

ROME DECLARATION of STAKEHOLDERS

SECURING EUROPE'S PROSPERITY – REDUCING RISK OF DISASTERS

We, the Heads of the national delegations and practitioners responsible for disaster risk reduction in Europe having met in Rome, Italy from 21 to 23 November 2018 on the 2018 European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction:

1. Express gratitude and appreciation to the Government of Italy for its warm hospitality in hosting the European Forum and showing leadership in disaster risk reduction;
2. Express deep concern at the growing frequency and intensity of extreme weather and climate-related events, and continuing impact of disasters in the region, resulting in unacceptable loss of human lives and livelihoods, displacement of people, and environmental and economic damages;
3. Acknowledge that the economic losses due to disasters pose a serious challenge to the sustainability, growth and prosperity of the European region.
4. Stress the need to focus on underlying, interconnected and evolving risk factors such as ageing infrastructure, impacts on capital markets and their volatility, urbanization, displacement, and man-made hazards;
5. Recognize the importance of ensuring coherence among the global frameworks such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the New Urban Agenda, and relevant European Union legislation; Renew our commitment to ensure continuity of the work in the field of disaster risk reduction, building on the 2015-2020 EFDRR roadmap implementation, and recognize the support role of the EFDRR Secretariat in this regard;

6. Welcome the vital role played by stakeholder groups as enablers, partnering with governments and communities, in the implementation of the EFDRR Road Map at local, national and regional levels.

Building on the 2015 -2020 EFDRR Roadmap, call on all governments and stakeholders to:

7. Urgently accelerate actions for developing and implementing national and local strategies on disaster risk reduction, thereby meeting target (e) of the Sendai Framework by 2020;
8. Commit to translate greater coherence of global frameworks into appropriate policy and practice, to achieve resilience at national and local levels across all sectors; including through the strengthening of governance arrangements and the provision of practical guidance to ensure effective and efficient management of disaster risk;
9. Support the disaster risk management and civil protection authorities to better systematically integrate the risks of climate change into risk reduction, prevention, preparedness and response actions, including through engagement with relevant institutions; explore innovative decision-making support tools to help stress test current systems against realistic climate impact scenarios;
10. Promote risk-sensitive public and private investments for building disaster resilience, making full use of the opportunity of on-going wider developments around sustainable finance; convene a dedicated financial enquiry on unlocking disaster resilience investments to support enabling this;
11. Commit to greater accountability and improved governance, including through systematically collecting and recording disaster damage and losses, conducting and sharing risk assessments and analysis to inform national and

local strategies, establishing monitoring baselines;

12. Make full use of the Sendai Framework Monitor tool to identify trends, assess progress and draw lessons in achieving global and national targets and indicators, using disaggregated data, including for sex, age and disability, including through local data reporting;
13. Ensure the use of disaster risk assessments as a prerequisite for infrastructure investments, with time horizons commensurate to their life cycles;
14. Dedicate specific attention to the safeguarding of tangible and intangible cultural heritage, especially in focusing efforts on the applications of new technologies to understand risks and manage disasters including its role in supporting community engagement.
15. Ensure a better inclusion of data & technology for evidence-based decisions and risk informed policies, through systematic engagement of scientific and academic communities in National Platforms for DRR and or relevant governance mechanisms;
16. Facilitate the relationship with civil society in implementing the Sendai Framework, recognizing their critical role in supporting a people-centered all-of-society approach to disaster risk reduction, and in localization of the Sendai Framework at the community-level.
17. Ensure an inclusive approach to disaster risk reduction by integrating vulnerable groups such as, inter alia, people with disabilities, migrants, refugees, children, elderly single people in disaster risk reduction policies, strategies and practices.

Adopted on 23 November 2018, in Rome, Italy