

Highlights from the 6th Meeting of the United Nations Senior Leadership Group on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience (UN SLG)

Strengthened coordination and leadership provided to all UN system partners at global level towards the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

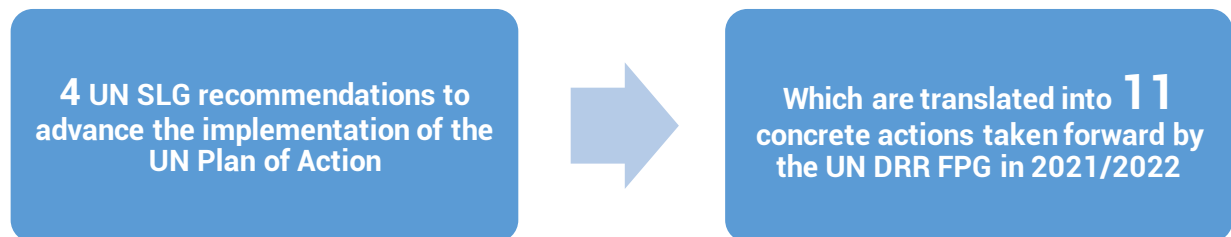


The 2021 UN SLG on DRR for Resilience meeting (16 July 2021) reflected on the relevance of disaster and climate risk-informed planning as a critical contribution towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and reducing humanitarian needs under the theme *'From global vision to country level action'*.

2021 UN SLG recommendations:

The relevance and ambition in advancing **the implementation of the UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience** remain high. Its implementation needs to translate into country impact, embedded in the context of COVID-19 recovery and the climate emergency.

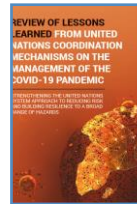
The UN needs to focus its action in addressing **four UN SLG recommendations** (adopted at the meeting by 43 UN entities):



Recommendation 1	Recommendation 2	Recommendation 3	Recommendation 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socialize and implement within UN entities, the recommendations put forward in the GEWEL-DRR study and the COVID-19/DRR key lesson review. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue joint efforts to ensure that Cooperation Framework and CCA are disaster and climate risk-informed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scaling up efforts around enhancing the integration of disaster and climate risk in humanitarian action and strengthening humanitarian /development collaboration around DRR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximizing advocacy efforts around applying a multi-hazard, multi-sectoral, transboundary, and systemic risk approach through existing EWS initiatives and by advancing the understanding of risks.



9 recommendations on the UN system's collective gender-responsive DRR action are put forward in the study on **Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and Leadership in Disaster Risk Reduction (GEWEL-DRR)** focusing on UN entities' institutional readiness for gender-responsive programming on DRR/climate change adaptation and on UN entities' support to Member States.



14 recommendations on strengthening the UN system approach to reducing disaster and climate risk and building resilience are highlighted in the **Review of lessons from UN Coordination mechanisms on the management of COVID-19** calling for integrating DRR through global mechanisms and enhancing support to UNCTs.

Key messages emerging:

- The COVID-19 pandemic is more than just a health crisis that exacerbated underlying vulnerabilities and risk factors leading to wide-ranging and devastating socio-economic repercussions. The pandemic also illustrated the **changing nature and scale of risk**, surpassing the capacity of traditional risk approaches. UN SLG members demonstrated a commitment to **learn from COVID-19**, recognizing related efforts but also the shortcomings of the UN system and Member States.
- COVID-19 represents a critical opportunity to strengthen efforts to **integrate multi-hazard risk considerations and DRR in COVID-19 response recovery**, through a whole-of-UN system, whole of government, multi-stakeholder and multi-sector approach. This includes action to address the **full scope of hazards of the Sendai Framework**.
- Better coordinated risk governance and recovery models need to increase with **risk governance arrangements to be strengthened** in a comprehensive, gender-sensitive and strategic manner. This needs to be accompanied with a prioritization process for actions that will generate impact.
- **"Leaving no one behind" in DRR** remains a key priority for the UN and for the UNSLG, with a particular focus on the need to apply a gender lens and to recognize the critical contribution of women in DRR through their leadership. **Gender equality and women's empowerment and leadership in the context of DRR has a large ownership within the UN Family**.
- **Enhancing risk-informed humanitarian as well as development planning and programming** within the UN is considered a key focus aiming at breaking siloes that currently inhibit joint action to reduce risk.

The [Seventh Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction](#) (23 to 28 May 2022, Indonesia) and the coinciding Midterm Reviews of the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for DRR and the Water Action Decade in 2023 represent important **entry points for further integrating DRR into key global processes**. UN Partners are encouraged to provide substantive inputs into these processes.

The **2022 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction** will provide an opportunity to discuss strengthening disaster risk governance, social and economic recovery from COVID-19, financing for DRR as well as to take stock of the Sendai Framework implementation and recommend actions for policy makers. A wide variety of engagement options are offered for UN entities.

The **Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Sendai Framework on DRR** calls for full involvement and deliberation of the UN System on learning since 2015, emerging issues, and its recommendations for potential policy adjustments and new modalities for implementation for the period between 2023 and 2030.