

Disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA): Coherence pathways in Asia-Pacific

Stakeholder consultation workshop

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1 July 2021

8.30am New Delhi | 10am Bangkok | 12pm Tokyo | 1pm Sydney | 3pm Port Vila | 4pm Suva

VIRTUAL - ZOOM



BACKGROUND

Both disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA) aim at reducing vulnerabilities and building resilience of people, systems and societies by managing risks and adjusting to the changing climate in order to achieve and sustain development. Resilience building is the shared foundation of the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The processes of developing policies and investing in risk reduction and adaptation have shared approaches, challenges, and advantages for governance, financing, information and data analysis, capacity development, and monitoring. Despite commonalities and complementarities, DRR and CCA are often planned, financed and implemented in separate ways as they have emerged from parallel global processes. They are also led and managed at country level by different actors and custodian agencies.

Recognizing that greater coherence between DRR and CCA action can help ensuring that development does not exacerbate existing and future risks, and that development gains are protected from the impact of disasters and climate change, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) has embarked on a programmatic approach that focuses on achieving coherence through comprehensive disaster and climate risk management. As part of this initiative, UNDRR has committed to enhance global, regional and national platforms and strengthen national leaderships to foster coherence at the implementation level with the overall objective to leverage synergies and mutually beneficial opportunities across policies to support risk-informed development. Through this initiative, UNDRR hopes to continue providing targeted technical assistance at the regional, national and local levels, especially to developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

In line with the programmatic approach on comprehensive disaster and climate risk management, UNDRR Regional office for Asia and the Pacific, in partnership with the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), are conducting **a study on the degree of coherence between national policies and plans focusing on DRR and CCA in Asia and the Pacific**. This regional analysis aims to enhance our understanding of the level of coherence of planning and policy implementation mechanisms in countries across Asia and the Pacific, and forms the basis for future work in supporting coherent DRR – CCA approaches in the context of the sustainable development agenda in the region.

PURPOSE

A desk review of relevant national policy and planning documents has been completed, and key informant interviews with international and regional organizations/development partners and country focal points from DRR and CCA lead agencies have been conducted. We now seek wider **stakeholder inputs to validate preliminary findings and gain additional insights on the status of coherence** at different scales, to ultimately help **identify innovative approaches and understand the opportunities and enabling factors and obstacles to enhanced coherence**.

AGENDA



1.5 hours

zoom

Sign up here:
<http://bit.ly/regional-coherence>



Workshop materials will be circulated prior to the event



Experts and stakeholders from diverse backgrounds related to DRR, CCA, resilience, and sustainable development from across Asia-Pacific

OPENING

Marco Toscano-Rivalta, UNDRR

Welcome remarks

WORKSHOP INTRODUCTIONS

Iria Touzon Calle, UNDRR | Michael Boyland, SEI

Purposes and format of the consultation workshop

RESEARCH FINDINGS PRESENTATION

Frank Thomalla, PhD, Climate and Disaster Risk Research and Consulting

Presentation on preliminary findings, emerging challenges and opportunities, followed by Q&A

BREAK-OUT GROUP DISCUSSIONS

1. Technical and conceptual coherence

Linkages between DRR and CCA through the concepts of risk and resilience

2. Strategic and institutional coherence

Commitment to DRR-CCA coherence at the strategic level and institutional arrangements to support coordination

3. Operational and financial coherence

Measures and activities as well as funding mechanisms and resources to integrate DRR and CCA

Break-out group representatives

Brief reporting from each group

CLOSING

Iria Touzon Calle, UNDRR | Michael Boyland, SEI

Closing remarks and next steps

KEY QUESTIONS

The consultation aims to answer the following questions:

- What are some of the challenges and barriers to coherence in your work and experience?
- What opportunities, solutions and recommendations for enhanced coherence do you see?
- What aspects of the preliminary findings resonate with your work and experiences, and what is missing?