

**Eighth Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction  
Geneva, Switzerland  
Special Session Concept Note on Progress on implementing the Gender Action Plan  
for the Sendai Framework**

**UNDRR Focal Points**

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**Introduction**

The Gender Action Plan to Support Implementation of the Sendai Framework (Sendai GAP) was launched in March 2024 at the Commission on the Status of Women. It aims to accelerate achievement of the Sendai Framework by substantially increasing resource allocations, activities and impacts of gender-responsive disaster risk reduction and substantially decreasing gender-related disaster risk by 2030. This Special Session will:

- Demonstrate good practices and highlight progress made by diverse stakeholders to implement the Sendai GAP to build the momentum for and commitment to implementation.
- Strengthen DRR and gender stakeholder's understanding of the monitoring and reporting mechanisms now in place to support Sendai GAP implementation, and take stock of the baseline data that has been collated to measure the impact that the Sendai GAP will have in accelerating implementation of the Sendai Framework to 2030.
- Share experiences of how the tools and resources that are available to support governments and gender and inclusion stakeholders have been used to to implement the Sendai GAP in different settings.

**Overview of global progress made**

An analysis of gender and social inclusion in country and thematic reports to the Sendai Framework Midterm Review demonstrated many good practices and highlighted that governments consider addressing gender inequality as one of the key priorities in disaster risk reduction that requires more attention towards 2030. This was also made clear in regional, stakeholder and UN system agencies' reports, as well as in the final report of the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework.

While there were good practices on gender identified across all four priorities of the Sendai Framework, the scope and scale varied and gender equality is still not systematically integrated into disaster risk reduction efforts. The most progress was reported under *Priority 2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk*, however Member States noted a number of challenges that require greater attention, including persistent gaps in ensuring the equal and meaningful participation of women, addressing the underlying risk factors that exacerbate

inequalities through DRR policies, and establishing clear gender targets within results.

In contrast the least progress on gender was reported under *Priority 3: Investing in DRR for resilience* with few Member States reporting specific investments and resource allocation towards strengthening gender equality and diversity in DRR. While some positive progress was reported on the impact that stronger social protection mechanisms have had on building resilience, investment in gender-responsive DRR is an area that requires significant attention going forward.

The Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework also highlighted that Member States must enhance commitment and capacity to develop and use gender data, including disaggregated data. As of October 2024, 68 countries have reported sex-disaggregated data for human impact of disasters (i.e. Targets A or B of the Sendai Framework which look at disaster mortality and number of people affected by disasters respectively). While the number of countries reporting sex-disaggregated data has increased by 15 percent since mid-2022, the proportion of gender-disaggregated mortality data still only accounts for about 10 percent of the total mortality figures reported, pointing to the need for greater investment in data collection and reporting capabilities across countries. Given the lack of disaggregated data, currently DRR decision-making is based on data that rarely considers differential experiences of disaster risk and disaster impacts.

Since the launch of the Sendai GAP in March 2024 a number of countries have begun to implement the 33 recommended actions under the nine key objectives, including by:

- Increasing capacities to collect disaggregated data and improving reporting of disaggregated data in the Sendai Framework Monitor (Key Objective 1);
- Integrating the Sendai GAP into National DRR Action Plans and ensuring diverse perspectives and experiences of women, gender and DRR actors contributed to and were integrated into National DRR Action Plans (Key Objective 3 and 4);
- Utilising the Sendai GAP to inform the development of Early Warning roadmaps that will improve the gender-responsiveness of multi-hazard early warning systems (Key Objective 7).

Countries can report on their implementation of the Sendai GAP through the use of customized indicators in the Sendai Framework Monitor. This utilization of the existing Sendai Framework reporting mechanism and light-touch reporting aligns with the request from member states to not introduce new reporting requirements and will enable countries to report their progress and share good practices. Non-State Stakeholders are reporting on their implementation of the Sendai GAP through the Sendai Framework Voluntary Commitments online platform, with the first Sendai GAP reporting received. The UN system is reporting on their support to implement the Sendai GAP through the UN Plan of Action on DRR in Resilience.

The 2024 Regional Platforms for DRR held in Asia-Pacific, Africa and Europe and Central Asia were utilized as an opportunity to build commitment to the Sendai GAP. The outcome documents welcomed the launch of Sendai GAP, recognised the investment required for its implementation, urged Member States to enhance national systems for gender data to influence DRR decision making; highlighted the role gender stakeholders can play to support national and local authorities in overall implementation of the Sendai GAP; and called for all stakeholders to translate the Sendai GAP into action at all levels.

### **Course Correction towards 2030**

- National and local governments recognise and prioritize gender equality as a DRR outcome.
- Gender is adequately resourced in DRR financing and budgets, and international cooperation and partnerships for gender-responsive DRR increase.
- Women, women's organizations, and other gender and inclusion stakeholders gain greater access to DRR decision-making processes and resources, especially at the local level.
- A Sendai GAP summary report to assess global progress is completed in 2027, and the Sendai GAP is embedded in the review mechanism for the Sendai Framework ahead of 2030.

### **Expected outcomes of session**

- Enhanced understanding of good practices and experiences that diverse stakeholders have had implementing the Sendai GAP and the impact of these efforts in reducing disaster risk.
- Increased awareness of the tools and resources available to support governments and diverse gender and DRR stakeholders to implement the Sendai GAP.
- Strengthened partnerships between DRR and gender stakeholders to advance gender equality and resilience and build the momentum for and commitment to Sendai GAP implementation.
- Greater uptake and utilization of the Sendai GAP monitoring and reporting mechanisms, and knowledge of the baseline data that has been collated to measure the impact that the Sendai GAP will have in accelerating implementation of the Sendai Framework to 2030.

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