Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery STRATEGY 2021–2025

Public Disclosure Authorized



SCALING UP AND MAINSTREAMING RESILIENCE IN A WORLD OF COMPOUND RISKS





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Haiti's Municipal Civil Protection Committees, under the direction of the Civil Protection General Directorate, play a key role in implementing the country's early warning and emergency evacuation systems. Photo: ©Vincent Theodore.

GFDRR Strategy 2021–2025 Scaling Up and Mainstreaming Resilience in a World of Compound Risks

Overview

Communities, cities, and countries have improved their understanding of disaster risk since 2005 when the Hyogo Framework for Action was adopted. Over time, the agenda in many countries has shifted from a need to raise awareness for why planning, preparedness, and risk reduction matters, to an agenda focused on how to manage and mainstream disaster risk management better across sectors.

GFDRR has played a leading role in advancing disaster risk management and climate change adaptation since its inception in 2006. This strategy builds on achievements of the GFDRR FY18-21 strategy and lessons learned from its implementation. In the review of the previous strategy, stakeholders endorsed its foundation, but noted that new drivers of risk should be taken into consideration in the next strategy.

GFDRR's core business remains the same. The strategy retains a strong alignment with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 as well as the Paris Agreement, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The existing Logical Framework and GFDRR's four strategic objectives have also been carried over, as GFDRR remains steadfastly focused on the same goal to help build societies resilient to emerging disaster and climate shocks.¹

While GFDRR will carry on with deepening understanding of risk and raising awareness, our work will increasingly contribute to building capacity for managing natural hazard risks and other threats to development, and scaling up and mainstreaming resilience across sectors. The priority areas in the strategy—which will contribute to one or more of the Sendai Framework's Priorities for Action and to the overall Climate Adaptation Agenda—are scoped to be more focused, action oriented, less siloed, and articulate the strategic ambition of each priority area.

GFDRR will continue to support communities and governments to manage disaster and climate risk efficiently, recognizing that interventions must be inclusive and equitable, and must support community-driven development and engage all people, regardless of their gender, race, religion, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation or disability. GFDRR's activities will also be responsive to the challenges faced by countries afflicted with fragility, conflict and violence, given the intersectionality of conflict and disaster risks in a growing number of countries.



COVID-19, a global disaster in 2020 which clearly illustrates the systemic nature of risk, has had devastating global impacts; between 88 million and 115 million people could fall back into extreme poverty, and early evidence suggests that the crisis will increase inequality in much of the world.

Context: Drivers of Risk

Communities and governments are confronted by a myriad of interconnected risks: economic, political, societal, and environmental. The consensus on top global threats point to extreme weather and geophysical events, climate action failure, environmental catastrophes, and biodiversity loss in the decade of the 2020s.²

Each of these threats disproportionately affects the poorest and most vulnerable. Recurring weather and geophysical shocks cost lives and livelihoods, resulting in millions either being trapped or falling back into poverty. These impacts are expected to be felt excessively by the poor; seven of the ten countries most affected by extreme weather events are in the developing world.³ Failure to act on mitigating climate change threatens to unravel development gains accumulated over decades, potentially pushing an additional 165 million people into extreme poverty by 2030.4 Up to 143 million climate migrants are expected from Sub-Saharan Africa. South Asia. and Latin America by 2050, with unpredictable and destabilizing effects. Small Island Developing States are particularly vulnerable. More than 60 percent of countries with the highest losses from disaster events are small island states with damages of up to nine percent of gross domestic product (GDP).⁵

An increasing number of disaster-prone countries impacted by natural hazards are simultaneously affected by crises associated with fragility, conflict, and violence. Ongoing conflicts have resulted in record numbers of forcibly displaced people, reaching more than 70 million at the end of 2018. Disaster and conflict risks are mutually reinforcing, and often exacerbated by climate change that acts as a threat multiplier.

COVID-19, a global disaster in 2020 which clearly illustrates the systemic nature of risk, has had devastating global impacts; between 88 million and 115 million people could fall back into extreme poverty, and early evidence suggests that the crisis will increase inequality in much of the world.⁶ Extreme poverty is expected to rise globally in 2020 for the first time in more than 20 years as the COVID-19 pandemic compounds the threats of conflict, violence and fragility and climate change. The pandemic has underlined the consequences of underinvesting in resilience. Without proper planning, the threat of natural hazards combined with other shocks can be devastating. While the specific response will look slightly different for each country or community, proactively planning an equitable response is essential everywhere.

Many communities are still being excluded from resilient development. Large number of groups, including the poor, ethnic and racial minorities, women, children, persons with disabilities, and other marginalized communities, such as indigenous communities are often disproportionately affected by shocks. They may live in risk-prone areas, lack access to resources and coping mechanisms, or face social restrictions. These risks are particularly acute in contexts of fragility, violence, and conflict, and are increasing rapidly everywhere with climate change, creating an urgent need for greater inclusion in risk management policy and programming.

Urbanization in Africa and South Asia could help many countries improve productivity and livelihoods, and reduce some risks for communities and countries in the process. Two-thirds of the world's population will live in urban areas by 2050, and as cities grow, so do the magnitude and complexity of the challenges they face. Yet rapid, unplanned urbanization—such as construction in flood plains and vulnerable coastal areas, and informal settlements concentrated in disaster-prone areas—poses many risks that limit the effect agglomeration should have on productivity and livelihoods.

Nearly US\$100 trillion in infrastructure investments will be required to meet the global demand over the next 20 years for access to electricity, transportation, telecommunication, and water services.7 However, infrastructure planned and designed without considering disaster risks is a threat to life and property, and poses a significant contingent liability for governments. An aging global infrastructure stock increases the likelihood of failure and service disruptions. In low- and middleincome countries, natural hazards cause US\$18 billion annually in direct damages to power and transport infrastructure. These costs increase to US\$390 billion annually when estimating the household and firm losses on account of infrastructure disruptions. With a changing climate and



Nearly US\$100 trillion in infrastructure investments will be required to meet the global demand over the next 20 years for access to electricity, transportation, telecommunication, and water services.

Lima, Peru. Global Program for Safer Schools. Photo: World Bank.

large investments in infrastructure taking place in many countries, inaction to address disaster risk in the 2020s could cost US\$1 trillion more.⁸

The World Bank Group's twin goals—ending extreme poverty and promoting shared prosperity by 2030—will not be achieved without enhanced disaster risk management and climate adaptation to create more inclusive and resilient societies. Simply and plainly stated, a country which does not invest in disaster risk management will see its hard-won development gains wiped away in seconds when disasters strike. Global agreements including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the Paris Agreement outline broad priorities for risk management, but national authorities need specialized skills, detailed plans, broad networks, and access to financing for these challenges, including quick liquidity to respond to the immediate impacts of a disaster and low-cost financing for long-term resilience building interventions.

Inclusive, sustainable, and resilient development is an urgent global priority. With more than a decade of experience in disaster risk management and climate adaptation, GFDRR, from its position within the World Bank Group, is uniquely positioned to meet these needs.

Notes

- Resilience is defined as: The ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate to and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions. 2009. United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Terminology on Disaster Risk Reduction
- 2. 2020. The Global Risks Report 2020, 15th Edition. World Economic Forum.
- 3. 2020. Global Climate Risk Index. Germanwatch.
- 4. 2016. Shock Waves: Managing the Impacts of Climate Change on Poverty. World Bank Group.
- 2016. Climate and Disaster Resilience Financing in Small Island Developing States. OECD, World Bank Group.
- 6. 2020. Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2020. World Bank Group.
- 7. 2016. Global Infrastructure Outlook. Global Infrastructure Hub.
- 2019. Hallegatte, Stéphane, Jun Rentschler, and Julie Rozenberg. Lifelines: The Resilient Infrastructure Opportunity. Sustainable Infrastructure Series. Washington, DC: World Bank Group.



Maputo, Mozambique, March 2, 2020. A group of women and some men march during the launching ceremony of Women's Month. Photo: Israel Zefanias/Xinhua.

About GFDRR

Our Vision

A world where communities and countries are more resilient to natural hazards, climate risks and other shocks, and the human and economic costs of disasters are reduced.

Our Mission

GFDRR helps communities and countries reduce risk, prepare for, and recover from disasters by integrating disaster risk management and climate change adaptation into development strategies and programs. Through these actions, GFDRR supports countries to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the Paris Agreement.

Strategic Objectives

GFDRR has four strategic objectives in accordance with its Logical Framework:

- **OBJECTIVE 1:** Evidence and knowledge on effective disaster and climate resilience approaches are generated and shared for improved policy and practice.
- **OBJECTIVE 2:** Risk-informed development is adopted at national, sub-national, and community level, using integrated, inclusive, and participatory approaches.
- **OBJECTIVE 3:** Governments in vulnerable countries have access to additional investments for scaling up disaster and climate resilience building.
- **OBJECTIVE 4:** Disaster preparedness and resilient recovery capacity are increased at national, sub-national, and community levels.

All strategic objectives contribute to one or more of the Sendai Framework's four Priorities for Action¹ (figure 1).

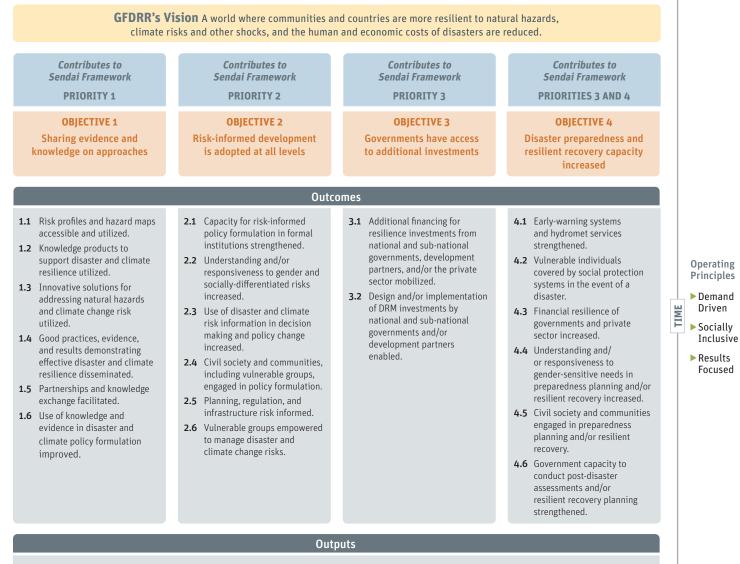
Who We Are

GFDRR is a global partnership, established in 2006, to support developing countries to understand, manage, and reduce their risk from natural hazards and climate change. Hosted at the World Bank Group, GFDRR is supported by 20 countries and 11 international organizations, and works with more than 400 sub-national, national, regional, and international partners.

The Project Management Unit, comprising highly skilled and diverse World Bank Group staff, carries out GFDRR's mission. It manages grant resources that support country and regional engagements on disaster risk management and climate adaptation, identifying programmatic, research, funding, and capacity gaps. The Project Management Unit advances GFDRR's priorities; delivers new research, analytics, and innovative tools; and it maintains dialogue among development partners, technical and sectoral experts, and governments. All activities managed by GFDRR are monitored and evaluated. Knowledge and lessons learned are

Figure 1. GFDRR's Logical Framework

Sendai Framework The substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries.



GFDRR grant activities lead to three types of outputs: Technical advisory services | Capacity building | Analytical and knowledge products and tools

Priority Areas of Engagement: Risk-Informed Decision Making | Reducing Risk and Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management Financial Preparedness to Manage Disaster and Climate Shocks | Disaster Preparedness and Resilient Recovery

Inputs

GFDRR provides grant financing, and mobilizes technical experts through its strategic partnerships with the World Bank Group, national governments, and development partners.

shared to ensure that an iterative process to improve effectiveness is in place and reported back to partners invested in GFDRR. To date, GFDRR has provided more than US\$750 million in technical assistance, analytics, and capacity building support for more than 140 countries through in-country, regional, and global activities.

GFDRR will provide technical assistance, analytics, and capacity building support by 2025 to at least 100 countries through in-country activities.

Comparative Advantages

Leveraging for Greater Impact

GFDRR's unique position within the World Bank Group enables it to fund engagements that can mobilize World Bank Group operations and crowd in much larger development investments, making it one of the largest and more influential development actors in disaster risk management.

GFDRR's technical assistance, capacity building, and analytical and advisory support are designed to help leverage additional financing from international financial institutions, national governments, and other development partners. It has also helped shift the mindset within the World Bank Group to integrate disaster risk management across the development agenda.



GFDRR has helped leverage² approximately US\$28 billion in financing since 2015 for disaster and climate resilience operations from the World Bank Group, national governments, and other development partners including international financial institutions such as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Development Association, the Climate Investment Funds, and the Green Climate Fund.

- GFDRR aims to leverage at least an additional US\$30 billion in resilience investments from the World Bank Group and other development partners over the five years of this strategy.
- GFDRR aims to support the mainstreaming of disaster risk management in the financing it leverages across eight sectors. It anticipates leveraging at least US\$500 million in each sector, including, but not limited to, agriculture, education, health, transport, energy, water, and urban.
- In addition, GFDRR will monitor the quality and resilience contribution of leveraged projects using a new rating system that is a key pillar of the World Bank's Action Plan on Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience.

Influencing Policy Dialogue

GFDRR is also uniquely positioned to scale the resilience agenda in countries by supporting the improvement of disaster and climate risk management in national policies. GFDRR provides funding and expertise for policy advice on disaster and climate risk management and climate change adaptation at national, subnational, and local levels in governance, land use, building codes, public health, education, agriculture, environmental protection, energy, water resources, poverty reduction, and social protection, among others. This advice, in the context of the World Bank Group's lending, creates both the technical capacity and financial incentives that enable formalization of policy changes for improved disaster risk management.

Fifty two percent of GFDRR's portfolio in FY20 contributed to risk-informed policy formulation or decision making, and contributed to policy changes aligned with the Sendai Framework.

GFDRR will seek to influence policy and disaster risk management and climate adaptation governance, ensuring by 2025, that its funding influences policies aligned with the Sendai Framework in at least 80 countries.

Operating Principles

Demand Driven

GFDRR is focused on responding to the needs of people in low- and middle-income countries who are vulnerable to disaster and climate risks. The funded activities respond to specific requests from national and sub-national authorities that are informed by the needs and priorities of communities, ensuring necessary ownership needed to achieve positive results. GFDRR also sources its demand through World Bank Group specialists who work across 170 countries.

Socially Inclusive

Resilient and sustainable development will not be achieved unless stakeholders. participate meaningfully in the planning and implementation of disaster risk management and climate adaptation. GFDRR is committed to ensuring inclusive and equitable interventions, supporting community-driven development and capacity building, and engaging all people, regardless of their gender, race, religion, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation or disability. It does so by working with governments, communities, civil society, academia, the private sector and other stakeholders to create more inclusive and resilient societies.

Results Focused

GFDRR strives for a results-based management approach. This is embedded in its work plan and budget; program design and implementation; and monitoring, evaluation, and learning activities. GFDRR will continue to assess all activities prior to funding for links to advance its cross-cutting themes of social inclusion, gender equity, and fragility, conflict and violence, as well as potential to leverage additional financing. It will also monitor and evaluate implementation of this strategy to improve portfolio performance, increase learning and knowledge exchange, strengthen accountability, and inform decision making.

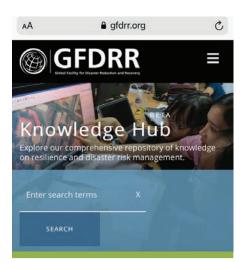
Notes

- The Sendai Framework's four Priorities for Action are Priority 1: Understanding disaster risk; Priority 2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk; Priority 3: Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience; and Priority 4: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to "Building Back Better" in recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction.
- Leveraging is defined as the ability of GFDRR-funded activities (e.g., technical assistance and analytical work) to enable, influence, or co-finance development programs by entities other than GFDRR.



One Female Mapper's Open Cities Africa Experience: Pascalina Awelana Abadum (front center). Photo: World Bank.

Priority Areas of Engagement



GFDRR will build on lessons learned since its inception in 2006, and will deepen and grow engagements across four priority areas in the strategy period. The priority areas will contribute to GFDRR's four strategic objectives and the Sendai Framework. Each priority area outlines anticipated activities that will help achieve these aims and their strategic ambition.

PRIORITY AREA ONE

Risk-Informed Decision Making

The objective of this priority area is to ensure countries and communities have access to the information they need to make informed decisions, to shift from understanding risk to managing risk, and to promote and improve policies for effective decision-making in disaster risk management and climate change adaptation.

GFDRR has a long record of investing in cutting-edge technology, analytics, and economic analysis, which has contributed to its position as a global leader in disaster risk assessment and management. Looking ahead, GFDRR will scale its capacity to deliver new tools, data, and analytics that support risk-informed decision making to countries and communities. As a producer and aggregator of risk data, GFDRR will ensure information is open access, available in a standardized format, methodologically transparent, and clearly communicated, so that it is actionable and can be utilized by countries and communities to make informed decisions on disaster risk management investments across risk reduction, preparedness, financial protection and resilient recovery.

Through research and partnerships, GFDRR will prioritize generation of data relevant and accessible to marginalized and fragile communities. It will apply the latest scientific innovations to help countries identify, assess, and communicate risk, providing actionable information that helps manage the risk, while building on local knowledge, including traditional and Indigenous knowledge

GFDRR will support governments at all levels in establishing, implementing, and strengthening the policies for disaster risk management and climate resilience.

Anticipated Activities

Promote open access to, and utilization of, risk information data, tools, and analytics. Ensure all GFDRR funded data are free and open access.

- Develop and implement appropriate communication tools to disseminate risk information to support inclusive disaster risk management and riskinformed decision making.
- Champion innovative approaches to collect, create, open, disseminate risk information.
- Provide methods for risk diagnostics at country, sub-national, and local levels, and develop tools for planning under climate uncertainty.
- Support the establishment, implementation, and strengthening of policies.

PRIORITY AREA TWO

Reducing Risk and Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management

The objective of this priority area is to reduce existing risk by strengthening infrastructure, urban and rural resilience and mainstreaming disaster risk management across sectors.

GFDRR works to strengthen infrastructure, urban and rural resilience across all regions, from supporting the challenges faced by small island development states to rapidly urbanizing low- and middle-income countries. Building on these efforts, GFDRR will support activities that integrate disaster risk management principles and leverage disaster risk management technologies, tools, and expertise in sectors such as



Source: Resilient Shores: Vietnam's Coastal Development Between Opportunity and Disaster Risk. Based on data from OpenStreetMap. Disclaimer: The boundaries, colors, denominations, and other information shown on this map do not imply any judgment on the part of The World Bank concerning the legal status of any territory or the endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries.

urban, energy, transport, water, health, and education among others to ensure that critical infrastructure can cope with natural and climate-induced shocks.

In accordance with the G20 principles for quality infrastructure investment¹, GFDRR will build resilience of infrastructure to natural hazards and other risks by ensuring that disaster risk management is factored in when designing infrastructure. GFDRR will support national, sub national and local governments and utility companies: (i) reduce disaster and climate risk in operations management practices; (ii) mitigate the exposure of planned infrastructure; (iii) prioritize disaster risk management investments based on improved asset management systems; (iv) increase access to disaster resilient design standards; and (v) develop policy and

institutional frameworks for infrastructure emergency preparedness and business continuity.

GFDRR will complement these activities with support to improve coordination, planning, and information sharing among national governments, local municipalities and communities while also enhancing transboundary cooperation for regional initiatives that address river basin, drought, and coastal infrastructure investments.

Across the built and rural environment, GFDRR will scale actions to help countries reduce disaster and climate risks through green and gray infrastructure investments, with a strong focus on nature-based solutions, within mega cities and across transboundary river basins, as well as addressing the challenge of biodiversity loss.



Credit: ADKOM (Association of public utility services providers of the Republic of North Macedonia). Photo: World Bank

GFDRR will further mainstream efforts to strengthen the resilience of urban systems, including through programs such as the City Resilience Program, by supporting the identification of disaster and climate risks, enhancing structural resilience and land use planning, and improving regulation and governance processes to manage risk, such as building regulations.

Anticipated Activities

Mainstream disaster risk management and build resilience to climate change across World Bank Group investments in infrastructure sectors, such as urban, water, energy, transport, education, and health, among others.

- Increase disaster and climate riskinformed infrastructure operations and management practices.
- Ensure that natural hazards and climate change are factored in land use planning regulations and updates in building regulation, and support the enforcement and implementation of regulations.
- Increase use of nature-based solutions and green infrastructure by government partners and address biodiversity loss.

PRIORITY AREA THREE

Financial Preparedness to Manage Disaster and Climate Shocks

The objective of this priority area is to improve governance to manage climate and disaster-related risks in the context of broader fiscal risks from unexpected shocks.

Demand for financial and fiscal planning and readiness to address climate and disaster shocks has increased in the past few years. GFDRR has been supporting dialogue with governments on the overall financial and fiscal management of disaster and climate-related shocks, promoting the importance of prearranging financial resources to mitigate the impacts of shocks on the fiscal balance and debt sustainability that help governments ensure the availability of the necessary financing following adverse natural events. GFDRR will continue to assist low- and middle-income countries to develop and implement tailored financial preparedness programs, in partnership with other World Bank Group programs, as part of the broader disaster risk management framework and governance to better manage, respond to, and recover from disaster and climate-related shocks.

GFDRR will build awareness and capacity for better disaster-related financial and fiscal planning, management, and implementation at the national, sub national and local levels, helping countries: (i) minimize the impacts on service delivery; (ii) protect the lives and livelihoods of poor and vulnerable populations; (iii) enable the use of improved disaster-related financial planning to incentivize resilient infrastructure and other disaster risk reduction measures; and (iv) improve efficiencies and transparency in post-disaster public finance management processes through risk-based governance. GFDRR will then enable the mutual strengthening of physical and financial resilience and capacity building to reduce the risk to infrastructure and the fiscal burden exacerbated by disasters.

GFDRR will also finance disaster risk analytics to increase the capacity of governments to make more informed decisions using a variety of tools and risk management solutions that involve better quantifying risk, developing riskreduction strategies and programs, and optimizing risk-financing strategies with a combination of risk retention and transfer financial instruments and solutions.

Anticipated Activities

- Improve the understanding of disaster risk-financing instruments, solutions, and frameworks and their use and trade-offs in the context of the broader risk management system in place in countries.
- Strengthen the use of existing financing mechanisms, instruments, and solutions that address the social impacts of climate and disaster shocks, including social protection, innovative financing and risk pools.

PRIORITY AREA FOUR

Disaster Preparedness and Resilient Recovery

The objective of this priority area is to improve community and government preparedness by improving access to hydrometeorological data and early warning systems, strengthening emergency response capacity, and supporting resilient recovery.

GFDRR supports government capacity to prepare for and respond to emergencies through a comprehensive view of the systems that protect lives, deploy resources, and improve development outcomes. GFDRR will continue to support the establishment of legal and institutional frameworks for clear mandates and accountabilities, and invest in personnel, facilities, equipment and information technology through client engagement, diagnostics, and investment planning for emergency preparedness and response.

GFDRR will continue to support open access to hydrometeorological data, the generation of user-oriented climate services and early warning information while also improving the sustainability and impact of investments of the World Bank Group and other development partners in this area. GFDRR will also keep promoting cooperation between public, private, and academic institutions. Priorities will be to deliver last-mile connectivity and reach the most vulnerable people who may be excluded from accessing early warning information due to inadequate information and communication systems, social exclusion, or being in remote, fragile, conflict or violent situations. GFDRR will work closely with communities, civil society organizations, and local governments.



Keeping up with floods in the village of Kalabogi in Bangladesh Photo: ©Vincent Theodore.

In the post-disaster recovery phase, GFDRR will continue to partner with countries to ensure that reconstruction and recovery efforts build socio-economic and physical resilience to future hazard events. This will include scaling up assistance to governments on resilient recovery for future disasters, conducting rapid post disaster assessments, developing recovery planning frameworks, and strengthening institutional, financing, policy, and program management frameworks for inclusive and sustainable recovery.

Anticipated Activities

- Strengthen government capacity for emergency preparedness and response with more efficient planning and service delivery.
- Improve the sustainability and impact of hydrometeorological investments, including the generation of useroriented climate services.
- Strengthen inclusive multi-hazard early warning systems.
- Support inclusive and gender responsive post disaster assessments, recovery planning frameworks, and recovery preparedness.

IN FOCUS: COVID-19

The world has been greatly affected by COVID-19 in 2020. The pandemic has underlined the importance of proactive planning to prepare for and respond to emergencies. It has emphasized the need for countries to be able to manage multiple shocks and compounding risks, as was



Bahia, Brazil, February 8, 2021: Drive thru COVID19 vaccination of the elderly. Photo: Joa_Souza.

evident during evacuations across the Caribbean in anticipation of Hurricane Laura in August 2020 and recovery efforts after the Zagreb earthquake in Croatia in March 2020. The pandemic has also been a reminder of the importance of supporting governments deliver on their most important task-to protect citizens and enable them to recover from shocks. During the pandemic, many countries and cities have stress tested their emergency management systems, and learned there is considerable room for improvement. Natural hazards do not stop during pandemics, and it is clear from the complexity of the crisis that GFDRR's support is needed more than ever.

GFDRR has worked closely with governments in response to COVID-19 to provide immediate financial and technical support. It also adapted existing engagements to help countries manage the pandemic by: (i) developing emergency preparedness plans and response protocols; (ii) identifying and repurposing public facilities; and (iii) scaling approaches that link disaster risk management preparedness and response systems to health emergencies.

In the future, GFDRR will continue to support local and national governments to respond to and recover from COVID-19, working closely with the Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice at the World Bank Group. GFDRR will scale its engagement to strengthen inclusive emergency preparedness and response capacity, planning and service delivery, and the management of future crises across multiple shocks. GFDRR will work with external partners and the World Bank Group to support communities and countries to meet the dual challenge of managing natural hazard risks while mobilizing the disaster risk management community to address the impacts of the prevailing and future pandemics.

Cross Cutting Priority Areas

An inclusive approach toward resilience facilitates reduction in loss of lives and mitigates the costs of disasters to ensure no one is left behind, and that engagements reach and empower the most vulnerable and the poorest people, particularly those in low-income countries and small island developing states. Support for gender equality and inclusive disaster risk management as well as building disaster and climate resilience in fragile, conflict and violent contexts will cut across all GFDRR priority areas. GFDRR aims to scale, mainstream, and deliver new programs and innovative solutions on inclusive disaster risk management, gender equality and the disaster-fragility nexus by 2025.

Scaling Inclusive Disaster Risk Management and Gender Equality

The impacts of disasters caused by natural hazards and climate change expose underlying structural inequalities and exclusion. Shocks that are felt locally often have differential consequences on groups based on age, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, occupation, disability status, and religion among others.

Aligned with the Sendai Framework, the objective of this cross-cutting priority area is to foster inclusive disaster risk reduction and management across all GFDRR activities for more robust outcomes. Building on previous work, GFDRR will scale up inclusive disaster risk management by consolidating and connecting existing initiatives for community resilience, gender, citizen engagement, and disability-sensitive disaster risk management with the broader policy and institutional actions at the national, sub national, and community levels.



Officer from Lima, Peru, patrolling the streets during COVID-19 lockdown.. Photo: Myriam Borzee.

- Programming, technical assistance and capacity building. GFDRR will increase efforts to mainstream inclusive approaches to disaster risk management, and bring the agenda from the project-based level into policy dialogue. GFDRR will invest in sensitizing countries and capacitybuilding, particularly at the local level to ensure meaningful collaboration and more equal participation in decision making.
- Fostering knowledge and learning. Moving the needle toward more inclusive outcomes requires new evidence and understanding of what works and what does not. GFDRR will continue to advance its analytical agenda through new conceptual and empirical policy-relevant work that amplify the needs and vulnerabilities

of excluded groups in disaster risk management. It will continue to focus on results in the field, and invest in evaluation and learning, feeding back into programming and sharing evidence on more effective inclusive disaster risk management approaches with partners. GFDRR will promote knowledge exchange between governments and non-state actors—such as women's groups and other civil society organizations— and across countries and regions.

Deepening partnerships. Inclusive disaster risk management requires coordinated action and partnerships that are crucial to advance the agenda. GFDRR will continue to expand and deepen existing partnerships, support the identification of new partners at the community level, including Indigenous



Samut Sakhon, Thailand: Rescue worker helping senior after floods. Photo: justhavealook.

peoples, and draw in non-traditional partners like impact investors, innovators, and technology firms.

Specific attention will be given to:

- ► Gender. GFDRR will build on its Gender Action Plan 2016–2021, and in tandem with the World Bank's Gender Strategy as well as its own previous work, it will: (i) scale efforts to integrate gender considerations into operational work, close gender gaps, empower women for more inclusive decision-making processes, and promote gender-sensitive design, planning, implementation and monitoring of disaster risk management strategies and policies; (ii) build on knowledge accumulated and continue investing in analytics, strengthening the evidence base, and developing new tools to inform operational and policy interventions; and (iii) foster new partnerships and deepen existing ones with communities, civil society organizations, private sector, and governments at the local, sub national, and national levels.
- Persons with disabilities. GFDRR will continue to implement its Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2018–2023. It will contribute to the World Bank's Ten Commitments on Disability Inclusive Development and will: (i) strive to ensure all projects financing public facilities in post-disaster reconstruction efforts are disability inclusive; (ii) ensure that persons with disability

are considered during emergency preparedness and response; (iii) promote disability-inclusive building regulations for resilience; and (iv) create a knowledge resource base.

Citizen engagement. GFDRR will continue to implement its Citizen Engagement Action Plan 2019–2023 in tandem with the World Bank's commitment. It will: (i) promote approaches using citizen-led participatory planning and monitoring; (ii) ensure multi-hazard early warning systems and emergency management that include community preparedness and awareness; and (iii) elevate citizen engagement to systematically demanding accountability of the state and disaster risk management agencies.

Addressing the Disaster-Conflict Nexus

An increasing number of disaster-prone countries are simultaneously affected by protracted crises associated with fragility, conflict, and violence. The interlinkages between fragility, conflict, climate, and disaster risk require a holistic approach to building resilience.

Over the years, GFDRR's investments in fragile and conflict affected states have

steadily increased. GFDRR has provided close to US\$100 million since 2007 in financial support in fragile and conflict affected states. Engagements have evolved from adapting post-disaster assessment methodologies and developing new methodologies for remote data collection to investing in new analytical research and testing cross-sectoral operational solutions. GFDRR launched the Disaster Risk Management-Fragility, Conflict and Violence Nexus Initiative in 2018 to support engagements in complex settings of slow and rapid onset disasters, conflict, migration and forced displacement. The objective of this cross-cutting priority area is to work with external partners and the World Bank Group's Fragility, Conflict and Violence group.

Scale up disaster-conflict risk analyses. GFDRR will deepen, widen, and scale up integrated disaster-conflict risk analyses building on successful pilots that provide tailored approaches for disaster risk reduction in fragility, conflict and violence-affected countries and in sub-national conflict zones. This will include developing standardized tools, analytical frameworks, and practical approaches for operating in these settings.

- Strengthen community disasterconflict preparedness and social cohesion. GFDRR will scale up the use of participatory frameworks to build public, civil society, and community partnerships to strengthen community disaster and climate risk preparedness and social cohesion in disaster-conflict affected contexts.
- Share best practices of global experiences. GFDRR will analyze and record the lessons learned by the international community and governments in engaging in disaster and conflict-affected states, and share best practices.
- Build capacity to find solutions in disaster-conflict situations. GFDRR will provide a platform for training, offering operational support and possible solutions unique to the disaster-conflict nexus.

Notes

1. G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment https://www.mof.go.jp/english/international_policy/ convention/g20/annex6_1.pdf

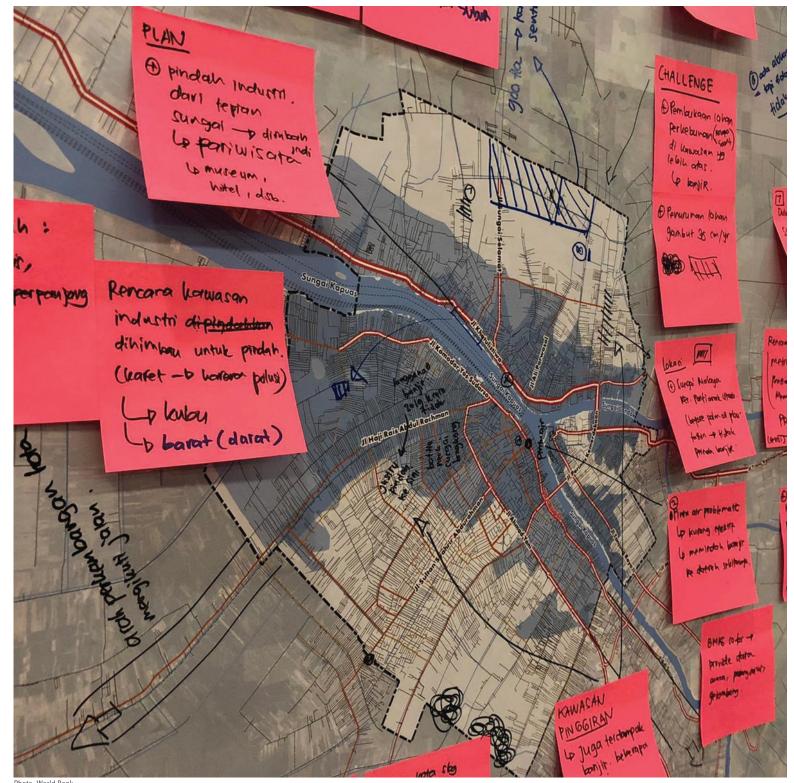


Photo: World Bank

How GFDRR Will Achieve Results

Leveraging Cross-Sectoral Expertise

GFDRR works across the World Bank Group providing technical and financial resources on disaster risk management for investments in social protection, environment, climate, poverty, finance, education, energy, health, transport, water, and the urban and rural environment. These extensive networks for mainstreaming of disaster risk management have fostered global programs for building regulations, safer schools, and resilient housing, and cultivated partnerships for resilient energy, transport, and water security. These programs and partnerships are effective tools that generate demand for technical assistance, link support to investment pipelines, and disseminate critical knowledge, tools, and expertise in disaster risk management.

Developing and Sharing Global Knowledge and Innovation

GFDRR is committed to helping ensure that national authorities and development actors embrace evidence-based decision making through timely access to accurate and targeted knowledge and information, and state-of-the-art decision-making methodologies and tools. GFDRR invests in innovation, analytics and research to enable advocacy, documentation, and dissemination of best practices and lessons learned.

Strengthening Partnerships

GFDRR has established a broad network of 400 partners, each bringing a unique value proposition to achieve these ambitious results. Over FY21–25, GFDRR will strive to further strengthen existing strategic partnerships and establish new ones across the UN system and with international financial institutions, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, national and sub national governments, bilateral development agencies, regional organizations, academic institutions, and the private sector. The priority areas for partnerships up to 2025 are:

- Inclusive disaster risk management. GFDRR will continue working on empowering communities for inclusive disaster risk management in collaboration with civil society organizations, and local and grassroot organizations, following a whole-ofsociety approach.
- Working in fragile, conflict and violent settings. GFDRR will work with conflict and peacebuilding experts across regions to influence national and international policy dialogues across the UN system and with nongovernmental organizations.
- From understanding to managing risk. GFDRR will continue working to mobilize action on global resilience by raising awareness and providing robust analysis on risk management and resilience interventions. GFDRR will continue to build the global network of

risk management experts through the Understanding Risk community.

- Supporting resilient infrastructure. GFDRR will continue to support and scale up its work on the safer schools program as well as mainstream disaster risk management across infrastructure, in sectors such as energy, transport, and water, increasingly introducing nature-based solutions. GFDRR will work with industry leaders, government agencies, and academia to ensure the best possible quality.
- Supporting urban resilience. GFDRR will maximize efforts to build resilient urban environments, working with a range of partners across the public, private, and multilateral arena.
- Modernizing hydromet services and improving the sustainability and impact of hydromet investments.
 GFDRR will enhance its cooperation with international organizations and national hydrometeorological services to make progress toward universal access to early warnings.

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning

During the strategy period, GFDRR will expand its investments in high-quality monitoring, evaluation, and facility-wide learning. It will continue to draw on its Monitoring and Evaluation Technical Advisory Group for guidance in these areas.

All activities funded during the strategy period are anticipated to contribute to the outcome-level results articulated in GFDRR's Logical Framework. They will also contribute to helping countries implement the Sendai Framework, including progress toward the seven global targets.

GFDRR will regularly measure progress against this strategy and the targets set out in its annual work plan, with progress results provided in the form of a consolidated Annual Report. GFDRR will commission a midterm evaluation to provide an opportunity to monitor the strategy's implementation while in progress, identify any challenges, and outline any corrective actions needed to ensure the strategy is on track to achieve maximum results by its completion. An evaluation will also be commissioned at the completion of the strategy period. These evaluations will refer to GFDRR's Evaluation Policy¹ and will adopt internationally agreed Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Assistance Committee (OECD DAC) evaluation criteria.

GFDRR is committed to ensure that findings through grant monitoring and evaluation are used to feed back into programming and for adaptive management, course correction, and decision making. It will continue to create linkages so findings can be shared and be used more broadly by grant implementers and by other partners. GFDRR has embedded learning processes in its performance management system that apply to all funded grants. Lessons from individual grants will be routinely collected, reviewed, and applied to future programming.

During the strategy period, GFDRR will also continue to directly fund activities that develop and apply knowledge products and tools and facilitate knowledge exchange activities. Thereby, it will advance operational learning and contribute to international good practice.

Notes

1. GFDRR Evaluation Policy. April 2019. https://www. gfdrr.org/sites/default/files/2020-11/GFDRR%20 Evaluation%20Policy%20%28April%202019%29.pdf