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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 pursuant to the request of the General Assembly in its resolution 80/137 on disaster risk reduction. It provides an overview of progress towards the goal, global targets and priorities for action of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030. The report includes a section on the implementation of the United Nations action plan to ensure that every person on Earth is protected by early warning systems by 2027 (the Early Warnings for All initiative) and an overview of the global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon.

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I. Current state of disaster risk

1. Disaster are occurring more frequently and becoming more intense as the world faces heightened global uncertainty that is marked by geopolitical tensions, pressures on multilateral cooperation and ongoing conflicts. Rather than being isolated shocks, these threats are increasingly interconnected, with one disruption triggering compounding consequences across social, economic and environmental systems. Extreme weather and climate-related hazards account for the largest disaster impacts globally, with major floods, wildfires and heatwaves observed during the reporting period (July 2025 to June 2026) across all regions. The past three years have been the warmest on record.[1] The average temperature in 2025 was 1.43°C above pre-industrial levels and the Earth's energy imbalance reached a record high.[2] Cascading effects were observed, ranging from water and food insecurity to disruptions in infrastructure, transport and energy systems. Tropical cyclones are also intensifying more rapidly, as illustrated by three major storms simultaneously affecting South and South-East Asia, causing significant loss of life and displacement, and by Hurricane Melissa, which caused widespread devastation across the Caribbean and more than $8.8 billion in damage in Jamaica alone.[3]

2. Exposure to risk is increasing faster than vulnerabilities are being reduced, particularly in rapidly urbanizing areas where people, assets and critical infrastructure are concentrated. More than 80 per cent of cities have warmed by at least 0.5°C in the past two decades, and flood exposure is increasing more rapidly in urban than in rural areas.[4] Disaster impacts in one domain can quickly propagate across sectors and borders, further aggravating an already fragile risk landscape. With global supply chains becoming increasingly vulnerable to disruptions, spillover effects on trade, food and energy security are intensifying, with implications for disaster risk reduction efforts. The human and economic toll of disasters continues to rise, with more people affected and displaced, increasing damage to critical infrastructure and growing direct and indirect losses posing significant challenges to sustainable development and fiscal stability (see figure below).

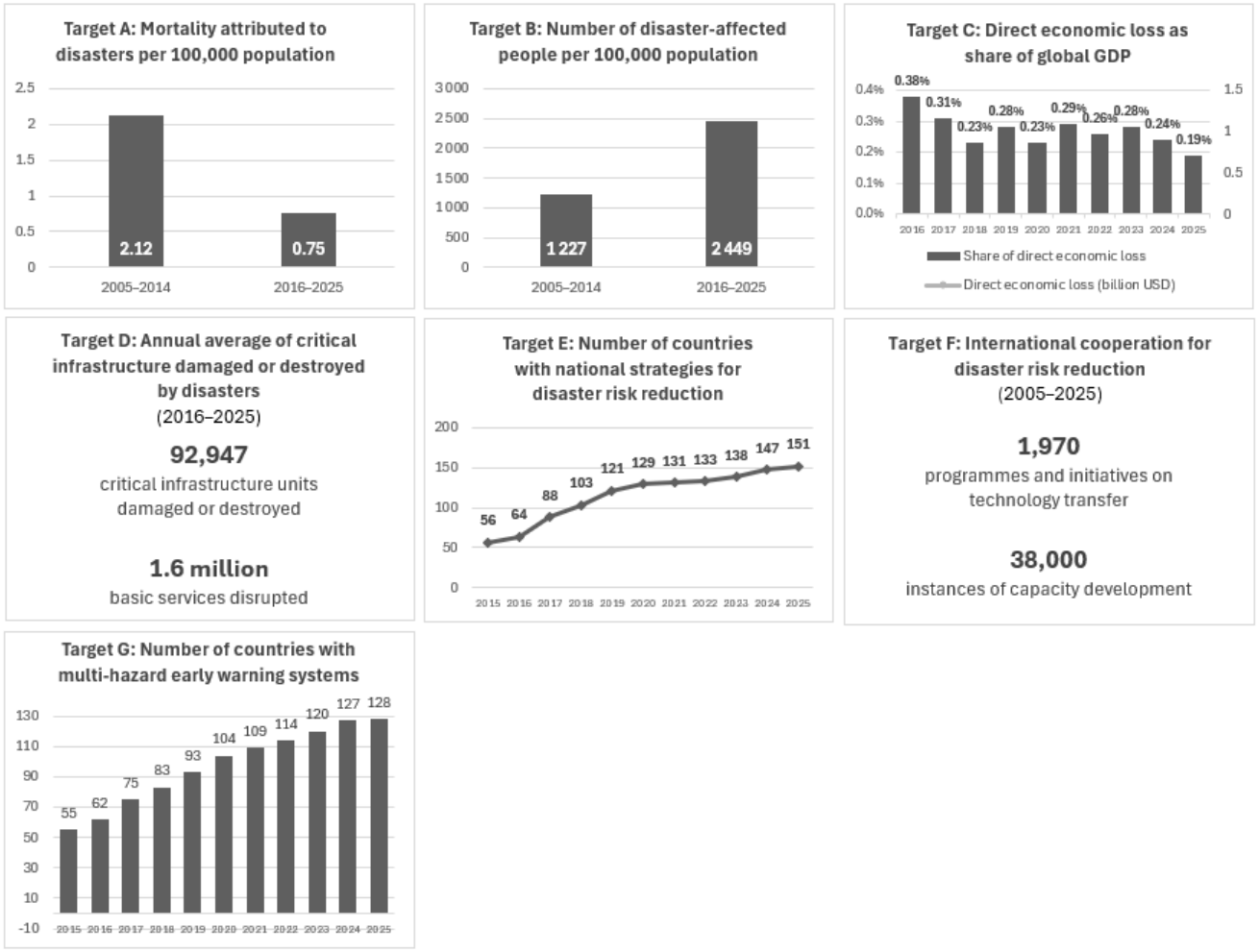
3. At the same time, emerging risks are gaining prominence. One such risk is the vulnerability of critical digital infrastructure and rapid expansion of new technologies, which may place additional pressures on energy, water and digital systems in the absence of adequate governance and cost-benefit assessments. Biological hazards with escalation potential, such as epidemics and antimicrobial resistance, can cause high mortality, strain health systems and disrupt economies. These trends underscore the urgency of strengthening risk-informed development approaches across sectors and governance levels.

4. As the result of all-of-society engagement, disaster risk reduction has been increasingly recognized as a unifying agenda for a safer and more resilient future. Over the past decade, disaster-related mortality has fallen by nearly 65 per cent, while national disaster risk reduction strategies have been adopted by almost three quarters of the world, contributing to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals.[5] Further progress in global efforts has been observed by the Sendai Framework monitor,[6] with more countries reporting on national and local disaster reduction

[1] See https://wmo.int/news/media-centre/wmo-confirms-2025-was-one-of-warmest-years-record.
[2] See https://wmo.int/publication-series/state-of-global-climate/state-of-global-climate-2025.
[3] See https://www.gfdrr.org/en/JamaicaGRADE.
[4] See https://unhabitat.org/wcr/.
[5] See https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2026/The-Sustainable-Development-Goals-Report-2026.pdf.
[6] See www.undrr.org/SFM.

strategies and that the coverage of their multi-hazard early warning systems had increased.

Sendai Framework implementation across its seven global targets



Source: Sendai Framework monitor, April 2026. For further details, see www.undrr.org/monitoring-sendai-framework/snapshot.
Abbreviation: GDP, gross domestic product.

5. Considerable progress towards achieving the Sendai Framework targets can be made by 2030 with sustained political commitment, investments and concerted efforts. Advances in data collection, risk analytics and multi-hazard early warning systems, supported by expanding policy guidance, tools and investment frameworks, have significantly improved the capacity to anticipate, plan for and reduce disaster risk. For example, the updated Hazard Information Profiles [7] have enhanced understanding of a wide range of natural and human-induced hazards, enabling more comprehensive risk assessments and impact analyses. The priority now is not only to promote a more comprehensive understanding of risk, but also to translate it into governance, financing and incentive structures that go beyond long-term prevention and resilience-building that can replace short-term responses. Given that disaster risk is shaped by decisions that can either increase or reduce risk, strengthening

[7] See www.undrr.org/publication/documents-and-publications/hazard-information-profiles-hips-2025-version.

accountability for risk creation across governance, finance and regulation is essential, including embedding risk considerations into decision-making and investment while reinforcing data systems, institutions and local capacities.

II. Accelerating Sendai framework implementation through coherent, risk-informed policy

6. Disaster risk is shaped by converging drivers, including climate change, environmental degradation, poverty and inequalities, unplanned urbanization, technological disruption and economic factors, which amplify multidimensional vulnerabilities, increase debt and erode development gains, particularly in countries facing recurrent shocks and fiscal constraints. Coherent, risk-informed policies that integrate disaster risk reduction across governance, financing and incentive structures are necessary to advance implementation of both the Sendai Framework and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. These approaches should strengthen understanding of the systemic nature of risk, reduce risk across interconnected systems and incentivize financing, innovation and partnerships to support resilience building, while ensuring that progress in one sector does not create vulnerabilities in another.

7. Emerging and intensifying hazards from technological hazards, such as digital system failures, to slow-onset events, including sea level rise and cryosphere loss, underscore the need for comprehensive and coordinated global risk governance to reduce fragmentation and increase impact, including through the use of aligned indicators, reporting mechanisms and investment frameworks. At the national level, risk-informed development also requires complementary investments shaped through cross-sectoral, science-based collaboration and broad stakeholder engagement.

8. The outcomes and recommendations of the 2023 midterm review of the Sendai Framework and the "Geneva call for disaster risk reduction"[8] on strengthening risk data and embedding risk considerations in public policy and investment decisions are increasingly reflected in various multilateral processes and outcomes, indicating a growing global convergence with regard to risk-informed approaches. Together with the sustainable development choices made by Member States and relevant actors, those outcomes and recommendations can enable a shift from crisis response to prevention, from fragmented interventions to systemic resilience and from managing disasters to managing risk, in line with the Pact for the Future.

9. The years ahead will provide critical opportunities to accelerate implementation of the Sendai Framework and generate momentum for the resilience agenda, including through the 2027 Sustainable Development Goals Summit, regional platforms on disaster risk reduction in all five regions and the 2028 session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Qatar. These milestone events can help to anchor risk-informed and resilience-building measures across global agendas and initiatives on sustainable development and inform the post-2030 development process. In order to catalyse efforts, the objective of the Strategic Framework for 2026–2030[9] of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction is to support Member States and system-wide coherence by integrating foresight, risk analytics and innovation in planning, improving monitoring through Sendai Framework reporting mechanisms and aligning public and private investments with resilience objectives.

[8] See the Co-Chairs' summary of the eighth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. Available at www.undrr.org/news/geneva-call-disaster-risk-reduction-co-chairs-summary-global-platform.

[9] See www.undrr.org/strategic-framework-2026-2030.

III. Progress in implementing the Sendai Framework

Priority 1: understanding disaster risk

10. While there have been advancements in disaster risk data collection and reporting, further efforts are needed in the final years of the Sendai Framework. The Sendai Framework monitor is nearing global coverage, with 176 countries reporting on at least one target, 145 on at least five targets and 118 across all Sendai Framework targets linked to Sustainable Development Goal indicators (targets A to E) since 2015. At the regional level, measurable improvements are being observed. In Africa, 73 per cent of countries now report through the Sendai Framework monitor, while 83 per cent report in the Americas and the Caribbean, strengthening accountability. Progress has also been made in data disaggregation, with 77 countries reporting sex-disaggregated data, 61 age-disaggregated data and 31 disability-disaggregated data. Despite these advances, gaps remain; few submissions cover all seven targets across all years and 19 countries have yet to report. Countries continue to face structural constraints, including limited institutional mandates, technical capacity and financial resources, that affect the completeness and quality of reporting.

11. Important strides have been made to close data gaps and strengthen the availability, quality and comparability of disaster-related data. The Disaster and Hazardous Events, Losses and Damages Tracking Analysis (DELTA) Resilience[10] system, developed by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is helping governments to capture data on hazardous events and disaster impacts, while strengthening nationally owned data systems. Since its launch in 2025, 20 countries have begun using the system, while 39 others are receiving support for uptake, including through technical sessions and training. In addition, targeted capacity-building for Sendai Framework monitor reporting has been provided across all regions and a live repository of good practices[11] from Cambodia, Mongolia, Nepal, the Philippines, Sierra Leone and Sri Lanka is helping other countries to strengthen national data ecosystems. This support has strengthened national capacities to generate, analyse and use disaster risk information for risk-informed planning and decision-making.

12. In Africa, Côte d'Ivoire has used flood risk profiling and cost-benefit analyses to guide resilient infrastructure and land-use planning, while updates to the national risk and vulnerability atlases of Ethiopia and Rwanda are enhancing multi-hazard risk analysis at the local level. In Latin America and the Caribbean, Costa Rica carried out systemic and multidimensional risk assessments to prioritize critical infrastructure and develop risk transfer instruments, while Guatemala strengthened impact-based forecasting through probabilistic volcanic risk assessments. In Asia and the Pacific, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Kiribati, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Maldives, among others, strengthened disaster loss data systems and methodologies in order to better quantify disaster impacts and integrate risk information into resilience strategies and fiscal planning. These efforts reflect a trend towards integrated and nationally owned risk information systems.

13. Coherence between the targets and indicators of the Sendai Framework and other global frameworks has been strengthened. This includes the adoption of the Belém Adaptation Indicators,[12] several of which correspond to Sendai Framework targets, under the global goal on adaptation, and the incorporation of relevant Sendai

[10] See https://undrr.org/DELTA.

[11] See www.undrr.org/building-risk-knowledge/disaster-data and www.preventionweb.net/disaster-losses-and-damages-data-use-cases.

[12] See https://unfccc.int/documents/653890.

indicators into the monitoring frameworks of the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for Small Island Developing States[13] and the Awaza Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2024–2034. At its fifty-seventh session, the Statistical Commission endorsed the Global Framework for Disaster-related Statistics[14] developed by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics. The Global Framework represents a major step towards a common global statistical architecture, strengthening national data governance and improving the consistency, comparability and integration of disaster-related statistics across sectors.

14. The Santiago network for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, which connects developing countries with technical assistance, has begun responding to requests. A total of 10 countries are receiving, or will shortly receive, such assistance.[15] The Santiago network has expanded to include more than 150 organizations, bodies, networks and experts, diversifying the sources of technical support available. The expanded presence of the Santiago network secretariat in different regions is enabling greater access and support for developing countries.

15. Advances in earth observation, digital information systems and artificial intelligence-enabled tools have bolstered the collection of disaster risk data and the capacity to analyse complex risk patterns. For example, collaboration with the European Earth Observation Programme has strengthened hazard footprint mapping and national capacities for risk-informed decision-making in Asia and Africa. However, while some countries are scaling advancements, many developing countries face barriers related to data availability, technical capacity, infrastructure and access to technology, thereby widening the digital divide. The transformative potential of artificial intelligence depends on the successful integration of technology with socioeconomic, cultural and infrastructure considerations, while protecting natural resources and the environment.[16] In addition, the rapid growth of artificial intelligence and other digital technologies may create new and systemic forms of risk, as digital disruptions can cascade across sectors. Addressing these risks requires strengthening governance for emerging technologies, improving cross-sector risk assessments and dependency mapping, investing in resilient infrastructure and ensuring analogue fallback capacities remain functional during large-scale disruptions.[17]

16. Enhanced use of risk analytics is improving the integration of disaster risk into national development and humanitarian planning processes, supporting preparedness, early warning and investment decisions. For example, subnational risk analyses using the INFORM methodology[18] were conducted in Ethiopia and South Sudan in partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. The outcomes of those analyses have informed the development of impact-based forecasts and preparedness measures. Strengthening the availability of quality, forward-looking probabilistic risk information enables more effective decision-making, bridging the gap between risk measurement and cross-sectoral risk-informed policies, plans and investments.

[13] See www.un.org/ohrlls/sites/www.un.org.ohrlls/files/abas-booklet.pdf.
[14] See www.undrr.org/DRS.
[15] Cook Islands, Fiji, Iraq, Kenya, Namibia, Palau, Rwanda, Vanuatu, Yemen and Zambia.
[16] See www.undrr.org/publication/documents-and-publications/special-report-use-technology-disaster-risk-reduction.
[17] See www.undrr.org/news/digital-risks-new-report-maps-critical-vulnerabilities-worlds-interconnected-systems.
[18] See https://drmkc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/inform-index/INFORM-Risk/Methodology.

Priority 2: strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

17. Member States continued to strengthen disaster risk governance, integrating disaster risk reduction into national development strategies and plans. This demonstrates that progress has been made in institutionalizing disaster risk reduction within national governance systems, although implementation capacity and coordination effectiveness continue to vary across countries and levels of government. National disaster risk reduction strategies are now in place in 151 countries,[19] up from 56 in 2015. Strategies are complemented by disaster risk reduction platforms and coordination mechanisms. In Africa, more than 30 countries have established national platforms,[20] which are strengthened through vertical coordination and thematic working groups. In the Americas and the Caribbean, national platforms in various countries, including Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica and Ecuador, support policy development and implementation of national plans. In the Asia-Pacific region, national coordination mechanisms also play a central role in supporting prevention and monitoring functions, as demonstrated in the Philippines.

18. Countries increasingly anchor disaster risk reduction in legal and regulatory frameworks. The Democratic Republic of the Congo adopted two landmark decrees that anchor disaster risk management in national law. The Comoros and Madagascar reviewed disaster management legislation and strengthened institutional coordination. In Iraq and Yemen, the Governments advanced from fragmented approaches by adopting legal and strategic frameworks with clear institutional roles. Brazil approved its National Plan for Protection and Civil Defence and National Climate Adaptation Plan,[21] both of which address disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation and integrate gender and disability inclusion considerations. Tajikistan and the Lao People's Democratic Republic developed their national disaster risk reduction action plans, with the latter integrating climate adaptation, and the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia strengthened coordination between disaster risk management and climate institutions.

19. Countries, regions and institutions are advancing integrated approaches to disaster risk reduction and climate action for sustainable development,[22] including by using new tools.[23] Updated national adaptation plan technical guidelines[24] embed a comprehensive risk management approach for integrating disaster risk reduction into country-level adaptation planning. The Extreme Heat Risk Governance Framework and Toolkit[25] offers tools that governments can use to manage escalating heat risk and scale up heat risk-informed public and private investment. The European Commission has set out a European Union-wide framework for integrated wildfire risk management,[26] while an e-learning course on integrated fire management developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and available on the

[19] Additions since October 2025: Belize, Croatia, Latvia, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Seychelles and Tunisia.

[20] See www.undrr.org/publication/guidelines-national-platforms-disaster-risk-reduction.

[21] See www.preventionweb.net/drr-community-voices/how-science-helped-build-brazils-new-national-civil-protection-and-defence.

[22] See www.undrr.org/publication/documents-and-publications/global-synthesis-report-comprehensive-risk-management.

[23] See www.undrr.org/CRM.

[24] See https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Draft_Updated_NAP_technical_guidelines_July_2025.pdf.

[25] See www.undrr.org/publication/documents-and-publications/extreme-heat-risk-governance-framework-and-toolkit.

[26] See https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/news-stories/news/commission-launches-new-strategy-tackle-rising-wildfire-threat-2026-03-25_en.

Global Fire Management Hub website builds practical skills for integrated fire management decision-making.[27]

20. Intergovernmental discussions towards the elaboration of a convention on the protection of persons in the event of disasters are progressing, and a plenipotentiary conference to elaborate and conclude such a convention is set to be convened in 2027. A legally binding convention could help to embed disaster risk reduction more firmly in international law, thereby strengthening the legal and institutional environment for disaster risk reduction, prevention and preparedness alongside response, and complementing the Sendai Framework and related intergovernmental agreements.[28]

21. At the 2026 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the New Urban Agenda, Member States called for embedding risk governance at the core of urban development by strengthening multilevel coordination, empowering local governments and integrating disaster and climate risk into land use and territorial and urban planning, housing and financing systems. The "Making Cities Resilient 2030" initiative supports these objectives, mobilizing more than 1,966 local governments that represent more than 624 million people across 97 countries to strengthen local disaster and climate resilience. The Municipal Council of Beau Bassin Rose Hill in Mauritius was recognized as the first "resilience hub" in sub-Saharan Africa and Astana was recognized as the first in Central Asia, reinforcing their commitment as platforms for sharing knowledge and solutions. In Colombia, 180 municipalities developed local disaster risk reduction plans with the support of the national government. A capacity-building programme by UN-Habitat and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction supported resilience governance in 73 municipalities in Rio de Janeiro State in Brazil. These developments reflect the growing role of cities and local governments in managing disaster risk, although financing and institutional capacity constraints continue to limit implementation.

22. Regional and intergovernmental mechanisms are increasingly elevating disaster risk reduction within policy and financing agendas. In November 2025, the Group of 20 adopted a leaders' declaration[29] prioritizing disaster risk reduction and a ministerial declaration on disaster risk reduction[30] underscoring the need for scaled-up action on financing. The BRICS Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Working Group has focused on various matters, including science, technology and innovation and community-based approaches to disaster risk reduction. The Group of Seven Resilience Task Force has promoted Earth observation and early warning coverage in the least developed countries and small island developing States.[31] In Central Asia, national disaster management agencies refined regional priorities at a ministerial forum,[32] and the Africa Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction developed an implementation matrix for the period 2026–2030 for its programme of action.[33]

23. Through the Sendai Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism, stakeholders continued to advance disaster risk reduction, mobilizing expertise, partnerships and community action, including through the development of policy briefs to inform intergovernmental processes ranging from ensuring disability inclusion within the process towards the

[27] See www.fao.org/partnerships/fire-hub/news/detail/new-fao-e-learning-course-builds-practical-skills-for-integrated-fire-management-decision-making/en.
[28] See www.undrr.org/news/commitment-negotiation-advancing-international-law-protect-people-disasters.
[29] See https://dirco.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/2025-G20-Summit-Declaration.pdf.
[30] See www.g20.org.za/track/disaster-risk-reduction/.
[31] See www.g7fsoi.org/2025-g7-fsoi-annual-working-group-meeting-and-whats-ahead-for-2026/.
[32] See www.undrr.org/news/central-asia-countries-unite-build-resilience-and-safe-future.
[33] See www.undrr.org/publication/documents-and-publications/twenty-third-session-africa-working-group-disaster-risk.

elaboration of a convention on the protection of persons in the event of disasters[34] to 10 priority areas for the climate negotiations. The Sendai Framework voluntary commitments platform[35] now hosts 177 active commitments and 842 deliverables by 767 organizations, enhancing visibility, tracking progress and sharing best practices. Private sector actors also advanced partnerships and engagement. The Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies,[36] a network of private sector entities established by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, now brings together more than 650 businesses and 30 networks, while the network of Corporate Chief Resilience Officers adopted key performance indicators to guide its work through 2027.[37]

24. In alignment with the gender action plan to support implementation of the Sendai Framework, Member States and partners advanced the integration of gender equality and inclusion into disaster risk reduction policies, strategies and institutional practices, with monitoring and reporting supported by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and the United Nations Population Fund. Cambodia, the Philippines, Samoa and Viet Nam strengthened sex-, age- and disability-disaggregated data systems. National road maps for disaggregated disaster loss data were developed in Burundi, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Liberia and Togo, among others. Fiji updated its anticipatory action framework for tropical cyclones to integrate sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence considerations, with similar approaches initiated in Palau, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu.

25. Through complementary action, progress was made in advancing disability-inclusive and child-responsive disaster risk reduction. A policy brief on leveraging assistive technology for inclusive disaster risk reduction[38] based on inputs from stakeholders across 90 countries was launched at the Second World Summit for Social Development in Doha. The Comprehensive School Safety Framework campaign expanded the Stop Disasters game[39] to 1.3 million users across 17 languages, raising awareness of disaster risk reduction among children and young people.

Priority 3: investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience

26. Disasters often cause ripple effects across economies. Losses incurred by households and businesses reduce consumption, productivity and private investment, while governments redirect expenditure to immediate emergency response and recovery. When these impacts exceed a country's capacity to meet debt obligations, fiscal constraints can emerge, increasing the likelihood of sovereign default. Based on current hazard exposure and economic indicators, 61 vulnerable countries could experience such fiscal gaps at least once every 10 years.[40] Given the interconnectedness of global economic systems, even localized disaster impacts can generate wider regional and global consequences, underscoring the need to embed disaster risk reduction in budgets, financial regulation and investment frameworks in order to reduce fiscal volatility and strengthen economic resilience.

[34] See https://disasterstrategies.org/towards-an-international-convention-on-the-protection-of-persons-in-the-event-of-disasters-pped-that-protects-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities/.
[35] See https://sendaicommitments.undrr.org/.
[36] See www.ariseglobalnetwork.org/.
[37] See www.undrr.org/news/chief-resilience-officers-and-resilience-leads-chart-ambitious-path-forward.
[38] See www.undrr.org/publication/documents-and-publications/leveraging-assistive-technology-inclusive-disaster-risk.
[39] See www.stopdisastersgame.org/.
[40] See www.undrr.org/gar/gar2025.

27. Countries increasingly translate disaster risk reduction commitments into dedicated budgetary allocations. For example, India is investing $6 billion towards disaster risk reduction over a five-year period.[41] In Australia, the Disaster Ready Fund is directing up to $200 million per year to disaster resilience and risk reduction,[42] and Guatemala increased its budget for disaster risk reduction by 113 per cent.[43]

28. There is growing recognition that disaster and climate risks must be systematically integrated into public financial management systems, although adoption remains uneven and many countries continue to face technical and institutional barriers. In that regard, efforts include combined disaster risk reduction and climate budget tagging systems to strengthen fiscal transparency and inform national disaster risk financing strategies. In Kenya, those measures was implemented across the 2021–2024 budget cycles and contributed to the development of a national disaster risk financing strategy in 2025. The Ministries of Finance of Indonesia and the Lao People's Democratic Republic have applied fiscal disaster stress testing at the national and subnational levels, integrating catastrophe risk models with macroeconomic projections to assess impacts on revenues, expenditures and debt sustainability.

29. A transformative shift is needed from risk-blind investments to making resilience a standard component of financial decision-making. The private sector has a central role to play in embedding resilience into investment decisions, as it accounts for approximately 75 per cent of global capital investment.[44] Practical applications of risk-informed investment have been demonstrated through the Building Disaster Resilience across Canadian Business Supply Chains project,[45] which engaged more than 40 companies in partnership with Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies networks across Canada and Latin America in scenario-based stress testing to strengthen supply chain resilience and inform investment decisions.

30. Rising insurance premiums and the withdrawal of coverage in high-risk areas are increasing fiscal exposure for households, businesses and governments, reinforcing the case for innovative risk transfer solutions, such as products with built-in prevention incentives for consumers. In order to support small and medium-sized enterprises, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction developed a practical guide on resilience financing and risk transfer[46] in collaboration with the Spanish Risk and Insurance Management Association and supported more than 250 small and medium-sized businesses to strengthen their resilience through business continuity planning, crisis simulations and financing option assessments.

31. International financial institutions and public planners must harness increasingly globalized financial markets to share risk more broadly, find better ways to prevent fiscal gaps and support faster recovery. A persistent gap in resilient infrastructure investment drives estimated global average annual losses of $732 billion. The expected indirect economic impacts could be up to seven times higher. This highlights the scale of fiscal exposure associated with insufficient resilience.[47] Regional initiatives, including the Latin American group on infrastructure resilience led by

[41] See https://fincomindia.nic.in/asset/doc/commission-reports/16th-FC/reports/Vol1-Main-Report.pdf.

[42] See www.finance.gov.au/government/australian-government-investment-funds/disaster-ready-fund.

[43] See https://reliefweb.int/report/guatemala/guatemala-budget-tagging-turns-data-investment-resilience.

[44] See https://desapublications.un.org/publications/financing-sustainable-development-report-2026.

[45] See https://uwaterloo.ca/climate-institute/projects/building-disaster-resilience-across-canadian-business-supply.

[46] See www.undrr.org/es/publication/documents-and-publications/guia-breve-de-financiacion-de-la-resiliencia-y-transferencia.

[47] See https://cdri.world/global-infrastructure-resilience-report-2025-capturing-the-resilience-dividend-2.

Chile and Mexico and the regional disaster risk reduction financing strategy for Central America and the Caribbean developed by the Coordination Centre for Disaster Prevention in Central America and the Dominican Republic and the Council of Ministers of Finance of Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic, are strengthening capacity, risk data production and resource mobilization. In parallel, the launch of the International Organization for Standardization standard for infrastructure resilience (ISO 22372:2025) now provides a globally recognized benchmark for disaster risk-informed approaches.

32. The issuance of the first resilience bond by the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean [48] represents a significant milestone in positioning resilience as an investment opportunity. This bond, the issuance of which has raised $100 million, the provides a replicable model for mobilizing private capital markets to finance infrastructure resilience and essential services continuity, supported by robust eligibility criteria and resilience-focused investment pipelines. Building this foundation will require further standardization of resilience taxonomies and metrics, the expansion of bankable, risk-informed infrastructure project pipelines and the integration of such instruments into broader financing frameworks.

33. The Group of 20 endorsed its voluntary high-level principles for investing in disaster risk reduction,[49] which were developed through a multi-stakeholder process to address persistent underinvestment in risk reduction. Their voluntary, adaptable nature allows countries to tailor implementation to national contexts, while benefiting from a common international reference point.

Priority 4: enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to build back better in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction

34. Across regions, countries continued to strengthen disaster preparedness, with multi-hazard early warning systems remaining central to these efforts. Approximately 66 per cent of Member States and observer States (128 in total) now report having such systems, reflecting steady global progress. However, coverage and capability gaps persist, particularly among small island developing States. Ensuring that systems are fully functional, accessible to the most at-risk populations and able to address emerging hazards, such as extreme heat and wildfires, remains a priority, alongside the use of after-action reviews to drive continuous improvement.

35. Humanitarian partners play a central role in strengthening collective readiness for disasters through the Emergency Response Preparedness Approach developed by Inter-Agency Standing Committee, which has been implemented or updated in more than 90 per cent of high and very high-risk countries. Current efforts integrate forward-looking risk analysis, anticipatory action and contingency planning into country-level processes, while reinforcing linkages with early warning systems and the humanitarian programme cycle.

36. Anticipatory action is increasingly being institutionalized within national disaster risk management systems, enabling earlier decision-making that saves lives, livelihoods, assets and resources.[50] For example in Nepal, inclusive multichannel early warning systems, community-defined early action protocols and targeted support for at-risk groups have strengthened the ability of households to act early ahead of floods and heatwaves, supported by regular training, simulations and locally-

[48] See www.undrr.org/news/caf-issues-first-resilience-bond-latin-america-and-caribbean-support-undrr.

[49] See https://g20drrwg.preventionweb.net/2025/g20-documents.

[50] See www.anticipation-hub.org/global-overview/global-snapshot/overview-reports/overview-report-2025.

led preparedness measures.[51] As of May 2026, the United Nations is supporting coordinated anticipatory action through 29 frameworks covering 23 countries, with implementation supported by United Nations entities and partners, including governments, non-governmental organizations and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Financing approaches are also diversifying, with increased use of domestic mechanisms and insurance. Prearranged financing through pooled funds managed by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs has surpassed $160 million, benefiting more than 5.1 million people. These examples reflect a broader shift from reactive disaster response to proactive risk management, although coverage and financing remain insufficient.

37. Maintaining robust preparedness is challenging for low-frequency, high-impact events, such as tsunamis and earthquakes. World Tsunami Awareness Day, which is observed on 5 November, continues to galvanize political commitment, with support from the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, among others. In 2025, community-based education campaigns enhanced risk literacy among students and teachers, while simulation exercises and strengthened preparedness frameworks, such as the National Tsunami Ready Board of Seychelles, improved local readiness for coastal hazards. The first International Day in Memory of the Victims of Earthquakes was marked on 29 April by a commemoration ceremony in Uzbekistan that brought together countries calling for stronger action to build resilience.

38. Beyond preparedness, countries are increasingly focusing on recovery processes to preserve resilience gains and reduce future risks. In Jamaica, the Government is integrating recovery efforts after Hurricane Melissa in 2025 into a national urban renewal policy, supported by UN-Habitat and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, and resilient recovery assessment and planning is being prioritized ahead of the upcoming hurricane season. In Brazil, the State of Rio Grande do Sul is advancing locally led recovery efforts following the 2024 floods, including the establishment of a subnational centre for resilient recovery[52] to support municipalities in integrating “build back better” principles.

39. Risk-informed, resilient and inclusive recovery is more likely when recovery readiness is established before crises occur. Yet many countries, particularly those facing recurrent and compounding disasters, continue to experience institutional, financing and local capacity gaps that slow recovery and limit systematic application of “build back better” principles. The high-level policy dialogue on resilient recovery held in Kobe in September 2025 underscored the growing demand for strengthened governance, prearranged financing, local leadership, housing and livelihood recovery and adaptive learning, while reaffirming the 10 priority actions to enhance readiness for resilient recovery.[53] To help meet this demand, the International Recovery Platform, in accordance with its Strategic Framework for 2026–2030,[54] is orienting itself towards more operational, country-level implementation support.

40. The Recovery Readiness Framework and Assessment Tool,[55] launched by the International Recovery Platform in collaboration with the United Nations Office for

[51] See https://preparecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/RCCC_Heat-Urban-Governance_policy-brief.pdf.
[52] See www.undrr.org/news/rio-grande-do-sul-strengthens-its-governance-build-resilient-recovery.
[53] See www.undrr.org/publication/documents-and-publications/priority-actions-enhance-readiness-resilient-recovery.
[54] See https://recovery.preventionweb.net/publication/international-recovery-platform-strategic-framework.
[55] See www.undrr.org/publication/documents-and-publications/recovery-readiness-framework-and-assessment-tool.

Disaster Risk Reduction in October 2025, provides governments with a structured approach to assess and strengthen their preparedness for resilient recovery across four domains, namely, governance, financing, capacity and data and knowledge. Following the pilot implementation in Lebanon, the Republic of Moldova, Rwanda and Uganda, the initiative is expanding in 2026 to other countries, including Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia and Mozambique, with a view to supporting the institutionalization of recovery readiness before disasters occur by informing national strategies and strengthening public financial management systems.

IV. Disaster risk reduction in the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries facing specific challenges

41. Countries in special situations and many middle-income countries continue to face disproportionate disaster impacts (see table below). The least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States experience higher disaster-related mortality and larger numbers of affected people than the global average, with the least developed countries also reporting the highest economic losses relative to gross domestic product. While middle-income countries show lower mortality and affected populations, their large asset bases mean that disasters still result in substantial impacts, with direct economic losses nearly double the global average. These disparities underscore the need for sustained, targeted support to strengthen risk reduction and resilience in countries facing the greatest vulnerabilities.

Impact of disasters, by country groupings (yearly averages)

Country group	*Disaster-related mortality, 2016–2025 (per 100,000 population)*	*Number of affected people, 2016–2025 (per 100,000 population)*	*Percentage of GDP reported as direct economic loss, 2016–2025 (percentage)*	*Critical infrastructure units and facilities destroyed or damaged, 2016–2025*
Least developed countries	1.55	2 758	3.23a	45 125
Landlocked developing countries	2.91	4 911	1.22	16 730
Small island developing States	2.85	2 881	0.82	603
Middle-income countries	0.61	2 707	0.50	73 370
Global average	0.75	2 449	0.27	92 947

Source: Sendai Framework monitor, April 2026.

[a] Data are for 2015–2024 due to insufficient reporting for 2025.

42. Least developed countries advanced disaster risk reduction through governance reforms, multi-hazard early warning investments and local action. Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Gambia, Malawi, the Niger and Zambia developed and implemented Early Warnings for All road maps, integrating risk data into national contingency plans and strengthening local disaster committees. Haiti adopted a nationally owned, multisectoral Early Warnings for All action plan. Bangladesh developed its first open-source probabilistic earthquake risk model at the subdistrict level, informing land-use planning and infrastructure investment. Kampala and Quelimane, Mozambique, completed all stages of the “Making Cities Resilient 2030” process and were recognized as resilience hubs for their commitment to supporting other municipalities.

43. Despite having made progress, the least developed countries continue to face structural constraints that limit the pace and scale of risk reduction impact. Securing

sustainable and predictable financing for prevention remains the most acute challenge, with most resources still directed towards disaster response. Transboundary and regional data-sharing mechanisms remain underdeveloped, hampering harmonized risk information, particularly in crisis and conflict-affected settings, where insecurity and connectivity constraints require flexible delivery and sustained international support. As the midterm review of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries approaches, these gaps underscore the urgency of embedding disaster risk reduction more systematically into development finance, public investment and graduation strategies.

44. In line with commitments under the Awaza Programme of Action, landlocked developing countries have continued strengthening national disaster risk strategies, cross-border early warning and resilient infrastructure. Another area of focus has been recovery readiness through the implementation of the new recovery readiness framework and assessment tool. Localization efforts have been advanced through city-level risk governance and planning, including in Bolivia, which has enabled municipalities to identify and integrate priority risks into local strategies, and in Kazakhstan, which has promoted locally led action through urban resilience dialogues, city risk profiling and stronger national-to-local coordination.

45. However, landlocked developing countries also face major challenges in implementing disaster risk reduction commitments, including limited financial and technical capacity and gaps in risk data, particularly for transboundary hazards. Many are highly exposed to hazards, such as desertification, glacial lake outburst floods, sand and dust storms and earthquakes, while geographical isolation and infrastructure constraints further amplify impacts. Strengthened international cooperation and improved access to resilience financing remain essential. The offer of support for the implementation of the Awaza Programme of Action document[56] presented by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction at the Third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries outlines priority actions to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change and disasters.

46. In the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda, it is emphasized that disaster risk reduction is central to accelerating development in small island developing States. Reporting through the Sendai Framework monitor has been strengthened in various countries, including Kiribati, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, while multi-hazard early warning system road maps were advanced across Pacific small island developing States. National disaster risk reduction platforms were convened in Mauritius, Sao Tome and Principe and Seychelles, alongside regional efforts in the Indian Ocean region, including a regional disaster risk reduction platform and workshops on risk communication, anticipatory action and urban resilience. These efforts led to the establishment of an urban working group within the Indian Ocean Commission, thereby strengthening policy alignment across the Sendai Framework, the Sustainable Development Goals and the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda.

47. Efforts to scale resilient investments in small island developing States include a regional disaster risk reduction finance strategy for Central America and the Dominican Republic developed in partnership by regional intergovernmental bodies, the World Bank and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction;[57] strengthened financial resilience in Belize with the support of the Global Facility for

[56] See www.preventionweb.net/media/108661.

[57] See www.undrr.org/resource/case-study/central-america-and-dominican-republic-regional-intergovernmental-organizations.

Disaster Reduction and Recovery and the World Bank;[58] improved public financial management in Timor-Leste with the assistance of the Asian Development Bank; and completed budget tagging in Seychelles and Mauritius. Coordination between disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation mechanisms has also been strengthened in several Pacific countries, complemented by support to integrate disaster risk reduction into national adaptation processes and nationally determined contributions.

48. The United Nations system continues to support middle-income countries in embedding disaster risk reduction into national investment systems, urban planning and multi-hazard early warning frameworks. Efforts include advancing disaster risk financing strategies, institutionalizing budget tagging and tracking mechanisms, and developing and modernizing early warning systems. Country-level actions include integrating disaster risk reduction into public financial management and planning in Madagascar, linking hazard and loss data in Indonesia, applying catastrophe risk modelling in Bali Province in Indonesia and advancing regional cooperation through such initiatives as the project for a more resilient Western Balkans[59] in Albania, North Macedonia and Serbia, alongside similar programmes in the Caribbean and Pacific. Despite progress, middle-income countries face persistent constraints, including high exposure of assets and populations, growing inequality and limited fiscal space for prevention. These challenges are compounded by gaps in aligning disaster risk reduction financing with sustainable development and climate investments, strengthening risk-informed infrastructure and land-use planning, scaling inclusive governance and translating risk data into actionable, risk-informed investment decisions.

V. Disaster risk reduction in countries affected by conflict, humanitarian crisis and displacement

49. Disaster risk in crisis settings is increasing as protracted conflict, large-scale displacement, environmental degradation and climate change converge, placing mounting pressure on humanitarian systems already operating under severe resource constraints. In these settings, disaster risk reduction is not a parallel agenda but rather an integral part of effective response, where embedding risk-informed approaches into preparedness, response and recovery from the outset is essential in order to protect sustainable development gains and break cycles of recurrent crisis. This underscores the need for stronger and more systematic collaboration between humanitarian, development, peacebuilding and disaster risk reduction actors, in accordance with their respective mandates, including through multidimensional risk analysis and comprehensive risk assessment, with national disaster management entities playing a central role. During the reporting period, an additional six United Nations country teams received support for joint risk analysis in humanitarian and conflict contexts, bringing the total number of countries supported to approximately 24 since 2022. However, resource constraints continue to pose challenges.

50. Humanitarian pooled funds remain the primary channel for anticipatory finance in crisis settings; identifying complementary mechanisms to enable governments to access prearranged financing remains a priority. Anticipatory action for climate-related hazards continued to expand, with increased investments in prearranged finance and preparedness measures that support vulnerable communities ahead of predictable shocks. A workshop held in Kenya with the support of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction brought together nine African least developed countries in order to advance inclusive, conflict-sensitive multi-hazard early warning

[58] See www.gfdrr.org/en/publication/gfdrr-annual-report-2025.

[59] See www.undrr.org/news/new-initiative-launched-boost-early-warnings-and-disaster-resilience-western-balkans.

systems, with the participants agreeing on key actions, including advancing regional data-sharing mechanisms and harmonizing risk information across borders.

51. National authorities and international partners in crisis and conflict-affected settings advanced disaster risk reduction through integrated targeted technical cooperation. In Haiti, in addition to the validation of an Early Warnings for All road map, targeted international technical support has strengthened data governance, improved impact-based forecasting and deepened risk knowledge of localized hazards, including lightning. Those efforts also informed the baseline for a new local disaster risk reduction plan for Cap-Haïtien. In Yemen, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees led an inter-agency initiative across 91 high-risk internally displaced person sites to reduced flood impacts for more than 150,000 people. A multi-partner collaboration also produced risk assessments and community-driven mitigation strategies that address the needs of persons with disabilities, older persons and female-headed households. In the Sudan, the United Nations collaborated with the National Council for Civil Defence and partners to develop a national early warning road map. In Ukraine, local authorities continued applying the disaster resilience scorecard to assess resilience across key sectors and inform disaster-resilient recovery.

52. In line with the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the obligations of States in respect of climate change,[60] countries made progress in efforts to cooperate and strengthen the governance of disaster displacement. The Global Refugee Forum Progress Review in December 2025 highlighted key advances in this area, while dialogues hosted by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons and partners expanded knowledge on planned relocation in the context of climate change and disasters, generating recommendations centred on strengthening human rights-based approaches in relocation strategies.[61]

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

53. The United Nations system continues to strengthen coherence through implementation of the United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience: Towards a Risk-informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development.[62] Across the plan's three commitments, 9 of the 11 targets for the period 2019–2025 period were achieved through the engagement of more than 40 United Nations entities. Achievements include the integration of disaster risk reduction into system-wide planning instruments, improved use of shared risk analysis, strengthened inter-agency coordination and more consistent risk-informed policy advice to countries. Significant progress was made on the remaining two targets. In that regard, 67 per cent of United Nations entities indicate that they include disaster risk reduction in their monitoring and evaluation systems, and 140 United Nations programme countries have received support to develop or update their national disaster risk.[63] Highlights in 2025 include strengthening gender- and child-responsive disaster risk reduction, mobilizing climate finance to support multi-hazard early warning systems and advancing joint support to anticipatory action and financing. At its meeting in July 2026, the Senior Leadership Group on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience adopted updated 2030 targets for the Plan of Action and the

[60] See www.icj-cij.org/case/187.
[61] See www.unhcr.org/media/outcomes-global-refugee-forum-progress-review-2025.
[62] See https://unsceb.org/un-plan-action-disaster-risk-reduction-resilience-towards-risk-informed-and-integrated-approach.
[63] See www.preventionweb.net/sendai-framework/united-nations-plan-action-drr-resilience.

priority actions for 2026–2027, with a view to guiding joint United Nations works at the country level.[64]

54. In response to the 2024 quadrennial comprehensive policy review,[65] support to country-level disaster risk reduction was strengthened through coordinated, risk-informed approaches across United Nations country teams. In Viet Nam, following Typhoon Yagi, entities mobilized the Disaster Risk Reduction Partnership and the United Nations in Viet Nam pooled fund in order to invest in disaster risk reduction knowledge and more resilient infrastructure. In Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon, a joint programme under the United Nations multi-partner trust fund to support the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration facilitated more integrated, migrant-inclusive and gender-responsive resilience planning by strengthening local climate and health assessments and national disaster risk reduction planning, including health system preparedness. In Mozambique, the United Nations country team prioritized community empowerment through anticipatory financing, protecting nearly 300,000 people when Cyclone Jude struck in 2025 and enabling more effective response and recovery. Central to these efforts is the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction in United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks. This includes applying a risk lens across outcomes, outputs and indicators, as well as continuous risk monitoring,[66] as demonstrated by the new Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for Timor-Leste for the period 2026–2030.

55. A growing number of initiatives bring together United Nations entities, regional organizations and development partners. The Aqinile Partnership for Urban Resilience,[67] led by the African Union, UNDP, the United Nations Environment Programme and UN-Habitat, is advancing climate-resilient urban development across Africa. UNDP and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction are supporting a four-year initiative to strengthen country systems and recovery preparedness in Caribbean countries through the European Union Caribbean Resilient Programme.[68] The Sahel Resilience Partnership,[69] jointly implemented by the German Agency for International Cooperation, UNICEF and the World Food Programme, is strengthening community resilience across the Sahel. The joint climate and health programme of the World Health Organization and WMO, in partnership with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, is leading efforts to strengthen governance and investment for extreme heat risk as part of the United Nations system's response to the Secretary General's Call to Action on Extreme Heat. These efforts are reinforced by analytical collaborations across the United Nations system, which include a new methodology to assess urban food system resilience,[70] a framework to monitor biodiversity and ecosystem losses,[71] and the Innovation Digital Hub for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation, which encompasses more than 1,200 tools, methodologies and technological solutions.[72]

[64] See www.undrr.org/news/united-nations-senior-leaders-call-stronger-joint-action-reduce-disaster-risk-and-protect.
[65] See resolution 79/226.
[66] See www.undrr.org/publication/documents-and-publications/integrating-disaster-risk-reduction-and-climate-change-downloads.
[67] See www.undp.org/africa/resilience-hub-africa/blog/africas-architecture-resilience.
[68] See www.undp.org/news/undp-and-undrr-partner-eu-boost-caribbean-resilience-against-climate-and-crisis-shocks.
[69] See www.wfp.org/publications/sahel-region-opportunity.
[70] See www.undrr.org/publication/documents-and-publications/leading-way-resilient-food-systems-participatory-and.
[71] See www.undrr.org/publication/documents-and-publications/framework-towards-assessing-climate-change-and-disaster.
[72] See www.unesco.org/en/unesco-digital-innovation-hub.

56. System-wide coordination was strengthened through regional mechanisms. In Africa, the opportunity and issues-based coalition on fostering climate action, resilience and food systems facilitated coordinated regional support to Member States on multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster loss and damage. In Latin America and the Caribbean, the issue-based coalitions on climate change and resilience and on equitable growth and financing for development collaborated on regional financing dialogues, joint analytical work and civil society consultations. In Europe and Central Asia, the issue-based coalition on environment and climate change trained country teams on the use and deployment of early warning systems and the impacts of extreme heat. In the Asia-Pacific region, the issue-based coalition on resilience supported countries in strengthening the evidence base on loss and damage and the understanding of disaster displacement risk.

57. Continued progress in disaster risk reduction across the United Nations development system depends on more systematic, data-driven multidimensional risk analysis, stronger joint programming and pooling of capacities and resources and continuous risk monitoring.[73] These needs are becoming more acute as resource constraints reduce the capacity of entities to support cross-cutting mandates, such as disaster risk reduction, while overall funding declines. This risks reversing progress in the uptake of prevention, preparedness and disaster resilience priorities across United Nations planning and programming. At the same time, discussions under the UN80 Initiative underscore renewed urgency for concerted, integrated system-wide action, including pooled analytical capacity, strengthened engagement on cross-cutting issues and enhanced cross-pillar collaboration, each of which are critical for effective support to countries on disaster risk reduction.

VII. Early Warnings for All

58. The Early Warnings for All initiative, co-led by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and WMO, in collaboration with the International Telecommunication Union and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, continues to catalyse political commitment, expand technical capabilities and drive unified global action to scale up investment in multi-hazard early warning systems. Progress is evident across all four pillars of the initiative: risk knowledge is expanding; observation and forecasting capabilities are improving; digital infrastructure is making it possible for warnings to reach more people; and momentum is growing for anticipatory action and planned responses that save lives.

59. A robust monitoring and evaluation system underpins the initiative, combining continuous tracking through a publicly accessible dashboard [74] and periodic stocktaking through annual global status reports.[75] The dashboard was further updated through the addition of country snapshots, which offer country-specific overviews of global indicators and pillar-specific metrics to support national investment planning.

60. Gaps persist across the full early warning value chain: hazard monitoring and forecasting capacity have improved, they but remain uneven across regions, particularly for emerging hazards; last-mile communication remains weak in many least developed country contexts; institutional arrangements for translating warnings into pre-emptive action are often absent or untested; and the financial sustainability of early warning infrastructure remains a recurring challenge. As the initiative approaches

[73] See www.undrr.org/publication/documents-and-publications/integrating-disaster-risk-reduction-and-climate-change.

[74] See https://earlywarningsforall.org/site/early-warnings-all/dashboards/early-warnings-all-dashboard.

[75] See www.undrr.org/reports/global-status-mhews-2025.

its 2027 milestone, the scale and depth of the remaining gaps, particularly in the least developed countries, small island developing States and crisis and conflict-affected settings, indicate that universal coverage, while having galvanized transformative action, will require national ownership, sustained commitment by the international community, long-term investment and inclusive governance beyond 2027.

61. Progress has been made in strengthening countries' ability to generate, access and use hazard, exposure, vulnerability and impact data to inform multi-hazard early warning systems. In the Horn of Africa, impact-based forecasting has been integrated into the East Africa Hazards Watch and support has been provided to the Climate Prediction and Application Centre of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development. In Central Africa, a multi-hazard situation room now produces regular bulletins and hazards maps to guide early action across the subregion.

62. Across Africa, eight more countries launched Early Warnings for All road maps and 20 countries integrated multi-hazard risk information into national disaster risk management strategies. Standard operating procedures for early warnings were developed in Ethiopia, the Niger, Senegal and the United Republic of Tanzania, strengthening coordination and improving the timeliness and accessibility of early warnings. In the Americas and the Caribbean, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana and Haiti approved national road maps, while the initiative was launched in Colombia in May 2026. In Asia and the Pacific, Bangladesh and Cambodia launched road maps, while Fiji, Kiribati, Nepal, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga have processes under way. In the Arab region, the Comoros, Djibouti, Iraq and Morocco launched road maps, with the Comoros and Djibouti also developing standard operating procedures with an emphasis on inclusion. In addition, Djibouti and the Sudan issued guidance to integrate the needs of people in vulnerable situations into early warning and early action messaging. In Europe and Central Asia, Armenia completed a national self-assessment, a technical training session on risk knowledge was conducted in Tajikistan and discussions on strengthening national early warning systems were held with Albania, North Macedonia and Serbia, advancing national capacities for risk analysis, preparedness and risk-informed planning.

63. At regional level, the League of Arab States and the United Nations convened the first Arab Forum on Early Warning Systems and Disaster Preparedness, bringing together 18 countries to develop a shared regional framework on governance, financing and coverage gaps. The Regional Technical Working Group on Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems and Risk Information was established under the Pacific Resilience Partnership, with a view to strengthening regional cooperation, improving data-sharing and supporting more coherent and locally tailored early warning and anticipatory action systems across Pacific island countries.

64. Complementary financing mechanisms are scaling support for national early warning systems. The Green Climate Fund has expanded its portfolio with new projects in Belize, Maldives, Togo and Trinidad and Tobago under its Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems Scaling-up Framework. Under its strategy for 2025–2030, the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems initiative will strive to ensure that all least developed countries and small island developing States have access to essential early warning and climate services, mobilizing an additional $1 billion through de-risking of approximately $400 million and leveraging up to $600 million in co-financing to reach an estimated 200 million underserved people. The Systematic Observations Financing Facility[76] is also raising $200 million through a climate

[76] See https://un-soff.org/.

impact bond to enable 30 least developed countries and small island developing States to meet Global Basic Observing Network requirements.

65. The achievements under the Early Warnings for All initiative demonstrate that effective early warning systems are vital for sustainable development, protecting development gains, reducing humanitarian needs and supporting climate adaptation and resilience. Continued international cooperation, long-term financing and national ownership will be essential to sustain and strengthen capacities beyond 2027, particularly in countries in special situations and in crisis and conflict-affected settings.

VIII. Addressing the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon through an effective global response

66. As the dominant driver of year-to-year climate variability, the El Niño/Southern Oscillation continued to shape global weather patterns throughout 2025–2026. After several months of neutral conditions, the system briefly shifted towards its cooler phase, with borderline La Niña patterns emerging late in 2025 and persisting into early 2026. A strong El Niño event is developing and is expected to strengthen in the period from August to October 2026. This will increase the likelihood of above-normal temperatures across much of the world and drive significant shifts in rainfall patterns that are likely to exacerbate droughts, floods and heatwaves, underscoring the importance of preparedness measures.[77]

67. Despite the brief emergence of weak La Niña conditions, January 2026 was the fifth warmest January on record,[78] underscoring that the temporary cooling effect of La Niña occurred against an elevated global temperature baseline. This short-lived La Niña phase was associated with above-average rainfall across parts of the Maritime Continent and northern Australia, drier-than-average conditions in parts of East Africa and subtropical South America and more intense tropical cyclone activity in the western North Pacific and Australia regions. Member States are strengthening preparedness for impacts related to the El Niño/Southern Oscillation through enhanced early warning, scenario planning and anticipatory measures in flood and drought-prone regions. Consideration of El Niño and La Niña hazards is increasingly embedded within multi-hazard early warning road maps, including in Burundi, Ecuador and Kenya, and incorporated into nationally led anticipatory action frameworks in Palau and Tonga. Regional centres and multilateral initiatives, including the International Research Centre on El Niño,[79] continue to support national efforts to reduce risks and limit potential losses.

68. Seasonal forecasts of the El Niño/Southern Oscillation remain central for anticipating climate variability and guiding preparedness across sectors. When integrated into national decision-making systems, these forecasts protect lives and livelihoods by enabling earlier and more targeted action. Regular global and regional hydrometeorological scans and seasonal outlooks produced through the coordination mechanism of WMO[80] continue to support Member States, United Nations entities and humanitarian partners. In 2025, early indications of worsening drought in parts of East Africa, especially Somalia, partially associated with La Niña informed timely preparedness and contingency planning. As the likelihood for El Niño conditions in 2026 increases, WMO has been issuing regular forecasts and United Nations entities

[77] See https://wmo.int/news/media-centre/strong-el-nino-expected-intensify.
[78] See https://wmo.int/media/news/extreme-heat-cold-precipitation-and-fires-mark-start-of-2026.
[79] See https://ciifen.org.
[80] See https://wmo.int/activities/wmo-coordination-mechanism-wcm.

are collaborating to support Member States with coordinated, multisectoral preparedness mechanisms.

IX. Conclusions and recommendations

69. **Implementation of the Sendai Framework has demonstrated that disaster risk reduction and resilience building are indispensable to safeguarding sustainable development and reducing humanitarian needs. Countries have been integrating these priorities into sustainable development initiatives at the national, regional and global levels. However, the scale and pace of disasters continue to set back progress and development strategies in many contexts continue to be focused more on response and recovery, with insufficient integration of "build back better" principles. Accelerating implementation of the Sendai Framework requires an urgent shift in approach that entails embedding risk-informed approaches across public policy, financing and investment decisions, strengthening data and local implementation capacity and scaling up investment in prevention to address the underlying drivers of risk and safeguard long-term development gains.**

70. **Robust disaster risk and impact data and reporting, through the Sendai Framework monitor, are essential to assess and address persistent gaps in risk knowledge and evidence-based decision-making. Enhanced tools, such as the DELTA Resilience disaster tracking system and the global disaster-related statistics framework, support countries in improving systematic and standardized collection and analysis of disaster loss and damage data, resulting in improved understanding of disaster impacts, both in monetary and non-monetary values, while such mechanisms as the Santiago network facilitate targeted technical assistance to enhance national data capacities.**

71. **Disaster risk continues to grow in urban contexts, particularly where rapid and unplanned urbanization, informal settlements and weak land-use regulation increase exposure and vulnerability. As reaffirmed at the midterm review of the New Urban Agenda, advancing urban resilience requires integrating multi-hazard risk assessments into urban planning, housing, infrastructure and service delivery frameworks, alongside stronger coordination and leadership across all levels, and empowering local and subnational actors with capacity and resources.**

72. **As El Niño conditions develop amid record global temperatures and ongoing disruptions to global supply chains, the risk of severe and interconnected impacts is increasing. However, advances in forecasting capabilities are also improving the understanding of potential impacts, giving countries the opportunity to take timely and risk-informed action through strengthened prevention, preparedness and anticipatory approaches to reduce these impacts.**

73. **Climate-related hazards continue to compound existing vulnerabilities and interact with other hazards, generating cascading impacts on ecosystems, infrastructure, livelihoods and human settlements, and contribute to displacement and the loss of cultural and natural assets. Important gaps remain in the availability and quality of data needed to assess the impacts of sea level rise, particularly in developing countries and small island contexts, underscoring the need to invest in data, monitoring and analytical capacities. Addressing extreme heat requires moving beyond fragmented responses to coordinated, systemic risk governance, supported by recent frameworks, toolkits and policy guidance, and scaling up risk-informed investment and action.**

74. **There has been measurable progress in the implementation of the Early Warnings for All initiative, with approximately 66 per cent of Member States and observer States (128 in total) reporting that they have multi-hazard early warning systems in place. Improvements in the comprehensiveness of systems and growing evidence of their contribution to reduced disaster mortality demonstrate the effectiveness of early warning in protecting lives and livelihoods. Important gaps remain, particularly in countries in special situations; continued support is therefore required to build local capacities and maintain fit-for-purpose systems in a rapidly changing risk landscape.**

75. **Given the significant disaster risk reduction financing gaps, strengthening the investment case for prevention and facilitating access to public and private capital for resilience remains necessary. Advances in hazard science, increased availability of exposure data and better understanding of vulnerabilities now allow more robust modelling of disaster risk. Quantified risk can then be translated into monetary terms, enabling governments to link disasters to fiscal stability and debt sustainability. At the same time, it is critical to support countries in developing national financing systems that are fit for disaster risk reduction, while enabling peer learning and sharing of good practices across regions.**

76. **As the UN80 reform process advances, integrating strategic foresight to address emerging and systemic risks remains a priority. It is essential to keep disaster risk reduction and resilience building as central considerations within the evolving multilateral system. Resilience is a cross-cutting imperative that spans the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, reflecting the need for greater integration and coordination with regard to the public provision of services and across productive sectors, including infrastructure, digital connectivity, energy, health, agrifood systems, education, water and sanitation, urban development, ecosystems, economic systems, governance and social protection. Sustained political commitment and adequate means of implementation remain critical to accelerating implementation of the Sendai Framework between now and 2030 and laying a stronger foundation for resilient sustainable development beyond 2030.**

77. **Upcoming intergovernmental processes can advance disaster risk reduction across the global policy landscape. The ongoing development of a convention on the protection of persons in the event of disasters is an opportunity to embed disaster risk reduction in international law, thereby reinforcing commitments under the Sendai Framework. The 2026 United Nations Water Conference can strengthen integrated dialogue on water-related disaster risks and their implications for disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and sustainable development. In addition, the five regional platforms for disaster risk reduction to be convened in 2027 will play a critical role in translating global commitments into regional and national action that will inform the 2027 Sustainable Development Goals Summit.**

78. **It is recommended that:**

(a) **Member States, with the support of the United Nations system and development partners, strengthen accessible and interoperable risk information and disaster tracking systems to ensure that disaster and climate risk data inform planning and investments, while leveraging the potential of digital innovation and artificial intelligence supported by socioecological safeguards, targeted governance frameworks and enhanced technical capacity at the national and local levels;**

(b) **Member States, with the support of the United Nations system and development partners, advance locally led disaster risk reduction by empowering local authorities and communities with access to risk data, financing and capacity, while integrating urban resilience tools to strengthen inclusive governance, planning and preparedness;**

(c) **Member States, international financial institutions and the private sector accelerate the shift from reactive spending to risk-informed investment by embedding disaster risk reduction into public and private financial management, infrastructure planning and project design, while enabling conditions for innovative partnerships and financing instruments for measurable resilience outcomes;**

(d) **Member States, with the support of the United Nations system and development partners, strengthen recovery readiness by applying "build back better" principles and embedding pre-disaster recovery planning, governance arrangements and financing mechanisms within development frameworks, including through clear institutional mandates, risk-informed recovery plans, prearranged financing and recovery-ready public financial management systems;**

(e) **Member States, with the support of the United Nations system and development partners, ensure that ongoing and future sustainable development efforts, including those beyond 2030, are grounded in risk-informed and resilience-building approaches, as disaster risk reduction is a prerequisite for sustainable development owing to increasingly systemic and interconnected disaster risks;**

(f) **Member States, with the support of the United Nations system and development partners, proactively manage disaster risks associated with the El Niño phenomenon in 2026/27 by drawing on historical data; continuously monitoring regional and national climate and weather forecasts, rainfall and temperature; activating multisectoral coordination mechanisms; identifying the most vulnerable communities and sectors; and ensuring that prearranged resources and capacities are available at the local level;**

(g) **Member States, with the support of the United Nations system and partners, scale up political and financial commitment to continue expanding the coverage and comprehensiveness of multi-hazard early warning systems beyond 2027, building on the progress made through the Early Warnings for All initiative, with a view to ensuring that all countries, especially countries in special situations, have operational multi-hazard early warning systems, sustained by predictable financing, strengthened disaster risk knowledge and community-centred last-mile delivery;**

(h) **Member States, with coordinated support from the United Nations system, including in the context of ongoing United Nations reform efforts, embed risk-informed decision-making and utilize quality, forward-looking probabilistic risk information to institutionalize strategic foresight, early warning systems, anticipatory approaches and continuous risk monitoring in national and sectoral development planning, national adaptation plans, public investment frameworks and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks;**

(i) **Member States consider, by 2027, ensuring the allocation of adequate resources to disaster risk reduction, as well as to the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, to support its mandate for the implementation of the Sendai Framework, and to the United Nations entities engaged under the United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience.**