



Based on the experience of five French humanitarian NGOs (Solidarités International, CARE France, Action Contre la Faim, the French Red Cross and Handicap International), working in more than 90 countries around the world, we put forward a set of recommendations to include in the post 2015 framework.

Zero draft text recommendations:

- The poorest and most vulnerable people are often the most severely impacted by disasters and yet often have limited resources to escape poverty and deal with risks. Women are often particularly vulnerable, and gender inequalities affect all members of society. Gender inequality is a fundamental driver of poverty and vulnerability, which fundamentally must be addressed if we want to reduce risks at the community level. Disaster Risk Reduction should empower the most at-risk groups, such as women, but also young people and children, persons with disabilities, the elderly and marginalized groups, in the whole process of disaster risk management to deal with disaster and to strengthen their resilience. The zero draft (in para. 6) refers to this as “It is necessary to ensure the engagement of all stakeholders and the participation of women, children and youth, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, volunteers, the community of practitioners, and older people in the design and implementation of policies, plans and standards” but this is not strong enough. These groups should not “ensure the participation” but should be at the core of the analysis and action. More meaningful reference should be included in the zero draft instead of mentioning “people”.

The zero draft should also address the underlying causes of poverty for these minorities to acknowledge and address the inequitable distributions of rights, resources and power that constrain the ability of their communities to deal with disasters.

- 2015 is a very challenging year with the concurrent post-2015 processes on sustainable development, climate change and disaster risk reduction providing the international community with a unique opportunity to ensure coherence and alignment across policies, practices and decision makings for implementation, but the zero draft should detail how the HFA2 will interact with these processes. We could also hope that the HFA2 call for mitigation actions to limit the extent of climate change in order to reduce emissions and keep global warning below 1.5°.
- We are pleased to note the recognition of the need to incorporate disaster risk assessment in **development planning**. We also welcome the emphasis on **mainstreaming DRR** in development assistance programmes, including poverty reduction, natural resource management, urban development and adaptation to climate change. Nevertheless, we urge for continued efforts to link DRR in relief, rehabilitation and development efforts, working across divisions between funding streams.
- The zero draft mentions the promotion of free and open availability of and access to information on risk, disasters, and loss, but there is no explanation of how these data will be collected nor what kind of watchdog will be implemented to prevent collected information from being used by the private sector to exclude the most at-risk groups from safety net systems for instance. The zero draft has to provide guidance on standards and methodologies for risk assessment and data sharing. The collection of data will require for each country to develop a public national disaster loss database to a common basic standard,

with information drawn from local level respondents, and capturing extensive as well as intensive disaster data.

- The zero draft doesn't mention to food security (with the exception of one reference to food aid). This differs from Hyogo-I, wherein there was a specific reference to food security (**Paragraph 4(ii)(d)**: *Promote food security as an important factor in ensuring the resilience of communities to hazards, particularly in areas prone to drought, flood, cyclones and other hazards that can weaken agriculture-based livelihoods*). Recognizing that low-income countries rely on agriculture and local production to meet food security needs, that 80% of this agriculture relies on rain-fed agriculture, that communities often engage in environmental degradation as a critical coping strategy – this is a critical component that needs to be considered in future Disaster Risk Reduction efforts, particularly in the face of increasing incidence of drought due to climate change.
- The link with emergency preparedness and response has to be strengthened in the zero draft. Providing early warning information is an important pre-condition to prevent or mitigate crisis. In order to ensure appropriate and timely responses, the document should promote the integration of disaster risk assessment and actions into the design of humanitarian responses.
- Increase funding: Within overall aid financing over 20 years, the \$ 13.5 billion spent on DRR accounts for just 0.4% of the total amount spent on international aid and of this, most of this amount went to few middle income countries, meaning that most countries received very little international support. The allocation of specific resources for disaster risk management should be clearly explained and a minimum percentage has to be decided on in order to ensure that states are allocated x% of the budget to DRR at a local level (district, municipal level) and to the most vulnerable populations.
- We welcome the reference to “strengthen cooperation and call for contribution to the development of international monitoring mechanisms, such as the HFA Monitor” but methodology on how to monitor and evaluate goals, targets and indicators has to be described in order to control or avoid self-monitoring process. A more explicit mention of the need to provide a “basket of indicators” would be important, as would the need to explain how the climate change, the disaster risk reduction and the sustainable development goals frameworks would be aligned in order to have common targets and indicators. There's no clarity on how often the monitoring will take place nor who will compile the data (26. e)

Specific recommendations for adjustments in the text:

A. Preamble

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| <p>Par 4: “ 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> | <p><i>Par 4 Rephrase:</i> “ 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 social, cultural, economic and environmental assets. “</p> |
| <p>Par 5: “More dedicated action needs to be focused on tackling underlying risk drivers and compounding factors, such as demographic</p> | <p><i>Par 5 Add:</i> “More dedicated action needs to be focused on tackling underlying risk drivers and compounding factors, such as demographic change, the</p> |

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| <p>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.”</p> <p>“Moreover, it is necessary to continue increasing preparedness for response and reconstruction and use post disaster reconstruction and recovery to reduce future disaster risk.”</p> | <p>consequences of poverty and (gender) inequality, weak governance, inadequate and non-risk informed policies, limited capacity especially at the local level, poorly managed urban and rural development, unsustainable use of land and water resources, declining ecosystems, climate change and variability, and conflict situations.”</p> <p>“Moreover, it is necessary to continue increasing preparedness for response and reconstruction and use post disaster relief, reconstruction and recovery to reduce future disaster risk.”</p> |
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C. Guiding principles

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| <p>Par 15: h) “Disaster risk reduction requires transparent risk-informed decision-making based on open and gender-specific/sex/age/disability-disaggregated data, and freely available, accessible, up-to-date, easy-to-understand, science-based, non-sensitive risk information complemented by local, traditional and indigenous knowledge, as relevant”</p> | <p><i>Par 15: h) Add:</i> “Disaster risk reduction requires transparent risk-informed decision-making based on open and gender-specific/sex/age/disability-disaggregated and migration status data, and freely available, accessible, up-to-date, easy-to-understand, science-based, non-sensitive risk information complemented by local, traditional and indigenous knowledge, as relevant”</p> |
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D. Priorities for Action

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| <p>Par 18: The promotion of a culture of prevention, including through the mobilization of adequate resources for disaster risk reduction, is an investment for the future with substantial returns.</p> | <p><i>Par 18: Add:</i> The promotion of a culture of preparedness and prevention, including through the mobilization of adequate resources for disaster risk reduction, is an investment for the future with substantial returns.</p> |
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Priority 1

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| <p>Par 22 b): Systematically survey, record and publicly account for all disaster losses and the economic, social and health impacts</p> | <p><i>Par 22 b): Add:</i> Systematically survey, record and publicly account for all disaster losses and the economic, social, environmental and health impacts and non-economic losses (displacement of population, loss of territory and cultural heritage)</p> |
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Priority 3

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| <p>28. “ It is important to: “</p> | <p><i>Insert additional indents:</i> “ I) : Support the capacity of communities to analyse risk, prepare and take preventive and mitigation measures, in order to be less dependent and able to act in the first moments after a disaster hits, and no</p> |
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| | government or external support is expected.” “ m) : address inequalities and the position of women and men in society.” |
| 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” | 28. d) “Give land-use policy development and implementation, including urban planning, informal and non-permanent housing, and population movements , special attention due to their direct impact on risk exposure” |

Priority 4

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| 31. “It is important to “ | <i>31. Add:</i> “ i) address inequalities and the differential vulnerabilities and roles of women and men in response, recovery and reconstruction.” |
| 31.h) “Promote the incorporation of disaster risk management into post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes and use opportunities during the recovery phase to develop capacities that reduce disaster risk in the medium term, including through the sharing of expertise, knowledge and lessons learned.” | <i>31. h) Add:</i> “Promote the incorporation of disaster risk management into post-disaster relief , recovery and rehabilitation processes and use opportunities during the recovery phase to develop capacities that reduce disaster risk in the medium term, including through the sharing of expertise, knowledge and lessons learned.” |