



Draft Partnership Charter

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GFDRR
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery

This document proposes a draft Partnership Charter. It is based on the discussion note circulated at the Fall 2014 CG and revised on December 15, 2014, and comments received from the Consultative Group (CG) members on the draft Partnership Charter presented at the May 2015 CG.

draft partnership charter

I. Background

1. The Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) is a global partnership program managed by the World Bank Group. GFDRR supports developing countries to: (i) mainstream disaster risk management (DRM) and climate change adaptation in development strategies and investment programs, and (ii) improve the quality and timeliness of resilient recovery and reconstruction following a disaster.
2. GFDRR was launched on September 29, 2006 to support implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 (HFA).¹ On March 18, 2015, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework) was adopted.² GFDRR now supports the implementation of this framework.

II. Mission

3. The mission of GFDRR, aligned with the Sendai Framework, is to help build resilient societies that manage and adapt to emerging disaster and climate risks, and to contribute to the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods, and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities, and countries.
4. GFDRR's mission supports the Sendai Framework's goal, which is to: "prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery, and thus strengthen resilience."

¹ On September 29, 2006, the World Bank, donor partners, and stakeholders of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) system launched GFDRR. The Charter was adopted by the Consultative Group on February 23, 2007, and amended in 2010 and 2013, available at www.gfdr.org/gfdr-partnership-charter-0

² As adopted on March 18, 2015 by the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (March 14-18, 2015, Sendai, Japan) - United Nations, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, A/CONF.224/CRP.1 (March 18, 2015), available at www.unisdr.org.

5. GFDRR pursues this mission by supporting developing countries in their efforts towards:
 - i. Coordinating and scaling up technical and financial assistance; and
 - ii. Strengthening global, regional, and country partnerships.
6. GFDRR supports activities and prioritizes resources based on the following operating principles:
 - i. Targeting developing countries with high exposure and vulnerability to disaster and climate hazards at the national, sub-national and local level, in particular the least developed countries.
 - ii. Responding to countries' commitment to and demand for resilience-building investments.
 - iii. Developing and supporting the implementation of policies and activities that aim at coherence across sustainable development and growth, food security, health and safety, climate change and variability, environmental management and disaster risk reduction agendas.
 - iv. Integrating gender, disability, age, and other social vulnerability dimensions to promote equity and an inclusive approach to DRM.
 - v. Promoting coordination and collaboration amongst partners and local stakeholders at all levels including civil society.
 - vi. Demonstrating the potential to leverage additional financing, knowledge and coherence, including from the World Bank Group, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, and UN agencies, civil society, private sector, private foundations, and other partners.
 - vii. Preventing and mitigating undue harm to people and their environment within project design and implementation.

III. Program Structure

7. GFDRR is organized under the following program structure:
 - i. Country Programs: Activities that promote the mainstreaming of disaster risk management and climate change adaptation in country development strategies, national adaptation plans, and investment programs.
 - ii. Thematic Programs: Technical support, capacity, and knowledge development in specialized areas of disaster risk management and climate change adaptation.
 - iii. Special Programs: Dedicated programs supported separately by one or several donors that target specific priorities.
8. The program structure is implemented through contributions provided by donors to trust funds administered by the World Bank, including:
 - i. A Multi-Donor Trust Fund (the GFDRR MDTF), comprising a commingled pool of resources to fund activities falling within the GFDRR work plan, including support

³ Reference to the Core Fund under existing administration agreements is deemed to refer to this multi-donor trust fund.

⁴ Reference to a Non-Core Fund under existing administration agreements is deemed to refer to these single-donor trust funds.

- for the GFDRR governance structure, partnerships, and trust fund management.³
 - ii. A Callable Fund, comprising a commingled pool of resources to support recovery and reconstruction activities following a disaster, mobilized through specific calls for funds.
 - iii. Single Donor Trust Funds, each comprising resources contributed by a single donor to support a Special Program according to specific preferences, requirements, and supplemental governance arrangements.⁴
9. The use and allocation of resources under the trust funds will be aligned with GFDRR's work plan, results framework and administrative arrangements.

IV. Governance Structure

10. The governance structure of GFDRR comprises: the Consultative Group, the Secretariat, and the Trustee.

A. The Consultative Group

11. The Consultative Group is GFDRR's primary decision-making, oversight, and advisory body. It is comprised of (i) Members, including a Chair and Co-Chair, and (ii) Observers.
12. The Members of the Consultative Group are:
- i. The World Bank.
 - ii. The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR).
 - iii. Countries, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, and UN agencies that commit to contributing at least \$3 million over a three-year period to the GFDRR MDTF, as reflected in an administration agreement or amendment thereto.
 - iv. Developing countries committed to contributing at least \$500,000 over a three-year period to the GFDRR MDTF, as reflected in an administration agreement or amendment thereto.
 - v. Low income countries that receive GFDRR support, upon invitation of the Consultative Group per recommendation of the Secretariat for a one year term.
 - vi. Other countries or entities that are recommended by the Secretariat due to exceptional cases and are approved by the Consultative Group. This process of considering exceptional cases is expected to be an infrequent, but useful mechanism for allowing the membership of (i) donors who may contribute to the Special Programs that financially match the contribution requirements to the GFDRR MDTF or (ii) donors with a particular administrative or regulatory constraint towards contributing to the GFDRR MDTF.
13. Observers may attend Consultative Group meetings at the invitation of the Chair and Co-Chair, with active participation only as approved by the Chair or Co-Chair. Observers may include:
- i. Former and prospective Members.

⁵ As defined by the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, available at www.oecd.org.

- ii. Intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, and UN agencies.
 - iii. Developing countries.
 - iv. Civil society representatives.
 - v. Private sector representatives.
 - vi. Private foundations.
 - vii. Donors whose contribution is below the membership threshold.
14. The roles and responsibilities of the Consultative Group include, but are not limited to:
- i. Providing strategic directions to the program.
 - ii. Reviewing and approving GFDRR's work plan, including the strategy and results framework.
 - iii. Reviewing and approving the annual report, including reporting of achievements based on the results framework.
 - iv. Commissioning studies and reports, including independent evaluations, to inform decisions and assess the progress and impact of the program.
 - v. Approving the creation of advisory or other groups, including composition and terms of reference for such groups, per recommendation of the Secretariat.
 - vi. Inviting developing countries, recipients of GFDRR support, to be non-contributing members of the Consultative Group for a one-year term.
 - vii. Granting Consultative Group membership status in exceptional cases per recommendation of the Secretariat.
 - viii. Approving and amending the Charter, as proposed by the Secretariat.
15. The representative of the World Bank serves as Chair of the Consultative Group. A Member selected by consensus of the Consultative Group serves as Co-Chair for a one-year term.
16. The roles and responsibilities of the Chair, together with the Co-Chair, include, but are not limited to:
- i. Calling and presiding over regular and any special meetings of the Consultative Group.
 - ii. Consulting and providing strategic advice to the Consultative Group in coordination with the Secretariat.
 - iii. Inviting Observers to the Consultative Group.
17. The Consultative Group meets at least once each year. Consultative Group meetings are open to Members and Observers, unless the Chair and Co-Chair declare all or part of a meeting to be closed. Closed meeting segments are open only to Members.
18. The Consultative Group makes decisions in meetings through the consensus of its Members. Members that are unable to participate during a meeting may provide inputs electronically in advance of the meeting to the Chair and Co-Chair. Observers have no decision-making role and may make interventions in meetings with the agreement of the Chair and Co-Chair.

19. The Consultative Group may make decisions between meetings on an electronic basis through a process managed by the Secretariat.

B. The Secretariat

20. The Secretariat supports the mission of GFDRR and manages its day-to-day operations.
21. The Secretariat is housed at the World Bank headquarters in Washington, D.C. and operates under the World Bank's policies and procedures.
22. Staff of the Secretariat, including secondments from GFDRR partners, are employed following the policies and procedures of the World Bank.
23. The roles and responsibilities of the Secretariat include, but are not limited to:
 - i. Supporting the Consultative Group, including the Chair and Co-Chair.
 - ii. Supporting the organization and deliberations of Consultative Group meetings, including circulating a list of Members prior to such meetings.
 - iii. Preparing GFDRR's work plan, including the strategy and results framework.
 - iv. Preparing the Annual Report, including reporting of achievements based on the results framework, and other agreed progress reports.
 - v. Assessing and deciding on activities to implement GFDRR's work plan.
 - vi. Supervising and evaluating GFDRR activities.
 - vii. Fostering partnerships, including with GFDRR partners, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, UN agencies, research and academic institutions, civil society organizations, and the private sector.
 - viii. Recommending to the Consultative Group the creation of advisory or other groups, including composition and terms of reference of such groups.
 - ix. Determining the requirements for and establishing Special Programs following consultation with the Consultative Group.
 - x. Recommending developing countries, recipients of GFDRR support, to be invited by the Consultative Group for one-year terms.
 - xi. Making recommendations to the Consultative Group membership status for exceptional cases.
 - xii. Preparing and/or coordinating studies and reports, including independent evaluations, commissioned by the Consultative Group.
 - xiii. Collaborating with the Trustee.
 - xiv. Proposing amendments to the Charter to the Consultative Group.

C. The Trustee

24. The World Bank is the trustee of GFDRR.
25. The roles and responsibilities of the Trustee include:
 - i. Establishing and administering trust funds under the terms of the Administration Agreements entered into between the trustee and donors.
 - ii. Monitoring that activities funded by such trust funds follow World Bank policies and procedures, including for financial management, external auditing, procurement, and safeguards.

V. General

26. No provision in this Charter is intended to be a waiver of, or impair or limit, any privileges or immunities of any Member, including the World Bank under its respective Articles of Agreement or equivalent documents, or any applicable law, all of which are expressly reserved.
27. This Charter may be adopted or amended by the Consultative Group in accordance with the decision-making procedures set forth in Section 18 and 19 of this Charter. The Secretariat maintains and distributes records of any such amendments.
28. Any amendments to this Charter will become applicable to the Administration Agreements in accordance with the terms of such Administration Agreements.