

**e-Asia Pacific Science and Technology Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction**  
***Science-Policy Dialogue for Implementation of the Sendai Framework***  
**(eAPSTCDRR)**  
**15 October 2020**

**Kuala Lumpur Consensus on S&T for Disaster Risk Reduction**

**Summary**

We, the participants of the virtual 2020 Asia-Pacific Science and Technology Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction convened on 15 October 2020 by the Government of Malaysia and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, renew our commitment to accelerate the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 to achieve the goals of sustainable development and resilience. We commit to developing and disseminating science, technology and innovation for risk reduction drawing on the fourteen actions and six cooperative mechanisms identified in the First and Second Asian Science and Technology Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction, held in 2016 and 2018, respectively; as well as to bring forward the Global Science Technology Road Map implementation in the regional context. We also express our commitment to provide evidence-based research to inform the recovery process in the context and aftermath of COVID-19 to ensure long-term resilience.

**Preamble**

The Sendai Framework shifts the focus from managing disasters to managing risks. Such a shift requires a better understanding of risk in all its spatial and temporal dimensions of hazards, exposure and vulnerability at various scales and across systems. Disaster risk governance needs to ensure that risk is integrated into planning and development at all levels and into all sectors, while cost-benefit analysis supports the prioritization of investments in disaster risk reduction to build resilience.

The Sendai Framework clearly identifies States as holding the primary responsibility to prevent and reduce disaster risk and emphasizes the role of science and technology. It calls on States to prioritize the development and dissemination of science-based risk knowledge, methodologies and tools on DRR through existing networks and research institutions and a strengthened science-policy-practice interface to support all four priority areas: understanding disaster risk; disaster risk governance; investing in DRR for resilience; and enhancing disaster preparedness for response and to build back better.

A ‘Science and Technology Roadmap to Support the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030’<sup>1</sup> was agreed to in January 2016. The Roadmap includes expected outcomes, actions, and deliverables under each of the four priorities of the Sendai Framework. The Global Forum on Science and Technology for Disaster Resilience 2017, approved the ‘Tokyo Statement’ that re-emphasized the importance of developing guidelines for strengthening national platforms for DRR and developing periodic synthesis reports on the state of science and technology for DRR.

In line with the implementation of the global Science and Technology Roadmap, twelve actions and cooperative mechanisms were identified in the First Asian Science and Technology Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction<sup>2</sup> in 2016. The Second Asian Science and Technology Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction<sup>3</sup> in 2018 expanded this to fourteen actions and six cooperative mechanisms in the “Beijing Consensus”. These actions were echoed in the Asian Ministerial Conferences on Disaster Risk Reduction in Delhi, India in 2016 and Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia in 2018, and are currently being implemented.

The virtual 2020 Asia-Pacific Science and Technology Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction brought together around 200 researchers and academics, policy-makers, practitioners, civil society organisations and the private sector from across the Asia-Pacific region, to discuss how to strengthen science-based DRR policy development for building the resilience of communities and infrastructure.

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.unisdr.org/files/45270\\_unisdrscienceandtechnologyroadmap.pdf](https://www.unisdr.org/files/45270_unisdrscienceandtechnologyroadmap.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.unisdr.org/files/49240\\_49240finaloutcomedocument1stastcdrr.pdf](https://www.unisdr.org/files/49240_49240finaloutcomedocument1stastcdrr.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.preventionweb.net/go/55879>

## Actions for Science and Technology-based DRR

The following recommended actions contribute to the revised Science and Technology Roadmap, launched at the 2019 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction as a living document to be implemented by the S&T community in strong partnership with other stakeholders, and draw on the review of progress in the fourteen actions and six cooperative mechanisms of the First and Second Asian Science and Technology Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction. We take due consideration from the Sendai Framework to “build back better” in this window of opportunity, as the region moves to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Priority 1 – Understanding Disaster Risk

Strengthen data sharing and knowledge management to better understand emerging climate risks, including exposure and vulnerability, public health threats, and risks of transboundary, cascading, biological, technological, environmental and NATECH disasters, through a multi-hazard approach.

### Priority 2 – Disaster Risk Governance

Enhance transdisciplinary engagement, between scientists, policy-makers, civil society and businesses at all levels, to strengthen science-based decision making, consider future risk, and promote local and traditional knowledge, including land-based solutions.

### Priority 3 – Invest in DRR for Resilience

Increase investment in knowledge, education, research, innovation, technology transfers and the empowerment of youths and young professionals, to advance multi-disciplinary disaster risk reduction and build resilience.

### Priority 4 – Enhance Disaster Preparedness for Effective Response and to Build Back Better

Develop and disseminate information on multi-disciplinary science, technology and innovations for effective pre-disaster planning, preparedness, response and to build back better in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

To accelerate these actions, we agree to cooperate on:

1. Strengthening transdisciplinary action-oriented research and education, and engagement in disaster risk science, technology and policy;
2. Enhancing the inclusion of science and technology groups, including youths and young professionals, and stakeholder groups in DRR activities and policy platforms;
3. Increasing investment from governments, societies, businesses and other stakeholders in research, capacity building and development of DRR science and technology;
4. Increasing support to governments, societies, businesses and other stakeholders around innovation, partnership development, international cooperation and exchanges on science and technology-based DRR.

*All participants from the e-Asia Pacific Science and Technology Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction held on 15 October 2020.*

**OUTCOME DOCUMENTS – KL CONSENSUS ON S&T FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

Name & Affiliation:			
Email Address:			
No.	Page, Section, Paragraph, Line	Comment	Proposed Revision
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

The Outcome will be open for comments in two weeks times, from **16 October 2020 until 30 October 2020**.

Kindly send the comments to the Drafting Committee as per below:

**Prof. Joy Jacqueline Pereira**  
**Head of the Drafting Committee**  
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