

Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management

Fostering practical coherence in a world of global agendas

Background: Pillarization of global agendas

Disaster risk management (DRM) is at the center of the Sendai Framework for disaster risk reduction. It is also reflected in the Paris Agreement on Climate Change (article 8), the New Urban Agenda (chapter on 'Environmentally sustainable and resilient urban development'), and the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (goal 1/ no poverty, 11/ sustainable cities, 13/ climate action). The importance of DRM is therefore recognized by all important international post-2015 agendas and its implementation is a globally accepted requirement for all nations.

In 2015, the euphoria surrounding the development of the global agendas only led to limited alignment of the different agreements. The agendas are the result of negotiations of different specialist communities with their selective perception of global problems such as sustainability, climate change and urbanization and their own prioritization and terminology. Thus, the four agendas require different actions and commitments from different ministries and stakeholders on national and local level to develop nationally appropriate strategies for public investments, capacity development, establishment of data and information systems, development of insurance mechanisms and rules and regulations concerning topics such as land-use and spatial planning.

This necessitates cooperation between different ministries, but also between local government units as well as between national and local levels. At the same time, countries need to report on their progress with regard to each of the global agendas at an international level. Especially during the implementation of the agendas, international policy processes are not using synergies sufficiently and thus lead to duplication and overlaps. Different financing and support mechanisms of the global agendas reinforce inefficiencies.

The situation described above potentially leads to considerable additional burden: transaction costs are increased due to overlapping responsibilities and duplicative data collection and reporting. At the same time, countries incur tremendous opportunity costs when DRM is not considered in their national climate adaptation, urban development and economic and social development plans and policies. The observed segmentation of the global agendas is therefore also influencing national and local levels of governance.

The GIDRM wants to counteract this situation in its second project phase (02/2018 until 01/2021) with the following goal: selected international and national, governmental and non-governmental actors will be supported in their ambition for coherence regarding planning, implementation and reporting of DRM between Sendai-Framework and Paris Climate Agreement, as well as Agenda 2030 and Habitat III.

Project title	Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Advisory Board	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) (Chair); Federal Foreign Office (AA); Federal Ministry of the Interior (BMI); Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU); Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)
Cooperation with	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC); German Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance (BBK); Red Latinoamericana de Gestión del Riesgo y Cambio Climático en la Inversión Pública (Red SNIP); Regional Consultative Committee on Disaster Management (RCC); United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR); and United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC)
Pilot Countries	Mexico, Philippines
Commission vol.	5.000.000 EUR
Duration	February 2018 – January 2021

Approach: fostering practical coherence

While the UN is addressing the coherence challenge through common strategies and institutional arrangements between UN bodies, German cooperation is aiming to support from the "bottom-up". **National and sub-national examples of successful agenda-coherence will be presented at regional platforms. The examples will then be introduced as regional recommendations at international conferences to be confirmed as good practices.**

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The Global Initiative is working in Latin America/Caribbean as well as Asia/Pacific focusing on three pilot countries that are vulnerable but possess the necessary institutional capacities and an established international cooperation portfolio: Mexico, Philippines, and one not yet determined (fragile) third country.

Pilot Country: Philippines

The Government of the Philippines, specifically the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), will be supported in their efforts to harmonize risk-assessment approaches and planning guidelines of different ministries that have to be used by the local government units. So far, the already resource weak municipalities and local government units are expected to coordinate all the different requirements concerning urban- and spatial planning, economic development, civil protection and climate change and the underlying requirements stated in the global agendas: the results are a lack of orientation and work overload.

On the basis of a clear prioritization of measures, improved planning will be translated into local project proposals that take both climate and disaster risks into consideration (e.g. in public building codes) and can be financed through budgets that are not solely focusing on one of the topics. At the crossroad of sustainable development /Agenda 2030 and DRM /Sendai, the Department of Tourism (DoT) in the Philippines will be supported in aligning standards for resilient hotel services and infrastructure with the existing national accommodation standard.

Pilot Country: Mexico

In cooperation with the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit, the project aims to systematically incorporate DRM and climate adaptation measures into their processes of structuring, preparing and assessing public investment projects. In this, GIDRM supports the development of methodologies and processes for a) prioritizing the projects that require an in-depth disaster risk analysis, and for b) integrating risk mitigation and climate change adaptation measures into the prioritized projects.

These activities, while spearheaded by the Finance Ministry, are implemented in close collaboration with the Ministry for Communication and Transport as the pilot sector as well as the National Disaster Prevention Centre in order to make use of existing resources, processes and capacities, and thus foster coherence. Additionally, with the Office of the Presidency of the Republic, the GIDRM is working to integrate the requirements of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction into the national sustainability strategy and its implementation.

IZR budget title

Since late 2011, BMZ is implementing the budget title “International Cooperation with Regions for Sustainable Development” (German abbreviation: IZR). Measures funded from this budget title fulfil specific criteria, including:

- Taking a cross-sectoral and cross-regional approach to tackling global challenges
- Building networks with stakeholders from politics, administration, civil society and the private sector
- Cost-sharing with cooperation partners and others involved; financial involvement is assessed for its potential for up-scaling

These and other practices are introduced by partner governments at regional level:

- at the Latin-American and the Caribbean Network of national governing bodies for public investments (Secretariat: ECLAC, IAEB, GIZ, CAF, World Bank),
- at the Asian Regional Consultative Committee on Disaster Management (Secretariat: *Asian Disaster Preparedness Center*, ADPC),
- at regional events of UNISDR, such as the biennial ministerial conference for disaster risk reduction in Asia and Latin-America.

Through the establishment of a Coherence Practice Group in Asia and through the development of a Guidebook for Public Investments with relevant examples from Latin America and the Caribbean, the topic of coherence is intended to be strengthened further within the regions and with the support of the regional partners.

Equipped with a regional mandate, the country examples are to be introduced at relevant international conferences and ultimately confirmed as regional coherence recommendations: at the biennial Global Platform of the Sendai Framework, the annual COP of the Paris Climate Agreement and the annual High Level Political Forum of the Agenda 2030.

The Global Initiative has an advisory board chaired by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and is cooperating closely with the German Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance (BBK) as national focal point for the implementation of the Sendai Framework in Germany.

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