

World Bank Group Statement
Consultation with Major Groups and Member States
Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
September 19, 2014

The Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) has been an effective tool to motivate and track progress of countries to build resilience to disasters. The Post-2015 DRR Framework (HFA2) is an opportunity to build on HFA's strengths, improve on its recognized shortcomings, and drive the mainstreaming of disaster risk management in countries' sustainable development and poverty reduction approaches.

The World Bank Group supports HFA2 alignment with the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals and climate change agreements. Coherence will encourage coordinated national action. HFA2 will guide, inform and measure progress in managing disaster and climate risks. If HFA2 lays out an approach to consistently measure and validate government self-reporting, it could set an exemplary precedent on monitoring. We hope that in its final form, HFA2 explains with clarity, the relationship between the overarching goals, priorities for action, and targets. Risk reduction, which is a national and international priority, could benefit from emphasis in HFA2. HFA2 formulation is timely as it has the opportunity to align closely with the proposed system of indicators allowing for consistency across internationally developed frameworks.

The proposed goals represent three overarching objectives: risk prevention, risk reduction, risk retention and transfer (including recovery). The goals are well articulated and provide adequate depth of information. However, explicit incorporation of the strengthening of persons', communities' and countries' ability to absorb loss and recover after a disaster could enhance the focus of the third goal, highlighting the *outcome*. Social, economic and environmental measures, which are processes to attain the outcome, would be more linked to priorities for action.

Priorities of Action, which are processes necessary to achieve the goals, are also essential to HFA2.

1. The priority *Preparedness for Response, Recovery and Reconstruction – “Build-Back-Better”* represents two essential components of risk reduction: disaster preparedness, which includes early warning systems, disaster contingency plans and immediate response measures; and recovery & reconstruction which warrants other actions and substantial investments. Given the crucial significance of these components, HFA2 could emphasize the importance of each independently.
2. Similarly, the *Investing in Social, Economic and Environmental Resilience* priority includes a mix of crucial actions which would benefit from being un-packed as priorities for actions around (i) investing in risk reduction and risk prevention and (ii) risk transfer and risk retention at local and national levels.
3. Additionally, cross-cutting issues such as climate resilience, poverty, fragility and community resilience are integral to all priorities of actions. The World Bank Group sees HFA2 as an opportunity to ensure that development and risk management are sustainable, inclusive and mutually reinforcing. The World Development Report 2014 *Risk and Opportunity: Managing Risk for Development*, provides rich evidence and recommendations on this issue.

The World Bank Group finds Section E on International Partnerships to be crucial in the formulation of HFA2.

1. Managing disaster risk requires an all-states and all-stakeholder effort with strong international partnerships. The World Bank Group instituted the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) to support the implementation of HFA. It will continue to assist countries mainstream disaster risk management. We hope that this would warrant due mention in Paragraph 26 (c).
2. Paragraph 26 (d) requests 'adequate voluntary contributions' for 'follow up activities'. HFA2 could be inclusive in calling for adequate funding of all implementing mechanisms, including governments and non-state actors, and efficient by defining the 'follow up activities'.
3. UNISDR deserves to be congratulated for its unique function of monitoring and tracking progress on the HFA. 'Supporting the implementation' will require coordinated actions on the part of all. Therefore, reference to 'implementation' in Paragraph 26 (g) appears to be misleading.
4. Paragraph 10 specifies timelines for global targets correctly indicating the urgency of achieving priority actions. Therefore, an 'open ended' framework [Paragraph 26 (i)] might dilute HFA2's sense of purpose.