

DISASTER PROTECTION FOR ALL:

A Gender-Responsive and
Disability-Inclusive Approach
to Disaster Risk Reduction



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The OSCE Gender Issues Programme works towards the implementation of the 2004 OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality and relevant Ministerial Council decisions. It supports systematic efforts to mainstream gender equality across the Organization in all its policies, programmes, projects, and activities in the three dimensions of comprehensive security, namely politico-military, economic and environmental, and human.

Under its multi-year, comprehensive project “**WIN - Women and Men Innovating and Networking for Gender Equality**”, the Gender Issues Programme is striving to advance gender equality as a prerequisite for achieving and maintaining stable, prosperous, and peaceful societies in the OSCE area, in line with the 2004 Action Plan and other OSCE commitments.

The information, views, opinions and conclusions presented in this document are not provided by nor necessarily endorsed by the OSCE, unless explicitly stated otherwise.

CONTENTS

<u>Introduction.....</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Gaps and barriers.....</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Gaps (What is missing?).....</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Barriers (What stands in the way?).....</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Opportunities and recommended actions.....</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>Understanding Disaster Risk.....</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>Strengthening Disaster Risk Governance.....</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience.....</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>Enhancing Disaster Preparedness for Effective Response, and to Build Enhancing Disaster Preparedness and Building Back Better.....</u>	<u>16</u>
 <u>Annexes</u>	
<u>Resources / Toolkits / Manuals.....</u>	<u>19</u>
<u>Frameworks and Policies.....</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>Regional platforms.....</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>Glossary.....</u>	<u>26</u>

INTRODUCTION

Disasters and hazards are a great threat to all, whether caused by natural phenomena or humans. However, societal inequalities make some of us more vulnerable to their detrimental effects than others. Gender and disability are two factors that affect vulnerability. Women and people with disabilities are consistently underrepresented in policymaking, community preparedness training and crisis management. That means that important perspectives risk being overlooked in the different phases of DRR. We need a more inclusive approach to enhance resilience among all people.

A number of major international frameworks and global commitments recognize the need to promote disability inclusion and gender-equitable and universally accessible disaster response, recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction. They include the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the SDGs, the UNFCCC Paris Agreement on Climate Change, and CEDAW's General recommendation No. 37 (2018) on the gender-related dimensions of disaster risk reduction in the context of climate change. A comprehensive list of international and regional frameworks and commitments with a description of each can be found on page 24.

OSCE Ministerial Council Decision 6/14 on Enhancing Disaster Risk Reduction acknowledges the importance of gender-responsive and disability-inclusive DRR and encourages the participating States to (...)

“incorporate local knowledge and information into national plans, taking into consideration the capabilities of both men and women and the specific vulnerabilities of children, women, the elderly, the poor, and the disabled, and to actively engage all relevant stakeholders, including where appropriate local authorities, civil society, the private sector, the media and academia in all phases of disaster risk reduction (...).”

An inclusive approach to DRR must respond to the needs and vulnerabilities of all social groups through adequate and tailored action. This requires:

- gender-responsive and disability-inclusive governance and policymaking;
- gender-responsive and disability-inclusive programming, monitoring, and evaluation;
- integration of gender and disability into vulnerability, risk, and capacity assessments;
- the collection and use of sex, age and disability-disaggregated information and data;
- facilitating and leveraging the actual and potential contributions and leadership of women and persons with disabilities in resilience building; and
- promoting their participation, leadership, and voice in disaster risk reduction processes.

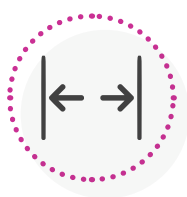


GAPS AND BARRIERS

Many governments have highlighted the importance of gender-responsive and disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction, recovery, and peacebuilding in their national policies and frameworks and some good practices are emerging. However, serious gaps and barriers persist. These are vastly diverse, depending on context, access, and resources. The key challenges relate to the task of cascading the inclusive priorities of global,

regional, and national strategies and frameworks into the local level and developing practical solutions serving individuals and communities in building their preparedness and resilience.

An assessment of existing frameworks and policies on DRR in the OSCE area reveals the following gaps and barriers to including gender and disability:



GAPS (What is missing?)

Inadequate understanding of systemic and intersectional vulnerability:

When communities are largely regarded as homogenous, women and persons with disability are exposed to increased risks, as inadequate attention is paid to their specific concerns and needs. Vulnerability assessments often do not consider that individuals simultaneously belong to multiple and intersectional social groups which determine their risk profile and identities in the context of disasters.

Lack of sex, age, and disability-disaggregated data (SADDD):

Understanding different responsibilities, needs, and capacities in the population is critical to identify, reduce, prepare, and respond to disasters, taking gender roles and people with disabilities into account. Awareness is needed of how different categories of vulnerabilities intersect.

Insufficient or lack of access to information:

Women and girls with disabilities, especially those residing in rural areas and regions densely populated by ethnic minorities, face barriers related to overcoming physical distance and language. Persons with disabilities are more likely to have poorer access to services, knowledge, community networks and other resources. The implications with respect to disasters are life-threatening: inaccessibility renders difficult or impossible the making of informed decisions and the taking of timely and swift action in preparing for and responding appropriately to disasters.

Underrepresentation in policymaking and decision-making processes:

Women and persons with disabilities at all levels (national, regional, and local) tend to be neither part of planning processes and consultations nor included in implementation and preparedness contingency planning and vulnerability, risk, and hazard assessments. Disaster preparedness plans and strategies, vulnerability and risk assessments, and early warning systems rarely incorporate disability and gender perspectives.

Inability to integrate gender and disability inclusion in national and local DRR policies, strategies, and action plans:



While many countries have already prepared their national and local DRR policies, strategies, and plans, only a few have integrated gender and disability inclusion. In most cases, it is only mentioned in a broad manner. Policies, programmes, and budgets are inadequately informed about specific priorities of vulnerable groups, resulting in an inability to address critical priorities and shortfalls in implementation. The global COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the need to adopt a broader consideration of disaster impacts, such as gender-based violence, discrimination, and inequalities. COVID-19 recovery continues to be a key priority for all the countries covered.

Lack of expertise in gender and disability inclusion in DRR:

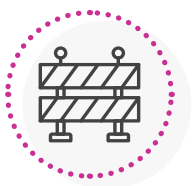


Lack of expertise at the national level was a concern raised by several country focal points. Even if technical knowledge and expertise in gender and disability inclusion exists, there may be no human resource capacity at the country level to integrate it into DRR policies and practice.

Lack of inclusive early warning:



Women and persons with disabilities are at greater risk of injury and death due to societal restrictions and stereotypical roles, limited lifesaving skills, and lack of access to resources and mobility. Often women are not reached by early warning, or they do not accept assistance from first responders who are men. Women who do receive early warning are more likely to warn others and those with children will evacuate a locale earlier. There are gaps and limitations regarding the physical environment for early warning processes. Principles and procedures for ensuring the evacuation of adults and children with disabilities are often inadequate.



BARRIERS (What stands in the way?)

Social norms and biases:



Cultural beliefs and social practices influence what norms, roles, and behaviours are acceptable for women and men, girls, and boys. In countries characterized by a strong patriarchal society, women are perceived as playing a domestic role and performing home-based tasks, which limits their participation in policy- and decision-making processes. Stereotyping and stigmatizing can lead to both overt and more subtle forms of discrimination and exclusion. DRR interventions for gender equality and disability inclusion tend to be more focused on improving physical infrastructure, such as providing wheelchair access to buildings, rather than on social support.

Inequalities in access to DRR programming:



Women, especially those engaged in the work of caregiving in the home and pregnant women, are less heard in the design of DRR preparedness plans. Similarly, persons with disabilities are usually 'invisible' to preparedness and relief operations, and excluded in assessments, relief, and evacuation measures. Their specific needs are often ignored.

Inadequate engagement of vulnerable groups in multisectoral and multi-stakeholder collaboration and partnerships:



Most often, women and persons with disabilities are not part of the design, planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting of national DRR frameworks and plans. These processes tend to involve DRR specialists, decision-makers, and practitioners and exclude development actors working on broader and cross-cutting themes such as gender equality and disability. This undermines the development of targeted and effective interventions with an inclusive impact.

Weak institutional set-up and co-ordination for implementing, monitoring, and reporting:



While inclusive DRR is a shared responsibility, the institutional set-up at the national and local levels are characterized by the presence of many ministries, departments and other entities engaged in different aspects of disaster management, creating grey areas in terms of roles and responsibilities. There is an absence of a common approach and integrated databases and systems for implementing, monitoring, and reporting on inclusive DRR interventions. Oftentimes laws and regulations are established by national governments with insufficient information or engagement of local governments in the implementation. The various state and non-state actors (donors, international organizations, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations [NGOs], and the private sector) tend to work in silos. This results in duplication of efforts that hinders the implementation of inclusive DRR.

Insufficient financing for inclusive DRR:



Inclusion of DRR in national planning budgets and adoption of gender-responsive budgeting remain a challenge. Most of the foreseen interventions tend to be reactive, focusing on disaster response and less on risk prevention, preparedness, risk reduction, reduction of risk drivers. Insufficient attention is paid to preventative approaches that address structural roots of vulnerabilities and build the resilience of those most at risk. Also, there is limited interest on the part of donors and financial institutions to invest in inclusive DRR.

Gender-stereotypical reporting in media:



There is a lack of capacity among media professionals to report on DRR in an informed, non-sensationalist way with a correct use of DRR terminology that avoids gender stereotypes. Topics such as reproductive health, access to assistance, food availability, the quality and equipment of shelters or the safety of women in reception centres receive too little media coverage.

Limited inclusive DRR in education:



National legislative frameworks usually provide a basis for school evacuation plans and disaster preparedness that consider the diverse needs of girls, boys, women, and men. However, very few schools comply with these regulations and a vast majority of schools either do not have school disaster preparedness plans or they are outdated and not functional. Even where they exist, disaster preparedness plans and evacuation routes are not adapted to the special needs of women, girls, and children with disabilities. Children and teachers are not taught how to support people with special needs in an emergency.

OPPORTUNITIES AND RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A summary of opportunities and recommended actions for mainstreaming gender-responsive and disability-inclusive DRR policies and management, organized according to the four priorities of the Sendai Framework, are provided in Figure 1 below:

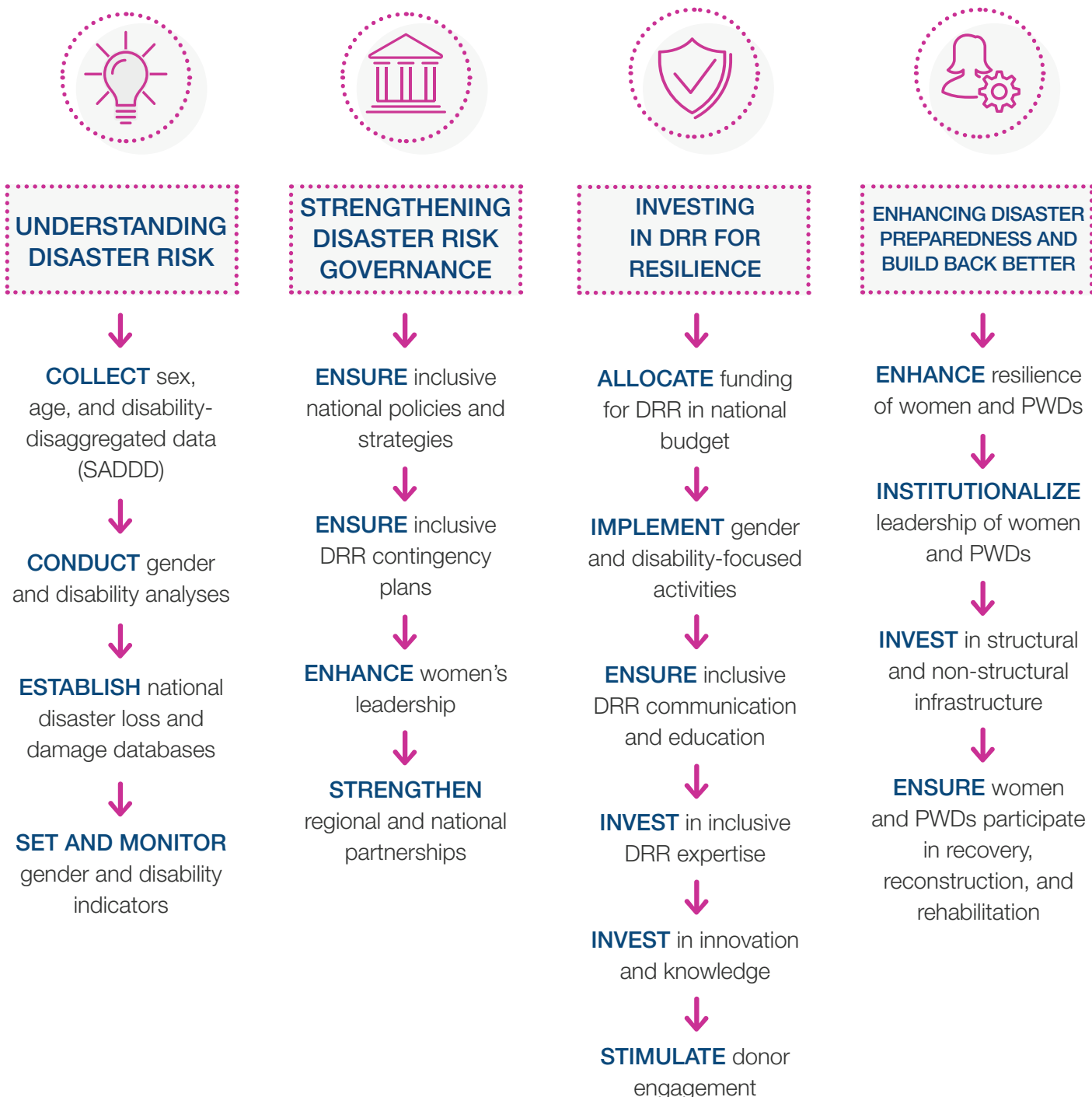


Figure 1: Summary of Opportunities and Key Recommendations



UNDERSTANDING DISASTER RISK

Make better use of comprehensive and SADD data and tools:

Build capacity and resources to gather and process SADD, especially in smaller cities and municipalities. Gathering information and data on affected populations requires the use of multiple tools: surveys, questionnaires, focus groups and/or observations. Disaggregated data on sex and age helps to define exposure, vulnerability, and impact of disasters and crises on the affected population, particularly on those most at risk. This includes raising awareness based on refined disaggregated data based on age, sex/gender, economic condition, ethnicity, nationality, immigration status and disabilities. It also requires the generation of vulnerability-disaggregated risk information, including damage and loss databases related to physical, socioeconomic, and other assets and infrastructure to enhance policy.

Enhance policies based on gender and inclusive analyses:

Identify practical and strategic gender needs and analyse the causes and consequences of differences between women and men. Interpret data according to established sociological (or other) theories about relationships between women and men. Formulate inclusive policies and decisions. Design DRR interventions that consider and address inequalities and differences between women and men and allocate resources that rectify existing gender inequalities in DRR.

Establish national disaster loss and damage databases:

Such databases are vital for reporting since they help to better account for and reflect the reality of disaster losses experienced by women and other social groups. Most databases are hosted by governments; some use the common format DesInventar provided by the United Nations Office Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR - see good practice below). Transforming risk data into understandable and usable information will require increased collaboration between local and central governments and stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society.

Set and monitor gender and disability indicators:

Develop and/or update national-level gender and disability indicators and targets that are tailored to the country context and aligned with global agreements such as the Sendai Framework and the SDGs. This will provide a better understanding of disaster risks and vulnerabilities, strengthen baseline and provide real-time data for effective disaster response, facilitate inclusive DRR planning and targeted programming, and improve progress monitoring and reporting.



GOOD PRACTICES

National disaster damage and loss databases

Albania, Egypt, Jordan, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Serbia, Tunisia, and Turkey are among 89 countries that have a DesInventar national disaster and loss and database. DesInventar is a disaster information management system provided by the UNDRR for the systematic collection, documentation and analysis of data about losses caused by disasters associated with natural hazards. The tool helps to analyse disaster trends and their impacts in a systematic manner. With increased understanding of the disaster trends and their impacts, better prevention, mitigation and preparedness measures can be planned to reduce the impact of disasters on communities. The DesInventar software is open-source and free of charge for commercial and non-commercial use.

In **Albania, Serbia, Turkey, North Macedonia, Montenegro, and Bosnia and Herzegovina**, within the framework of the European Union (EU)'s Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA), an open platform was created for the development and improvement

of national disaster loss databases. The platform enhances coherence among the national systems and methodologies, and consistency with existing EU regulations and guidelines.



STRENGTHENING DISASTER RISK GOVERNANCE

Ensure inclusive national policies and strategies:

Align national disaster risk reduction policies and strategies with the international and regional DRR frameworks' goals and targets. National DRR policies and strategies, including local plans and programmes, should target drivers of inequality and exclusion and ensure that needs of those most at risk and marginalized groups are prioritized.





GOOD PRACTICES

Inclusive national policies

In **Japan**, the March 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami paved the way for women to play an active role in disaster risk reduction, reconstruction, and resilience building. In May 2021, the government's Basic Disaster Management Plan was amended to increase the proportion of female members in local disaster management councils and to take preventative measures against sexual abuse and domestic violence during disasters. The government also increased the number of women members of the Central Disaster Management Council from 11 to 33 per cent and the number of women experts in its subsidiary body, the Disaster Management Committee, to 56 per cent. The Director-General of the Gender Equality Bureau, Ms Tomoko Hayashi, is included in the government's Disaster Management Headquarters, and Gender Equality Bureau staff are dispatched to the Cabinet Office's Investigation teams and on-site Disaster Management Headquarters. At the local level, women participate in disaster management councils, and female staff are assigned to disaster management departments.

In **Serbia**, the Law on Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management (2018) emphasizes the importance of accessibility of DRR measures and

activities to persons with disabilities, and the right to be informed about disaster risks through accessible information presented in easy-to-understand forms and formats. It prioritizes the evacuation of persons with disabilities in emergencies and establishes protocols for different situations of emergency response for persons with disabilities. Serbia's Action Plan for the Implementation of the National Disaster Risk Management Program (2017-2020) refers to the creation of "protocols on different situations of emergency response for people with disabilities – manuals in Braille, SMS apps and similar".

In **Tajikistan**, the National Strategy on Disaster Risk Reduction for 2019–2030 takes into account new approaches of the Sendai Framework and the Sustainable Development Goals and aims at shifting the focus from disaster management to disaster risk management, increasing the role of gender. Priority is given to strengthening disaster risk reduction measures, increasing the resilience of populations and strengthening infrastructure in the context of integrating climate change adaptation issues, especially at the local level, developing and implementing science-based methodologies and tools for recording disaster losses by gender, age, disability and other statistical information, and improving modelling, assessment, mapping and monitoring of disaster risk.

Jordan is a frontrunner in the Arab region for incorporating gender in national disaster risk reduction and climate change policies. The Jordan Response Plan for the Syria Crisis 2021, which offers a comprehensive response to mitigate the impact resulting from hosting Syrian refugees, incorporates gender considerations with age markers, social protection markers and environment that monitor the vulnerability of beneficiaries and efficiency of the interventions. Also, the second Jordanian National Action Plan (JONAP) on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, currently being drafted, addresses the environmental sphere, focusing on the importance of women and persons with disabilities' participation in both adaptation and the mitigation responses to the climate change crisis.



TAJIKISTAN

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Enhance contingency plans and early warning protocols:



Contingency planning and toolkits for rapid emergency and humanitarian needs assessments should be gender-responsive and disability-inclusive. The design and planning of systems, protocols, standard operating procedures, and infrastructure that are disability-inclusive in accordance with available technical specifications, for example, ensuring access to early warning announcements by blind or sight-impaired persons, would benefit not only persons with disabilities but also all other print-disabled persons or persons lacking literacy skills. Evacuation protocols should be designed so that persons with cognitive impairments can follow them in an emergency. Gender-responsive monitoring and warning services should be introduced.

Enhance women's leadership:



Create an enabling environment to increase the participation of women and persons with disabilities in all stages of the disaster management cycle and representation in decision-making and crisis management bodies at the international, regional, national, and local levels through targeted capacity building activities. Enhance the leadership of women at all levels, recognizing their role as equal partners in disaster risk management. Promote the role of women as first responders and in recovery efforts, their active engagement in women's organizations or networks and caucuses and disabled people organizations. Identify champions or change agents that support inclusive DRR for advocacy and lobbying.



GOOD PRACTICES Women's leadership

Ms Nadejda Chetraru, Head of Direction Analyses, Planning and Management of Databases at the Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Service in the Ministry of Internal Affairs of **Moldova**, headed the regional DRR field exercise EU MOLDEX 2017, organized by the EU-funded Programme for Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters in the Eastern Partnership Countries (PPRD East 2 Programme). She was the first Moldovan woman to lead a full-scale regional DRR field exercise. The exercise gathered 600 rescuers, experts and observers from the six Eastern Partner Countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine), and also from Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, the then former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, Norway, Romania, Serbia, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Colonel Chadraabal Ariunaa, Head of the Co-operation Division of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) of **Mongolia**, was elected as the Head of the Economic and Social Commission for



MONGOLIA

©Ms Colonel Ch. Ariunaa, NEMA, Mongolia

Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)'s Disaster Statistics Technical Working Group in 2020. Also in 2020, she was awarded the 'Officer' insignia of the International Order of Civil Defence by the International Civil Defence Organization, the first NEMA officer to be awarded this distinction. Colonel Ariunaa has been engaged in disaster risk reduction and management for more than 20 years, including in the preparation of disaster prevention education guidelines and teaching materials at kindergartens and schools and the provision of training for teachers.

In **Thailand**, women are a driving force in DRR and are increasingly professionally involved in disaster management at the national level. Ms Pannapa (Aimee) Na Nan is the Director of the International Co-operation Section at the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) in Thailand's Interior Ministry. She also co-chairs the Technical Working Group on Protection, Gender, and Inclusion convened by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Committee on Disaster Management. National policies on gender equality and women's empowerment are implemented in Thailand through Women's Development Plans aligned with the principles of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand, CEDAW, the Beijing Declaration, and the SDGs.

Within three weeks of the March 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, Japanese women in affected areas and from across **Japan** came together to form a women's umbrella coalition called the Japan Women's Network for Disaster Risk Reduction

(JWNDRR). Joined by over 150 Japanese women's organizations, JWNDRR advocated for legislative and policy change and the implementation of gender equality and women's empowerment in the response and reconstruction efforts. The Network, led by Ms. Akiko Domoto, formerly the Governor of Chiba Prefecture, urgently pushed for systemic change in the national and local governments to include a gender perspective as a fundamental aspect of disaster and recovery policy, and to allow women from the disaster areas to participate in policymaking. The strategic advocacy of JWNDRR has resulted in key legislative and policy reforms for the inclusion of gender and disability perspectives, an increase in the number of women members appointed to the disaster management councils at the local, prefectural, and national levels, and the active participation of women in policy- and decision-making, as well as in concrete implementation of DRR at the local, national, and international levels.

Strengthen regional and national mechanisms for coordination and partnerships:

Regional and sub-regional platforms and coordination mechanisms for DRR are instrumental in bringing together governments and stakeholders to strengthen co-operation and partnerships to address transboundary risks, facilitate exchange of experiences, forge networks, and inform national strategies. Some regional platforms are the European Forum for DRR, the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on DRR, and the Arab Regional Platform for DRR, and the Sub-regional platform on DRR in Central Asia and South Caucasus. At the country level, National Platforms have been established which serve as a multi-stakeholder coordination mechanism to prioritize focus on gender and people with disabilities in DRR and facilitate coherent planning and implementation. The European Disability Forum Regional, ASEAN Disability Forum, and the Arab Organization of Persons with Disabilities bring together organizations of persons with disabilities from across the respective regions. The EU-Arab Cooperation Forum on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities fosters inter-regional cooperation to improve social inclusion of persons with disabilities in the countries of the European Union and the Arab region.





GOOD PRACTICES

Regional co-operation

A good example of regional co-operation on DRR that includes the gender perspective is the **Centre for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction** that was established in Central Asia in 2016. The Centre organizes regular meetings of the heads of emergency authorities of Central Asian countries, monitors the implementation of the Sendai Framework in **Central Asia** and the South Caucasus and works to strengthen regional and international cooperation. One of the gender-sensitive projects implemented in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan is the project “Reducing vulnerabilities of populations in the Central Asia region from glacier lake outburst floods in a changing climate”. The project strengthens the monitoring, analytical and response capacities of institutions and government officials responsible for DRR, emergencies and climate change adaption through community and gender-sensitive ground-level training and awareness campaigns, and through the establishment of early warning systems. The initiative includes vulnerability assessment and exposure maps developed for endangered communities, including gender and sector-specific analyses. It collaborates with NGOs that address women’s issues in all the participating countries (e.g., the Forum for Women’s NGOs in Kyrgyzstan, which is a founder and coordinator of the Central Asian Forum of Women’s NGOs).



In November 2021 the **European Disability Forum** published a first-ever review of disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction policies and practices **across Europe**. The review will support the EU, national governments and other stakeholders in planning, implementing, and reviewing disaster management policies, and will help to guide organizations of persons with disabilities as they participate in this process. To inform and guide future policy, the Forum has produced four resources regarding disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction in 55 countries in Europe and Central Asia.



INVESTING IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Allocate funding in national budgets:

→ Eradicating poverty and promoting resilience are goals directly linked to reducing disaster risk. Governments should allocate a sufficient proportion of the national budget for inclusive disaster risk reduction by all sectors at all levels by aligning integrated national financing frameworks for sustainable development or national plans with disaster risk reduction strategies and by adopting gender-responsive, risk-informed budgeting and forecast-based financing. This should include the devolution of financial resources to provincial and local authorities to empower them and ensure targeted and focused approaches and interventions.

Implement gender- and disability-focused activities:

→ Make sure that gender- and disability-inclusive approaches are part of DRR action plans, particularly in activity implementation. This includes promoting and mainstreaming inclusive DRR into development plans and projects, and promoting coherence across systems, sectors, and institutions related to sustainable development and DRR.

Ensure gender- and disability-focused DRR communication and education:

To ensure an adequate response to disaster, an alarm signal with simple messages containing clear information must reach everyone. Appropriate means of communication at the national, regional and community levels should be identified in advance. The use of several communication channels is necessary to ensure that everybody has been warned, to reinforce warning messages and to compensate for the possible failure of a single channel. In order to counter the negative stereotyping of persons with disabilities, knowledge, skills, and awareness concerning disability must be enhanced. Programmes and curricula on inclusive DRR should be introduced at all educational levels in collaboration with ministries of education.

GOOD PRACTICES Inclusive DRR in education

In **Armenia** the disaster preparedness of school staff and pupils with and without special needs was improved in a programme funded by the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Department's Disaster Preparedness Programme (DIPECHO) and conducted in partnership with UNICEF, UNDP, Save the Children, Oxfam and the Armenian Red Cross Society (ARCS). The programme included DRR education, capacity building, increasing the technical preparedness of institutions for emergency situations and evacuation, and advocacy for the incorporation of the needs of children with disabilities into the national DRR strategy. In day care centres for children with special needs, the programme introduced improved broadcasting of warning for people with visual or hearing disabilities, inclusive fire safety designs and inclusive elevators for those in wheelchairs. Armenia's DRR policy is guided by the Disaster Risk Management National Strategy and its Action Plan and has developed inclusive tools, including Local Level Risk Management (LLRM) assessment considering people with special needs.



In **Algeria**, the University of Chlef spearheaded an initiative encouraging Algerian women to pursue master's and doctoral programmes in the field of engineering related to reducing earthquake and climate-related risks. The university strove to ensure a gender balance in its DRR-related academic programmes, resulting in a large number of highly trained women graduates in this field. The initiative contributed to increasing the engagement of women in public and industrial research projects and their contribution to building the capacity of their local communities to effectively identify, mitigate, respond to disasters.

Strengthen the capacity and role of the media:

Community participation is important for the expansion of gender- and disability-sensitive interventions in all stages of DRR, including early warning, response, recovery. It is important to raise public awareness about disaster risks and establish an effective communication infrastructure. Mechanisms should be established for better co-operation between governments, national media organizations and stakeholders dealing with information crucial for disaster risk reduction, to ensure that information is provided about how communities can reduce risk and where and how they can seek assistance in the event of a disaster or crisis.

Invest in gender-responsive and disability-inclusive expertise:



DRR policies and disaster risk management can be enhanced by establishing a pool of experts at the national and regional levels and setting up gender and DRR focal points/positions in national institutions and regional administration units. Capacity should also be built within existing DRR teams and management to ensure gender responsiveness and disability inclusiveness on the part of frontline or first responders in surge situations of sudden or more prolonged demand.

Invest in innovation and knowledge:

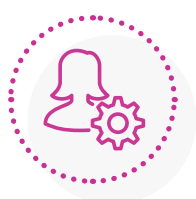


Science and technology can be leveraged to strengthen DRR for persons with disabilities and improve a society's understanding of disaster risk. Evacuation plans and maps for visually impaired students or videos featuring recommended behaviour during heatwaves or other hazards for students that are hearing impaired are good examples of innovations. Technology such as mobile phone tracking or satellite platforms and database can be used to support inclusive DRR.

Stimulate donor engagement for inclusive DRR activities and investments:



Donors and international financial institutions are encouraged to integrate inclusive DRR in their development assistance, with dedicated mechanisms for vulnerable and exposed countries in debt distress. While there have been already some crucial platforms and partnerships established (UN Global Compact, UNDP's Connecting Business Initiative, UNDRR's ARISE Networks - Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies), and corporate CSR and philanthropic socio-economic initiatives (e.g., Making Smart Cities), projects and investments should focus more on sustainable solutions to ensure long-term impact i.e., supplementation of DRR funding, or technical assistance/support for developing national and sub-national DRR policies and plans. Public-private partnerships are essential in scaling innovations as well as engaging medium, small and micro enterprises in DRR for building resilient economies and communities.



ENHANCING DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND BUILDING BACK BETTER



Enhance overall resilience of communities:

Support the resilience and access to resources of women and girls and persons with disabilities by supporting innovations in DRR and climate change adaptation, such as fuel stoves, stockpiling firewood, storing dry food, conserving water, purchasing essential goods, and building social networks within communities. It is important that interventions be designed taking into consideration inequalities and differences between women and men.



GOOD PRACTICES

Increasing community resilience

A project in **Upper Egypt** increased the resilience of women living in villages to counter the risk of loss of livelihood they might face in a disaster. The project, which targeted around 250 women, increased their understanding of disaster risks, provided training in alternative means of ensuring livelihood and technical means to implement them, such as sewing and knitting machines, kilim looms and livestock. The targeted women were actively involved from the beginning: they were linked with local community organizations and grassroots women's associations and had the opportunity to give expression to the risk impacts they face and make suggestions for solutions.

In **Georgia**, a scheme of low-cost community innovations was introduced to build the overall resilience of women (innovations related to food processing and income generation) and men (innovations related to alternative energy sources) to build their overall resilience to potential shocks and disasters in the community.

In northwest **Tunisia** an initiative involving the Khir and Khemir Association, the German Embassy in Tunisia and local public institutions aimed to reduce the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and build resilience by mobilising the skills and expertise of women to strengthen local sanitation. Activities focused on the manufacturing of items urgently needed on the front line and undertaking COVID-19 testing and awareness campaigns. The project engaged rural women in reducing health risks related to the spread of COVID-19, built the capacity of women medical officers and other front-line workers for COVID-19 response, engaged women specialists in the design and production of protective visors in locally established 'Fab Labs', curated the experience, skills and speed of seamstresses operating in the target region in manufacturing coveralls, washable bibs, waterproof bedcovers according to industry standard, and ensured the participation of women in a working group for the development, implementation, and monitoring of an effective and gender-responsive COVID-19 communication action plan.



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Strengthen capacities of women and persons with disabilities in all phases of DRR:



Support women and girls and people with disabilities as advocates and agents of change and participation in disaster planning and all phases of DRR and long-term development. Involve local persons with disability and women's organizations that are knowledgeable on the specific needs and capacities of women and men, as well as those with special needs in remote areas. Participation of persons with disabilities as representatives of users of services in the governance of service providers. Ensure inclusion of persons with disabilities in the establishment of minimum standards for disability-inclusive relief. Train relief workers on disability-inclusive relief work. Include disability audits in evaluations. Identify local champions to support community-level disability-inclusive DRR.

Enhance structural and non-structural infrastructure:

→ DRR should focus more on sustainable solutions with long-term impact such as institutional strengthening, capacity building, early warning and prevention, preparedness, disaster risk communication, climate resilient infrastructure, and people-centered social infrastructure and systems. Public-private partnerships are essential in scaling innovations as well as engaging medium, small and micro enterprises in DRR for building resilient economies and communities.

Ensure participation by women and persons with disabilities in recovery, reconstruction, and rehabilitation:

→ Structure resources and engage women and persons with disabilities in long-term recovery. Design interventions that consider inequalities and differences between women and men. A window of opportunity is available through post-disaster recovery and reconstruction measures for investing in disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction by allocating more resources under the overall umbrella of the social sector, such as for education, health, and social protection.



GOOD PRACTICES

Building DRR capacity of women and persons with disabilities

In **Armenia**, the Ministry of Emergency Situation and the DRR National Platform developed the programme Turning Vulnerability into Partnership, providing employment to people with disabilities in the Ministry and Crisis Management Centre and Rapid Response Service 911. There are currently 35 persons with disabilities employed in the 911 service. In addition, the Crisis Management State Academy of the ministry, which trains men and women yearly, included gender and disability inclusiveness as a part of the course on disaster preparedness and response.

In **Ukraine**, the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine provided training of trainers on chemical emergency response to female and male chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) practitioners, ensuring the participation of female representatives. The key tasks of the group included conducting works on radiation, chemical and biological protection; conducting rescue operations on hazardous and contaminated areas; response to CBRN incidents in the presence of secondary threats such as extreme temperatures, gas pollution, landslides, floods, radiation, and bacterial contamination, and localization of areas of influence of harmful and dangerous factors that occur during accidents, catastrophes, fires, and natural disasters.

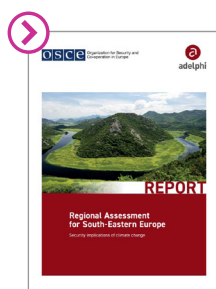


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Georgia promotes women's leadership at the regional and community level, for example through the European Commission DIPECHO-funded programme for the engagement of women to lead in community disaster risk management volunteering groups, community vulnerability assessment processes, and in education through the promotion of women as experts in DRR education.

ANNEXES

RESOURCES / TOOLKITS / MANUALS



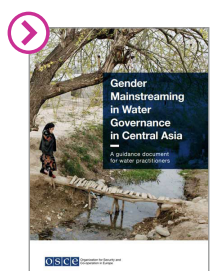
[Regional Assessment for South-Eastern Europe Security implications of Climate Change.](#)

Developed in 2021 by the OSCE in partnership with Adelphi, the publication focuses on gender analysis of climate security in the OSCE region. It highlights gender differences as determining factors of climate vulnerability such as drought caused climate migration of women and families or lack of control over economic assets disabling to cope with climate risks.



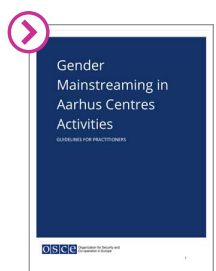
[Family Guide for Emergency Preparedness and Responses](#)

Produced by the OSCE Mission to Serbia together with the Serbian Ministry of the Interior. The purpose of the guide is to instruct families, women, men, boys and girls on how to best respond to an accident. It warns about risks but also provides answers and suggestions that may prove valuable at the time of disasters. Some elements of the Family Guide were incorporated into the illustrated Manual on Basics of Child Safety, distributed across the country.



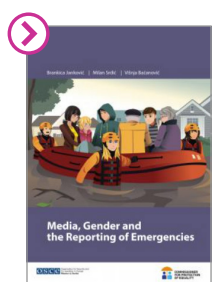
[Gender Mainstreaming in Water Governance in Central Asia](#)

Developed by the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities in co-operation with the Office of the Secretary General/Gender Issues Programme. Gender mainstreaming in water governance contributes to stability and security as it can lead to more effective policies and can work to reduce social imbalances and tension. When women and men equally decide on how to use water, decisions are better targeted and more representative of the needs of the entire population.

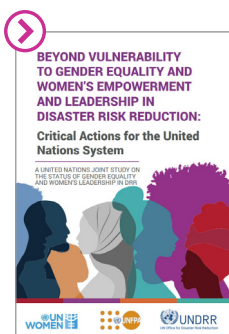


[Gender Mainstreaming in Aarhus Centres Activities: Guidelines for Practitioners](#)

The OSCE Secretariat published these guidelines to assist Aarhus Centre staff and Aarhus stakeholders to effectively integrate a gender perspective into their work and to realize national and international commitments on gender equality. They suggest concrete and practical entry points for integrating a gender perspective into activities related to all three pillars (access to information, public participation, and access to justice) of the Aarhus Convention, as well as in support of OSCE gender equality principles.



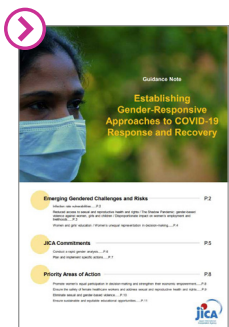
[Media, Gender and the Reporting of Emergencies](#) is a booklet for journalists and professionals dealing with flood reporting developed by the OSCE Mission to Serbia. Stressing the important role of the media in enhancing community resilience to emergencies, it focuses on gender sensitivity in the reporting of natural disasters and emergency situations. Topics covered include ethical and legal obligations, misreporting and the gender perspective in reporting, including the role of women, and recommendations for interviewing victims of disasters. As a case study, the booklet describes media reporting during and after floods in Serbia in 2014, characterized not only by gender stereotypical portrayals of men and women, but also by very limited visibility of female contribution to the humanitarian response.



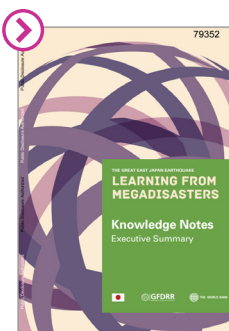
[Beyond Vulnerability to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and Leadership in Disaster Risk Reduction: Critical Actions for the United Nations System](#)

This United Nations Joint Study on the Status of Gender Equality and Women's Leadership in DRR asks how the United Nations system, and each individual entity, can better support Member States to empower women and promote women's leadership in disaster and climate risk governance to underpin risk-informed sustainable development that leaves no one behind. It explores what needs to change in the approach of the United Nations system as a whole to make significant practical progress on gender equality in disaster risk reduction by 2030.

[Guidance Note on Establishing Gender-Responsive Approaches to COVID-19 Response and Recovery](#)



The Japan International Co-operation Agency prepared this publication as part of its commitment to strengthen its gender-responsive initiatives and ensure that no one is left behind. It provides insights on challenges and risks women and girls face in the COVID-19 pandemic and recommends specific practical actions when planning and undertaking programmes for response and recovery. It highlights four priority areas of action: (i) promote women's equal participation in decision-making and strengthen their economic empowerment; (ii) ensure the safety of female healthcare workers and address sexual and reproductive health and rights; (iii) eliminate sexual and gender-based violence; and (iv) ensure sustainable and equitable educational opportunities.



[The Great East Japan Earthquake-Learning from Mega Disasters: Knowledge Notes, Executive Summary](#) is an outcome of the Government of Japan and the World Bank Group's project on mega disasters. It contains information on the successes of Japan's Disaster Risk Management system and ways in which the system could be improved, drawn from lessons learned from the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. It aims to share Japan's knowledge on disaster risk management and post disaster reconstruction with countries vulnerable to disasters as well as to encourage countries to mainstream disaster risk management in their development policies and planning.

[Framework and Tools for Measuring Women's Leadership and Meaningful Participation in COVID-19 Responses](#)



The UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and the Humanitarian Advisory Group prepared this publication in March 2021 with funding support from the Government of Japan. It provides tools for tracking the progress and impact of leadership of women, women's rights organizations, and women focused organizations and their meaningful participation in COVID-19 responses in Asia and the Pacific. The tools, which include a measurement framework, a self-assessment survey tool, and key informant interview guides, can be used both at the sector or country and at the organizational level and can be adapted to measure leadership in other crises and disasters.



[Gender Dimensions of Disaster Risk and Resilience - Existing Evidence](#)

This report, produced by the World Bank and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, contains external contributions that provides evidence on gender gaps in disaster outcomes and resilience and the underlying drivers of those gaps, including the most important knowledge and data gaps. It shows how disaster impact often reflects and reinforces gender inequality. The report also offers an operationally useful framework that can be used for local assessments of gender dynamics in disaster risk and resilience.



[Preliminary Results from a Rapid Gender Assessment on the Impact of COVID-19 on Women's and Men's Lives and Livelihoods in Europe and Central Asia](#)

The rapid gender assessment survey was conducted by the UN Women Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, through the Making Every Woman and Girl Count global programme. Rolled out between April and June 2020, it draws on rapid gender assessment data collected in the Western Balkans, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia, including Albania, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, North Macedonia, and Turkey. The survey data also gauges perceived increases in discrimination and domestic violence based on the respondents' personal experiences and understanding of safety



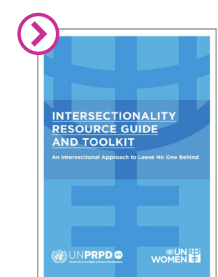
[Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction in Europe and Central Asia Workshop Guide for Facilitators](#)

The guide was developed by the UN Women Europe and Central Asia Regional Office and UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub for Europe and the CIS for practitioners and officials from the United Nations, national governments, civil society organizations, and other institutions to help them strengthen their understanding of the gendered impact of disasters. It also helps them to plan, implement, monitor, and evaluate gender-responsive DRR programmes and initiatives.



[Review of Disability-inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and Practice across Europe and Central Asia](#)

This first-ever review was published by the European Disability Forum (EDF) in November 2021 to support the EU, national governments and other stakeholders in the planning, implementation, and review of disaster management policies, and to guide organizations of persons with disabilities as they participate in this process. To inform and guide future policy, the EDF has produced four resources regarding disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction in 55 countries in Europe and Central Asia.



[Intersectionality Resource Guide and Toolkit: An Intersectional Approach to Leave No One Behind](#)

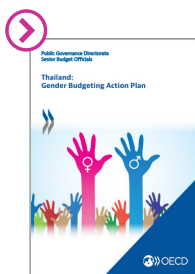
This resource guide and toolkit aim to help both organizations and individual practitioners and experts to address intersectionality in policies and programmes. It is the result of a collaborative effort between UN Women, the UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD), Members of Civil Society Advisory Group including the International Disability Alliance and its Community of Practice members, and inter-Agency joint project partners.



[Gender-Inclusive Legislative Framework and Laws to Strengthen Women's Resilience to Climate Change and Disasters](#)

Published by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in December 2021, this report provides a conceptual framework and good practice guide on how to integrate gender equality in laws and policies on climate change and disaster management in ADB's developing member countries. It also demonstrates how gender-responsive laws and policies can contribute to women's resilience to climate change and disasters. The report was developed for the use of governments, policymakers, organizations, and individuals engaged in gender-responsive legislative reforms.

[Gender Budgeting Action Plan for Thailand](#)



The Action Plan provides a roadmap for rolling out an incremental approach to gender budgeting in short, medium, and longer term. It was a joint initiative of the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, in particular the Budget Bureau and the Department for Women's Affairs and Family Development and demonstrates Thailand's commitment to addressing gender inequalities through gender-responsive budgeting across the different stages of the budget cycle. The concept was also included in the 2017 Constitution.

[Making Disaster Risk Reduction Gender-Sensitive: Policy and Practical Guidelines](#)



These guidelines offer policy and practical guidelines for national and local governments to further implement the Hyogo Framework for Action, which was the policy and practical guidelines for national and local governments to further implement the Hyogo Framework for Action between 2005 and 2015. Published by UNISDR, UNDP and IUCN in 2009, it was the result of extensive consultations and a response to the call for clear policy and practical guidance for mainstreaming gender perspectives into disaster risk reduction.



FRAMEWORKS AND POLICIES

GLOBAL

- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030)
- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Article 7 (5) of the Paris Agreement
- The New Urban Agenda
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development
- World Humanitarian Summit 2016
- Agenda for Humanity
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) General recommendation No. 37 (2018) on the gender-related dimensions of disaster risk reduction in the context of climate change
- Resolution S/RES/1325 and Security Council's Interagency Network on Women and Gender Equality
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol
- United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy
- World Health Organization's Global Disability Action Plan 2014-2021
- The Aarhus Convention
- The Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)'s Disability-Inclusion Action Plan 2018-2023

REGIONAL

European Union

- EU Commitments towards the SDGs
- EU Gender Action Plan III 2021–2025
- European Disability Strategy 2021–2030
- EU Civil Protection Mechanism 2001; the European Commission's Action Plan on the Sendai Framework for DRR 2015–2030
- EU Gender Equality Strategy 2020–2025
- 2021 EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change
- EU Framework for the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- European Commission Action's Plan on the Sendai Framework for DRR

Europe

- European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction (EFDRR) Roadmap 2021–2030

Central Asia and South Caucasus

- Strategy for Development of Co-operation Between Central Asian Countries in Disaster Risk Reduction for 2022–2030
- Plan of Action for Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2039 in Central Asia and South Caucasus region
- 2016 Dushanbe Declaration on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience Building
- 2018 Yerevan Declaration

Asia-Pacific

- Asia-Pacific Action Plan 202–2024 for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for DRR
- Action Plan 2018–2020 of the Asia Regional Plan for Implementation of the Sendai Framework for DRR 2015–2030
- 2018 Ulaanbaatar Declaration
- 2016 Hanoi Recommendations for Action on Gender and DRR
- ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Responses (AADMER)
- Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities: UN ESCAP Ministerial Declaration on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities 2013-2022
- UN-ESCAP Ministerial Declaration on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities 2013-2022

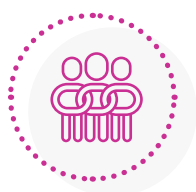
Arab States

- Arab Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction 2030
- Priority Action Plan 2018-2020 of the Arab Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction 2030
- Prioritized Plan of Action for Disaster Risk Reduction 2021–2024
- Voluntary Action Statement (VAS) of the Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment Voluntary Stakeholder Group on DRR, Climate Change and Migration (Arab States) at the Fifth Arab Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

REGIONAL PLATFORMS²

Regional platforms are multi-stakeholder forums that reflect the commitment of governments to improve coordination and implementation of DRR activities while linking to international and national efforts. Directly linked to the Sendai Framework implementation, they serve to discuss transboundary issues around disaster prevention and preparedness, provide leadership and direction, and propose relevant solutions to address disaster risk and to build the resilience of communities and nations.

The United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction UNDRR regional offices serve as the supporting secretariat for these regional platforms. Figure 2 below shows the respective regional platforms participated in by the OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation covered by this study.



REGIONAL PLATFORMS

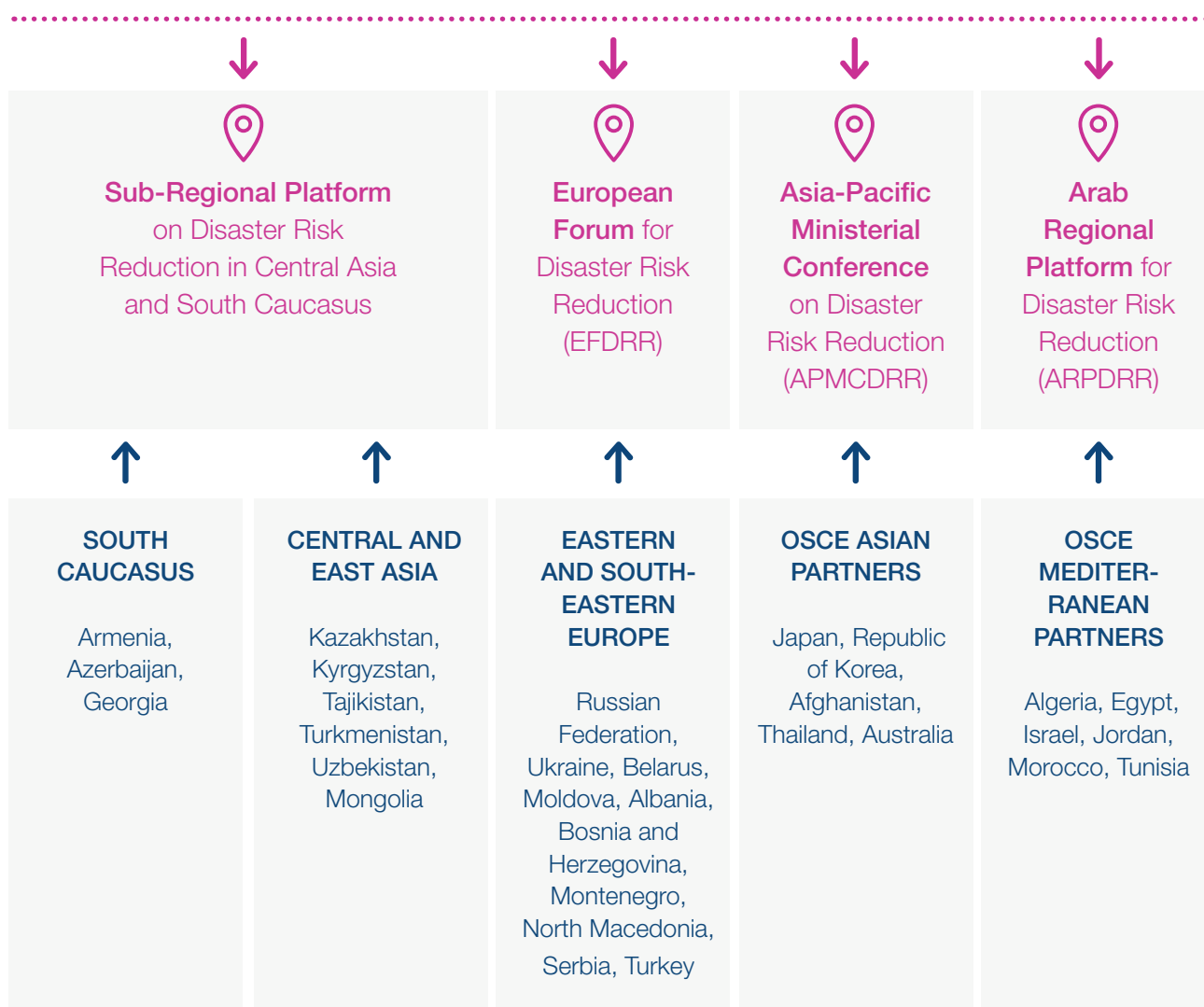


Figure 2: Regional platforms participated in by the OSCE Participating States and Partners for Co-operation

² UNDRR website: <https://www.undrr.org/implementing-sendai-framework/regional-platforms>

GLOSSARY³



Build Back Better

The use of the recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction phases after a disaster to increase the resilience of nations and communities through integrating disaster risk reduction measures into the restoration of physical infrastructure and societal systems, and into the revitalization of livelihoods, economies, and the environment [UNDRR definition].



Capacity

The combination of all the strengths, attributes, and resources available within a community or society to manage and reduce disaster risks and strengthen resilience.

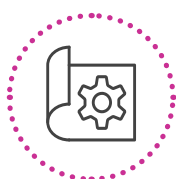
Annotation: Capacity may include infrastructure, institutions, human knowledge and skills, and collective attributes such as social relationships, leadership, and management [UNDRR definition].



Climate Adaptation / Climate Mitigation

Adaptation refers to adjustments in ecological, social, or economic systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli and their effects or impacts. It refers to changes in processes, practices, and structures to moderate potential damages or to benefit from opportunities associated with climate change [UNFCCC definition].

Climate mitigation refers to efforts to reduce emissions and enhance sinks. As there is a direct relation between global average temperatures and the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, the key for the solution to the climate change problem rests in decreasing the amount of emissions released into the atmosphere and in reducing the current concentration of carbon dioxide (CO₂) by enhancing sinks e.g., increasing the area of forests [UNFCCC definition].



Contingency Planning

A management process that analyses disaster risks and establishes arrangements in advance to enable timely, effective, and appropriate responses, actions with clearly identified roles and resources, information processes and operational arrangements for specific actors at times of need [UNDRR definition].



Disaster

A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society at any scale due to hazardous events interacting with conditions of exposure, vulnerability, and capacity, leading to one or more of the following: human, material, economic or environmental losses and impacts [UNDRR definition].



Disaster Loss Database

A set of systematically collected records about disaster occurrence, damages, losses, and impacts, compliant with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 monitoring minimum requirements [UNDRR definition].



Disaster Risk

The potential loss of life, injury, or destroyed or damaged assets which could occur to a system, society, or a community in a specific period of time, determined probabilistically as a function of hazard, exposure, vulnerability, and capacity [UNDRR definition].



Disaster Risk Assessment

A qualitative or quantitative approach to determine the nature and extent of disaster risk by analysing potential hazards and evaluating existing conditions of exposure and vulnerability that together could harm people, property, services, livelihoods, and the environment on which they depend [UNDRR definition].

² Sources: [UNDRR](#), [UNICEF](#), [UNFCCC](#), [UN Women](#), [ECOSOC](#), [UNDESA](#), [UN](#)



Disaster Risk Governance

The system of institutions, mechanisms, policy and legal frameworks and other arrangements to guide, co-ordinate and oversee disaster risk reduction and related areas of policy [UNDRR definition].



Disaster Risk Management

The application of disaster risk reduction policies and strategies to prevent new disaster risk, reduce existing disaster risk and manage residual risk, contributing to the strengthening of resilience and reduction of disaster losses. [UNDRR definition].



Disaster Risk Reduction

Is aimed at preventing new and reducing existing disaster risk and managing residual risk, all of which contribute to strengthening resilience and to the achievement of sustainable development.

Annotation: Disaster risk reduction is the policy objective of disaster risk management, and its goals and objectives are defined in disaster risk reduction strategies and plans [UNDRR definition].



Early Warning System

An integrated system of hazard monitoring, forecasting and prediction, disaster risk assessment, communication and preparedness activities systems and processes that enables individuals, communities, and governments to take timely action in advance of hazardous events [UNDRR definition].



Economic Loss

Total economic impact that consists of direct economic loss and indirect economic loss. Direct economic loss is the monetary value of total or partial destruction of physical assets existing in the affected area. Direct economic loss is nearly equivalent to physical damage. Indirect economic loss is a decline in economic value added as a consequence of direct economic loss and/or human and environmental impacts [UNDRR definition].



Empowerment

Refers to increasing the personal, political, social, or economic strength of individuals and communities. Empowerment of women and girls concerns women and girls gaining power and control over their own lives. It involves awareness-raising, building self-confidence, expansion of choices, increased access to and control over resources and actions to transform the structures and institutions which reinforce and perpetuate gender discrimination and inequality [UNICEF definition].



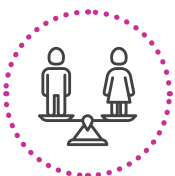
Gender Analysis

A critical examination of how differences in gender roles, activities, needs, opportunities, and rights/entitlements affect men, women, girls and boys in certain situations or contexts. Gender analysis examines the relationships between females and males and their access to and relative to each other [UNICEF definition].



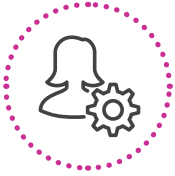
Gender Based Violence

An umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between females and males. The nature and extent of specific types of GBV vary across cultures, countries, and regions [UNICEF definition].



Gender Equality

The concept that women and men, girls and boys have equal conditions, treatment, and opportunities for realizing their full potential, human rights and dignity, and for contributing to (and benefitting from) economic, social, cultural, and political development. Refers to the equal valuing by society of the similarities and the differences of men and women, and the roles they play. It is based on women and men being full partners in the home, community, and society [UNICEF definition].



Gender Mainstreaming

Is a globally recognized strategy for making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral part of the design, implementation, and evaluation of policies and programmes [UN Women & ECOSOC definition].



Gender Responsive Budgeting

Government planning, programming, and budgeting that contributes to the advancement of gender equality and the fulfilment of women's rights. It entails identifying and reflecting needed interventions to address gender gaps in sector and local government policies, plans and budgets. [UNICEF definition].



Gender Responsive Programming and Policies

Gender-responsive programmes and policies intentionally employ gender considerations to affect the design, implementation, and results of programmes and policies. They reflect girls' and women's realities and needs, in components such as site selection, project staff, content, and monitoring. Gender responsive identifies and addresses the differentiated needs of all genders; promotes equal outcomes and responds to practical and strategic gender needs [UNICEF definition].



Gender Sensitive Programming and Policies

Gender-sensitive programmes and policies are aware of and address gender differences. They work around existing gender differences and inequalities to ensure equitable allocation/services/support aligned with the pre-existing gender differences, structures, systems, and power divisions in society [UNICEF definition].



Gender-Transformative Programming and Policies

Gender-transformative programming and policies transform gender relations to achieve gender equity. They strive to transform unequal gender relations to promote shared power, control of resources, decision-making, and support for the empowerment of all genders equally [UNICEF definition].



Hazard

A process, phenomenon or human activity that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, social and economic disruption, or environmental degradation.

Annotations: Hazards may be natural, anthropogenic or socionatural in origin. Natural hazards are predominantly associated with natural processes and phenomena [UNDRR definition].



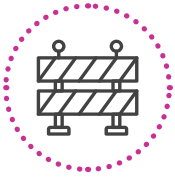
Inclusion & Social Inclusion

A process whereby efforts are made to ensure equal opportunities for all, regardless of their background, so that they can achieve their full potential in life. It is a multi-dimensional process aimed at creating conditions that enable the full and active participation of every member of society in all aspects of life, including civic, social, economic, and political activities, as well as participation in decision-making processes [UNDESA definition].



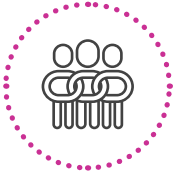
Intersectionality

Intersectionality recognizes that people's lives are shaped by their identities, relationships and social factors. These combine to create intersecting forms of privilege and oppression depending on a person's context and existing power structures such as patriarchy, ableism, colonialism, imperialism, homophobia and racism [UN Women definition].



Mitigation

The lessening or minimizing of the adverse impacts of a hazardous event. Mitigation measures include engineering techniques and hazard-resistant construction as well as improved environmental and social policies and public awareness [\[UNDRR definition\]](#).



National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

A generic term for national mechanisms for co-ordination and policy guidance on disaster risk reduction that are multisectoral and interdisciplinary in nature, with public, private and civil society participation involving all concerned entities within a country [\[UNDRR definition\]](#).



Persons with Disabilities

Persons with disabilities including those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory impairments, which in interaction with various attitudinal and environmental barriers hinder their full participation in society on an equal basis with others. A person with disabilities may be regarded as a person with a disability in one society or setting, but not in another, depending on the role that the person is assumed to take in his or her community. The perception and reality of disability also depend on the technologies, assistance and services available, as well as on cultural considerations. [\[UNDRR definition\]](#).



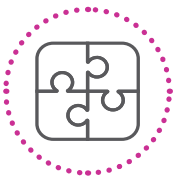
Preparedness

The knowledge and capacities developed by governments, response and recovery organizations, communities, and individuals to effectively anticipate, respond to, and recover from the impacts of likely, imminent, or current disasters [\[UNDRR definition\]](#).



Recovery

The restoring or improving of livelihoods and health, as well as economic, physical, social, cultural, and environmental assets, systems, and activities, of a disaster-affected community or society, aligning with principles of sustainable development and “build back better”, to avoid or reduce future disaster risk [\[UNDRR definition\]](#).



Resilience

The ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate, adapt to, transform, 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 through risk management [\[UNDRR definition\]](#).



Response

Actions taken directly before, during or immediately after a disaster in order to save lives, reduce health impacts, ensure public safety and meet the basic subsistence needs of the people affected.

Annotation: Disaster response is predominantly focused on immediate and short-term needs and is sometimes called disaster relief. Effective, efficient and timely response relies on disaster risk-informed preparedness measures, including the development of the response capacities of individuals, communities, organizations, countries and the international community [\[UNDRR definition\]](#).



Sex, Age, and Disability Disaggregated Data

Abbreviated as SADDD, it refers to data which is broken down into different categories. This can be one or all of the categories sex, age, and disability. The use of SADDD can show the differences and inequalities of conditions for different population groups [\[United Nations definition\]](#).



Vulnerability

The conditions determined by physical, social, economic, and environmental factors or processes which expose individuals and communities and their assets to the impacts of hazards [\[UNDRR definition\]](#).

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