

2021

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

#OnlyTogether
#DRRday



INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION FOR
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
TO REDUCE THEIR
DISASTER RISK AND
DISASTER LOSSES



UNDRR

UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



Social Media Hashtags

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KEY MESSAGES

- The hour is getting late. Only together...can we save the planet.
 - Without real action on climate in the next ten years, extreme weather events will be overwhelming, especially for developing countries.
 - The prevention of zoonotic diseases, pandemic preparedness, and equity in vaccine distribution should be priority areas for international cooperation.
 - International support for DRR is essential to eradicating poverty, hunger and reducing economic losses in developing countries.
 - Greater investment is needed in multi-hazard early warning systems in developing countries.
 - Planetary emergencies can only be adequately addressed through impartial and inclusive international cooperation on disaster risk management.
 - International cooperation for developing countries through ODA and capacity building is essential to boost disaster resilience in the face of extreme weather events and other natural and man-made hazards.
 - Disasters impact low- and middle-income countries disproportionately, particularly in terms of mortality, numbers of people injured, displaced and homeless, economic losses (as a percentage of GDP) and damage to critical infrastructure.
 - International cooperation is essential to ensure that no vulnerable people are left behind in disaster-prone settings, including women, children and youth, people with disabilities, the elderly, migrants and indigenous people.
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INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND THE SENDAI SEVEN CAMPAIGN

The Sendai Seven Campaign is in its 6th year following its launch by the UN Secretary-General in 2016. Each year, the focus has been on one of the seven targets of the Sendai Framework agreed by UN Member States at a World Conference on DRR in Sendai, Japan.

In summary, the seven targets focus on (a) reducing disaster mortality; (b) reducing the numbers of people disaster affected; (c) reducing direct economic losses; (d) reducing damage to critical infrastructure. The targets for achieving these reductions in disaster losses are: (e) increasing the number of national and local strategies for disaster risk reduction; (f) enhancing international cooperation to developing countries; and (g) to boosting the availability of, and access to, multi-hazard early warning systems.

The focus of this year's International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction is on Target (f): "Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of the present Framework by 2030."



DRR AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

To date, 101 countries have developed national strategies for disaster risk reduction but many low- and middle-income countries need some form of international cooperation and support to implement these strategies.

International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction happens just weeks before COP26, a climate change conference that must deliver increased levels of ambition and international cooperation on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and climate change adaptation.

Only half of the 193 members of the World Meteorological Organization have multi-hazard early warning systems and there are severe gaps in weather and hydrological observing networks in Africa, parts of Latin America and in Pacific and Caribbean island states.

Pre-COVID, the World Bank calculated that the real cost of disasters to the global economy amounted to US\$ 520 million annually, with 26 million people being pushed into poverty every year.

The pandemic combined with extreme weather events including drought, is having devastating effects on global hunger and poverty, e.g. 2.3 billion people lacked adequate year-round access to food in 2020.

The struggle of many developing countries to manage the COVID-19 pandemic highlights the need to integrate health threats in national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, support the implementation of the International Health Regulations and build resilient health systems.

SOME QUESTIONS FOR PARTNERS TO CONSIDER FOR PROMOTING THE DAY

- What have you done to enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to their DRR efforts?
- Do you have a DRR project to showcase where international cooperation played a role?
- What challenges are you facing in building community resilience to disasters that might need external support?

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