Roundtable discussion with Parliamentarians on the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework

A virtual event organized by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and supported by the Climate Vulnerable Forum Global Parliamentary Group and GLOBE International

Oct 04, 2022    |     13.00 to 14.30 hrs Geneva time

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework)

The Sendai Framework was the first major agreement of the post-2015 development agenda and provides Member States with concrete actions to protect development gains from the risk of disaster. It works hand in hand with the other 2030 Agenda agreements, including The Paris Agreement on Climate Change, The Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development, the New Urban Agenda, and ultimately the Sustainable Development Goals.

Endorsed by the UN General Assembly following the 2015 Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR), it advocates for:

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.

It recognizes that the State has the primary role to reduce disaster risk but that responsibility should be shared with other stakeholders including parliamentarians, local government, the private sector and others.

The Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework

2023 marks the midpoint in the implementation of a number of sustainable development frameworks agreed in 2015, including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement amongst others.

With the COVID-19 pandemic unambiguously demonstrating the consequences of a failure to better understand and manage risk, and with the achievement of the goal and outcome of the Sendai Framework, the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in jeopardy, the UN General Assembly (UNGA) decided to hold a “midterm review of the implementation of the Sendai Framework 2015-2030” (MTR SF) that would take stock of implementation over the last seven years, allowing the re-examination and redress of our relationship with risk.
The MTR SF will assess progress made, examine challenges experienced in preventing new and reducing existing disaster risk, and explore context shifts and new and emerging issues.

It aims to identify renovations to risk governance, and risk management approaches and mechanisms that are able to contend with 21st century challenges, amplifying and accelerating action in all sectors and at all scales through to 2030 and beyond.

It will conclude in a high-level meeting of the General Assembly in New York from 18-19 May 2023 by adopting a concise and action-oriented political declaration. The review and political declaration will also inform the SDGs Summit in 2023, the UN Secretary General’s Summit for the Future, the Paris Agreement Stock Take and UNFCCC COP 28, and the High Level Dialogue on Financing for Development.

**MTR SF Roundtable For Parliamentarians**

The Sendai Framework emphasizes an all-of-society approach and explicitly calls on parliamentarians to reduce disaster risks and protect their populations by developing new or enhancing existing legislation, setting appropriate budgets for disaster risk reduction, promoting public scrutiny on DRR and holding governments accountable for DRR actions\(^1\). Parliamentarians can also shift their governments’ focus and strategy from disaster response and recovery to disaster risk reduction that extends vertically - from national to the local level, and horizontally - across sectors, departments, and disciplines\(^2\).

To ensure Parliamentarians’ views are represented in the MTR SF process, UNDRR is inviting parliamentarians working on various aspects of the risk and resilience agenda to a virtual roundtable discussion. The discussion will focus on:

- Understanding parliamentarians' views on the stock take of Sendai Framework implementation over the past seven years in their countries including, successes, challenges, and opportunities; and
- Forward looking strategic direction for the prospective implementation of the Sendai Framework focusing on renovating or strengthening risk governance and management to deal adequately with systemic risks in the 21st century.

**Expected participants:** Parliamentarians, Inter-Parliamentary Union Secretariat, Climate Vulnerable Forum - Global Parliamentary Group, GLOBE International, UNDRR

**Language:** English

**Format:** Virtual - Zoom platform

**Register in advance:** Please register [here](#) to receive a confirmation email with information about joining the roundtable discussion.

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\(^1\)Sendai Framework Paragraphs 27 (e), (i), (h); 48 (h). The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

\(^2\)IPU-UNDRR: *Disaster Risk Reduction to Achieve Sustainable Development, A Toolkit for Parliamentarians*
Agenda

1. Welcome remarks (3 mins)
   Emmanuel Marfo – Member of Parliament/ Chairperson-designate/ Chairperson, Ghana/ Climate Vulnerable Forum Global Parliamentary Group/ Environment, Science and Technology Committee

   Marc Gordon - Senior Coordinator of the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework, UNDRR

3. Roundtable moderated discussion on stock take of implementation of the Sendai Framework (30 mins)
   Moderator - Saber H. Chowdhury, Member of Parliament/ Chairman, Bangladesh/ Parliamentary Committee on the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
   a. How have parliamentarians contributed to the implementation of the Sendai Framework, risk-informed development, and more broadly, the SDGs, in their respective countries? Are there any successful examples that can be shared on their legislative, oversight, budget-making, and representational functions for DRR and the SDGs, more broadly?
   b. What are some of the challenges faced by parliamentarians, in particular, and more broadly, their constituencies, in adopting decision-making (including for sustainable development) to be more risk-informed since 2015?
   c. Which potential opportunities have not yet been fully tapped for enhanced risk governance and risk management given the changes in national contexts since 2015?

4. Roundtable moderated discussion on prospective implementation of the Sendai Framework (30 mins)
   Moderator - Saber H. Chowdhury, Member of Parliament/ Chairman, Bangladesh/ Parliamentary Committee on the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
   a. Is the current governance mechanism for legislation, oversight, and budgeting fit-for-purpose to prevent the creation of new risk, reduce existing risk and increase resilience?
      - If not, what needs to change?
      - What should be carried forward?
      - How can it contribute towards ensuring greater accountability and efficiency?

5. Wrap up and next steps (3 mins)
   Paola Albrito - Director, UNDRR

6. Closing remarks (3 mins)
   Malini Mehra - Chief Executive, GLOBE International secretariat