

QUESTIONNAIRE

Follow-up to and implementation of the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for Small Island Developing States (ABAS)

Please note that strict word limits have been established for each question. The Secretariat is unable to consider any information beyond these established word limits. You are requested to report only on new or updated information. Information conveyed in previous surveys or Secretary-Generals' reports will not be considered.

PART A - FOSTERING RESILIENT PROSPERITY IN SIDS

1. Enhanced UN System Support for achieving Resilient Prosperity in SIDS (FOR the UN system)

ABAS Implementation

As disaster risk reduction and resilience building are priorities enshrined in the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS), UNDRR has developed an offer of support to accelerate implementation, based on ongoing and prospective initiatives.¹

In the Caribbean region, UNDRR, in collaboration with 11 UN agencies, has aligned 132 initiatives with the priorities of ABAS. These initiatives, implemented across regional, national, and local levels in partnership with SIDS governments, civil society, and regional stakeholders, focus on the six key outcomes of the ABAS related to disaster risk reduction, resilience, and climate change. Key priorities include strengthening economic resilience, ensuring water, food, and infrastructure security, promoting environmental protection, and mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into relevant plans, strategies, and policies, including regional and national adaptation (NAPs, NDCs, etc.) and sustainable development strategies. A central focus is strengthening disaster risk reduction and preparedness through multi-hazard early warning systems, with an emphasis on gender-responsive and disability-inclusive approaches, aligning with the United Nations' goal of "Early Warnings for All."

Data Collection on Disaster Risk Reduction

The impact of disasters remains disproportionate among SIDS compared to the global average, especially on disaster-related mortality (figures updated in May 2025):

	<i>Disaster-related mortality (per 100,000 population)</i>	<i>Number of affected people (per 100,000 population)</i>	<i>Percentage of globally-reported economic losses (compared to percentage of GDP losses)</i>	<i>Critical infrastructure units and facilities destroyed or damaged</i>
SIDS	1.42	1,943	0.39%	414
Global average	0.79	2,028	0.30%	92,199

A total of 24 SIDS have reported the existence of national Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strategies, and UNDRR is providing support to these countries on integrated DRR and climate change adaptation planning through the Comprehensive Risk Management (CRM) approach.

¹ <https://www.undrr.org/implementing-sendai-framework/sendai-framework-action/small-island-developing-states>

Reporting under the Sendai Framework Monitor remains incomplete for most SIDS, and there is a need to strengthen capacities to collect disaster statistics through national statistical offices and integrate Sendai Framework Monitor data to reduce onerous reporting burdens.

Recognizing that high-quality risk information is fundamental for effective risk management, UNDRR provides targeted support to SIDS, including capacity-building activities and the development of national risk information plans that utilize prospective, quantitative, and probabilistic risk assessment methodologies. These efforts aim to enhance the generation and utilization of comprehensive risk information encompassing hazards, exposure and vulnerability.

Loss and Damage Accounting

UNDRR and UNOPS are the hosts of the secretariat of the Santiago network which aims to avert, minimize and address loss and damage from the impacts of climate change. The Santiago Network's advisory board has approved the operative guidelines regarding membership in the network², responding to technical assistance requests³ and managing funding⁴. Work to build knowledge and capacity of countries to access support through the Network commenced, with the convening of the first workshop for LDCs and SIDS in the Pacific, as part of the Pacific Resilience week titled "Managing climate and disaster risk for a resilient Pacific".⁵ The week also featured workshops on comprehensive risk management and climate mobility, and was supported by other UN partners, regional organizations and the Government of Fiji.

In preparation for the roll-out of a new-generation disaster losses and damages tracking system, technical support was provided by UNDRR to countries, ensuring that disaster loss data collection is comprehensive, accurate and aligned with global standards:

- Timor-Leste improved how disaster losses and damages are accounted for across key sectors such as infrastructure, agriculture and health through a standardized protocol and methodological framework for disaster losses and damages accounting. Importantly, this process strengthened interagency collaboration by bringing the Civil Protection Authority and the National Directorate of Meteorology and Geophysics closer together. It also enhanced sectoral entities' awareness of disaster impacts, sparking their engagement in DRR.
- Maldives developed the DRR strategy 2024-2030 which aims, among others, at conducting comprehensive risk assessments that consider climate change projections and cascading effects of multiple hazards. The capacity of the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) to collect loss and damage data was strengthened through a new data repository with reporting to the Sendai Framework Monitor. A dozen ministries and other partners were convened to discuss and improve sectoral-level data collection.
- Kiribati coordinated initiatives from multiple partners, including the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Asian Development Bank, to enhance disaster data collection and its effective use.
- In Samoa and Fiji technical assistance was provided to enhance reporting on Sendai Framework targets through the Sendai Framework Monitor, ensuring comprehensive tracking of DRR progress as a basis for decision making on DRR action and investment. These trainings also covered the collection and reporting of data disaggregated by sex, age and disability, in line with the Sendai Framework Gender Action Plan.
- Targeted support has been provided to Comoros to enhance the integration of climate information into the development of national disaster risk reduction strategies and action plans, under the Comprehensive Risk Management (CRM) initiative.

² https://assets.santiago-network.org/Common/Documents/SNAB_2024_2_06.Rev.2-Guidelines-for-the-designation-of-organizations-bodies-networks-and-experts-as-members-of-the-Santiago-network.pdf

³ https://assets.santiago-network.org/Common/Documents/Core/SNAB_2024_3_06.Rev.2-Guidelines-and-procedures-for-responding-to-requests-for-technical-assistance-06Sep2024-Approved.pdf

⁴ https://assets.santiago-network.org/Common/Documents/Core/SNAB_2024_3_08.Rev.3-Guidelines-for-managing-funding-06Sep2024-Approved.pdf

⁵ <http://www.undrr.org/quick/88921>

Multi-hazard Early Warning Systems

Early Warnings for All Initiative is built on four pillars that are coordinated and led by four agencies:

1. Disaster risk knowledge and management (led by UNDRR)
2. Detection, observation, monitoring, analysis, and forecasting (led by WMO)
3. Warning dissemination and communication (led by ITU)
4. Preparedness and response capabilities (led by IFRC)

In close collaboration with these agencies and other partners in the UN System, UNDRR has supported SIDS in assessing early warning systems and designing plans to fill the current gaps:

- In Tonga, Fiji, Maldives, Comoros and the Solomon Islands, UNDRR supported the development of comprehensive MHEWS roadmaps that include provisions to enhance risk knowledge, integrating traditional knowledge into risk assessment, harmonizing risk information tools and build the capacity of local and national actors. The first roadmap has been adopted in the Maldives, while others are undergoing further refinement and approvals.
- UNDRR played a key role in strengthening Timor-Leste's disaster resilience by supporting the development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for multi-hazard early warning systems, through inclusive policy review and consultations with local governments and communities, including persons with disabilities, women, children, and older persons. These guidelines that complement the national SOP, highlight the importance of engaging vulnerable populations in disaster preparedness,
- An Americas and the Caribbean Regional Coordination Mechanism has been established to provide regionally focused technical and strategic foresight and orientation to guide implementation on EW4All, and the first Americas and the Caribbean MHEWS / EW4All Multi-Stakeholder Forum was successfully carried out with more than 500 persons both in-person and online, leading to a set of recommendations and proposed actions.
- Nationally defined EW4All implementation plans were developed in Caribbean SIDS based on inclusive engagement and participatory gap analyses. MHEWS-focused local (municipal) DRR plans are under development in countries like Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Jamaica and Saint Kitts & Nevis; while the region advances in the actions proposed from the first regional summit between NHMSs and NDMOs.

PART B - COHERENT AND EFFECTIVE UN SYSTEM WIDE CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT APPROACHES TO SIDS

3. HLPF

Using DRR Data for SDG Monitoring

Every year, disasters and disaster risk set back sustainable development gains. The 2030 Agenda recognizes that sustainable development cannot be achieved without building resilience towards disasters, demonstrating significant synergy with the Sendai Framework. Disaster risk reduction cuts across different aspects and sectors of development, firmly establishing the role of disaster risk reduction as a core development strategy. In addition to broad interconnections with all 17 SDGs, a total of 12 SDG indicators (under SDGs 1, 11 and 13) are informed by statistics used to track progress in implementing the Sendai Framework, demonstrating that efforts to reduce disaster risk are aligned with broader sustainable development goals.

Integrating disaster-related statistics into the VNR reporting enriches the analysis and enhances the accuracy and relevance of the data presented. Accurate and disaggregated data on disaster impacts help policymakers understand the specific vulnerabilities and needs of different population groups. This information is essential for designing targeted interventions and ensuring that no one is left behind. Furthermore, disaggregated disaster data by income, gender, age, disability, and geographic location enable a more nuanced analysis of disaster impacts and the effectiveness of DRR measures.

In order to facilitate this, UNDRR has developed Guidance for countries on disaster data for Voluntary National Reviews which can be utilized for future VNRs.⁶

⁶ <https://www.undrr.org/media/106040/download>