Task Team on Disaster Risk Reduction in Humanitarian and Fragile Contexts

Terms of Reference

Background

The Task Team on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in Humanitarian and Fragile Contexts was initially established in August 2021 with a focus on scaling up DRR in humanitarian action. It was created following the adoption of a UN Senior Leadership Group (UN SLG) on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience recommendation related to further integrating DRR in humanitarian-development planning and programming. This recommendation, from July 2021, sought to enhance “the integration of disaster and climate risk considerations in humanitarian action and strengthen humanitarian/development collaboration around DRR, including UN entities’ support in implementing the Checklist on Scaling up DRR in Humanitarian Action.” In July 2022, the UN SLG built on the momentum created in 2021 and called for an acceleration of “efforts to risk-inform programming in development, humanitarian and peace actions respectively, and strengthen collaboration around DRR in humanitarian and crisis contexts”. In practice, this recommendation renewed the mandate of this network, which was renamed “Task Team on Disaster Risk Reduction in Humanitarian and Fragile contexts.”

The creation of the Task Team sought to establish a multi-partner group which would focus solely on the topic of DRR integration in humanitarian and fragile contexts, and, more broadly, of risk-informing the triple nexus – as no other mechanism with similar focus existed to date. At the same time, the Task Team remains informal and technical in nature, working in support of other formal mechanisms and groups such as those associated with the United Nations DRR Focal Points Group and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Task Force 4 (TF4) on Humanitarian-Development Collaboration and its Linkages to Peace. The Task Team is open to any entity working on DRR in humanitarian and fragile contexts. To date, the membership consists mostly of members of the UN DRR Focal Points Group and members of the IASC TF4.

Vision

In a world where the climate is changing, and risk becomes increasingly systemic, with impacts cascading across countries and sectors, humanitarian needs caused by crises and disasters are growing. Risk reduction must be placed at the core of programming, whether on climate change action, sustainable development, humanitarian action or peacebuilding. Only this way can lives be saved and livelihoods protected. Collectively, we are falling behind on Sendai Framework and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) implementation in many of the most vulnerable contexts. Recognizing that DRR in fragile and humanitarian contexts warrant greater attention, the Task Team works to:

- integrate DRR into policies and guidelines relevant to humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) actions
- strengthen collaboration on disaster risk reduction across HDP actors and beyond
- identify opportunities for joint advocacy and action on disaster risk reduction in humanitarian and fragile contexts
- support national and local efforts to scale up DRR across humanitarian, development and peacebuilding activities

**Objectives**

The objectives of the Task Team include, but are not limited to:

- Contribute to the operationalization of the UN SLG recommendations on humanitarian, development and peace building actions, including by providing insights, feedback and inputs to the agreed deliverables;
- Contribute to the integration of DRR within relevant internal and global policies and associated guidance relevant for HDP planning and programming;
- Exchange information, experiences, good practices and lessons learned related to the topic of DRR and the humanitarian-development-peace collaboration, and serve to connect practitioners on specific priorities and topics;
- Strengthen awareness by disseminating guidance and information on DRR in humanitarian and fragile contexts through relevant websites such as PreventionWeb.
- Identify opportunities for joint advocacy and action, related to specific topics, events or policy processes;
- Support in connecting actors and individuals for technical support to partners in the field to better risk-inform humanitarian, development and peace actions.

**Working modalities**

The Task Team is of an informal nature and meets on an ad-hoc basis, approximately once per quarter. It is led by a Core Group of UN organizations which meets at least monthly. The Core Group supports the operationalization of the relevant UN SLG recommendations. UNDRR acts as the secretariat for the Task Team. Annex 1 provides a list of member entities and the associated persons. The level of participation of organizations in the network is used to measure the value added of the network. A more robust evaluation of the network’s added value (indicators and targets) will be set up at a later stage. It should be noted that, if participants change organization, they can remain active in the network in their individual capacity.

The Task Team possesses its own virtual [space on Microsoft Teams](#), where a list of Task Team members, background documents and meeting reports and presentations are stored.