



Inputs to the Zero Draft of the Post-2015 framework on Disaster Risk Reduction

UNEP welcomes the Co-Chair’s Zero Draft of the post-2015 framework on disaster risk reduction (also referred to as HFA2), dated 20 October 2014, especially with its stronger language on investing in disaster prevention and resilience, and strong references to sustainable ecosystems management, as well as multi-hazard and transboundary approaches, and references to technological and industrial hazards.

UNEP wishes to highlight the following key areas for improvement in the Zero draft:

1. Section D, General considerations section could better articulate how the priorities of action could be undertaken across the development sectors and ensuring coherence with sustainable development and climate change agendas at different levels.
2. Language that explicitly recognizes ecosystem-based approaches for disaster risk reduction is still needed to provide clearer guidance to Member States. In other words, environment/ecosystems should not only be viewed solely as a problem to be tackled (i.e. an underlying risk factor) but should also be regarded as a DRR solution.
2. Reference to chemical hazards at the Expected Outcome and Goal section is needed.
3. In Section F Implementation Arrangements - Further discussion is warranted to discuss the relevance of the UN Plan of Action on DRR and UN Trust Fund for Disaster Risk Reduction in our efforts to support implementation of post-2015 framework on DRR.

Detailed inputs are as follows:

Reference in zero draft	Comments - Priority action marked in RED , <i>added text in italics</i>
A. Preamble	
4. We are at a crossroads. It is urgent and critical to anticipate, plan for and act on risk scenarios over at least the next 50 years to protect more effectively human beings and their assets, and ecosystems .	<p>OK</p> <p>Could be better phrased : “ and protect their social, cultural, economic and <i>environmental assets</i>”</p> <p>The following text that was integrated in the Pre-Zero draft (Section A, paragraph 4), has been omitted. I recommend that we re-introduce the text that shows interconnectedness of various global processes, in this background paragraph.</p> <p><i>“Trends, such as the increasing</i></p>

	<i>interconnectedness and interdependence of globalization, a world heavily-reliant on technology, patterns of consumptions and production, a changing climate, land and water degradation and desertification, all contribute to modify the nature and characteristics of, and amplify disaster risk”</i>
5. There has to be a broader and a more people-centred preventive approach to disaster risk. Enhanced work to address exposure and vulnerability and ensure accountability for risk creation is required at all levels. More dedicated action needs to be focused on tackling underlying risk drivers and compounding factors , such as demographic change, the consequences of poverty and inequality, weak governance, inadequate and non-risk informed policies, limited capacity especially at the local level, poorly managed urban and rural development, declining ecosystems , climate change and variability, and conflict situations. Such risk drivers condition the resilience of households, communities, businesses and the public sector. Moreover, it is necessary to continue increasing preparedness for response and reconstruction and use post-disaster reconstruction and recovery to reduce future disaster risk.	OK Rephrase to: “ ... <i>environmental degradation, increased industrialization and urbanization....”</i>
6. Disaster risk reduction practices need to be multi-hazard based , inclusive and accessible to be efficient and effective.	Add: “... <i>inclusive, cross sector and accessible....”</i> This paragraph is very important and we should ensure it is kept due to its direct call for the private sector's role and need for integrating disaster risk into investments: “There is a need for the public and private sectors to work more closely together and create opportunities for collaboration, and for business to integrate disaster risk into their management practices, investments and Accounting”
B. Expected outcome and goal	HFA2 is given a 20 year time frame
14. The present framework applies to the risk of small scale and large scale, frequent and infrequent, and slow onset disasters	The message in this paragraph is very important. Add: “...frequent, sudden and slow onset

caused by natural hazards and related environmental and technological hazards and risks and aims to guide the multi-hazard management of disaster risk in development at local, national, regional and global levels.	disasters...” Delete “and related” and Rephrase to: “.....risks are caused by natural hazards, <i>environmental, chemical and technological hazards</i> and aims to guide....”
C. Guiding Principles	No specific reference to ecosystem-based DRR approaches <i>“Disaster risk reduction requires the integration of ecosystem-based solutions, including ecosystem restoration and the sustainable management of land and water resources at the relevant spatial scale. The sustainable use and restoration of ecosystems and biodiversity play a significant role in reducing disaster and climate change-related risks and strengthening the resilience of countries and people.”</i>
D. Priorities for Action	Better articulation needed on how priorities of action could be undertaken across development sectors and ensure coherence with the sustainable development agendas.
Priority 1 National/Local	
Para 22 22. It is important to: a) Establish baselines and periodically assess disaster risks, including vulnerability, exposure and hazard characteristics, at the relevant spatial scale, such as within a river basin and along coastlines;	Keep this paragraph
22 b) Systematically survey, record and publicly account for all disaster losses and the economic, social and health impacts;	Add: “economic, social, health and <i>environmental</i> impacts”
22 g) Strengthen technical and scientific capacity to develop and apply methodologies, standards, metrics and models to assess vulnerabilities and exposure to all hazards, taking into account landscape and watershed level considerations and ecosystem functions and services to reduce disaster risk in risk assessment protocols;	Keep this paragraph
22 h) Invest in research, innovation and technology and promote a long-term multi-	Keep

<p>hazard approach and solution-driven research for disaster risk management to better address gaps, societal challenges and emerging risks and interdependencies;</p>	
<p>Global/Regional Paragraph 29 b) Recognizing the different multilateral processes, work through the United Nations and other relevant institutions and processes, as appropriate, to promote coherence at all levels and across sustainable development, climate change and disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programs;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Important to recognize and take advantage of opportunities presented by multilateral processes that are linking environmental management and DRR, e.g. Convention on Biological Diversity, Ramsar Convention, UNCCD, UNFCCC. - Add text: <p><i>“...across sustainable development, environmental management, climate change and disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programs;</i></p>
<p>Priority 2 National/Local</p>	
<p>Para 25.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Add additional bullet, as follows: <p><i>“Promote ecosystem-based approaches and the sustainable management of natural resources and integrate these into disaster risk reduction policies and strategies”</i></p>
<p>Priority 2 Regional/Global</p>	
<p>Para 26</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Add additional bullet, as follows: <p><i>“Promote collaboration with regards to shared resources at transboundary levels, such as within a river basin, and along coastlines, to enable policy and planning for disaster risk reduction and prevention and to build resilience across the entire landscape.”</i></p>
<p>Priority 3</p>	
<p>27. Investing in risk prevention and reduction through structural and nonstructural measures is essential to enhance the economic, social, cultural resilience of persons, communities, countries and their assets as well as the environment. Such measures are cost-effective and instrumental to save lives and prevent and reduce losses. A continued integrated focus on key development areas, such as health, education, agriculture, water, ecosystem management, housing, cultural heritage, public awareness, financial and risk transfer mechanisms, is required.</p>	<p>Awkward – should be rephrased</p> <p>Why not simply say “...is essential to enhance the economic, social, cultural and environmental resilience of persons, communities, and countries” ?</p> <p>Suggest to include in the list: land-use planning, and industrial development</p>
<p>Priority 3</p>	

National / Local level	
<p>Para 28 b) Strengthen public investments in critical facilities and physical infrastructures, particularly disaster prevention and reduction structural measures, schools, clinics, hospitals, water and power plants , communications and transport lifelines, disaster warning and management centres through proper design, including the Principles of Universal Design, building better from the start, retrofitting and re-building, taking into account economic, social, and environmental impact assessments.</p>	<p>Rephrase/Unclear reference to EIAs – suggest separate bullet on EIAs:</p> <p><i>“Promote the incorporation of disaster risk in environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments for both public and private investments, in order to identify disaster risks on proposed investments , assess risks which could be potentially created or exacerbated as a result of investment activities, and identify sustainable mitigation options to prevent, manage and reduce disasters risks”. “</i></p>
<p>Para 28 (d) Give land-use policy development and implementation, including urban planning, informal and non-permanent housing, special attention due to their direct impact on risk exposure;</p>	<p>Add:</p> <p><i>“and ensure adequate land-use planning for development of industry and infrastructure, with a multi-hazard perspective”.</i></p>
<p>Para 28 e) Promote the incorporation of disaster risk assessment into rural development planning and management, in particular with regard to mountain and coastal flood plain areas, including through the identification of land zones that are available and safe for human settlement;</p>	<p>Rephrase/add</p> <p>Promote the incorporation of disaster risk assessment into rural and urban development planning and management, in particular with regard to mountain and coastal flood plains and industrial zones, including through the identification of land zones that are available and safe for human settlement;</p>
<p>k) Strengthen the sustainable use and management of ecosystems and implement integrated environmental and natural resource management approaches that incorporate disaster risk reduction.</p>	<p>Rephrase in order to capture both key aspects of DRR being incorporated into environmental agendas and of environment being incorporated into DRR agendas:</p> <p><i>“Promote and implement the sustainable management of ecosystems, including the conservation and restoration of ecosystems and biodiversity, in disaster risk reduction strategies, programming and planning at all levels and across sectors; and implement environmental and natural resource management approaches that incorporate disaster risk reduction”.</i></p>
Priority 4 National / local	
<p>Para 31 g) Learn from the recovery and reconstruction programs over the HFA decade and exchange experience knowledge and lessons learned in order to develop guidance for preparedness for reconstruction, including</p>	<p>Add</p> <p>“sustainable construction”</p>

on land use planning and structural standards improvement;	
Priority 4 Global/local	
Para 32 b) Promote the further development of standards, codes and other guidance instruments to support preparedness and response, and contribute to the lessons learned for policy practice and reconstruction programmes;	Add “...to support preparedness and response, sustainable recovery and reconstruction , and contribute to lessons learned....” I recommend ‘lessons learned for development of policies and practices guiding prevention, preparedness, response and reconstruction’.
E. Role of Stakeholders	
Par 34 a) Business, professional associations, private sector financial institutions, including financial regulators and accounting bodies, and philanthropic foundations to integrate disaster risk management, including business continuity, in business models and practices, especially in micro, small and medium enterprises, engage in awareness-raising and training for their employees and customers, engage in and support research and innovation as well as the full use of technology in disaster risk management, share and disseminate knowledge, practices and data, actively engage with the public sector for the development of normative frameworks, quality standards, regulations, as well as policies and plans to incorporate disaster risk reduction	Keep this paragraph – It is very important that SMEs are mentioned in this document, given that over 90% of the private sector in developing countries consists generally of SMEs.
F. International cooperation and global partnership	
c) Mainstream disaster risk reduction measures appropriately into multilateral and bilateral development assistance programmes, including those related to poverty reduction, natural resource management, urban development and adaptation to climate change.	Add: “including those related to.... <i>humanitarian response and recovery....</i> ”
f) United Nations system entities, including funds, programs, and specialized agencies, through the United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience , other relevant International Organizations and treaty bodies, including the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, international financial institutions at	UN system has many other mechanisms in place through which different agencies are supporting countries on DRR. Reference to UN Plan of Action on DRR for Resilience gives a false impression of its strategic and comprehensive nature, which in its present form is limited in terms of its timeframe and scope of work. Further discussion is needed regarding whether or not specific mention to

<p>the global and regional levels, and the Red Cross and the Red Crescent Movement, are called upon to ensure optimum use of resources and support to developing countries, at their request, and other stakeholders in the implementation of this framework in synergy with other relevant frameworks, including through the development and the strengthening of capacities, and clear and focused programs that support States' priorities in a balanced and sustainable manner.</p>	<p>the UN Plan of Action on DRR is relevant in the post-2015 framework on DRR.</p>
<p>h) Adequate voluntary financial contributions should be provided to the United Nations Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction, in the effort to ensure adequate support for the follow-up activities to this framework. The current usage and feasibility for the expansion of this Fund, should be reviewed, inter alia, to assist disaster-prone developing countries to set up national strategies for disaster risk reduction</p>	<p>Further discussion is warranted on the UN Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction, its current status and functionality and effectiveness with respect to delivering adequate support towards implementation of this framework.</p>