



IFRC's input to the thematic review of the High-level Political Forum in July 2024

4 March 2024

(a) Impacts of multiple crises on the implementation of SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17 from the vantage point of your intergovernmental body.

-In 2023, countries and communities faced an increase in the frequency, intensity and compounding nature of crises. The two devastating earthquakes that struck Türkiye and Syria killed 50,000+ people, displaced tens of thousands of people, and destroyed homes and critical infrastructure. While the humanitarian community including the IFRC network, especially the Turkish Red Crescent and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent, mobilized after the earthquake with search and rescue appeals, shelter, cash, food and water, and MHPSS services, the earthquake will have long-term consequences that result in continued challenges that impact incomes and livelihoods, displacement, disease, hunger and malnutrition and limited access to healthcare and education, all of which will have continued effects of future generations.

- The hunger crisis across sub-Saharan Africa remains severe and over 146 million people face acute food insecurity due to a climate-induced dry spell with five consecutive dry seasons. As the IFRC network, we have been providing life-saving assistance to millions of people that include cash and voucher assistance for food and nutritional components, as well as WASH services. To tackle the root causes of food insecurity, countries and communities will need to focus on improving agricultural practices, foster critical peace and stability and enhance economic opportunities.

(b) Three key areas where sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions for achieving the SDGs are being effectively delivered, especially related to the cluster of SDGs under review in 2024, bearing in mind the three dimensions of sustainable development and the interlinkages across the Goals and targets.

- Over the last two decades, the deadliest and costliest disasters were forecasted. The Global Commission on Adaptation reports that early warning systems save lives and assets worth at least 10x their cost. The IFRC network is pleased to be part of new and innovative partnership models that are complementary, cross-sectoral, and invest in capacity building at the local level. As an example of such a partnership model, the Water at the Heart of Climate Action programme, under the UN Secretary-General's Early Warnings for All initiative and in partnership with the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the IFRC network, the UN's Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, the World Meteorological Organization, and the Systemic Observations Financing Facility, supports water management and the internal scaling up of early warning and early action systems along the Nile River Basin. This type of partnership can and should be replicated in other countries and contexts, because when countries and communities are prepared for hazards, lives, livelihoods, and critical infrastructure will be saved.

- In this same spirit of partnership, the IFRC network is working with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Aon, and the Centre for Disaster Protection to scale up IFRC's Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) with the addition of an innovative insurance mechanism. In particularly hazardous

years, if existing DREF contributions are exhausted, this insurance mechanism will provide a needed contingency financing layer that will allow the IFRC to continue distributing funds to countries and communities both before and after a disaster.

- Over the last 20+ years, the IFRC network has supported over 95 governments to develop, revise, and review their multi-hazard risk governance frameworks, which include laws, policies, and plans for governments and stakeholders before, during and after a disaster strikes. At the domestic level, these laws policies and plans are critical to define roles and responsibilities, ensure coherence between DRR and climate activities, and better protect persons in vulnerable populations. At the international level, an international disaster law framework provides a better degree of clarity about what governments can expect from other governments and humanitarian organizations following a disaster and clarify the facilitation measures for such external assistance.

(c) Three examples of specific actions, policies and measures that are most urgently needed to effectively deliver sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions to eradicate poverty and reinforce the 2030 Agenda, building on interlinkages and transformative pathways for achieving the SDGs.

N/A

(d) Follow-up actions and measures being undertaken by your intergovernmental body or forum to support implementation of the Political Declaration of the SDG Summit.

N/A

(e) Recommendations and key messages for inclusion into the Ministerial Declaration of the 2024 HLPF.

SDG2

-To tackle the root causes of food insecurity, countries and communities will need to focus on **improving agricultural practices**, foster critical peace and stability and enhance economic opportunities.

SDG13

-Act urgently to address the humanitarian impacts of the climate crisis. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions to prevent worsening humanitarian impacts, whilst vastly scaling up adaptation action at the local level reaching the most at risk and impacted people and communities.

-**Scale up early action to prevent** extreme weather events becoming disasters, to save lives and livelihoods. Invest in early warnings and other systems for early action at the local level, reaching last mile communities before disasters strike.

-**Prioritize locally led action** to support meaningful engagement and participation to co-implement solutions by and with communities which builds resilience to climate impacts.

-**Increase adaptation finance.** Quality, quantity and accessibility. Prioritize funding for the most impacted countries and communities, which reaches the local level.

- **Avert, minimize and address loss and damage with new, additional, and predictable finance to support comprehensive action.** Responses to loss and damage must reach the local level to people and communities most impacted.

-Invest in **multi-hazard risk frameworks**, laws, policies and plans that prepare, respond to and build local capacities.