



Decent work is an important component of such a risk-informed approach. As exemplified by COVID-19, deep rooted and pre-existing decent work deficits wrought by informality, gender inequality, limited social protection, skills gaps, and inadequate infrastructure have increased exposure and vulnerability to disasters. Small and medium enterprises are always dealt a particularly heavy blow during disasters, with impacts that ripple across the economy.

## A RISK-INFORMED AND RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT TRAJECTORY THROUGH COVID-19 RECOVERY

In recent years, the General Assembly's Second Committee has made a clear call for disaster risk reduction to be integrated in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and has recognized that national disaster risk reduction strategies are essential for the achievement of the SDGs<sup>1</sup>. The Second Committee has also highlighted the invaluable contribution of disaster risk reduction in ensuring all public and private investments for sustainable development are risk-informed<sup>2</sup> in preventing desertification and biodiversity loss<sup>3</sup> and in achieving the development objectives of the SDGs, the 2030 Agenda, and the Sustainable Development Goals<sup>4</sup>. The 71st United Nations Conference on Disasters, to be held in Addis Ababa in 2017, and its preparatory process could provide an opportunity to address risk in a systemic manner over the next decade and beyond. The Political Declaration of the 71st UN Summit clearly recognizes disaster risk reduction as a priority of the Decade of Action. It is critical to support Governments to turn these intergovernmental decisions on disaster risk reduction into action through development investments and economic, social and environmental policy at all levels and in an integrated and coherent manner.

### OBJECTIVE OF THE SIDE EVENT

The objective of the side event is to raise awareness that limited attention to risk reduction in sustainable development policy, including economic policy, and public and private investments is compromising the achievement of the SDGs. It encourages Member States and stakeholders to apply the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030) response and socio-economic recovery and rehabilitation policies and strategies in order to embark on a risk-informed and sustainable trajectory moving forward and to share promising national experience in implementing the Sendai Framework and reducing disaster risk.

The side event will support countries in taking forward recent Second Committee decisions on a disaster risk-informed approach to sustainable development and the achievement of the SDGs. As the end of 2017 is the deadline for Target 11.5 of the Sendai Framework, for countries to have national and local disaster risk reduction strategies in place, the event will be an opportunity to take stock of progress and encourage countries to use the development of national disaster risk reduction strategies to guide a resilient, risk-informed, and inclusive 2030 socio-economic recovery.

### KEY QUESTIONS

1. What immediate and medium-term measures can Governments take to embark on a development trajectory that reduces rather than creates risk?
2. What are the challenges and obstacles to applying systemic understanding of risk in development policy and investments and what measures are needed to support the public and private sectors to overcome them?
3. What actions can Governments take to ensure that 2030 recovery and rehabilitation is disaster risk-informed, inclusive, gender responsive, and addresses the underlying social and economic drivers of disaster risk?
4. What type of regulations standards and legislation are needed, including in the workplace, to reduce disaster risk?

<sup>1</sup> A/RES/74/218

<sup>2</sup> A/RES/74/199

<sup>3</sup> A/RES/74/220; A/RES/74/219; A/RES/74/221

<sup>4</sup> A/RES/74/232; A/RES/74/233; A/RES/74/231; A/RES/74/217

- =. How can Governments and the private sector better access existing "financing and disaster risk information to ensure policies and investments are risk-informed?"

**; ACK%RO1ND READIN%**

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction - .1!-.-.-  
<https://www.preventionweb.net/sendai-framework/or/drr>

-.-. Report of the Secretary-General on the Implementation of the Sendai Framework  
<https://www.ndrr.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/171271SG2716report271on271the271implementation271of271the271Sendai271Framework.pdf>

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<https://www.ndrr.org/sites/default/files/gar/distilled.pdf>

COVID-19: Opportunities for Resilient Recovery (in Africa)  
<https://www.ndrr.org/publications/ndrr/asia/pacific/covid/'/brief/opportunities/resilient/recovery>

COVID-19: A Risk Management in the Americas  
<https://www.ndrr.org/publications/ndrr/americas/caribbean/magazine/covid/'/risk/context>

COVID-19: Preliminary Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa  
<https://www.ndrr.org/publications/covid/'/brief/preliminary/evidence/saharan/africa>

High Level Political Declaration of the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development Convened Under the Auspices of the General Assembly (7, 71 and 74)  
<https://www.un.org/sdgs/commitments>