

Reducing Vulnerability to Natural Hazards

The climate is already changing and adaptation to these changes in the long term starts with improved current disaster risk reduction capacity. From shifting seasonal patterns of precipitation and extreme weather events to unprecedented floods, droughts, and heat waves, growing climate variability and extremes increase developing countries' exposure to natural disaster risks, with the least developed countries being affected disproportionately strong.

From a development perspective, integrating CCA analysis and measures in DRR interventions is increasingly becoming a basic issue of due diligence, while CCA investments that do not simultaneously address current climate risks could fall short of meeting countries' development needs

GFDRR approaches disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA), including their social dimension, as an integrated climate risk management continuum spanning across multiple time scales, as do most of our partner developing countries. Since its inception in 2006, GFDRR's country work has consistently followed such integrated climate risk managed approach, strategically leveraging just-in-time seed funding, targeted investments, and global expertise:

- ▶ A growing number of countries, such as Bangladesh, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Niger, the Philippines, Rwanda, Togo, Uzbekistan, and Yemen have prioritized climate risk management as elements of their development strategies. Flagship analytical work on the Economics of DRR and innovative technology public private partnerships provide a strong foundation for integrating climate risk in national strategies or making post-disaster recovery planning and reconstruction climate-resilient.
- ▶ A large body of the World Bank analytical and program work on adaptation at both country and regional levels has been either initiated or co-funded by GFDRR. Initiatives ranging from comprehensive climate risk assessment in Malawi and Cambodia, to coastal adaptation in Senegal, Mozambique, Yemen, North

Africa, and the Caribbean, to climate model downscaling and analysis of water sector adaptation options across Sub-Saharan Africa, to name but a few, have built upon GFDRR seed support and accessed expertise in the area of geospatial analysis, vulnerability mapping, risk analysis, and stakeholder engagement.

- ▶ Responding to partners' needs and building on synergies in terms of geospatial and climate risk information, GFDRR is expanding the 31 disaster risk profiles already prepared for some of the most vulnerable partner countries with the development of country adaptation profiles across all Bank Regions -- an operational tool for both disaster recovery and development practitioners that can be used for just-in-time reference information on adaptation.
- ▶ GFDRR-supported country programs and related analytical and capacity-building work have provided major input to the development of the PPCR country programs in Bangladesh, Zambia, Mozambique, and the Pacific Islands (among others).
- ▶ Recognizing Social Protection as a critical climate risk management component, GFDRR seed funding has enabled pioneering analytical work on the social dimensions of climate change in Africa and is currently supporting multi-country analysis on adaptation for the urban poor.
- ▶ Building on its strong partnership with the WBG Treasury and the Insurance Group, GFDRR is establishing a center of expertise for catastrophic risk financing and insurance that provides analytical and operational support to advancing the CAT insurance agenda within the Bank and with country clients.

GFDRR is evolving as one of the stable and efficient global humanitarian and adaptation financing mechanisms.

Looking ahead, GFDRR will continue to further strengthen operational level linkages and integration with climate adaptation work, building on its active field presence and unique operational capabilities to mobilize and allocate expert and financial resources in real time.

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