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Sustainable development: disaster risk reduction

Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report has been prepared as requested by the General Assembly in resolution [74/218](#) on disaster risk reduction and resolution [73/230](#) on effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon. It provides an overview of progress made towards the global targets and the priorities for action of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and identifies good practice, challenges and areas of the Framework that appear not to receive adequate attention. The report draws on the data reported by countries to the Sendai Framework monitor and the collective work of the United Nations system in support of national disaster risk reduction priorities.

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I. The current state of disaster risk

1. Five years after the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, its implementation is delivering results. Many countries have increased their capacity to implement disaster risk reduction programmes and progress has been made in saving lives and livelihoods through investments in disaster preparedness and response. However, action to prevent the creation of new and to reduce existing disaster risk lags behind. Disaster risk reduction is not sufficiently considered in policies and investments across sectors and is yet to be fully integrated in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. That is corroborated by data reported to the Sendai Framework monitor and by DesInventar disaster loss databases on the global targets of the Sendai Framework. Comparing the period 2005–2015 with 2009–2019, the number of dead and missing persons in the event of a disaster per 100,000 people (global target A) has fallen from 1.802 to 1.039 and the number of persons affected by disasters per 100,000 people (global target B) has fallen from 1,674.9 to 1,380.1. However, economic losses owing to disasters in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP) (global target C) continue to increase. The number of critical infrastructure units and facilities destroyed or damaged by disasters per 100,000 people has increased from 0.587 to 0.844 (global target D).

3. To reduce underlying risk drivers that create vulnerability and exposure to hazards and make the transition to development policies and practices that reduce existing risk and prevent the creation of new risk, it is necessary to increase commitment and resources to achieve the other three global targets of the Sendai Framework. A substantial increase in the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies in place by 2020 (global target E) is essential to guide that transition. As of April 2020, 85 countries had reported having national strategies in place. The quality of those strategies is as important as the quantity. To date, the average self-reported score of alignment with the Sendai Framework, using the 10 key elements developed by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, is 0.67 on a scale of 0 to 1. Only 73 donor and recipient countries have reported on international cooperation with developing countries to implement the Sendai Framework (global target F). Financial support fluctuates significantly between years and is not commensurate with current levels of risk and the pace of risk creation. Moreover, only 69 countries have reported having access to multi-hazard early warning systems and 24 countries have reported having access to appropriate disaster risk information and assessments (global target G).

4. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, in the first instance a public health disaster, has triggered a disaster with social and economic consequences on a global scale. It highlights the systemic nature of risk and the potential for cascading impacts across systems and borders. A disaster is often the result of decades of accumulation of risk within social, economic, environmental and political systems. The virus does not discriminate between rich and poor but the poorest and most marginalized members of society have been affected the most owing to underlying social, economic and environmental risk drivers that have increased their exposure and vulnerability and which weaken coping capacities. Meanwhile, the global climate emergency continues to intensify. From cyclones across Asia to desert locust swarms and food insecurity in East Africa, countries are grappling with disaster preparedness, response and recovery in the midst of a pandemic. The socioeconomic impact of the pandemic has deepened poverty and exclusion while increasing vulnerability and exposure to those and other hazards. The combination of the crises underlines the urgent need to implement the Sendai Framework as an integral part of the 2030 Agenda.

5. Unintended negative consequences of action or inaction in one sector can create risk that reverberates across systems and have hampered progress in meeting the Sustainable Development Goals. The authors of the Global Sustainable Development Report for 2019, *The Future is Now: Science for Achieving Sustainable Development*, have outlined the benefits and trade-offs that can stem from interaction between development interventions. To mitigate unintended negative consequences, disaster risk and its drivers must be taken into account in trade-off decisions between development pathways.

6. The Sendai Framework presents a paradigm for understanding and managing systemic risk under which the prevailing focus on natural hazards is expanded to include human-made, technological, environmental and biological hazards. It also gives clear guidance for prevention that moves the focus from managing disaster events to managing disaster risk systemically by reducing existing risk, preventing the creation of new risk and managing residual risk. Disaster risk reduction must be at the core of development and economic, social and environmental policy at all levels. Disaster preparedness, response, recovery and rehabilitation must also be informed by disaster risk reduction so that they contribute to a reduction in risk and the achievement of sustainable development policy objectives. In the political declaration of the 2019 Sustainable Development Goals Summit, disaster risk reduction is included as one of the 10 priorities of the decade of action for the Sustainable Development Goals. Over the next decade and beyond, all development policies and investments should be risk-informed and based on an inclusive, multi-hazard risk assessment.

II. Progress in implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

Priority 1: Understanding disaster risk

7. Understanding of disaster risk and its implications for sustainable development is improving. More ministries and national and local institutions have the capacity to collect and analyse disaster loss and risk data and apply it in policy and investment decision-making. The Sendai Framework monitor is key to the understanding of disaster losses and risk. Some 130 countries are using the monitor. In reporting on the Sendai Framework indicators, countries are also reporting on indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals relating to disaster risk reduction. An investment in monitoring the implementation of the Sendai Framework is therefore an investment in monitoring progress towards achievement of the Goals.

8. However, in 2019 only 10 countries reported on all seven global targets and only 71 countries have started to gather data to establish baselines in order to measure progress against the period from 2005 to 2015. Collecting disaster loss data disaggregated by income, sex, age and disability, as well as by hazard and location, remains a considerable challenge and only 33 countries have reported data with some disaggregation. To date, 56 countries have assigned roles to their national statistics offices in the Sendai Framework monitor, such as observers, contributors, coordinators and validators. Validation by national statistics offices of data reported to the monitor facilitates its integration into official data, which can impel its use in decision-making across sectors.

9. The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and its partners have intensified their collective capacity development and technical support for countries on the collection of data and reporting to the Sendai Framework monitor and the conduct of disaster risk assessments. Its Global Education and Training Institute has trained 1,154 officials from 81 countries since mid-2019. Under the Global Centre for

Disaster Statistics initiative, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and partners supported the establishment of a global cloud-based platform for the collection and analysis of disaster loss and damage statistics. Through its United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response programme, the Office for Outer Space Affairs has developed recommended practices and provided technical support to 11 countries for the use of satellites and earth observation technologies and capacity development to generate inter-institutional, policy-relevant space-based and geospatial information. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has helped some 20 countries to institutionalize the collection of data for the Sendai Framework monitor on disaster losses in agriculture using its damage and loss assessment methodology. Moreover, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), in its Asia-Pacific Disaster Report for 2019, *The Disaster Riskscape Across Asia-Pacific: Pathways for Resilience, Inclusion and Empowerment*, geolocates the exposure and vulnerability of people and infrastructure in the region's disaster hotspots and provides guidance on how to prevent the accumulation of risk and prevent disasters. The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction plays an important role in ensuring greater coherence in the support provided by the United Nations system to countries for the collection and analysis of disaster loss and risk data.

10. COVID-19 and Ebola demonstrate that it is critical for all sectors to consider the risk of epidemics and pandemics in multi-hazard risk assessments and vulnerability analysis. The inclusion by the World Health Organization (WHO) of the Sendai Framework indicators in its Thirteenth General Programme of Work 2019–2023 and its Global Reference List of 100 Core Health Indicators facilitates health-sector reporting to the Sendai Framework monitor. Countries can use the monitor to report on human and economic losses caused by COVID-19 and the ensuing socioeconomic disaster.

11. Good practice and recommendations are emerging for the collection of disaster loss and risk data, many of which were captured at the third annual technical forum on the Sendai Framework monitor, which was held in Bonn, Germany, in November 2019. Given that reporting on Sendai Framework targets requires data from across sectors and government institutions, political commitment and the designation of focal points in the relevant institutions are essential. The use of disaster risk assessments in policy setting and investment across sectors can be enhanced and increased by their endorsement at the highest level of government, by presenting risk assessments at parliamentary sessions, and by the participation of national statistics offices and relevant ministries in technical and capacity development workshops and in the collection and analysis of disaster data. It is also critical to ensure that disaster risk assessments are multi-hazard and gender-responsive and that they include scenarios based on current, emerging and future risk trends. The development of national road maps for the collection of disaster data, incorporated into national disaster risk reduction strategies where necessary, can support coordinated data collection, validation and reporting on the Sendai Framework and the disaster risk reduction targets and indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals.

12. The COVID-19 pandemic lays bare the deficient understanding of the systemic nature of risk and interdependencies between sectors. Single-hazard tools and methodologies for understanding disaster risk prevail and new tools and methodologies are needed to inform the development of integrated measures that adequately address economic, social, environmental and political drivers of disaster risk. Several challenges hinder multidimensional risk assessments, including the lack of a common methodology or terminology for the collection and analysis of disaster risk data between sectors and countries, limited capacity and inadequate coordination among ministries and stakeholders on integrated multi-hazard disaster risk

assessments and limited sharing and public dissemination of risk information. The Inter-Agency Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics, co-chaired by ESCAP and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, is developing a common framework on disaster-related statistics and will report to the Statistical Commission in 2021. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is piloting its methodology for cataloguing hazardous weather, climate, water and space weather events, which will provide a standardized global dataset of weather-related hazards and extreme events with which to accurately associate recorded loss and damage.

13. National and regional scientific and technical advisory groups for disaster risk reduction have proven effective and can be further strengthened to boost national science and technology capacities for understanding disaster risk and to improve dialogue between scientific and technological communities and policymakers. The International Science Council and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, in partnership with several United Nations entities, has embarked on a disaster risk reduction research agenda, beginning with the development of a Sendai Framework list of hazard definitions and classifications. The COVID-19 pandemic and the climate emergency demonstrate the need for transdisciplinary scientific, technological and academic platforms to better understand underlying risk drivers. The Office's Global Risk Assessment Framework will support countries in integrating systemic risk considerations into decision-making and planning processes across sectors. It benefits from the contributions of experts, including earth scientists, economists, risk assessors, insurers, social psychologists, catastrophe modellers, communications specialists, government representatives and United Nations entities.

14. Global and regional campaigns have been effective in raising public awareness of disaster risk. In 2019, the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction and World Tsunami Awareness Day were linked to global target D of the Sendai Framework on reducing damage to critical infrastructure and on access to basic services. Under the slogan and hashtag "build to last", events at United Nations Headquarters and around the world and a social media campaign have focused on the power of storytelling and promoting the experiences of young people.

15. Some aspects of Priority 1 appear to receive limited attention. For example, greater investment is needed in location-based multi-hazard disaster risk information systems, including geospatial technology. Different user categories are not taken into account in the bulk of disaster risk information and most of it is not disseminated among decision-makers and the public. Developing countries need more international cooperation in terms of innovative technology transfer, access to data and information disaggregated by income, sex, age and disability, and to copyrighted and patented materials. Existing training and education mechanisms, including school and university curriculums and civil service training, can be further leveraged to build knowledge of disaster risk among government officials, civil society, communities and the private sector. The United Nations University is leading that effort by delivering higher education activities on disaster risk reduction.

Priority 2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

16. At a time of increasingly complex and systemic risk, and as evidenced by the multidimensional COVID-19 pandemic, strengthening disaster risk governance at all levels and sectors has taken on a new urgency. The development and implementation of disaster risk reduction strategies (global target E) is key. The 2020 deadline set for the target, however, may not be met unless efforts are stepped up. All countries with strategies in place should report to the Sendai Framework monitor to provide an accurate overview by the end of 2020. The United Nations system has worked to develop a suite of technical and capacity development resources to help Governments to develop or update disaster risk reduction strategies. Support has focused on

multi-hazard strategies that provide a policy framework to integrate disaster risk reduction across all sectors and every level of government, broaden the scope of strategies beyond preparedness and response to include risk reduction and prevention and to strengthen coherence with national climate change and sustainable development strategies. COVID-19 has spurred countries to begin updating disaster risk reduction strategies to include biological hazards as part of multi-hazard approaches.

17. Countries would benefit from the voluntary peer review approach and an assessment of their technical and financial capacity to implement their disaster risk reduction strategies and identify resource and capacity needs. The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction has developed a multi-stakeholder assessment methodology that brings national and local authorities together with scientists, financial institutions, parliamentarians, civil society organizations and the private sector, among others, to ensure that disaster risk reduction strategies are aligned with the Sendai Framework and address the needs of the most vulnerable. The adoption and implementation of disaster risk reduction strategies is also an indicator for Sustainable Development Goals 1, 11 and 13.

18. Disaster risk reduction at the local level requires attention. Only 55 countries have indicated to the Sendai Framework monitor that some of their local authorities have a disaster risk reduction strategy. Local authorities require technical support, capacity development and financing to conduct risk assessments and thereby better understand systemic risk and to develop and implement participatory, inclusive, multi-hazard and multisectoral disaster risk reduction strategies. They also need help to raise the awareness of their communities. More than 4,300 cities participated in the Making Cities Resilient campaign for the period from 2010 to 2020. A new campaign, which is scheduled to be launched in October 2020, will focus on enhancing the development and implementation of disaster risk reduction strategies and programmes at the local level. More needs to be done to integrate disaster risk reduction into sectoral strategies. FAO has recently helped 35 countries to develop national and subnational multi-hazard disaster risk reduction and crisis management strategies in the agricultural sector and to facilitate their integration into national strategies.

19. Policy coherence has been established between the Sendai Framework and agreements on sustainable development and climate change at the global and regional levels. In order to help the least developed countries and small island developing States to translate harmonized global policy into national policies and strategies, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, in partnership with 15 United Nations entities and other partners, initiated the “target E coherent approach”. Through the development of technical guidance and the design and implementation of inter-institutional national action plans, the approach will support national capacity to develop mutually reinforcing legislation, policies and programmes for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation across sectors and levels of government.

20. The high-level political forum on sustainable development offers further opportunities for leveraging and mainstreaming disaster risk reduction across the Sustainable Development Goals through its annual follow-up and review. In 2020, for the first time, the high-level political forum included a dedicated session entitled “Protecting the planet and building resilience”. An annual consideration of disaster risk reduction at the forum would be key to leveraging the risk-informed approach needed to achieve the Goals. The number of countries utilizing the voluntary national review process to promote policy coherence between the Sendai Framework and the 2030 Agenda increased by 24 per cent between 2017 and 2019. National coordination mechanisms established under that process can be further leveraged to establish coherence between national disaster risk reduction and sustainable development

strategies, thereby maximizing the impact of investment in the implementation of both.

21. The impact of COVID-19 during the climate emergency has prompted an examination of national disaster risk governance. As Governments face potentially significant trade-off decisions across different sectors, managing systemic risk requires the engagement of all State institutions and society and enhanced cross-sectoral coordination, whereby the public and private sectors bear responsibility for the creation or reduction of risk. National disaster risk reduction platforms, or similar coordinating mechanisms, can facilitate participatory, multisectoral, multi-stakeholder risk governance, and support the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction across policies, programmes and instruments. For maximum effectiveness and inclusiveness, such mechanisms need predictable funding and a strong foundation in national institutional frameworks with clearly assigned responsibilities and authority.

22. Participatory and inclusive disaster risk governance is critical to ensuring that strategies and legislation address the needs of those being left behind and benefit from the skills and knowledge of civil society organizations and the private sector. Governments and stakeholders could further leverage the Sendai Framework voluntary commitments platform to strengthen synergies between stakeholders and national and local authorities, thereby maximizing the effective use of resources, reducing gaps and duplications and aligning stakeholder efforts with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies. To date, 36 voluntary commitments involving 100 organizations have been made. Further work is needed to build the technical expertise of grass-roots organizations, including women's organizations, on disaster risk reduction policymaking and to enhance the capacity of professionals to develop inclusive disaster risk reduction strategies. Disaster risk governance mechanisms must be accessible and allow for public and community consultations and participatory implementation.

23. Women and children are often disproportionately affected by disasters. Disaster risk reduction strategies, policies and measures need to be gender and youth responsive. The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) recently supported 41 countries in strengthening women's leadership and national capacity to develop gender-responsive disaster risk reduction strategies and risk governance mechanisms. The Words into Action guidelines on strengthening the engagement of children and youth in the implementation of the Sendai Framework were launched in April 2020 to help decision-makers engage children and youth in disaster risk reduction and capitalize on their contributions.

24. National and local legislative and regulatory frameworks and standards for disaster risk reduction, which itself is key to the enjoyment of human rights, are essential. In many countries, however, risk reduction is hampered by the limited development of appropriate laws and regulations across sectors. A human rights approach can also enhance disaster risk reduction. The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the International Parliamentary Union are collaborating on an advocacy toolkit to boost the capacity of parliamentarians to oversee the development of disaster risk reduction legislation and to assess and debate progress on the implementation of strategies. Normative instruments are also key to enhancing international cooperation. The International Law Commission has proposed the establishment of an international instrument on the protection of persons in the event of disasters. The proposal contains significant provisions on disaster risk reduction and will be discussed by the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly in 2020.

25. Regional organizations can support countries in developing national legislation and policy frameworks. The Economic Commission for Europe Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies helps policymakers to base

decision-making on risk management best practice. The Pacific Resilience Partnership has developed a workplan to map legislative and policy frameworks in the region, document good practice in legislative reform and develop regionally applicable technical guidance for implementation and enforcement. Parliamentarians should be mobilized nationally, regionally and globally in order to develop or amend legislation.

26. More attention should be paid to elements outlined in Priority 2 that are important for effective disaster risk governance and the integration of disaster risk reduction across all sectors and at all levels. For example, disaster risk governance can be strengthened through greater participation, transparency and accountability, including through periodic assessments and public reporting and debate on progress on the implementation of national and local strategies. COVID-19 has demonstrated the need to enhance transboundary risk management, including through a multi-hazard, systems-based approach.

Priority 3: Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience

27. The current approach to funding disaster risk reduction is lagging behind the rapid rate of creation and increasing complexity of disaster risk. It is inadequate for the implementation of multi-hazard, prevention-oriented disaster risk reduction strategies. A new approach to financing is thus urgently needed.

28. In its agreed conclusions and recommendations ([E/FFDF/2020/3](#)), the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development encouraged Member States to develop disaster risk reduction national financing strategies and instruments. This represents a significant advance in international policy on the issue. Under the leadership of ministries of finance, such strategies can change the way money is spent and contribute to a more efficient and effective use of resources. They should guide the integration of disaster risk considerations into financial decisions across the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development through alignment with other national financing processes, such as integrated national financing frameworks, medium-term revenue and expenditure frameworks, procurement strategies, sectoral budgets and infrastructure plans.

29. To turn intergovernmental policy decisions into financial flows, an agenda for disaster risk reduction financing is needed. It could galvanize partnerships for common solutions between Governments, United Nations entities, international financial institutions, development banks, regulators and investors, among others, and could include several key elements: (a) the development of guidance for national disaster risk reduction financing strategies that leverage public and private financing to prevent the creation of new risk and reduce existing risk; (b) the review of existing instruments for the Sustainable Development Goals and climate financing to assess the extent to which they contribute to financing disaster risk reduction in line with the Sendai Framework and the consideration of dedicated instruments or mechanisms where gaps remain; (c) the strengthening or development of disaster risk assessment tools and methodologies and the promotion of interoperability with the financial sector, given that collective intelligence on systemic risk can facilitate the inclusion of disaster risk in decisions taken by institutional investors and credit rating agencies, among others; (d) the establishment of normative and regulatory frameworks on financing for disaster risk reduction, including for the equitable sharing and management of risk in public-private partnerships; and (e) the development of methodologies and tools to integrate disaster risk reduction into business models and practices of private companies, from large corporations to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises.

30. Progress has been made in developing and upgrading tools and instruments for disaster risk reduction financing. For example, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction has applied the risk-sensitive budget review tool in 16 sub-Saharan African countries and UNDP included disaster risk in its methodological guidebook on climate public expenditure and institutional review. Disaster risk has also been included in the guidance document developed by the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development for the inception of integrated national financing frameworks. Resident coordinator offices are using that guidance to help countries to develop frameworks in which the impact of disaster and climate risks are taken into account.

31. Disaster risk transfer and insurance have received considerable attention in recent years. UNDP will launch a sovereign risk insurance and risk financing facility in 2020, for which \$5 billion from the private sector will be facilitated over six years. Such instruments have a crucial role to play in providing financial protection against residual risk when risk reduction measures may not be possible or may be too costly. However, risk transfer cannot be a substitute for instruments that finance the reduction of existing risk and the prevention of new risk. Through participation in the Insurance Development Forum, the United Nations system is promoting better risk assessments and modelling in the insurance sector and, in November 2019, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction established a partnership with the International Cooperative and Mutual Insurance Federation to explore the use of insurance-based instruments to incentivize risk-reducing behaviour.

32. Platforms for disaster-resilient infrastructure make a significant contribution to disaster risk reduction financing. The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, launched by the Government of India, with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and UNDP, at the 2019 Climate Action Summit, is a partnership of Governments, United Nations entities, development banks, financing institutions and the private sector that helps countries to develop capacity, plans, standards and investment strategies for risk-informed and resilient infrastructure. The sustainable use, management and rehabilitation of ecosystems is also a prudent investment for resilience. More can be done to capitalize on the co-benefits of investing in blue, green and grey infrastructure for disaster risk reduction, sustainable development and environmental protection. Coherence between the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and national disaster risk reduction strategies will help greatly to achieve the goals of the Sendai Framework and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

33. Investing to enhance the resilience of national and community-based health systems is critical. The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed inequalities in access to and the quality of care and underlined the value of investing in universal health coverage. It has reinforced the importance of including people with disabilities and underlying health conditions in the design of multisectoral policies and plans to manage their risks. The WHO Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Framework, launched in 2019, provides guidance to strengthen capacity and systems across health and other sectors to reduce health risks and consequences associated with all types of emergencies and disasters. Its implementation will support the implementation of the Sendai Framework and the International Health Regulations (2005). In that regard, the application of the Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework is also key.

34. The private sector has a crucial role to play in financing disaster risk reduction. The right incentives can foster longer term investment horizons that factor in disaster risk reduction as a key performance indicator for sustainable investing and environmental, social and governance reporting. Progress in this area in recent years include aspects of disaster risk reduction in the European Union's taxonomy of

sustainable activities and the integration of climate and environmental risk considerations in the implementation of the European Commission action plan on financing sustainable growth. Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises often lack the awareness, incentive, capacity and resources to adopt business practices to effectively prevent and reduce disaster risk. Members of the Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies are developing recommendations on creating an enabling environment for such enterprises and, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre partnered to develop a business continuity and recovery planning toolkit for small and medium-sized enterprises.

35. Development cooperation can be a catalyst for disaster risk-informed domestic public and private investment as well as foreign direct investment. Aligning national development cooperation plans with national disaster risk reduction strategies and their financing strategies can ensure that development cooperation supports national disaster risk reduction priorities. A much better understanding is needed of how bilateral and multilateral donors are integrating disaster risk considerations into development assistance. That can be achieved by improving reporting on global target F of the Sendai Framework and using the disaster risk reduction marker developed by the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

36. Several areas of Priority 3 require more attention. Standards and regulations are needed to guide the disclosure of disaster risk in public and private investments and mitigate potential negative impact. Disaster risk reduction in workplaces requires greater attention. The International Labour Organization has developed advocacy and training products and standards to assist Governments and employer and workers organizations to engage in disaster risk reduction, preparedness and response and promote health and safety in the workplace. Cultural heritage protection is often overlooked as an investment in resilience. The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other partners are developing a scorecard for heritage protection and disaster risk reduction. A culture of maintenance has not been sufficiently nurtured. More focus is needed on financing the maintenance and retrofitting of existing infrastructure in order to reduce risk. Relocation of housing, public facilities and infrastructure is a sensitive and costly approach that requires careful consideration by Governments to be an effective investment for disaster risk reduction.

Priority 4: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction

37. In the wake of disasters, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction open up opportunities for achieving sustainable development policy objectives by injecting a preventative approach into a country’s development trajectory. Preparation to build back better remains limited and is usually addressed as a post-disaster consideration, thereby limiting the potential for socioeconomic transformation. Given the growing frequency and intensity of disasters, more needs to be done to allocate necessary resources and develop capacity to prepare to build back better in all sectors. It was determined at the recent International Recovery Forum, which was held in January 2020 in Kobe, Japan, that infrastructure rehabilitation is more than an engineering effort and has to contribute to more inclusive societies and economies based on community needs and emerging social, economic, demographic and environmental changes. The newly established recovery help desk of the International Recovery Platform will provide quick and coordinated access to recovery information, technical advice and training on pre-disaster recovery planning and resilient infrastructure and housing.

38. The COVID-19 pandemic is a watershed moment for disaster risk reduction in all sectors. Risk reduction is a core element of the United Nations framework for the immediate socioeconomic response to COVID-19 under the pillar on social cohesion and community resilience. The Framework recognizes that the success of post-pandemic recovery will be determined by a better understanding of risk in order to build resilience across systems. Building back better has to be a collaborative effort that brings public institutions and civil society organizations together from the health, education, finance, housing and public safety sectors, among others, as well as the private sector. Recovery and rehabilitation also provide opportunities to strengthen disaster risk governance and coordination mechanisms that include the health sector and pandemic risk within a multi-hazard and multisectoral approach to reducing and managing systemic risk.

39. Rehabilitation of health systems requires focusing on building back better, including capacity for early detection and early action, enhancing preparedness for future outbreaks and building resilience to maintain the provision of health care during a disaster. As with other protracted and multidimensional disasters, prevention, preparedness, response and recovery require concurrent attention during the COVID-19 pandemic. While necessary to save thousands of lives, public health and social measures, including stay-at-home measures and other restrictions on movement, have had significant social and economic impacts on a global scale never seen before. This demonstrates the importance of a risk-informed approach to disaster response in order to minimize cascading effects within and across sectors; balance trade-off decisions and mitigate unintended negative consequences of the response on vulnerable population groups; and lay a foundation for recovery and rehabilitation that builds resilience and contributes to sustainability.

40. While responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, countries and communities also need to prepare for other hazards. WHO issued guidance for countries on adapting existing preparedness and response plans and procedures for seasonal weather events, seismic events and disease outbreaks to ensure that they maintain an optimal response to the pandemic. The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, in partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), UN-Women, WHO and the International Recovery Platform, among others, have developed policy guidance on disaster risk reduction and COVID-19 recovery and rehabilitation, including the dual challenges of climate-related hazards and pandemics. COVID-19-related socioeconomic rehabilitation programmes in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement on climate change, including those backed by the United Nations COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund, need to be aligned with the Sendai Framework in order to build back better and avoid creating new risk. They also need to address the underlying socioeconomic drivers of risk to ensure that no one is left behind.

41. Information and communications technology has a crucial role to play in disaster preparedness and response. The World Food Programme (WFP) and the International Telecommunications Union are helping Governments to develop national emergency telecoms plans and information and communications technology preparedness and response road maps. Progress has also been made in strengthening forecast-based financing to build resilience and should be expanded to include biological hazards. FAO is working to strengthen the interface between social protection mechanisms and forecast-based financing to support resilient livelihoods pre-disaster and minimize negative coping strategies in the event of a disaster.

42. Progress continues to be made in developing and strengthening multi-hazard early warning systems. The Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems initiative is currently investing \$54 million in 13 projects covering 44 of the least developed countries and small island developing States. In collaboration with the African Union

and four regional economic communities, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction has developed the African road map for the implementation of a continental impact-based early warning system that facilitates early action and transboundary risk management. Despite recent advances in early warning, reporting on global target G of the Sendai Framework shows that most countries rate the coverage and effectiveness of their early warning systems between 0.24 and 0.49 on a scale of zero to one. A shift to impact-based, multi-hazard early warning systems is still needed. To that end, the strategic plan of WMO for the period 2020–2030 includes key performance indicators to support countries in achieving global target G.

43. Several areas of Priority 4 of the Sendai Framework need more attention. End-to-end early warning systems need to be strengthened and rendered gender-responsive. They need to be made more accessible in order to bridge gaps across the early warning chain and to enable individuals and communities to recognize hazards and take timely and appropriate action. It is critical to ensure that those systems are people-centred, simple and low-cost, developed through a participatory process and tailored to the needs of end users. The COVID-19 pandemic has confirmed the need for countries to periodically review and update preparedness programmes and contingency plans, with the involvement of all relevant institutions and stakeholders, to ensure the continuity of operations and basic services and strengthen social and economic recovery. Greater focus is needed on post-disaster psychosocial support and mental health services.

III. Disaster risk reduction in the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries

44. According to data provided in 2019 by the least developed countries to the Sendai Framework monitor, they recorded more than 40 per cent of deaths and missing persons (global target A) and 48 per cent of persons with livelihoods disrupted or destroyed (global target B), even though they account for only 18 per cent of the total population of countries reporting. They also suffered 17 per cent of reported economic loss (global target C) and 14 per cent of reported destruction or damage to critical infrastructure (global target D), although they account for only 1 per cent of GDP of countries reporting. Only 43 per cent of the least developed countries reported having national disaster risk reduction strategies in place (global target E). Only 43 per cent reported having access to multi-hazard early warning systems and only 11 per cent to disaster risk information (global target G), respectively.

45. Despite strong commitment to disaster risk reduction, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States continue to suffer disproportionately high losses in human and economic terms owing to disasters. They are, therefore, being left behind in the implementation of the Sendai Framework and, subsequently, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The scale of the challenge requires augmented and sustained bilateral and multilateral cooperation. The means of implementation and capacity development need to be tailored to their specific characteristics, capacity and disaster risk reduction priorities. Support for the development of disaster risk reduction strategies is key.

46. The fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, which will be held in Doha in 2022, and its preparatory process will provide an opportunity to ensure the promotion of policy coherence and synergy between the Sendai Framework and national development and economic policies and programmes in those countries over the coming decade. Under the next programme of action, the least developed countries could be helped to develop multi-hazard national and local

disaster risk reduction strategies and associated financing strategies so as to integrate risk reduction into national sustainable development and plans for structural transformation, economic diversification and the expansion of productive capacities. Key sectors could be identified in which policies and investments informed by disaster risk are needed, such as infrastructure, energy, communications, housing, urban planning, health and agriculture. Specific disaster risk reduction capacity, knowledge, technology and financial needs should be highlighted in the programme and the mainstreaming of related considerations should be encouraged in all international cooperation with and foreign direct investment in those countries.

47. Graduation from the least developed country category provides an opportunity to integrate disaster risk reduction into national development policy and international support for such countries. At its 2020 session, the Committee for Development Policy agreed to adopt the Sendai Framework monitor data, as it becomes available, as the source for the economic and environmental vulnerability indicator. The growing availability of data will contribute to the development of strategies and potential future indicators. The consideration of disaster risk has already been strengthened in the graduation assessment pilot and the Committee's resolve to strengthen its "graduation narrative" will make it possible to identify country-specific disaster risk reduction priorities and the support required during graduation. Engaging national disaster risk reduction coordination mechanisms and national Sendai Framework focal points in the development and implementation of smooth transition strategies can ensure that disaster risk reduction is included in development policies and programmes during the graduation process and beyond.

48. In the political declaration of the midterm review of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, Member States urged development partners and the United Nations system to support the efforts of such countries to reduce disaster risk, including through strengthened cooperation with transit countries to develop regionally integrated, sustainable, climate- and disaster-resilient transport infrastructure. Landlocked developing countries must adopt a transboundary approach in their national disaster risk reduction strategies and governance mechanisms in order to ensure the resilience of trade and transit corridors between countries.

49. In the political declaration of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway midterm review, Member States pinpointed disaster risk reduction financing as a priority. The United Nations system, international financial institutions and development banks need to work together to enhance such financing, including through dedicated instruments for small island developing States, to finance risk reduction and prevention, as well as preparedness and response. They also highlighted the need for coherence between the monitoring mechanisms of the SAMOA Pathway and the Sendai Framework. Only 8 per cent of small island developing States use the Sendai Framework monitor. There is therefore an imperative need to build capacity and to finance the collection of disaster loss and risk data.

50. Many middle-income countries face high levels of disaster risk. Most of them, however, are ineligible for concessional loans from multilateral and bilateral lending institutions to finance disaster risk reduction and resilience. Governments therefore often resort to public or private debt to finance disaster recovery and reconstruction. More needs to be done to enable developing countries, including middle-income countries, to gain access to finance to invest in risk reduction, build resilience and build back better on terms and conditions appropriate to their circumstances and which do not exacerbate the risk of debt distress.

IV. Disaster risk reduction in countries affected by conflict and protracted humanitarian crisis

51. Reducing disaster risk in countries affected by conflict and protracted humanitarian crises is rendered difficult by weak governance, the limited availability of disaster risk data and the concentration of human and financial resources on crisis response. Without a disaster risk-informed approach, however, the impact of crises and humanitarian needs will only increase.

52. The adoption of such an approach makes it possible to build resilience into the humanitarian programme cycle. Building resilience to shocks and hazards, including through early warning and anticipatory action, social safety nets, resilient livelihoods, targeted action for women and girls and forecast-based financing, can be an efficient and cost-effective way of putting countries in crisis on a path to prevention and sustainability. The Joint Steering Committee to Advance Humanitarian and Development Collaboration, the United Nations common guidance on helping to build resilient societies and a companion document, on humanitarian-development-peace collaboration, to the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework guide the United Nations system with regard to risk-informed approaches to building resilience in countries affected by crisis. The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction has undertaken a consultative process to develop recommendations on how to scale up disaster risk reduction in humanitarian contexts.

V. Reducing the risk of disaster displacement

53. Disaster displacement is a blight for the most vulnerable households and communities. Many never fully recover after being displaced. In 2019, disasters led to the internal displacement of 24.9 million persons, the highest figure since 2012.¹ In many regions, protracted and secondary displacement, triggered by natural hazards and conflicts, shows how little progress has been made in risk-informed development. More political will and action are needed to properly address root causes and drivers in order to reduce the risk of disaster displacement.

54. A number of recent initiatives are designed to help countries to reduce the risk of disaster displacement. The High-level Panel on Internal Displacement, which was established in 2019, will include the issue in its work. The International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction have launched a disaster displacement working group for the Asia-Pacific region and the Pacific Resilience Partnership Taskforce has established a technical working group with a workplan to reduce disaster displacement in the region. WFP is working with Facebook on disaster connectivity maps that provide information on mobility patterns.

55. The economic impact of COVID-19 on migrant workers has been devastating. The pandemic has triggered the reverse migration of millions of people and a significant reduction in remittances, which could have a lasting impact on resilience to disasters and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in many communities. COVID-19 preparedness, response and recovery strategies have to contain specific measures for displaced populations and migrants, including targeted economic assistance and social protection.

¹ 2020 *Global Report on Internal Displacement* (Geneva, International Displacement Monitoring Centre, 2020).

VI. Coordination of disaster risk reduction across the United Nations system

56. The adoption in 2018 by the General Assembly of resolution [72/279](#) on the repositioning of the United Nations development system has provided an opportunity to further integrate disaster risk reduction in to the support offered to Governments at the country and regional levels. New United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework guidance emphasizes the need for country teams to ensure that disaster risk is addressed effectively as a central part of analysis and programme design. The risk reduction elements of the detailed guidance will be complemented by updated guidance on integrating disaster and climate risk into the common country analysis and Cooperation Framework. At the regional level, issue-based coalitions on climate change and resilience are already providing more effective and coordinated technical support and advice to country teams. The Sustainable Development Goals gateways and the knowledge management hubs that have been set up recently at the regional level can also be used to provide easier access to disaster risk data and information across sectors.

57. The United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience continues to guide United Nations entities on integrating the Sendai Framework into policy and programme support for countries. The latest report on the Plan's implementation confirms that disaster risk reduction is a strategic priority for most such entities. Countries can benefit from more coordinated support from the United Nations system for the collection of disaster loss data, the conduct of multi-hazard risk assessments and the use of data to develop policies and implement programmes that address risk across interconnected systems. The common country analysis will be key to enhancing coordination and collaboration between United Nations entities on disaster risk data collection and analysis. Under the inter-agency Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative, a pooled fund mechanism has been established to enable them to develop common analytical and programming tools for climate action and disaster risk reduction. The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction has signed an agreement with UNDP and is in the process of doing so with the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to provide Governments with more coordinated, efficient and effective disaster risk reduction support.

VII. Global response to the impact of the El Niño phenomenon

58. The cascading effects of the El Niño-Southern Oscillation and La Niña weather phenomena exemplify the importance of multi-hazard disaster risk reduction strategies that address the systemic nature of risk. Sea surface temperatures in the tropical Pacific Ocean remained neutral with respect to El Niño for most of 2019, signifying that neither El Niño nor La Niña prevailed. During October and early November 2019, surface temperatures warmed to near El Niño levels, but most tropical Pacific atmospheric indicators have remained neutral. Based on data from the FAO Agriculture Stress Index System, El Niño nonetheless contributed to drought in Australia, Central America, Morocco, the Philippines, southern Africa and Turkey in 2019. The main threat to food production posed by El Niño is drought but it can also cause heavy rain and flooding or extremes of hot or cold weather that can unleash outbreaks of disease among animals, food-borne diseases, plant pests and forest fires. Particular attention is therefore needed to reduce the risk posed by El Niño to agriculture, which will in turn generate benefits with regard to targets of the Sustainable Development Goals concerning resilience, food security, health and poverty reduction.

59. Sea surface temperatures cooled and remained at El Niño neutral conditions in the first half of 2020 and the Climate Prediction Centre at the International Research Institute for Climate and Society has forecast that El Niño would remain neutral El Niño throughout 2020. In June 2020, the Centre predicted that there was a 60 per cent chance of a neutral El Niño during the northern hemisphere summer, falling to between 40 per cent and 50 per cent in autumn. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States of America, however, predicted that the neutral El Niño in the Pacific would worsen the 2020 Atlantic hurricane season.

60. The United Nations is working to implement a blueprint for action to prevent El Niño episodes from becoming disasters. The blueprint supports integrated, nationally led plans to prepare for and reduce the risk posed by El Niño and other climate hazards. Its implementation is guided by inter-agency standard operating procedures that provide a framework for coordinated, multisectoral risk analysis and early warning and action with regard to El Niño episodes at the country level. The procedures were recently used to support local early warning systems for El Niño and to anticipate the impact of drought across southern Africa and the Philippines. The blueprint should be taken into account in the development of disaster risk reduction strategies in affected countries.

61. The United Nations system has developed products to help Governments and stakeholders to better understand the El Niño phenomenon and its environmental and socioeconomic impact. WMO, in collaboration with the International Research Institute for Climate and Society and the International Research Centre on El Niño, among others, continues to monitor the phenomenon. Consensus-based El Niño updates are disseminated approximately every three months to provide an assessment of the situation and an outlook for the coming months. WMO is also working on the Global Seasonal Climate Update, which will bring together the current status and the expected future behaviour of seasonal climate in terms of major general circulation features and large-scale oceanic anomalies around the globe, including El Niño, the North Atlantic Oscillation and the Indian Ocean Dipole. The Office for Outer Space Affairs, through the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response, routinely monitors El Niño and the Platform's strategy calls for the provision of technical advisory support for developing countries on El Niño in cooperation with FAO and the International Research Centre on El Niño. FAO has released several publications on the potential impact of El Niño on agriculture and food security. The risks to staple crops, fisheries, aquaculture and coral (with regard to bleaching) and lessons learned in terms of risk reduction and preparedness have been examined in technical papers. FAO has also prepared guidelines for integrating El Niño forecasts with the Agriculture Stress Index System and the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification system so as to strengthen the capacity of countries to act early and mitigate the impact of drought on agriculture and prevent the deterioration of food security. WFP includes specific El Niño updates and country-level humanitarian implications in that regard in its regional, end-of-season update reports and overview of food security situations, where relevant.

62. The blueprint for action on preventing El Niño episodes from becoming disasters and its accompanying standard operation procedures are already helping to enhance understanding of El Niño and improve early warning. Coordinated implementation of the blueprint and the Sendai Framework can ensure that El Niño and its potential impact are considered in multi-hazard risk assessments and disaster risk reduction strategies.

VIII. Conclusions and recommendations

63. The present report comes at a five-year milestone in the implementation of the Sendai Framework. Member States have committed to developing inclusive, multi-hazard national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by the end of 2020, using global target E of the Framework. Many countries have made progress in implementing several aspects of the Framework but quite a number are not on course to meet the 2020 target. Without instruments in place to manage risk and prevent and counter the occurrence of disasters, countries will not achieve the goal of the Framework or the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals relating to disaster risk reduction, ultimately compromising the decade of action for the Sustainable Development Goals. Determined leadership and commitment to disaster risk reduction is needed at all levels nationally, globally and among regional organizations, the private sector and civil society.

64. All sectors should develop disaster risk reduction strategies that chime with national and local strategies. The reduction of disaster risk is fundamentally a local endeavour and local authorities urgently need support to better understand systemic risk and develop and implement participatory, inclusive, multi-hazard and multisectoral disaster risk reduction strategies. Several overlooked aspects of the Sendai Framework need to be included in such strategies. Disaster risk reduction laws, regulations and standards that clearly define obligations and accountability are needed, as are the capacity and financial resources to implement and enforce them.

65. Significant resources that are essential for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals are lost to disasters every year. Prevention saves lives and reduces economic losses. Activating the levers identified in the *Global Sustainable Development Report* can help to minimize unintended negative consequences of development interventions and to include disaster risk in trade-off considerations. An annual discussion on disaster risk reduction at the high-level political forum on sustainable development would demonstrate how disaster risk reduction and the Sendai Framework can be instrumental for achieving and following up on the Sustainable Development Goals.

66. The outbreak of COVID-19 highlights the importance of strengthening health systems and including biological hazards in multi-hazard national and local disaster risk reduction strategies and risk assessments. Recovery and reconstruction phases provide an opportunity not only to build resilience into infrastructure and health systems, but also to address underlying drivers of disaster risk in a systemic manner. The Sendai Framework, including its core provision to build back better, offers national Governments and local authorities, multilateral and regional organizations, the private sector and civil society organizations a guide to rebuilding health systems and socioeconomic rehabilitation in the wake of COVID-19.

67. States are responsible overall for reducing disaster risk but participatory and inclusive approaches to disaster risk governance can facilitate the ownership and implementation of related strategies by all stakeholders. Governments, the private sector and civil society can do more to create demand for the disclosure of risk information and for accountability for risk reduction. Sustained and wide-reaching public awareness-raising campaigns are needed and should make full use of all available media. Disaster risk reduction should be integrated into formal education at all levels. Public demand, driven by individual and collective concern for the safety of people today and of future generations, could lead to disaster risk reduction being accorded a central role in the process of creating a sustainable future free from fear and want.

68. Addressing systemic risk requires a focused approach to disaster risk reduction financing. National disaster risk reduction financing strategies are needed to better leverage the full spectrum of financial resources, including untapped opportunities in international development financing and the financial sector. The United Nations system, international financial institutions and development banks should develop a shared agenda to support countries on disaster risk reduction financing.

69. The least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States are being left behind in the implementation of the Sendai Framework. Their citizens and environment bear the brunt of disasters and should be at the centre of international efforts to reduce disaster risk. In accordance with the political declarations issued after the midterm reviews of the SAMOA Pathway and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, policy coherence with the Sendai Framework has to be turned into action through national and local policies and programmes. The preparatory process for the fifth United Nations Conference for the Least Developed Countries and its outcome have the potential to promote the integration of disaster risk reduction into policies, strategies and investments across sectors in countries that are most exposed and vulnerable to natural and human-made hazards.

70. The year 2023 will mark the midpoint in implementing the Sendai Framework. That will be an opportune moment for a review to assess progress, identify good practice, gaps and challenges, and raise the level of ambition and political commitment to achieving the goal of the Sendai Framework and its seven global targets by 2030. Progress on integrating disaster risk reduction into development and climate policies, programmes and investment should also be assessed as part of such a midterm review. An assessment of the response to COVID-19 and recovery and building back better will offer essential insights. Such a review will provide an opportunity to take stock, with the active engagement of civil society and the private sector, of national progress. The collection of comprehensive data for the seven global targets through the Sendai Framework monitor will be critical to providing an accurate assessment of progress.

71. **It is recommended that:**

(a) **Member States apply the Sendai Framework to ensure a prevention-oriented and risk-informed approach to the response to COVID-19 and to the socioeconomic recovery and post-pandemic rebuilding, in which the drivers of disaster risk are addressed;**

(b) **Member States accelerate progress to develop new and review existing national and local disaster risk reduction strategies in accordance with the Sendai Framework, including aspects that may have been overlooked, and ensure coherence with policies relating to climate change and sustainable development across sectors;**

(c) **Member States, with the engagement of national statistics offices, increase the use of the Sendai Framework monitor to track progress against all indicators for the global targets under the Framework and the disaster risk reduction targets under Sustainable Development Goals 1, 11 and 13, and create or enhance cross-sectoral systems for collecting, validating and reporting disaggregated disaster loss data, establishing baselines, conducting disaster risk assessments and disseminating disaster risk information;**

(d) **Member States strengthen disaster risk reduction governance, including mechanisms for cross-sectoral coordination, and periodically assess and publicly report on and discuss progress on national and local strategies in the relevant institutional forums, including parliaments and local councils;**

(e) Member States consider making disaster risk reduction a legal obligation under national law, develop disaster risk reduction legislation regulations and standards, including risk disclosure in investment and public and private transactions, and ensure that they are enforced;

(f) Member States invest in awareness-raising and education to enhance understanding of the systemic nature of risk and to foster an enabling environment where the public and all stakeholders actively and responsibly engage in and support disaster risk reduction and the implementation of the Sendai Framework;

(g) Member States, through ministries of finance and economic planning and central banks, increase domestic investment in disaster risk reduction, including resilient infrastructure in line with the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, develop national disaster risk reduction financing strategies and include disaster risk reduction in national financing frameworks for the Sustainable Development Goals and other relevant budgeting and expenditure processes across sectors;

(h) The United Nations system work with international financial institutions and development banks to enhance disaster risk reduction financing, including the development of disaster risk reduction financing strategies and instruments;

(i) Member States consider including disaster risk reduction and its potential to facilitate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the annual follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at the high-level political forum, using the voluntary national review process and engaging disaster risk reduction authorities to assess disaster risk reduction in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

(j) Member States consider preparing for a review of the implementation of the Sendai Framework at its midpoint in 2023;

(k) Member States enhance the provision of the means to implement the Sendai Framework, including through international cooperation, global partnerships and North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, in order to support the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries facing specific challenges and, in that context, ensure that bilateral and multilateral development assistance is risk-informed and aligned with national disaster risk reduction strategies;

(l) Member States consider augmenting financial contributions to the trust fund for disaster risk reduction and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction in order to support countries in their efforts to manage and reduce disaster risk and to implement the Sendai Framework.