

2021

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

#OnlyTogether
#DRRday



UNDRR

UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

THE SENDAI SEVEN CAMPAIGN in 2021

#OnlyTogether #DRRday

The United Nations General Assembly has designated 13 October as International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction to promote a global culture of disaster risk reduction.

It is an opportunity to acknowledge the progress being made toward reducing disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 adopted at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Japan in March 2015.

The Sendai Framework has seven strategic targets and 38 indicators for measuring progress on reducing disaster risk and losses. These indicators align implementation of the Sendai Framework with implementation of the SDGs and the "Paris Agreement".

THE SEVEN GLOBAL TARGETS

IDDRR focus – The Sendai Seven

2016 – Target (a): Substantially reduce global disaster mortality by 2030, aiming to lower the average per 100,000 global mortality rate in the decade 2020-2030 compared to the period 2005-2015;

2017 – Target (b): Substantially reduce the number of people affected globally by 2030, aiming to lower the average global figure per 100,000 in the decade 2020-2030 compared to the period 2005-2015;

2018 – Target (c): Reduce direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030;

2019 – Target (d): Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, among them health and educational facilities, including through developing their resilience by 2030;

2020 – Target (e): Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020;

2021 – Target (f): Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of the present Framework by 2030;

2022 – Target (g): Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030.

In 2016, the UN Secretary-General launched *The Sendai Seven Campaign* to promote each of the seven targets over seven years.

"Our agenda for global action is built on our commitment to international cooperation, multilateralism and an open, resilient, rules-based world order."– G7 Summit Communiqué, Carbis Bay, 2021.

In 2021, this is Target f: "Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of the present Framework by 2030."



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ONLY TOGETHER ... CAN WE SAVE THE PLANET!

The year 2021 promises to be a make or break year when it comes to delivering on the policy agenda agreed in 2015 when the Sendai Framework, the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement, and the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda and other important frameworks were adopted or developed.

Reducing mortality, reducing the numbers of people injured, displaced, and left without a livelihood has never been more challenging given the scale of the COVID-19 pandemic and the growing climate emergency. The increasingly complex and systemic nature of disaster risk is undermining efforts to achieve the overall 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, notably the eradication of poverty and hunger and the rest of SDGs.

Despite the economic slowdown linked to the pandemic, 2020 witnessed the 6th largest annual increase in carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere since 1980 and was one of the three warmest years on record at 1.2°C above the pre-industrial base line. There is about a 40% chance that the annual global average temperature temporarily reaches 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels in at least one of the next five years, unless the G20 nations, which are responsible for nearly 80% of these emissions, meet their greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

Along with this major mitigation exercise, international cooperation must be increased to support climate-affected countries in setting sustainable adaptation priorities that build resilience and reduce risk. UN Secretary-General António Guterres has called for urgent scaling up of funds for climate change adaptation and resilience building programmes, to provide real and lasting protection against the impact of major events such as droughts, floods and rising sea-levels. Specifically, the UN estimates that 50% of the total share of climate finance provided by all developed countries and multilateral development banks needs to be allocated to adaptation and resilience.

The need for scaled, urgent funding is pressing in developing countries, which require an estimated \$70 billion to meet their adaptation plans. But the figure could reach up to \$300 billion in 2030, and \$500 billion in 2050, according to the latest edition of the UN Adaptation Gap report, released in January 2021.

One area of deep concern when it comes to climate change adaptation is the fact that only half of 193 WMO Members have state of the art early warning services which are vital to support adaptation in climate-sensitive sectors such as health, water and agriculture. There are major gaps in weather observation systems in Africa and small island developing states.

International cooperation is also vital in restoring biodiversity during the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. 75% of the Earth's ice-free land surface has been significantly altered, most oceans are polluted, and more than 85% of wetlands have been lost. Biodiversity is key to the regulation of the climate, water quality, pollution, food security, flood control and storm surges.

Four Regional Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction will take place in 2021 around the world, affording significant opportunities to take stock of progress on the implementation of the Sendai framework and the implementation of national and local strategies for disaster risk reduction.

The issues of disaster risk governance – identifying and acknowledging, planning and acting on disaster risk – have come into sharp focus this year, as evidence accumulates on the failure of many countries to heed science and evidence-based warnings in recent years, and prepare adequately for global threats such as new pandemics, global warming and the spread of land degradation. These planetary

emergencies can only be adequately addressed through international cooperation on disaster risk management.

This year will also be an opportunity to assess the degree of capacity development and other support being provided by the international community when it comes to ensuring that low- and middle-income countries are not abandoned to the worst impacts of a crisis to which they have contributed little, the climate emergency.

International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction happens a couple of weeks before COP26, a climate change conference that must deliver on the promise of significantly increasing levels of ambition when it comes to both reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and support to climate change adaptation.

After a year which, has so far seen almost four million deaths from the worst pandemic of the last hundred years, the world must realise the value of working together in multi-lateral institutions to ensure vaccine equity, now and in the future, and a green, risk-informed recovery from COVID-19.



Countries that have developed policy, legislative frameworks, institutional architecture and associated investment vehicles for disaster risk reduction in line with the goal, targets and priorities for action of the Sendai Framework, have greater capacity to manage and reduce disaster risk. To date, 101 countries have developed national strategies for disaster risk reduction but many low- and middle-income countries need some form of international cooperation and support to implement these strategies.

It is also clear that many developing countries lack the capacity or resources to design adequately these strategies which, if acted on, can help to lay the foundations for success in achieving several of the SDGs, including eradicating poverty, acting on climate and building sustainable cities and communities.

COVID-19 has also made it clear that nobody is safe until we are all safe. Therefore, international support for DRR is, more than a moral obligation, an essential requirement to build resilience of our international community and planet together.

Increasing official international support for developing countries through ODA and other official flows for national disaster risk reduction actions can be achieved in several ways, including through multilateral and bilateral assistance, and the transfer and exchange of DRR related technology, science and innovation. Target (f) also seeks an increase in support for capacity building and in the number of developing countries supported by

international, regional and bilateral programmes and initiatives, both for DRR-related capacity building and to strengthen their DRR-related statistical capacity.

UN Member States adopted the following indicators to measure progress on the implementation of Sendai Framework Target (f):

f-1 Total official international support, (official development assistance (ODA) plus other official flows), for national disaster risk reduction actions.

f-2 Total official international support (ODA plus other official flows) for national disaster risk reduction actions provided by multilateral agencies.

f-3 Total official international support (ODA plus other official flows) for national disaster risk reduction actions provided bilaterally.

f-4 Total official international support (ODA plus other official flows) for the transfer and exchange of disaster risk reduction-related technology.

f-5 Number of international, regional and bilateral programmes and initiatives for the transfer and exchange of science, technology, and innovation in disaster risk reduction for developing countries.

f-6 Total official international support (ODA plus other official flows) for disaster risk reduction capacity-building.

f-7 Number of international, regional and bilateral programmes and initiatives for disaster risk reduction-related capacity-building in developing countries.

f-8 Number of developing countries supported by international, regional and bilateral initiatives to strengthen their disaster risk reduction-related statistical capacity.

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INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION 2021

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Goal: Provide an advocacy platform to highlight best practices and examples of international cooperation that have a positive impact on the lives of people who live in disaster-prone parts of the world i.e. reducing the numbers of people affected by man-made and natural hazards.

MAIN OBJECTIVES

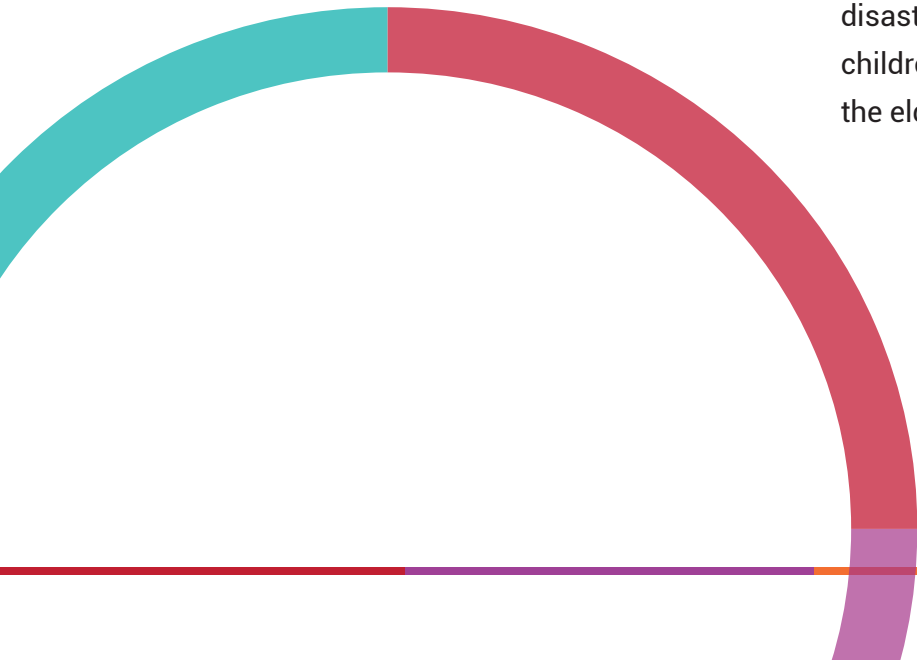
- Promote and encourage events at national and community level to mark the implementation of the Sendai Framework with a focus on international cooperation and Target f, highlighting challenges faced with the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Highlight achievements of international cooperation in delivering clear benefits for risk management in developing countries;
- Produce a short report on Target (f) implementation based on progress reports by Members States through the Sendai Framework Monitor;
- Organize a rolling series of webinars – Only Together...Can We Save The Planet – hosted by Regional Offices, showcasing successful partnerships in international cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation;
- Launch International Day website and social media campaign.

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KEY MESSAGES/ TALKING POINTS

Lead messages

- The hour is getting late. Only together...can we save the planet.
- Without real action on climate in the next ten years, extreme weather events will be overwhelming, especially for developing countries.
- The prevention of zoonotic diseases, pandemic preparedness and equity in vaccine distribution should be priority areas for international cooperation.
- International support for DRR is essential to eradicating poverty, hunger and reducing economic losses in developing countries
- Greater investment is needed in multi-hazard early warning systems in developing countries.
- Planetary emergencies can only be adequately addressed through impartial and inclusive international cooperation on disaster risk management.
- International cooperation for developing countries through ODA and capacity building is essential to boost disaster resilience in the face of extreme weather events and other natural and man-made hazards.
- Disasters impact low- and middle-income countries disproportionately, particularly in terms of mortality, numbers of people injured, displaced and homeless, economic losses (as a percentage of GDP) and damage to critical infrastructure.
- International cooperation is essential to ensure that no vulnerable people are left behind in disaster-prone settings, including women, children and youth, people with disabilities, the elderly, migrants and indigenous people.



Supporting messages

- International cooperation through ODA and other official flows to developing countries boosts global immunity to disaster risk.
- DRR capacity building is an essential element of international cooperation to developing countries
- It is challenging to manage disaster risk if you cannot manage your disaster losses; strengthening DRR-related statistical capacity is an important part of international cooperation to developing countries.
- The transfer and exchange of science, technology and innovation in DRR provides an important boost to disaster risk management in developing countries.
- It is better to invest in addressing the main drivers of disaster risk and reducing the impact of natural and manmade hazards, than having to use scarce resources to respond to disasters.
- International cooperation is key to implementing national and local strategies for disaster risk reduction in developing countries.
- Well-funded national and local strategies for disaster risk reduction are key to reducing mortality and the numbers of disaster-affected people.
- Let's match rhetoric with action, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provide adequate funding for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.
- The cost of disasters is increasing along with the cost benefits of investing in disaster risk reduction.
- Having the financial means to respond to disasters is an essential part of disaster preparedness.
- The humanitarian consequences of extreme weather events can be reduced by pre-positioning funds and releasing them according to pre-agreed protocols.
- Each State has the primary responsibility to prevent and reduce disaster risk, including through international cooperation.
- Developing countries facing specific challenges need special attention and support to augment domestic resources and capabilities to manage disaster risk.
- Equitable delivery and distribution of vaccines is not only the right thing to do, it is the only way to solve the worst public health emergency so far, this century.
- The achievement of vaccine equity will be the proof that international cooperation can address pandemic risk now and in the future.

- International cooperation is essential to deliver assistance to marginalized communities to adapt to the upheavals they are suffering in a warming world.
- International cooperation to developing countries is essential to reducing the increasing risk of displacement due to extreme weather events.
- Technology transfer can help build resilient infrastructure in developing countries threatened by natural and manmade hazards.
- International cooperation is vital to increasing the availability of, and access to, multi-hazard early warning systems, especially in developing countries where disaster mortality is highest.
- Without real action on climate in the next ten years, extreme weather events will be overwhelming.
- Disaster risk reduction requires not just a multi-hazard approach but also a multi-national approach to address systemic risk, existential threats and planetary emergencies.
- Available economic loss data from disasters hide the true extent of their impact on developing countries.
- Lower income countries lose higher percentages of their GDP in disasters compared to developed countries;



DRR AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

To date, 101 countries have developed national strategies for disaster risk reduction but many low- and middle-income countries need some form of international cooperation and support to implement these strategies.

International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction happens just weeks before COP26, a climate change conference that must deliver increased levels of ambition and international cooperation on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and climate change adaptation.

Only half of the 193 members of the World Meteorological Organization have multi-hazard early warning systems and there are severe gaps in weather and hydrological observing networks in Africa, parts of Latin America and in Pacific and Caribbean island states.

Pre-COVID, the World Bank calculated that the real cost of disasters to the global economy amounted to US\$ 520 million annually, with 26 million people being pushed into poverty every year.

The pandemic combined with extreme weather events, including drought, is having devastating effects on global hunger and poverty e.g. 2.3 billion people lacked adequate year-round access to food in 2020.

The struggle of many developing countries to manage the COVID-19 pandemic highlights the need to integrate health threats in national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, support the implementation of the International Health Regulations and build resilient health systems.

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SOME QUESTIONS FOR PARTNERS TO CONSIDER FOR PROMOTING THE DAY

- What have you done to enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to their DRR efforts?
- Do you have a DRR project to showcase where international cooperation played a role?
- What challenges are you facing in building community resilience to disasters that might need external support?

5

ONLY TOGETHER... CAN WE SAVE THE PLANET CAMPAIGN

The #DRRday website will highlight key initiatives and engage stakeholders and public by issuing a global call to organize events within prevailing health safety guidelines, to get involved on social media and contribute content and commentary.

Visualizations and stories will be included to illustrate action and partnerships, with a focus on plans being implemented to reduce or avoid future disaster losses as set out in the Sendai Framework.

UNDRR will develop branding for the page, which will be a resource for the entire DRR community to use for posting details of their planned events for the day. This page will also be a resource including logos, infographics, press releases, news stories, photographs, public service announcements and other useful materials.

5.1 Content generation

Within the limits imposed by the pandemic, there will be a focus on developing multi-media content – news stories, photographs, videos, social media cards – which will provide examples worth emulating of successful international cooperation in support of developing countries striving to implement the Sendai Framework.

5.2 DRR Day activities

- Press release/ web news stories on progress on Target f;
- Video messages on the theme of the day from the SG and the SRSG;
- World Expo events in Dubai featuring SRSG;
- WIN - DRR Women's Leadership Awards;
- ASEAN Day for Disaster Management;
- European Launch of Prevention Saves Lives Campaign;
- Soft launch of the COVID-19 end-game scenarios project with the International Science Council;
- Launch of the Centre of Excellence for Disaster and Climate Resilience by UNDRR and WMO;
- Webinars on Target f and international cooperation hosted by Heads of Regional Offices.

5.3 Newsfeed

PreventionWeb will curate relevant news stories and case studies that speak to the theme, to be featured on the DRRday website.

5.4 Social media

UNDRR will use Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn to engage and generate support from organisations and individuals for the theme of the day. UNDRR will provide templates for partners to create social assets in order to showcase their international cooperation projects. Campaign supporters are invited to share the following messages, accompanied by a suitable image, with their followers.

Sample tweets

- Lack of investment in disaster risk reduction is a major amplifier of disaster risk [#OnlyTogether](#) [#DRRday](#)
- If the benefits of investing in disaster risk reduction were fully realised, the world would have been better prepared to reduce the impact of the [#COVID19](#) pandemic [#OnlyTogether](#) [#DRRday](#)
- Strengthening DRR-related statistical capacity strengthens understanding of how to reduce disaster losses [#OnlyTogether](#) [#DRRday](#)
- International support through ODA and other official flows to developing countries boosts global immunity to disaster risk [#OnlyTogether](#) [#DRRday](#)
- International cooperation is needed to put prevention at the centre of how we choose to live [#OnlyTogether](#) [#DRRday](#)
- [#COVID19](#) has reinforced the need for international cooperation on pandemic preparedness [#OnlyTogether](#) [#DRRday](#)
- More international, regional and bilateral programmes are needed for [#DRR](#)-related capacity-building in developing countries [#OnlyTogether](#) [#DRRday](#)
- International cooperation is vital for good global risk governance in the face of planetary emergencies [#OnlyTogether](#) [#DRRday](#)
- Climate vulnerable countries depend on G20 countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and invest in adaptation to climate change [#OnlyTogether](#) [#DRRday](#)
- International cooperation is key to helping low- and middle-income countries put in place adequate early warning systems [#OnlyTogether](#) [#DRRday](#)
- 30 million people were evacuated or displaced by disasters in 2020. International cooperation is needed to address the drivers of displacement and reduce the chances of future displacement [#OnlyTogether](#) [#DRRday](#)
- Almost half UN Member States lack state of the art multi-hazard early warning systems and many need international support [#OnlyTogether](#) [#DRRday](#)
- More initiatives are needed for the transfer and exchange of science, technology and innovation in [#DRR](#) for developing countries [#OnlyTogether](#) [#DRRday](#)
- International cooperation is needed to restore one billion hectares of degraded land by 2030 [#OnlyTogether](#) [#DRRday](#)

5.5 PSA/ videos

UNDRR Comms will produce a PSA for the day that will be available a month in advance.



5.6 Expected outcomes

1. Greater awareness of the importance of funding for disaster risk reduction;
2. Greater awareness of the importance of international cooperation and multilateralism to address planetary emergencies;
3. Greater awareness of the Sendai Framework and a key target with a 2020 deadline;
4. Greater focus on integrating disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation;
5. Greater understanding of how extreme weather events and biological hazards and risks are raising the bar for disaster risk reduction and the achievement of the SDGs;
6. Public discourse to promote attitudinal and behavioral change towards disaster risk management;



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