

United Nations Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism Terms of Reference

Thematic Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience (TWG-DR3)

June 2016

Objective

To support the regional implementation of those elements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that relate to disaster risk management and resilience through:

1. Coherent and coordinated UN support to implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.
2. Coherent and coordinated UN engagement with regional and sub-regional organizations on disaster risk reduction and resilience, with a specific focus on ASEAN, SAARC and Pacific sub-regions.
3. UN support to the development of more coherent and optimized regional approaches and strategies related to disaster management, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation for resilience.
4. The implementation of the UN Plan of Action on DRR: *Towards a Risk-Informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development* with a focus on ensuring coherent and coordinated support to UN Country Teams.

Functions

The main functions that may be undertaken by the TWGs are: regional analyses and knowledge products that can be used for policy and advocacy work at the global, regional and country levels; information sharing and mapping of programmes and activities across the region; joint programming, including support to regional sectoral coordination mechanisms and organization of regional meetings; mobilization of partners, to support the development and use of regional

analytical, normative and advocacy products as appropriate.¹

5. The core functions of the TWG-DR3 will be:

- a. Support the preparation, implementation and follow-up of the international and regional agreements on disaster risk management and climate and disaster resilience – in liaison with other thematic groups as appropriate – through joint programming, support to regional sectoral coordination mechanisms and organization of regional meetings
- b. Support the implementation and monitoring of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030, Paris Agreement under UNFCCC and disaster resilience SDGs at the regional level;
- c. Assist in the organization of the sub-regional and regional meetings related to the follow-up of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030 and Paris Agreement under UNFCCC such as the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) and other sub-regional Ministerial meetings
- d. Promote the implementation and review of outcomes of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030, Paris Agreement under UNFCCC and disaster resilience SDGs including through the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development;
- e. Ensure the development and regular review and revision of the ASEAN-UN Joint Strategic Plan of Action on Disaster Management (OCHA serving as convener on this point);
- f. Develop and implement joint initiatives to enhance coordinated engagement with SAARC and SPC on disaster management, disaster risk reduction and climate and disaster resilience initiatives.
- g. Liaise as necessary and appropriate with other regional coordination mechanisms, including the regional UN Development Group and Inter-Agency Standing Committee Regional Network to support familiarization of Resident / Humanitarian Coordinators and Country Teams and incorporation of relevant priorities and activities in United Nations Development Assistance and/or Partnership Frameworks;
- h. Develop regional analyses and knowledge products that could be used for policy and advocacy work at the global, regional and country levels
- i. Implement the UN Plan of Action on DRR to achieve risk-informed and sustainable development including coherent support to UNCTs in collaboration with UNDG.

¹ RCM chapeau text for TWG TORs, 26 April 2016

- j. Share knowledge on disaster management and climate and disaster resilience at the regional level through case studies and good practices.

Organization

6. ESCAP, UNISDR and UNDP will serve as Co-Chairs, and act as the joint secretariat to the TWG-DR3. The Co-chairs will chair the TWG meetings in rotation. The Co-chairs can make decisions on behalf of the TWG-DR3 if required, within the parameters of this Terms of Reference, summary record of previous meetings, and the TWG-DR3 Annual Work Plan [Annex 1].
7. The core members/participants of the TWG-DR3 include: **[list member agencies]**. The TWG may decide to open participation to representatives of other concerned UN agencies, intergovernmental bodies, NGOs, and bilateral and multilateral agencies, which should be decided at the TWG meeting.
8. The TWG-DR3 will meet as deemed necessary, but at least two times a year. The agenda of each meeting will be circulated to members in advance by the TWG secretariat, including relevant background documents. A summary record of each TWG-DR3 meeting, reflecting recommended actions and outcomes, will be prepared by the secretariat, endorsed by the members and submitted to the RCM Secretariat for centralized records.
9. The TWG-DR3 will prepare an Annual Work Plan [Annex 1], with responsibilities, success indicators and projected timelines for activities, at the first quarter of each calendar year. The TWG-DR3 Co-chairs will report on implementation of planned activities at the meetings of the Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) as required.
10. The TWG-DR3 could decide to establish mechanisms such as Working Groups and Task Forces, drawing on its members, to focus on longer term areas of shared work as well as time-bound specific tasks. These mechanisms will report on their work, including recommendations for consideration where appropriate, to the TWG-DR3 on a regular basis. Reports may also be made available to the Co-chairs between TWG-DR3 meetings as required. Cost of participation will be met by each participating agency.

Monitoring and Evaluation

11. The TWG-DR3 will regularly assess its organization and functioning, including the mandates, relevance and responsibilities of its task forces and working groups

Implementation of the annual work plan will be monitored through meetings and reporting. Towards this end, the TWG will produce a summary record of each TWG meeting (prepared by the agency chairing the meeting) which will be circulated to RCM members. A detailed assessment of the TWG's relevance and effectiveness will be conducted after two years.

**Thematic Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience (TWG-DR3)
2016 to 2017 Work plan (Draft)**

	Areas of Cooperation	Success Indicators	Deliverable	Lead/ Collaborating Agencies	Delivery time line	Resources
1	Data and Statistics	Inter-agency approach for systematically building technical capacity of the member states for maintaining, updating, and analyzing disaster loss and damage databases and disaster-related statistics in collaboration with relevant initiatives including the Global Centre for Disaster Statistics as well as ESCAP Expert Group on Disaster-Related Statistics and in line with the recommendations of the Open Ended Intergovernmental Working Group (OEIWG) on Sendai Framework for DRR and the Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs)	One regional event in 2016-2017 to discuss plans for adoption of the Open Ended Intergovernmental Working Group (OEIWG) on Sendai Framework for DRR and the Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) A revised Disaster-Related Statistics Framework (DRSF)	UNDP with UNESCAP and UNISDR ESCAP	Continuing Continuing	
2	Sendai Framework implementation/ AMCDRR	(A) Endorsement of the Asia Regional Plan for Implementation of Sendai Framework at AMCDRR.	2016 AMCDRR Declaration	UNISDR	November 2016	

	Areas of Cooperation	Success Indicators	Deliverable	Lead/ Collaborating Agencies	Delivery time line	Resources
		(B) AMCDRR Technical session 6 on coherence of DRR, response to CC and SDGs well organized	Inputs to the development of Guidance on coherence (ref. 5A below)	UNISDR, RCM-TWG D3R	November 2016	
3	El Niño /La Nina (Regional risk assessment and capacity development for understanding multi-hazard transboundary disaster risk associated with El Niño and La Nina.)	Inter-agency approach implemented for analytical research and the building of technical capacity of member States with high exposure to El Niño and La Nina.	Regional Consultative Workshop to disseminated analytical products. Agreed common methodology on El Nino Impact Assessment Capacity building of member States via training and expert group meetings including delivery of (1) The Regional Consultative Workshop on El Niño in Asia Pacific took place from 7-9 June with participation from 14 member countries and (2) organization of regional training workshop in Fiji on building capacity towards climate resiliency in the agriculture sector from El Niño related disasters (9-11 August 2016).	ESCAP/UNDP/OCHA	February 2017	
4	Sub-regional activities with (A) ASEAN, (B) SAARC and (C)	(A) Coordinated implementation of ASEAN/UN Joint Strategic Plan of Action on Disaster Management	(A) ASEAN-UN Joint Strategic Plan of Action on Disaster Management 2016-2020; 2016-2017 annual targets	Lead Agencies: (A) OCHA, with ESCAP, UNISDR, WFP and UNDP	Sept-Dec 2017	

	Areas of Cooperation	Success Indicators	Deliverable	Lead/ Collaborating Agencies	Delivery time line	Resources
	SPC and the Pacific	2016-2020. ASEAN-UN JSPADM targets for 2016-2017 delivered. (B) Engagement with SAARC initiated on potential areas of cooperation between SAARC and UN to agree scope for Plan of Action (C) Engagement with SPC initiated – in consultation with UN agencies’ offices based in Pacific – on potential areas of cooperation between SPC and UN to agree scope for Plan of Action	logframe and monitoring report (B) SAARC-UN joint scoping paper and/or outline of future cooperation (C) Scoping paper on engagement with SPC	(B) UNISDR, ESCAP (C) ESCAP jointly with UNDP, OCHA and UNISDR Key Partners: (A) ASEAN Secretariat, Disaster Management & Humanitarian Affairs (DMHA) Division and ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre), (B) SAARC Secretariat and/or SAARC Disaster Management Centre (SDMC), (C) SPC Secretariat		
5	Coherence of Sendai Framework, SDGs and Paris Agreement/ APFSD 2017	(A) Development of simple guidance that captures the principles and recommended actions for mainstreaming DRR across the SDGs in support of achieving development targets. (B) A side event delivered	Draft guidance document Finalization with inputs from APFSD side event Report of the side events,	UNISDR, ESCAP, UNDP – Co-chairs of TWGDR3 ESCAP	March 2017 July 2017 Q2 2017	

	Areas of Cooperation	Success Indicators	Deliverable	Lead/ Collaborating Agencies	Delivery time line	Resources
		<p>at the 2017 Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) presenting the guidance on coherence of Sendai Framework, Paris Agreement and SDGs monitoring.</p> <p>(c)ESCAP Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction</p>	<p>inputs for finalization of the Guidance document</p> <p>Meeting report endorsing to the Commission, the further promotion of DRR as part of SDGs</p>	ESCAP	Q4 2017	