HLPF: The Value of Partnerships to Reduce Disaster and Climate Risk
Concept Note (01.07.2022)

Event: High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
Title of the Side Event: The Value of Partnerships to Reduce Disaster and Climate Risk
Organizer: CADRI Partnership
Date and Time: July 12th, 7.30 – 9.00 am, EDT/NY Time (13.30 - 15.00 CEST)
Duration: 90 minutes
Mode of Side Event: Online via Zoom; Meeting ID: 819 5840 9062, Passcode: 335486

I. Context
In recent decades, despite significant advances (particularly in the areas of institutional reform, policy development, early warning and preparedness), limited progress has been made in reversing the trend of increasing health, social, economic, and environmental losses from disasters and climate change impact. The COVID-19 pandemic has clearly revealed the vulnerability of individuals and societies in the context of disasters and crises.

As disasters are becoming increasingly systemic, a result of the increasing interconnectedness between risks, there is a call for changing the way in which we need to work if we don't want to jeopardize the progress made towards the achievement of the SDGs. Partnerships can strengthen our efforts and increase the impact to reduce disaster and climate risk by breaking the silos.

The COVID-19 recovery process offers us an opportunity to change the way we work and to integrate risk reduction measures into policies, plans and programmes. This is an important element to strengthen societies’ resilience in the face of systemic, multi-dimensional risks.

II. Side Event Description
The proposed side event will focus on SDG 17 “Partnerships for the Goals” and how Partnerships are a more effective and efficient way to scale up action to strengthen DRR and CCA across sectors as to individual and siloed approaches. Partnerships contribute to developing common, coordinated and coherent approaches amongst stakeholders and promote multi-sectoral interventions.

In this session the panelists will elaborate on the value of Partnerships to reduce disaster and climate risk across socio-economic sectors in order to achieve the Agenda 2030. They will talk from different perspectives: global, national and local level, from UN, government and civil society perspective. The guiding question for all panelists will be:

1. How are Partnerships contributing to achieve the Agenda 2030, particularly in the area of DRR/CCA (incl. good practices, lessons learnt, recommendations)?
2. How can Partnerships in DRR/CCA contribute to the achievement of the Agenda 2030 in the COVID-19 recovery process?

The panelists’ presentations will be followed by a panel and Q&A session.

III. Speakers
● Ms. Armine Hayrapetyan, Sendai Framework National Focal Point, Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES) of the Republic of Armenia (TBC)
● Mr. Ronald Jackson, UNDP, Head of Disaster Risk Reduction & Recovery for Building Resilience, Board Co-Chair of the CADRI Partnership
● Mr. Roy Trivedy, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Timor-Leste
● Ms. Shivangi Chavda, GNDR, Views from the Frontline
IV. Contribution to the HLPF

The proposed side event will contribute to the HLPF by sharing experiences on multi-stakeholder collaboration. As such the event contributes to the following HLPF objectives:

1. Improve cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system on sustainable development programmes and policies;
2. Promote the sharing of best practices and experiences relating to the implementation of sustainable development and, on a voluntary basis, facilitate sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned;
3. Promote system-wide coherence and coordination of sustainable development policies.

The side event contributes to the HLPF 2022 theme by highlighting how the COVID-19 recovery process is an opportunity to scale up the integration of risk reduction and climate change adaptation in national and sub-national policies and programmes through Partnerships. This again will strengthen countries’ capacities to cope with future disaster and climate change impact.

The event brings different actors and perspectives to one table to share experiences, lessons learned and good practices in the field of capacity development, DRR and CCA. It also familiarizes countries with different approaches as well as Partnerships and their service offer in DRR/CCA.