

Towards a regional standard for disaster statistics

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The need for Disaster Statistics

❖ ***ESCAP Resolutions 69/12 and 70/2, Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development)***

- Disaster risk management is one of top priorities in the sustainable development framework in Asia Pacific
- Disasters risk management must be integrated into sustainable development
- Stressed importance of disaggregated data and the need for evidence-based development policy, decision making, and planning

❖ ***Post-2015 SD***

- for the monitoring and reporting against indicators to measure targets on progress and results
- Of both the post 2015 Sustainable development goals and the disaster risk reduction framework

Proposed goals and targets of Post-2015 Sustainable Development

- **Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere**
 - 1.5 by 2030 build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations, and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and *other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters*
- **Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture**
 - 2.4 by 2030 ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation *to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters*, and that progressively improve land and soil quality
- **Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable**
 - *11.5 by 2030 significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of affected people and decrease by y% the economic losses relative to GDP caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with the focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations*
 - 11.b by 2020, increase by x% the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, *resilience to disasters, develop and implement in line with the forthcoming Hyogo Framework holistic disaster risk management at all levels*
- **Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts**
 - 13.1 strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity *to climate related hazards and natural disasters in all countries*

Proposed Targets in Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction:

1. reduce *disaster mortality* by [a given percentage in function of number of *hazardous events*] by 20[xx];
2. reduce *the number of affected people* by [a given percentage in function of number of hazardous events] by 20[xx];
3. reduce *disaster economic loss* by [a given percentage in function of number of hazardous events] by 20[xx];
4. reduce *disaster damage* to health and educational facilities by [a given percentage in function of number of hazardous events] by 20[xx];
5. increase number of countries *with national and local strategies* by [a given percentage] by 20[xx].]

Plus

1. international cooperation to enhance national capacities and technology transfer by [x percentage of gross national income] per year up to 20[XX]”;
2. increase the number of people with access to early warning and risk information by [given percentage] by 20[XX].

Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific

- ❖ ESCAP Resolution 70/2
“*Disaster-related statistics in Asia and Pacific*”
- ❖ The Expert Group
 - consists of Government-nominated technical advisors as well as regional and international experts from the fields of statistics and disaster management
 - is tasked to
 - develop a strategy with short-term and long-term priorities and milestones for the establishment of a basic range of disaster-related statistics
 - develop a framework comprising classification, definitions and standards for a basic range of disaster-related statistics
 - develop guidelines for production and dissemination of the basic range of disaster-related statistics

Current Issues on Disaster Statistics

- ❖ Data collection and compilation
 - Mostly Emergency Management Agency
not by National Statistical Agency
 - Not enough manpower, quality control, etc.
- ❖ Varying definitions, terminologies, and methods
- ❖ Lack common classification
- ❖ Lack baseline
- ❖ Various levels of data disaggregation

Basic Steps for developing Basic range of statistics for Disaster

- ❖ Increase the role of National Statistical Agency in cooperation with International Agency
 - Investigating countries' data collection situation
 - Establishing the framework and development plan (definition, classification, etc.)
 - Making the guideline for data collection and compilation
 - Providing know-how on quality control(editing, etc.)
 - Enhancing the legal framework for statistics
- ❖ Enhance the inter-agency cooperation

Advantage & Disadvantage for Improving integrated information on Disaster

- ❖ Advantage
 - Improving quality of data (reliability & consistency)
 - International comparison
 - Utilizing data (useful information, detailed micro data)
 - Awareness of the importance of statistics for policy-making and for international policy goal
- ❖ Disadvantage
 - Difficult to reflect country- or area-specific traits
 - Possibly not fully meet demands in disaster area

Steps for developing new measurements and standards at international level

- ❖ Agreement between member countries
- ❖ Establishing Expert Group
 - Identifying what indicator/statistics are needed
 - Examining existing materials as references
 - Setting up common definition, classification, and methods through discussions
 - Providing draft recommendations and guidelines
 - Conducting pilot country implementation
 - Identifying problems and improving

Discussions in the first meeting of the Expert Group (Sendai, 27-28 Oct. 2014)

- ❖ Definitions:
 - Disaster: natural disaster or human made disaster
 - Affected people: the dead, the injured, missing, displaced, direct/indirect
- ❖ Measurement of Economic impacts:
 - Identifying damage: material damages, property/infrastructure
 - Valuation : monetary
- ❖ Classification:
 - New classification, existing classification(IRDR, CRED/EM-DAT, ECLAC)

Outcomes of the first meeting of the Expert Group (Sendai, 27-28 Oct. 2014)

- ❖ Group should develop a draft guidelines on disaster-related statistics
- ❖ Need agreement on some issues (e.g.):
 - Direct vs. indirect impacts of disasters
 - Definition and classifications for disasters
 - Natural and other types of disasters