Partnership:

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Workshop on assessing the impact of Slow-Onset Events

8-9 November 2023
UN Campus, Bonn, Germany

www.undrr.org/event/workshop-assessing-impact-slow-onset-events

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“We cannot afford the existing parallelism and silos between climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction anymore. We must work together at the national level, at the global level, and very much at the local level, because at the local level, local people don’t make these distinctions….”

Dr Saleemul Huq
1952 - 2023

“….this COP28 is, in fact, “COP1”: the first U.N. summit in the new era of climate loss and damage which is already upon us.”
Workshop objectives

Recognizing the existing gaps and challenges in understanding losses and damages resulting from slow-onset events, and the need to better address them.

Workshop objectives:

i. Enhance understanding of the current state of play on assessment of impact of SOEs.

ii. Explore gaps and opportunities in assessing and tracking the impact of SOEs, vis-à-vis data availability, losses and damages tracking systems, and the application of assessment methodologies (e.g., post-disaster needs assessments)

iii. Identify use cases of such data including in context of addressing the impact of SOEs.

Slow onset events

1. Sea level rise
2. Increasing temperatures
3. Ocean acidification
4. Glacial retreat and related impacts
5. Salinization
6. Land and forest degradation
7. Loss of biodiversity
8. Desertification

UNFCCC Cancun Adaptation Framework, 2010
The Framing: Assessing the impact of slow-onset events

Key issues in assessing the impact of slow-onset events

- Temporal dimensions
  - Start and end time
  - Challenges in monitoring
  - Baselines / triggers
- Anthropogenic vs climate impacts
- Interlinkages among slow-onset events
- Linkage with extreme events
  - SOE-induced extreme events
  - Extreme event-induced SOEs
- Assessing impacts
  - Direct, indirect and cascading impacts
  - Non-economic losses
  - Positive impacts?

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Where we stand today: Methods and Data standards

**Impact assessments**
- Institutionalized methodologies from Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (Adapted for droughts and locally adopted as national standards)
- Slow-onset event-specific assessments conducted

**Hazard classification**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Slow-onset event</th>
<th>Hazard type</th>
<th>Hazard cluster</th>
<th>Specific hazard</th>
<th>HIP identifier</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desertification</td>
<td>Environmental</td>
<td>Environmental Degradation</td>
<td>Desertification</td>
<td>EN0014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ocean acidification</td>
<td>Meteorological &amp; Hydrological</td>
<td>Marine</td>
<td>Ocean acidification</td>
<td>MH0021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sea level rise</td>
<td>Environmental</td>
<td>Environmental Degradation</td>
<td>Sea level rise</td>
<td>EN0023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Land and forest degradation</td>
<td>Environmental</td>
<td>Environmental Degradation</td>
<td>-Land Degradation</td>
<td>EN004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-Soil Degradation</td>
<td>EN005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Potentially-Debrestion</td>
<td>EN009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-Forest Declines &amp; Diebacks</td>
<td>EN0010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-Forest Disturbances.</td>
<td>EN0011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of biodiversity</td>
<td>Environmental</td>
<td>Environmental Degradation</td>
<td>Biodiversity Loss</td>
<td>EN008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salinization</td>
<td>Environmental</td>
<td>Environmental Degradation</td>
<td>Salinity</td>
<td>EN007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing temperatures</td>
<td>Meteorological &amp; Hydrological</td>
<td>Temperature-related</td>
<td>Potentially-Heatwave</td>
<td>MH0047</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Global retreat and related impacts**

**Hazard categories**
- Desertification
- Ocean acidification
- Sea level rise
- Land and forest degradation
- Loss of biodiversity
- Salinization
- Increasing temperatures

**Hazard clusters**
- Environmental Degradation
- Marine
- Temperature-related

**Specific hazards**
- Desertification
- Ocean acidification
- Sea level rise
- Land Degradation
- Soil Degradation
- Potentially-Debrestion
- Forest Declines & Diebacks
- Forest Disturbances
- Biodiversity Loss
- Salinity
- Potentially-Heatwave

**NUMBER OF RELATED SDGS INDICATORS BY SOE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SDG Goals related to SOE</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.4 Sustainable agriculture</td>
<td>Insufficient data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.6 Water-related ecosystems</td>
<td>Stagnation or regression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.3 Ocean acidification</td>
<td>Stagnation or regression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.4 Sustainable fishing</td>
<td>Stagnation or regression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.1 Terrestrial &amp; freshwater ecosystems</td>
<td>Stagnation or regression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.2 Sustainable forests management</td>
<td>Fair progress, acceleration needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.3 Desertification and land degradation</td>
<td>Stagnation or regression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.4 Conservation of mountain ecosystems</td>
<td>Fair progress, acceleration needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.5 Loss of biodiversity</td>
<td>Stagnation or regression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.6 Invasive alien species</td>
<td>On track or target met</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.9 Biodiversity in national &amp; local planning</td>
<td>On track or target met</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.a Resources for biodiversity &amp; ecosystem</td>
<td>Stagnation or regression</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The Sustainable Development Goals Progress Chart 2023
Houses damaged or destroyed due to landslides in Colombia

110 countries with sub-nationally disaggregated disaster losses and damages data since 1994

- **Comprehensive picture:** human, economic, housing and infrastructural losses at subnational levels (up to 3 geographic disaggregation levels)
- **Nationally owned systems:** disaster data collected and validated within country (no thresholds, government definitions) done by governments themselves in most cases
- **Methodology and system:** collection and analysis of homogeneous disaster data at all scales (small, medium, and large), generated from lowest administrative levels.
- **DesInventar Sendai:** since 2018, closer alignment with relevant Sendai Framework targets and indicators, enabling streamlined reporting to SDGs and the Sendai Framework

**New disaster tracking system for hazardous events and losses and damages**

- **Strengthened collaboration** between and among key national agencies mandated to record hazards and their impacts such as the NDMO, NMHSs and other technical agencies
- **Higher levels of disaggregation:** Beyond local-level tracking, impact information dissected by gender, age, income, and more
- **Integrated hazard catalogue:** Leverage WMO cataloguing of hazardous event data, ensuring authorities can connect the dots between cascading events more effectively.
- **Standardized Data Metrics:** In sync with the Sendai Framework and SDG monitoring, applying a standardized set of terminologies and methodologies, ensuring precision and accuracy.
- **Tailored to country needs:** Countries can customize the system according to their unique contexts and capacities

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**Participants**

SOE Expertise

- Desertification: 10
- Glacial retreat and related impacts: 4
- Increasing temperatures: 20
- Land and forest degradation: 10
- Loss of biodiversity: 5
- Ocean acidification: 4
- Salinization: 3
- Sea level rise: 10
- Other: 19

Post-Disaster Needs Assessments (PDNA): 25 Participants

SDG Custodian Organizations: FAO, UNESCO, UNEP

**Participating organizations:**
- Australian Climate Service
- CGIAR
- DWD
- Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change (CMCC)
- FAO
- GCF
- GIZ
- Government of Vanuatu
- ICAT/UNOPS
- IDMC
- Indonesia Agency for Meteorology Climatology and Geophysics (BMKG)
- IOM
- International Science Council
- Science and Technology Action Group (Arab States)
- Tohoku University
- UK Health Security Agency
- UK Met Office
- UNDP
- UNDRR
- UNEP
- UNESCO
- UNU-EHS
- WHO
- WMG
- Other experts
- Online participants

**Agenda**

**Wednesday, 8 November**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:30 – 09:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:00 – 09:30</td>
<td>Opening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:30 – 10:30</td>
<td>Scene-Setting: Panel Discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 – 11:00</td>
<td>Photo and Tea-Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 – 12:45</td>
<td>Technical Session 1: Understanding the state of play</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45 – 13:45</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:45 – 15:45</td>
<td>Breakout Group Discussion 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:45 – 16:15</td>
<td>Tea-Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:15 – 17:00</td>
<td>Report-back – Breakout Group Discussion 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:00 – 20:00</td>
<td>Reception</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Thursday, 9 November**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00 – 09:30</td>
<td>Key takeaways from Day 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:30 – 10:30</td>
<td>Technical Session 2: Post-disaster needs assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 – 11:00</td>
<td>Tea-Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:45</td>
<td>Technical Session 3: Tracking system on hazardous events and disaster losses and damages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45 – 13:00</td>
<td>Breakout Group Discussion 2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00 – 14:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:00 – 15:00</td>
<td>Breakout Group Discussion 2.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00 – 15:30</td>
<td>Tea-Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:30 – 16:30</td>
<td>Report-back – Breakout Group Discussion 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:30 – 17:00</td>
<td>Closing and next steps</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Administrative information

SAFETY & SECURITY

INTERNET ACCESS & ONLINE PARTICIPATION

DOCUMENTATION

FACILITIES

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Thank you

www.undrr.org/disaster-losses-and-damages-tracking-system

#LossesDamagesData

A joint effort of:

UNDRR UNDP WMO

Workshop in collaboration with:

UNU EHS

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