

Statement at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Asian Disaster Preparedness Center

Cancun, Mexico, 22–26 May 2017

Although collective efforts by governments, development partners, and communities have reached many milestones over the past decades in reducing disaster-related fatalities, emerging threats to lives, properties and infrastructure demand innovative solutions including more meaningful regional cooperation. Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) is committed to supporting the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) to achieve sustainable development, and to address the critical challenges posed by the increasing frequency of disasters in the Asia-Pacific region.

We believe that disaster losses are not natural, rather, a product of policies, plans and decisions taken or not taken by governments and development stakeholders to build disaster resilience. ADPC is at the center of supporting governments and communities to invest more in risk governance and SFDRR's other priority areas to support evidence-based decision-making, and to enable better strategies and tools to avoid disaster losses and damages.

Through the Regional Consultative Committee (RCC) on Disaster Management, ADPC has been contributing to operationalize the SFDRR's priorities for action.

During the 13th RCC Meeting entitled Operationalizing Global Frameworks for Risk-Resilient Development in Asia held in Islamabad, Pakistan, from 17–19 October 2016, delegates representing the National Disaster Management Organizations of Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, Indonesia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Viet Nam adopted the Islamabad Statement that called for advancing disaster risk reduction action plans in the Asia-Pacific. Building on that, ADPC reiterates its commitment to making communities safer in the region and calls on governments and development partners to:

- Accelerate the implementation of SFDRR;
- Expand the role of respective disaster management agencies in providing guidance and, to the extent possible, in monitoring the parallel planning and implementation of the climate change framework at national and local level;
- Support the RCC countries in developing synergies on Early Warning Systems from trans-boundary, national and subnational to community levels;
- Facilitate the application of disaster data management including disaster related statistics as the basis for progress monitoring and result reporting of the SFDRR implementation.
- Improve partnerships between disaster management agencies and authorities with non-governmental organizations. Similarly, the formidable potential of the private sector needs to be optimally mobilized.