordination mechanisms to promote the Sendai Framework and Target E implementation through joint UN regional programming (see Annex 4).

Stakeholders' engagement at national level

The 'Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism (SEM)[11] is an effective global mechanism to enhance a multi-

Fruitful collaboration established with regional IGOs in support of Target E acceleration

At the regional level, UNDRR Regional Offices have developed fruitful collaborations with Regional Inter-Governmental Organizations and Regional Economic Communities (in Africa) that resulted in the successful alignment of their internal DRR policy and regional strategy to the Sendai Framework. Regional Organizations are valuable partners for UNDRR at the regional and sub-regional levels as effective consultative resources to reach out to their respective Member States. The regional strategies adopted by regional IGOs have demonstrated to be extremely powerful mechanisms in influencing national action in support of the Sendai Framework implementation and have triggered accelerated efforts towards achieving Target E among their respective Member States. The details of UNDRR's cooperation with selected regional IGOs are available in Box 1.

The Regional Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction held in 2016 and 2018 also served as regional progress monitoring mechanisms of the Sendai Framework implementation, facilitating the alignment of regional strategies to the Sendai Framework. The platforms included specific sessions on Target E and related references in their respective outcome documents that highlighted the imminent deadline of 2020 and urged Governments to accelerate action towards achieving Target E by the end of 2020.

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[10] UNDRR, UNDRR briefing pack for resident coordinators. Available at:

 https://www.undrr.org/publication/undrr-briefing-pack-resident-coordinators

[11] UNDRR, Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism. Available at: https://www.undrr.org/implementing-sendai-framework-partners-and-stakeholders/stakeholder-engagement-mechanism

Box 1: Alignment of key regional frameworks with the Sendai Framework

Andean Committee for Disaster Prevention and Assistance (CAPRADE)

The Andean Strategy for Disaster Risk Management, together with its accompanying implementation plan, represents the intergovernmental instrument for Sendai Framework implementation at the sub-regional level. It aims at reducing risk and disaster impacts through institutional strengthening and/or establishment of common policies, strategies and programmes among the Andean Community of Nations participating Member States in support of sustainable development.

Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)

The ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) was successfully aligned with the Sendai Framework global priorities and targets. As a binding agreement, it drives ASEAN Member State action in implementing the Sendai Framework with a particular priority and sense of urgency attributed to Target E achievement by the end of 2020. The AADMER also refers to health-related hazards in the context of humanitarian action and early-warning systems.

Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)

The CDEMA aligned the Caribbean Disaster Management Strategy to the Sendai Framework and is working closely with UNDRR in implementing Target E in all Caribbean countries. This legally binding strategy represents a powerful mechanism ensuring Caribbean Member States develop national DRR strategies and meet their commitments through CDEMA's own reporting framework, and toward Target E.

Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)[12]

The ECO DRR strategy is aligned with the Sendai Framework and integrates references to biological hazards in the context of multi-hazard early-warning systems and transboundary diseases.

European Commission

In the Europe and Central Asia region, national DRR Strategies are given a central position in the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) Peer Review Framework. A recent audit of this Framework recommended including the UNDRR National DRR Strategy Assessment Process in the UCPM DRM capacities Peer Review Process. An action plan for the implementation of the Sendai Framework was also developed by the European Union.

Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR)'s Ministerial and High-Level Mechanism for Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management (RMAGIR/MERCOSUR)

The Southern Common Market – MERCOSUR Member States' Disaster Risk Management Strategy is a legally binding framework that prioritizes the implementation of the Sendai Framework as well as coherence with other global agreements towards 2030, through a policy perspective and technical orientation emphasizing comprehensive risk management governance, institutional strengthening and intergovernmental cooperation and collaboration with a view towards multisectoral and intersectoral coordination.

The Pacific Resilience Framework

This framework is fully aligned to the Sendai Framework and has demonstrated to be a powerful tool in promoting coherence between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation through the integration of DRR into National Adaptation Plans developed by all Pacific Island Countries.

The Programme of Action (POA) for the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in Africa

The POA includes a monitoring and reporting system that provides guidance to Member States to follow up progress of their efforts in a common and collaborative way. It was developed, revised and adopted drawing upon a series of consultations with Member States. The monitoring framework is comprehensively based on the Sendai Framework targets and indicators and includes five additional targets adapted to the African context.

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[12] The Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) currently covers ten Member countries from West and South Asia, Caucasus and Central Asia, namely: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, I.R. Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

Increased alignment in prioritizing Target E across regional and global levels

The 2018 Regional Platforms and 2019 Global Platform outcomes demonstrated an increased alignment and mutual reinforcement between the regional and global levels in terms of agenda-setting and prioritisation of actions around Target E. The latter have indeed been urging Governments to accelerate efforts towards reaching Target E, and partners to mobilize technical support to Governments in developing and implementing national DRR strategies and in reporting and monitoring progress through the SFM. The outcomes of Regional Platforms now systematically

serve to set the agenda of Global Platforms whose outcomes in turn influence activities and priorities at the regional level. Enhanced coherence and synergies are also built across DRR and SDG-related discussions at the global (HLPF and GPs) and regional levels (Regional Platforms and regional sustainable development forums) that effectively contribute to raise governments and stakeholders awareness on the DRR contribution to SDG achievement and to advocate for a better integration of DRR and sustainable development to reach risk-informed development by 2030.

Efforts placed in building Governments' and partners' DRR capacity, including around Target E

UNDRR's Global Education and Training Institute (GETI) responds to service demands from Regional Offices

and Governments' requests. With the COVID-19 outbreak and related travel restrictions, GETI has effectively converted their training modules for national and local level Sendai Framework implementation into online webinars, virtual meetings, video recording, e-training materials and reading assignments. Most training materials are translated into local languages beyond the 6 UN official languages. GETI has a module on coherence that is part and parcel of trainings on Target E implementation and is coordinating work at national and regional level with our partners including UNITAR and the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI)[13].

Over 2020, GETI provided a total of 47 trainings and webinars, training and reaching out to 8,402 persons (as at 5 October 2020). These trainings included:

- 5 in-person trainings, with 157 persons reached

- 13 Webinars reaching 5,897 participants and 14 Online Trainings, with 2,505 persons trained

- 3 school programme training 150 students

- 12 on- and off-line school programme ToTs training 297 teachers and partners

UNDRR is also engaging UNRCs/UNCTs in supporting Target E implementation and related capacity-building efforts through UNRCs retreats. At the regional level, capacity-building and development efforts are taking place through regional, national and local training workshops on Target E and SFM reporting and on the development of disaster loss databases. Multiple online webinars were developed, targeting core aspects of the Sendai Framework implementation at national and local levels, including in the context of the COVID-19. The outcomes of these webinars provided substantive inputs that served as the basis for the development of policy papers looking at specific regional aspects (Asia Pacific, Africa, and the Americas and the Caribbean) and proved to be effective capacity-building products. Box 2 below highlights some initiatives undertaken at the regional level.

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[13] https://www.cadri.net/

Box 2: UNDRR's DRR capacity-building efforts delivered at regional level

- **In Africa**, UNDRR conducted capacity building with Member States and Regional Economic Communities (REC) on how to align DRR strategies to the Sendai Framework and how to report on the Sendai Framework Monitor (SFM). Cooperation and partner engagement on all fronts are being increased to further support countries.

- **In the Americas and the Caribbean**, UNDRR is working closely with regional Inter-Governmental Organizations such as the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) to support 15 of the 18 Caribbean countries in developing their national and local DRR strategies along the lines of CDEMA's strategy and reporting Framework.

- **In the Arab region**, UNDRR organized many regional, sub-regional, national and local-level hands-on training workshops on the use of both SFM and Disaster Loss Databases (DesInventar-Sendai), and on developing national and local DRR strategies using the relevant Words Into Action Guidelines. UNDRR also organizes Arab Partnership Meetings twice a year with all Arab Sendai Focal Points to follow up on progress made by Governments in developing national DRR strategies, establishing and activating national DRR platforms, reporting process on SFM and establishing or updating their national Disaster Loss Databases.

- **In Asia Pacific**, UNDRR organized a regional consultative workshop on national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, including governments, stakeholder groups and UNCTs from the region who identified common elements, gaps and challenges in developing and implementing Sendai Framework-aligned DRR strategies. At the sub-regional level, UNDRR partnered with regional intergovernmental organisations to convene capacity building workshops for the countries in South Asia, South-east Asia and the Pacific. UNDRR continues to provide technical and in-country targeted support to several countries in Asia-Pacific in developing and revising their national DRR strategies and plans, including Afghanistan, Cambodia, Fiji, I.R. Iran, Kiribati, Lao PDR, Philippines and Thailand. UNDRR also assisted 60 cities to self-assess their level of resilience to inform disaster risk reduction planning at the local level, six of which have developed such plans.

- **In Europe**, direct support to Member States is being provided through a dedicated project for capacity building for 5 Central Asia and South Caucasus (CASC) countries. For other European countries, capacity-building support is being provided on demand and based on the status of development of DRR strategies. For instance, direct support was provided to Moldova and Bulgaria for assessing their DRR status as well as drafting and finalizing their national DRR strategies.

Gaps & Challenges

Data management, collection and compatibility

- The lack of data on losses attributed to disasters is a key challenge to undertaking risk assessment in countries. Reported barriers include fragmentation of data, weak data collection methodologies, absence of data in conflict-affected countries and lack of activated national DRR coordination mechanisms.

- As at June 2020, over 110 countries and territories had developed DesInventar disaster loss databases and over 100 of these had been aligned to the Sendai Framework. Some countries do not have a disaster loss database and, when they do have one, the database appears insufficiently populated for collecting historical data on disasters. Many countries require support to develop similar databases so as to collect historical disaster loss data and be able to analyse trends to guide decision-making and resource allocation at national level.

- In some countries, the limited disaggregation of data (by sex, disability, age) caused by the absence of, or lack of clarity in, policy decision on data management does not allow for gender, disability or age-sensitive monitoring of Target E implementation – and the broader Sendai Framework. Consequently, and despite some dedicated trainings to Government officials on the collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data at the national and local level, Governments are still struggling to develop such data and to use it as a basis for the development of their national DRR strategy and their reporting into the SFM. As a result, the limited sex-disaggregated data submitted into the SFM does not allow the tracking of progress of the level of women's engagement in DRR decision-making for Target E and their contribution and vital needs as part of national and local DRR strategies.

- For countries in fragile contexts that are undergoing conflict situations or protracted crises, the current priorities are about addressing urgent essential needs. UNDRR has been unable to access sufficient disaster risk-related data to identify the status of development and implementation of national DRR strategies in such countries or to pursue technical support activities around Target E (training, etc.). UNDRR's support to these countries could therefore essentially be in terms of advocacy around the 10 core elements.

- In some countries and regions where transboundary risks and hazards prevail, limited access to, and sharing of, national data by Governments can be a challenge. This represents a major barrier to effective implementation and monitoring of all Sendai Targets – including Target E – but also a missed opportunity to address transboundary risks in a mutually supportive and collaborative manner.

- Another challenge among numerous countries relates to the availability but also compatibility, interoperability and systematization of data and information between sectors of Government. UNDRR together with Regional Economic Commissions and the Department of Social and Economic Affairs is supporting the strengthening of National Statistics Offices' role in data and information collection as well as validation.

DRR Governance and knowledge

- DRR Governance mechanisms do not take into account the full range of hazards, the compound nature of risk and their cascading impact. Reviews undertaken in Asia Pacific saw that a limited number of countries address more than just natural hazards.

- The limited or absence of multi-stakeholder and inter-sectoral coordination mechanisms for disaster risk reduction at the national level in some countries prevents the systematic engagement of core stakeholders and a proper whole-of-society approach to the design, implementation and monitoring of DRR strategies. Therefore the contribution and buy-in of the entire society, in particular local communities, to the DRR strategy as well as their understanding of their role and expected actions is limited.

- This situation also represents a serious barrier to securing coherence between disaster risk reduction, sustainable development and climate change adaptation at national level. The COVID-19 crisis for instance clearly highlighted that some Governments developed their pandemic response plans/strategy within Ministries of Health without the involvement of other ministries (i.e. in isolation from their disaster risk reduction or management strategy), which has significantly reduced opportunities to build coherence and integration between health and disaster risk management at national level.

...Governments need to strengthen their capacity to identify the linkages between DRR and the SDGs...

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[14] This particular challenge in Central Asia and South Caucasus is being addressed by UNDRR through a project initiated in 2020 specifically targeting that gap.

- In general terms, the limited resources available at national level are prioritized towards emergency response and recovery plan implementation, which jeopardizes the stability and sustainability of DRR's financial basis for implementation. The COVID-19 crisis is overstretching governments' capacity and resources and significantly challenging them on the way they address disaster risk at the national level. In some countries, National Disaster Management Offices (NDMOs) are in charge of responding to the COVID crisis hence are reducing staff and financial resources availability initially planned for DRR. It is a clear demonstration of financial resources being re-routed to address pressing health and sanitary emergencies. The crisis is indeed having implications on available budgets, and national priorities and resources are being redirected towards ensuring national safety and addressing urgent socio-economic necessities. This seriously slowed efforts towards the implementation of Target E at the national and local levels and is leading to new contexts such as:

  a. Countries have been overwhelmed and are not able to engage and support regional or global issues or processes (including climate change) and need to dedicate resources to domestic economic recovery from COVID-19.

  b. Some countries are easing environmental standards that in the long run impact the increase in disaster intensity and frequency.

  c. In many countries the assigned Sendai Framework Focal Point institutions have also been responsible for coordinating the response to the COVID-19 crisis, which has made it challenging for countries to continue supporting the Sendai Framework implementation – including Target E and related reporting in the SFM whilst addressing vital concerns for the nation since March 2020.

Challenges in conceptual approaches and common understanding for action in relation to Coherence

- There are varying levels of understanding and interpretations of the concepts of integration and alignment across Governments that are preventing effective coherence-building efforts by Governments at national and local levels.

More detailed guidance is required on these conceptual approaches (i.e. what is concretely meant by 'aligning' DRR strategies and NAPs and 'integrating' climate change and biological hazards as part of DRR strategies) to make the related processes more systematic and consistent – and to build a common baseline across regions. The Disaster Risk Reduction for National Adaptation Plans (DRR4NAPs) and Annex to the WIA Guide on national DRR Strategies on integrating biological hazards as part of national DRR strategies, which are to be released by the end of 2020, are expected to provide initial elements of guidance in this respect.

Qualitative assessments of DRR strategies

- The SFM indicators adopted by the OIEWG on Indicators and Terminology (see page 13) are based on a quantitative evaluation of data related to the achievement of the Sendai Framework Targets and hence do not allow – as yet – evaluations of the quality of DRR strategies. The recent development of qualitative assessment tools at the regional level should gradually provide appropriate and sufficient data to confirm the number of DRR strategies that integrate climate change and/or the NAPs that integrate DRR and other relevant aspects linked to the SDGs, early warning and disaster displacement, among many others core development elements.

- The SFM as well as desk-reviews do not provide a full picture of what is happening in practice on the ground and require complementary information derived from interviews, questionnaires, stakeholder consultation and capacity assessments analyses to provide an overview of DRR strategy status.

- Similarly, some of the generic or strategic level documents (strategies, policies, laws, frameworks and action plans) provide limited or no details of some core components/indicators (e.g. Monitoring and Evaluation frameworks or financial mechanisms) and hence do not allow for an accurate interpretation of the document.

- A number of strategic documents in national or local languages could not be considered due to the absence of interpretation capacity and/or related information limitations.

5 Reflections on opportunities

The overview and analysis of the successes and challenges identified in achieving Target E show and acknowledge Governments' efforts in developing national and local DRR strategies and in taking appropriate measures in establishing comprehensive and effective DRR governance mechanisms despite domestic constraints and major global challenges such as COVID-19.

The following are key opportunities that have been identified for the coming months and decade based on this overview:

a. The COVID 19 crisis has raised Governments' awareness of the critical importance and urgency to promote a systemic risk approach to encompass all core hazards prevailing at global, regional, national and local levels into one single strategic document. Governments that had already adopted a multi-stakeholder and inter-sectoral approach to disaster risk reduction, bringing together disaster and health-related risk managers coped more effectively with COVID-19 crisis management. The establishment of national coordination mechanisms for DRR at the highest level of national authorities, such as the Prime Minister's Offices, should remain a priority when planning, designing, developing, implementing and monitoring their national DRR strategies. These mechanisms should be linked or aligned with national platforms comprised of diverse stakeholders.

b. UNDRR is currently developing a supplemental guide on the integration of biological hazards and pandemics to the Words Into Action Guide on National DRR Strategies. This document for practitioners, including Sendai Framework Focal Points in Governments, will provide guidance to Governments on how to engage health and disaster managers and integrate biological hazards (including pandemics like COVID-19 and other health emergencies) in national DRR strategies. It will also help clarify concepts of integration and alignment, such as those associated with climate change, health hazards, displacements, etc.

c. SFM data shows an increased number of countries having local DRR strategies aligned with national strategies. In order to enhance this trend, it is necessary to further engage local authorities in DRR planning and foster the vertical link between DRR achievements at the national and local levels. The Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR 2030), a global partnership for local resilience, will start in 2021 as the successor of the existing MCR Campaign. MCR 2030 will scale up support, guidance and training to local governments in developing and implementing local DRR strategies, while fostering linkages with national DRR strategies.

d. On the UN front, the UN Senior Leadership Group on Disaster Risk Reduction, comprised of more than 42 UN agencies, will move jointly in supporting Governments in achieving Target E by the end of the year. Enhanced cooperation with UNDP formalized through a letter of intent signed by their respective Heads at the global level is a major instrument to scale up and accelerate support to Governments toward this effort. UNDRR Regional Offices engagement with the Issues Based Coalitions ensures maintaining Target E as a key priority of UN regional programming and coordination activities. Similarly, the active and systematic cooperation between UNDRR Regional Offices, UNRCs and UNCTs will help prioritize Target E – and the Sendai Framework implementation overall – as part of their priorities.

e. In terms of engagement by stakeholder, groups including local communities, women and youth, the elderly, persons with disability and others will have the opportunity to be increasingly involved in global discussions, experience sharing and decision-making processes linked to Target E through the Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism (SEM). Similarly, the private sector will continue to be mobilized through the Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies ARISE networks (at global, regional and national levels).Regional IGOs can foster Governments' compliance with their commitment to implement the Sendai Framework by 2030, including Target E, through their respective monitoring frameworks and progress reporting mechanisms linked to regional DRR strategy implementation.

f. UNDRR's continued cooperation with the Platform on Disaster Displacement to support the integration of displacement as part of DRR strategies is being scaled up through the implementation of dedicated projects in Africa and the Americas. In the Asia-Pacific, UNDRR is co-chairing the Asia-Pacific Disaster Displacement Working Group in Bangkok (AP DDWG) with IOM. In June 2020, the group produced, in collaboration with ODI, a report titled 'Reducing the risk of protracted and multiple disaster displacements in the Asia-Pacific'[15]. The group also organized a regional virtual consultation for all its members with the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internal Displaced, Cecilia Jimenez, to discuss key issues and essential focus items to her Report to the UN General Assembly on Internal Displacement[16] in the context of the slow-onset adverse effects of climate change. The engagement of the Special Envoy on Displacement with UNDRR's work in Asia Pacific is advancing good prospects for high-level advocacy and visibility of disaster displacement and its linkages with DRR strategies and Target E of the Sendai Framework in Asia Pacific, which are intended to be scaled up to other regions. In particular, a virtual regional exchange planned in Asia in November 2020 and moderated by the Special Rapporteur with governmental representatives will formulate new ideas and recommendations that will inform the deliberations of the High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement (HLP). The UN Special Rapporteur is also expected to present her report to United Nations Resident Coordinators (UNRCs) and United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs)

in Asia Pacific on how to understand and address internal displacement in the context of the slow-onset adverse effects of climate change with specific recommendations for the region.

g. Regional and Global Platforms provide valuable opportunities to assess progress in implementing the Sendai Framework and to discuss needs and opportunities, analyse trends and prioritize actions as needed. They are also increasingly recognized as useful mechanisms to discuss and build coherence across DRR and sustainable development through the alignment of their agendas and outcomes with the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) and Regional Sustainable Development Fora. The five Regional Platforms in 2021 and the 2022 Global Platform in Indonesia will provide the opportunity to align their thematic foci with the HLPFs and Regional Sustainable Development Fora, and will integrate new discussions and progress reporting updates around Target E and the Sendai Framework implementation in line with the SDGs.

h. The custom (nationally defined) indicators are being broadened and increasingly used by Governments to improve their self-assessment and reporting into the SFM. Efforts are also being made to improve data disaggregation through capacity development efforts to build on Governments' efforts on that front. The internal qualitative assessment tools used by UNDRR Regional Offices to assess the quality of national DRR strategies (in terms of their level of alignment with the ten key elements) are being harmonized around one single global tool to optimize the assessment processes and to put it at the disposal of countries to achieve Target E.

6 Accelerating actions to meet Target E by the end of 2020 – Recommendations for the next 6 months[17]

Building on the opportunities identified in the previous section, the following recommendations are proposed to Governments and partners for their consideration and early action.

It is critical for Governments to initiate implementation of these recommended actions.

A. Policy and Governance

1. Stronger/more robust risk governance is required to ensure DRR is addressed at the highest level through a multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral approach covering the whole spectrum of hazards (including biohazards /pandemics / health emergencies) and the cascading nature of risk. The duality of disasters and their compounded impact on populations and their vulnerability indeed calls for integrated disaster risk management across different hazards and sectors.

2. In this respect, Governments are strongly encouraged to set-up or to revitalize existing National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction or similar coordination mechanisms that bring together key line ministries, the in-country UN partners, sectoral, civil society and private sector representation in the decision-making process for DRR strategies. Wherever possible, strong linkages are encouraged with national SDG and climate change coordination platforms to foster coherence-building with CCA and SDGs and integrated approaches to DRR and CCA strategies.

3. Peer-reviews and country-to-country exchanges should take place systematically as an effective way to scale up the development and implementation of DRR strategies and securing Governments' buy-in.

4. The COVID-19 crisis has identified that:

    • Efforts are required to promote a more systemic risk/multi-hazard approach to DRR strategies by the end of 2020 and beyond to ensure a comprehensive consideration of existing hazards and avoid frequent updates of the DRR strategies. In that context, it is strongly recommended to widen the spectrum of risks covered in DRR strategies to more effectively manage compounded and cascading risks.

    • The systematic engagement of the Health Sector in the planning and development of national DRR strategies is critical to ensure that pandemics/biological hazards are integrated as needed.

    • It is urgent to review and update national disaster risk reduction strategies to incorporate lessons learned from the COVID-19 crisis, including the development of multi-hazard risk assessments and scenarios and the implementation of the Bangkok Principles.

5. The engagement and mobilization of partners and stakeholders' expertise and reach-out capacity is critical to scale up action around

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[17] Countries are expected to report for the 2020 reporting year by Q1 of 2021 (ie 31 March 2021) which aligns with SDGs reporting.

Target E and to support Member States to develop national and local strategies, as well as to ensure implementation, monitoring progress and periodic evaluations or reviews towards 2030.

6. Scaling up the existing fruitful cooperation with Regional IGOs/Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Regional Economic Commissions will be critical. Regionally negotiated and legally-binding resilience frameworks indeed provide a strong and valid basis for action at the national and local levels. It is therefore imperative for governments to integrate these regionally shared understandings into their national planning. Recent experience has also demonstrated the added value of bringing IGOs from different regions together to brainstorm about common and transboundary concerns, share successes and exchange experiences, knowledge and good practices on disaster risk reduction for relevant replication or adaptation within and among regions.

7. SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs are highly vulnerable to disaster and climate risks and need continued support and attention from the donor community. There has been a general increase overall since 2015 in the number of SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs developing national DRR strategies. The reporting level however remains low, especially in SIDS. SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs therefore remain priority countries for targeted technical support from the UN system and larger international community to develop and implement their DRR strategies, and to effectively report on progress into the SFM on Target E implementation. Regional institutions and frameworks have a special role to play in this process given the common geographical and hazard risk context of the SIDS in particular.

8. A similar approach will be required at the local level to enhance and scale up the development and implementation of local DRR strategies and foster their linkages with national level processes. The MCR2030 will represent a significant tool to accelerate local governments' action in developing local DRR strategies and having these effectively reported by national Governments into the SFM.

9. The coherence of international agendas such as the Paris Agreement, SDGs and the New Urban Agenda needs to be considered from the inception stage of national and local DRR strategies development. This approach can already be seen in the Arab States region where the coherence approach is introduced to national DRR strategies through policy landscape mapping. At least four countries in the region have

carried out a policy landscape mapping in order to analyse the enabling environment for the coherence of agendas.

B. Technical

10. **Data collection and analysis:** more work and capacity-development efforts on DRR, climate and health emergency data collection and analysis are required to build evidence on disaster and climate risks and provide reliable recommendations to Governments to influence decision-making and budget allocation for DRR. For this purpose, it is strongly recommended for Governments to: a) enhance and scale up the development or revamp of existing disaster loss databases according to DesInventar Sendai model; b) Enhance partnership with National Statistical Organizations (NSOs), private sector data producers such as insurance companies, and global data organizations (Inform, WCCD, CRED, etc.) and (c) prioritize the collection and use of disaggregated data as part of their national DRR strategy to effectively address the special needs of vulnerable groups.

11. **Monitoring frameworks:** more efforts are required to support countries and Regional IGOs in developing their individual monitoring frameworks with custom nationally defined targets and indicators reflecting their respective prevailing hazards and risks and also priorities and capacities.

C. Communications and Advocacy

The evaluation of the status of Target E implementation has highlighted the urgent need to:

12. Enhance mechanisms for the systematic collection of good practices and identification of impact on the ground to influence decision-making and resource allocation, and to inform regional and global level advocacy for Target E.

13. Foster cross-regional sharing of experiences, expertise and success stories around Target E through regional workshops and the engagement of regional IGOs.

14. Scale up DRR learning and capacity development efforts engaging various actors and stakeholders dealing with sustainable development, climate change, displacement, health and other key areas, as needed.

Annexes

Annex 1

Methodology for Target E Reporting in the Sendai Framework Monitor

There is a clear methodology for the reporting on indicators E-1 on national DRR strategies and E-2 on local DRR strategies as described in the Technical Guidance Notes on Sendai Framework Monitoring. Based on that methodology, an explanation is provided below on how countries report on each of these indicators and how the required cumulative data are calculated for the respective indicators both at the country and at the global level for measuring progress against target E.

Global Indicator E-1

Indicator E-1: Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

How do countries report on their National DRR Strategies?
Each country reviews their national DRR strategies against 10 key elements that these Strategies should include for alignment with the Sendai Framework.

The 10 key elements are:

1) Have different timescales, with targets, indicators and time frames

2) Have aims at preventing the creation of risk

3) Have aims at reducing existing risk

4) Have aims at strengthening economic, social, health and environmental resilience

5) Address the recommendations of Priority 1, Understanding disaster risk

6) Address the recommendations of Priority 2, Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

7) Address the recommendations of Priority 3, Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience

8) Address the recommendations of Priority 4, Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to build back better in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction

9) Promote policy coherence relevant to DRR such as sustainable development, poverty eradication and climate change, notably with SDGs and the Paris Agreement

10) Have mechanisms to follow up, periodically assess and publicly report on progress

Countries assess the level of implementation for each key element and enter the score for the respective element in the Sendai Framework Monitor. The ten key elements are quantified with a number between 0 and 1 and are weighted equally. Based on their review of the elements, countries will score each element as per the following benchmarks:

i.   Comprehensive implementation (full score): 1,

ii. Substantial implementation, additional progress required: 0.75,

iii. Moderate implementation, neither comprehensive nor substantial: 0.50,

iv. Limited implementation: 0.25

v.   If there is no implementation or no existence of a key element: 0.

How is the average score of each country calculated?

The score for overall progress by each country is calculated as the arithmetic average of the scores that it has assigned itself against the ten key elements.

How is the global average score of all or a set of reporting countries in the world calculated?

Global average score is the sum of all the reported country scores as calculated by the abovementioned equation and divided by the number of countries reporting.

Important Note: The following points are important to note

(1) Only countries having a non-zero country score are considered for the calculation of the global average score.

(2) The number of reporting countries in each year as reflected in the graphs in this report, refers to the unique number of countries having reported until that year.

(3) Similarly, country scores of reporting countries in each year, as reflected in the graphs in this report, refer to the scores they reported in that year or in the latest year previous to it.

The logic behind points (2) and (3) is important. Strategy documents of Governments are normally expected to be valid over a period of time. Hence countries have chosen to report on them in single or multiple years, which is their prerogative. In cases where countries score their national DRR strategies in multiple years in the time period from 2015 to 2019, the latest relevant country score has been considered. On the other hand, in cases where countries reported in one year only, following the same logic, the assumption made is that the same score would be valid thereafter unless changed by the country. Hence in summary, since countries have reported one or more times, the reporting countries have been counted only one unique time to avoid a multiple reporting bias.

Example of country score of reporting countries in each year:

•   **Country X reported in 2015 and never reported again**

•   **Country Y reported in 2016 and revised its score in 2018**

Country	Score entered in 2015	Score considered in 2016	Score considered in 2017	Score considered in 2018	Score considered in 2019
X	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3

Country	Score entered in 2015	Score entered in 2016	Score considered in 2017	Score entered in 2018	Score considered in 2019
Y	none	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.8

Based on the timing of above data entered, the number of reporting countries counted in the respective years is as follows:

	Number in 2015	Number considered in 2016	Number considered in 2017	Number considered in 2018	Number consider in 2019
Number of reporting countries	1	2	2	2	2

Global Indicator E-2

Indicator E-2: Percentage of local Governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national strategies. *(Information should be provided on the appropriate levels of government below the national level with responsibility for disaster risk reduction.)*

How do countries report on their Local DRR Strategies?
For indicator E-2, Member States provide the following two numbers in the SFM system:

1. Number of local Governments that adopt and implement local DRR strategies in line with the national strategy.

2. Total number of local Governments in the country. (In this context local Governments are defined as the appropriate levels of government below the national level with responsibility for DRR).

How is the proportion of local Governments with DRR strategies for each country calculated?
The system calculates this figure as a count of all local Governments that adopt and implement local DRR strategies divided by the count of local Governments in the country. This proportion is expressed as a percentage.

How is the global average proportion of all (or a group of) reporting countries calculated?
For the calculation of global average, the proportion of local Governments with DRR strategies for each of the reporting countries, as demonstrated above, is taken and an arithmetic average of the same is calculated.

Important Note: As in the case of Indicator E1, for indicator E-2, the following points are important to note:

(1) Only countries having a non-zero proportion of local Governments with DRR strategies are considered for the calculation of the global average proportion.

(2) Global average proportion of reporting countries in each year, as reflected in the graphs in this report, refer to the data last reported by these countries until that year.

(3) Similarly, the number of reporting countries in each year, as reflected in the graphs in this report, refers to the unique number of countries having reported until that year.

(4) Along the same lines as the example for Indicator E-1, the data on the number of local Governments with DRR strategies reported by the countries continues to be considered relevant unless the data is changed by the country itself.

Annex 2

UNDRR Strategy for Target E implementation 2020-2021

Vision

To empower countries to develop coherent national and local DRR strategies that are compliant with the Sendai Framework and contribute effectively to their efforts to reducing disaster risk.

Goal

150 countries have developed Sendai Framework-compliant DRR strategies by the end of 2021.

Implementation modalities

1. This is an organization-wide effort with Regional Offices in the lead.

2. This strategy builds on progress being made in developing DRR strategies based on self-assessment reports submitted by Governments through the Sendai Framework Monitor (SFM).

3. For monitoring and reporting purposes, the SFM will serve as the sole source of information on Target E status. Only countries scoring above zero on indicator E-1 will be listed as having a DRR strategy.

4. This strategy shall serve as the over-arching corporate approach to UNDRR's efforts in fostering the development of DRR strategies and achieving Target E by 2020. It will be articulated around the following core areas:

    a. Support will be prioritized to LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs.

    b. Depending on existing capacity, support will also be provided to middle-income countries with limited capacity and high vulnerability to disasters that may require technical assistance.

    c. Political and technical support will be provided to countries that are yet to develop its national DRR strategy or to those that need to align already existing strategies with the Sendai Framework.

    d. All UNDRR efforts will foster coherence with climate change and sustainable development plans.

    e. Support for the development of local DRR strategies will be provided through the MCR2030[18] initiative.

5. The strategy will develop activities around the following four areas:
    - A stocktaking phase
    - An implementation plan
    - A communication strategy
    - A resource mobilization strategy
    - Tools
    - Core Partners

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[18] Successor to the Making Cities Resilient Campaign to be launched in Q4 2020

Activities to be carried out

Stocktaking phase:

- Regional Offices will systematically approach countries that have not yet reported on target E and encourage them to submit data through the SFM and to develop their DRR strategy as appropriate.

- A qualitative analysis of existing DRR strategies will be conducted to provide feedback on the degree of alignment with the Sendai Framework

Implementation plan

- Priority will be given by all UNDRR branches, sections and units and Regional Offices to Target (e) achievement. To that end, allocation of resources will be prioritised towards that objective.

- In partnership with UN agencies, UN Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams, coordinate a targeted support to priority countries identified under Point 4, in developing their DRR strategies.

- During 2020, special attention will be given to 19 countries prioritized under the Coherent Approach initiative and countries not yet reporting (see Annex 2).

- Engage key in-country stakeholders through the Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism (SEM) to support the design and implementation of the DRR strategy through their respective expertise and data.

- Technical support to non-priority countries to be provided based on capacity availability.

- Activate the internal UNDRR Community of Practice for Target (e) (CoP-E) with participation of all relevant organizational units and offices to foster Target (e) implementation with the purpose of sharing information and ensure a coordinated organization-wide effort. The CoP-E will follow-up progress in implementing this strategy and ensure synergies with the Coherence Approach.

- Secure space and ensure special focus on target (e) implementation at Regional Platforms for DRR taking place in 2020 and 2021.

- Organize the 2020 Technical Forum on Sendai Framework Monitoring (to be held in Q4 of 2020 in Bonn) to take stock of the status of target (e) achievement by the 2020 deadline.

Communications strategy for Target (e) implementation

- DRR Resolution adopted by the UNGA in 2019 with an urgent call for countries to increase the pace of action and allocate resources to achieve Target (e).

- Note Verbale sent to all countries calling for accelerated implementation of Target (e).

- Use UNDRR Support Group meetings to report on target (e) implementation as a standing agenda item throughout 2020

- Unpack of target (e) achievement through impact stories and by linking disaster risk reduction and the Sustainable Development Goals.

- SRSG and Director's advocacy pieces and missions to include rationale why it is important to meet target (e) and its implementation and call for urgent attention and action by Governments on this critical issue

- Develop success stories around Target (e), provide visibility to Governments' successes, innovative approaches, integration with sustainable development and climate change and disseminate them through UNDRR's website, social media, and main publications (Annual Reports, Global Assessment Reports, summary of Support Group Meetings, regional platforms chair's summaries, political declarations, etc.)

- The 13 October International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR) commemoration to be used to promote Target (e) implementation. The draft strategy for IDDRR will be ready in March 2020

Resource mobilization strategy in support of Target (e) achievement by the end of 2020

- Whilst allocating funding based on the 2020-2021 work plan, mobilize resources through the development of project proposals in which Target (e) is the core objective or a standing item for donors' consideration

- Ensure targeted approaches to selected donors by SRSG, Director, Heads of ROs, RMS Head to foster contribution to support target (e) achievement (including a possible strengthening of ROs as needed)

Tools

To support the activities described above, UNDRR will ensure that the following tools are available:

- Words into Action guidelines on how to develop national DRR strategies

- Words into Action on Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience Strategies

- Checklist on how to incorporate climate change risk into national DRR strategies

- Methodological approach to assess quality and level of alignment of DRR strategies to the Sendai Framework

- Other Words into Action guidelines based on specific country needs (Displacement and DRR, Technological and Transboundary Risks, etc.)

Core partners involved

- UNRCs Offices and UNCT members: a new model of cooperation is being established with UNRCs Office to foster the implementation of the Sendai Framework at national level, in full synergy with the SDGs.

- Closest in-country partners in this exercise include UNDP[19], UNFCCC and GFDRR.

- Other core in-country stakeholder groups in particular the private sector, disability and women groups.

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[19] UNDRR and UNDP signed a Partnership Framework Agreement on 21 February 2020 that includes, among other areas of cooperation agreed upon, the acceleration of efforts in developing national DRR strategies in support of Target (e) achievement by the end of 2020.

Annex 3
Target E Coherent Approach

UNDRR, together with UNFCCC and other relevant partners, are working to promote policy coherence and integrated national plans to accelerate action towards both the Sendai Framework and the UNFCCC Paris Agreement within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Target E Coherent Approach was launched in November 2019

GOAL

To strengthen synergies between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, identifying mutually beneficial opportunities across policies and programs and enhancing the capacity of Governments to do cross-sectoral planning while ensuring vertical alignment.

OUTCOME

Accelerated climate and disaster risk-informed development ensuring the sustainability of development gains (GA Resolution A/RES/70/1).

List of countries targeted for support over 2020-2021

19 SIDS and LDCs (in bold) are planned to be supported by UNDRR and partners over 2020 whilst the remaining 21 will be supported beyond 2020.

African	Americas and the Caribbean	Arab States	Asia and the Pacific
12//**4**	9//**4**	4//**4**	15//**7**
Benin	Bahamas	**Comoros**	Afghanistan
Burkina Faso	**Belize**	**Djibouti**	**Bangladesh**
Chad	**Cuba**	**Mauritania**	**Cambodia**
Ethiopia	**Dominica**	**Sudan**	Fiji
Guinea-Bissau	Grenada		**Kiribati**
Lesotho	**Haiti**		**Lao People's Democratic Republic**
Malawi	Saint Kitts and Nevis		Marshall Islands
Mozambique	Suriname		Micronesia (Federated States of)
Niger	Trinidad and Tobago		Nauru
Sao Tomé and Principe			Palau
Uganda			**Solomon Islands**
United Republic of Tanzania			**Timor-Leste**
			Tuvalu
			Vanuatu

Annex 4

Overview of UNDRR's Engagement in Issues-Based Coalitions (IBCs)

UNDRR Regional Office	IBCs engagement (as at May 2020)
Africa (ROA)	**IBC 1 on Strengthened integrated data and statistical systems for sustainable development** • UNDRR's status: Member • Convener: UN- ECA **IBC 5 on Fostering action on climate change, strengthening natural resources governance, resilience and enabling energy transitions for sustainable development** • UNDRR's status: Member • Co-conveners: UNEP, FAO and UNDP
Americas and the Caribbean (ROAMC)	**IBC on Climate Change and Resilience Building** • UNDRR' status: co-chair with UNEP
Arab States (ROAS)	**IBC on Food Security, Climate Action and Environment** • UNDRR's status: Member • Chairs: FAO, UNEP • Non-UN partners/members: League of Arab States **IBC on Urbanization** • UNDRR's status: Member • Co-conveners: UNHABITAT, UNEP • Non-UN members: League of Arab States, Cities Alliance
Asia Pacific (ROAP)	**IBC on DRR, Resilience and Climate Change Adaptation** • UNDRR's status: co-lead with UNDP Regional Director • UNDRR is a member on the other IBCs (Human rights, inclusion and social protection, human mobility and urbanization, climate change mitigation and air pollution)
Europe and CASC (ROE)	**IBC on Environment and Climate Change** • UNDRR's status: Member • Co-Chairs: UNEP, UNESCO and UNECE **IBC on Gender Equality** • UNDRR's status: Member • Chairs: UN Women and UNFPA