

Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Improving Disaster Data Towards Building Resilience in Asia and the Pacific

Background Paper

Sendai, Japan

30 September to 1 October 2013

In Asia Pacific, a region most prone to disasters and the adverse effects of climate change, timely and reliable data is needed to manage risks. Data is needed for reducing, preparing for, responding to, and recovering effectively from disasters. Currently, the lack of reliable data and robust regional mechanisms hinder ESCAP member States responding to disasters swiftly and in helping attain resilience through evidence-based policy making, planning, and programming.

Hyogo Framework for Action places the concept of “resilience” as the focus of risk reduction by recommending policies, institutional arrangements, and programmes for disaster risk reduction. This requires ‘unpacking’ of the concept of resilience by translating it into parameters, indicators, and eventually the collection of appropriate data to monitor progress and to measure success. Priority Action 2 calls us to record, analyze, summarize and disseminate statistical information on disaster occurrence, impacts and losses, on a regular basis through global, regional, national and local mechanisms. Effective data management would necessarily begin with the knowledge on hazards, physical, social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities, followed by the understanding on how hazards and vulnerabilities are changing, and the needs for actions taken.

Management of disaster data has proven to be a formidable challenge in the implementation of the HFA in Asia Pacific. National Disaster Management Agencies (NDMAs) usually gather data after the event. National Statistical Offices (NSOs), on the other hand, collect and analyze metadata and are often not involved in managing disaster-related data.¹ Disaster data are collected and analyzed independently from the mainstream and from the periodic development surveys. Consequently, disaster risk reduction remains marginal in development planning.

In the onset of disasters, the problem is exacerbated by a combination of the urgency for action, the presence of many stakeholders, lack of baseline, lack of trained personnel, disruption and/or collapse altogether of the data collection and analysis system. Compromised disaster data stifles the process of prioritization at all levels, limit the capacity to detect, analyze and monitor trends and hinder evidence-informed priority setting and resource allocation.

This situation hinders efforts in making more reliable risk reduction-inclusive policy making and development planning, and in rendering effective response and recovery from disasters. ESCAP has expanded the concept of resilience to cover major economic crises. In order to set goals, objectives, and targets in disaster risk reduction, developing robust indicators is critical.

¹ ESCAP (2011). Addressing disaster risk reduction and development through improved data on disasters. E/ESCAP/CDR(2)/INF.5.

Expert Group Meeting on Improving Disaster Data to Build Resilience in Asia and the Pacific (EGM)

With HFA in the backdrop and the HFA-2 in the making, the Expert Group Meeting on Improving Disaster Data to Build Resilience in Asia and the Pacific (EGM) aims to sharpen the focus of and basic principles for disaster data and statistics towards achieving evidence-based resilience. To this end, it provides the avenue for experts to identify and agree on a set of “core data” attributed to the different aspects of policy making, planning, programming and monitoring of disaster risk management and, to the extent possible, climate change.

At the very minimum this should contain peacetime baseline on, as appropriate, climate change parameters, hazards, vulnerability, exposure and capacity gaps; at-onset of disasters including disaster incidents and / or extreme weather events encompassing the basic the loss, damage, and need assessments in emergency response; and recovery-oriented data on short- and medium-term requirement for repair, rehabilitation, and reconstruction. All these must have adequate level of disaggregation in favour of those most disadvantaged groups of society who are disproportionately impacted by disasters. It will also propose a collaborative framework to ensure the coordination between NDMAs and NSOs, and the analysis and aggregation from local to sub-national, national, and regional level to ascertain the improved use of data for monitoring, policy and strategic planning.

The EGM seeks to submit actionable recommendations to the third Session of ESCAP Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction, scheduled to be held in Bangkok, Thailand from 27 to 29 November 2013.

Objectives

1. To propose a framework for the broader context of evidence-based resilience
2. To identify the current status of disaster data collection/dissemination;
3. To share good practices and lessons learnt in other regions/countries;
4. To propose a set of minimum core data, basic NDMA – NSO coordination mechanisms, and principles for multi-tiered data aggregation and analysis;
5. To submit substantive actionable recommendations to the third Session of the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction on regional commitments and cooperation on improving disaster data; and
6. To establish a pool of community of practice to follow through the agreed action plan.

A possible roadmap for consideration

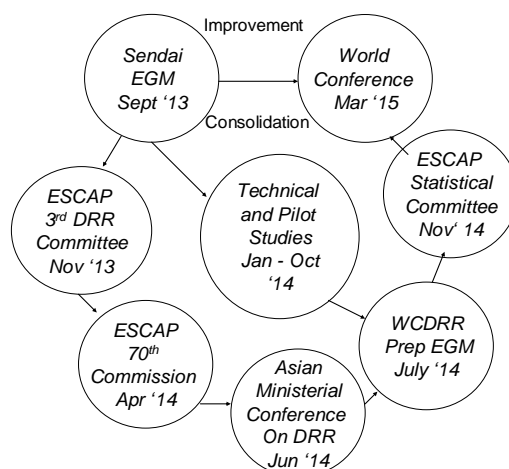
The EGM will discuss the possible roadmap ahead which entails gaining technical support, policy advocacy and on-the-field implementation of the minimum standards in disaster data.

Elevating the issue to the Regional Policy Making

Results of the Sendai Expert Group Meeting shall be presented to the ESCAP Expert Group Meeting on Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction into Development Strategy on 25-26 November 2013. With support from member countries, a resolution shall be tabled at the Third

Session of ESCAP Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction. This Committee brings together government officials from the national development planning authorities and officials from the NDMAs.

This may lead to a Commission resolution with strong support from member countries at its 70th Session in April 2014, where officials from governments across Asia Pacific will discuss issues including disaster risk reduction. Building on the ESCAP Resolution 69/12 on *Enhancing regional cooperation for building resilience to disasters in Asia and the Pacific*, a resolution can call for improvement in the quality and availability of disaster data, a more comprehensive assessment of socioeconomic effects of disasters, and to strengthen evidence-based policymaking for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. The resolution may have a mandate to improve disaster data through establishment of minimum standards, which may be further discussed during the ESCAP Committee on Statistics in November 2014.



Translating Principles and Standards into Parametres and Indicators

At the technical front, the minimum standards drafted at the Sendai EGM and commitment from ESCAP resolution will be translated into indicators on disaster risk reduction through a series of technical and pilot studies. Aggregation and harmonization of various initiatives shall be undertaken to arrive at agreeable components encompassing both disaster and climate change adaptation. Capacity development including training and efforts in harmonization will be carried out at the country level with support from technical agencies such as UNDP. The goal is to reduce damage and losses, which requires building resilience by enhancing countries' capacity and their ability to manage disaster risks to adapt to climate change.

Multi-stakeholder partnerships for assisting the process

Tohoku University International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS), JICA and the ESCAP Statistical Institute for Asia Pacific (SIAP) will provide the scientific basis in establishing minimum standards and quantifying resilience, including methodologies, procedures, and tools.

This EGM is the beginning of a community of practice and invites UNDP, UNISDR, OCHA, ADRC, ADPC, ICHARM, ADB, SAARC, and other agencies and governments actively engaged in disaster risk reduction efforts in the region to form a core group to continue the discussions. Supports and cooperation of the China-Japan-Korea and the ESCAP East and North East Asia Sub Region Office will continue to be crucial to sustain the initiative.

Towards 2015 and Beyond

Results of the pilot studies and policy advocacy, by mid-2014, will formulate a robust proposition towards more evidence-based resilience. Follow up discussions on evidence-based resilience may be held during the preparatory meetings of the WCDRR in July 2014, the Second Expert Group Meeting on Evidence-based Resilience and the Statistical Committee in Bangkok in November 2014. The objective will be to review and consolidate the two streams into a set of proposed objectives, targets, and indicators pertaining to the prospective Disaster Risk Reduction Framework (HFA-2) ready for discussion and adoption by the World Conference in March 2015 in Sendai.

Evidence-based resilience will require in-depth consultations on how to enhance data standards and indicators, to build the evidence including on disaster losses and damage, and to use these to influence policies and practices. Some of these efforts will be the initial steps towards building quantifiable resiliency indicators that will strengthen policy making and mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction into development planning.

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_6652

