

Resilient nations

10 THINGS TO KNOW: DISASTER & CLIMATE RISK GOVERNANCE IN UNDP

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UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help guild nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in nearly 170 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

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10 THINGS TO KNOW: DISASTER & CLIMATE RISK GOVERNANCE IN UNDP

This booklet provides an overview of UNDP's work in disaster and climate risk governance, an area that gained greater recognition from the international community through the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework) which dedicates one of its four Priorities for Action to "strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disasters". The Sendai Framework, the Paris Climate Agreement, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) all highlight the need to protect hard-earned development gains from disaster and climate risks, especially in socioeconomic development sectors. They also seek to build sustainability through risk-informed development which is greatly influenced by functioning disaster and climate risk governance arrangements.



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1. GOVERNANCE: A KEY DETERMINANT OF RISK

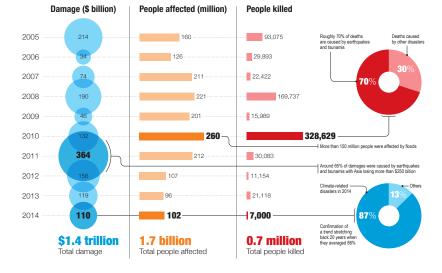
Reducing disaster risk and adapting to a changing climate have become increasingly critical for achieving sustainable development. Disaster losses continue to rise due to growing concentrations of people and assets in areas exposed to natural hazards, rapid and uncontrolled urban-

ization, and an increasing intensity and magnitude of extreme weather events due to climate change, especially in poor and fragile countries.¹ These drivers of risk are predominantly rooted in political and institutional structures, or flawed governance processes.²

For over two decades, UNDP has made strengthening disaster and climate risk governance a cornerstone of its efforts to assist its programme countries better understand, reduce and manage risk.³ Despite an increasing recognition that good governance, disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation are mutually supportive, the related risk governance arrangements still encounter many challenges:⁴

- Policy, institutional, and financing arrangements do not sufficiently prioritize disaster risk reduction, or do not have accountability mechanisms in place to follow through with their implementation.
- Disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation and environmental management and their related policy and institutional frameworks are pursued in silos.
- Disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation are only weakly connected to the broader poverty reduction agenda due to inadequate incentive systems for forging closer links to development planning at all levels.

The Economic and Human Impact of Disasters in the last 10 years



Source: UNISDR, 2015: http://www.unisdr.org/files/42862_economichumanimpact20052014unisdr.pdf.

- National disaster and climate risk management strategies, policies and plans are disconnected from local realities because the systematic participation and inclusion of the most vulnerable is neglected.
- Financing for reducing disaster and climate risks is insufficient, leading to short-term or fragmented interventions.

Against this backdrop, UNDP has developed a comprehensive policy and programme support package that seeks to strengthen the key components of a functioning disaster and climate risk governance system (see section 2 for more information). In doing so, UNDP has built upon its existing democratic governance practice area.

A keystone of UNDP's approach has been the provision of long-term and sustained support which has been instrumental in accompanying countries through the many ups and downs in their endeavours to strengthen their risk governance capacities and build resilience.

UNDP'S LONG-TERM SUPPORT TO MOZAMBIQUE⁵

UNDP has been working in Mozambique since the 1990s, providing support for disaster risk reduction on a sustained basis. Some of the key milestones have included support for the:

Establishment of the National Institute of Disaster Management (INGC) in 1999

Development of a Disaster Risk Management Policy in 2000

Development of the Master Plan on Disaster Prevention in 2006

Development of a Disaster Risk Management Law, approved in 2014, which recognizes gender considerations in all disaster risk management planning activities

Establishment of a decentralized disaster risk management system through local risk management committees

Establishment of community early warning systems

Mainstreaming disaster and climate risks in national and sectoral development plans



Key sectors such as agriculture, education, health, infrastructure and energy are now integrating disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation components into planning, backed by budget allocations.

From 2001 to 2011 the total number of Mozambicans affected by disasters fell by 45 percent compared with the previous decade.

Flood related mortality in 2010 was less than 25 percent of the 10-year average, and decreased 90 percent compared with the previous decade.

2. UNDP: A SNAPSHOT OF OUR WORK IN DISASTER AND CLIMATE RISK GOVERNANCE

From 2005 to 2016, UNDP implemented approximately **1,500 projects in nearly 150 countries** with a considerable disaster & climate risk governance component. These amounted to 64 percent or US\$1.3 billion of UNDP's total disaster risk reduction portfolio of US\$2.1 billion (see figure 1). Most expenditures occurred in the Asia and the Pacific region, followed by Africa (see figure 3).

FIGURE 1: UNDP's disaster risk reduction portfolio (2005-2016) with expenditures for disaster & climate risk governance, early warning and preparedness, and resilient recovery components DRR projects with a considerable disaster and climate risk governance component grew by nearly 30 percent with a significant increase over the past two years since the adoption of the Sendai Framework.

UNDP strengthens its disaster & climate risk governance capacities through a comprehensive set of complementary policy

FIGURE 2: Increase of UNDP's disaster and climate risk governance portfolio from 2005 to 2016



and programme support services, covering the following categories:

- Assessment and analysis
- Institutions (capacity development, training, coordination, decentralization)
- Legal and regulatory frameworks
- Plans (action plans, national, sub-nation and sector plans, and planning frameworks)
- Policies (national and sector policies and strategies, and strategic frameworks)

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