

# RESILIENT RECOVERY

**Quicker, more effective, and better-coordinated**

GFDRR's Resilient Recovery program is involved in every major disaster, helping affected countries assess damage as well as economic losses and needs, plan for recovery, and be better prepared to respond in the future. From hurricanes in the Caribbean to earthquakes in Nepal, the program has a record of supporting governments to rebuild lives and create a safer future through resilient recovery. And the program works with the disaster-prone countries before events in order to enhance their readiness for post-disaster recovery. This is achieved in close coordination with the United Nations, the European Union, and the World Bank, a partnership that has produced guides and tools for conducting post-disaster needs assessments (PDNAs) and developing disaster recovery frameworks (DRFs).

## OUR GOAL

-  Ensure that countries have the capacity to quickly and effectively implement resilient recovery with coordinated support from the international community.

## WHAT WE DO

-  Help governments strengthen recovery systems prior to a disaster to enable a quicker and resilient post-disaster recovery.
-  Facilitate the assessment of damage, losses, and recovery needs after disasters.
-  Support governments in planning, financing, and implementing a recovery program.
-  Develop and disseminate knowledge to strengthen the capacity of key stakeholders.

**\$6.5+ billion**

in recovery and reconstruction funding leveraged by GFDRR since 2012.

**50+**

countries received GFDRR support in quicker, more resilient recovery.

**Millions**

of people a year are reached by the program, depending on the scale of natural disasters.

# OUR APPROACH

## **Quicker Recovery**

There is often a significant delay between when a disaster strikes and when recovery begins. During this period, people and economies suffer. The program seeks to accelerate the pace of recovery through improved assessment and planning procedures, strengthening of recovery systems, and provision of contingent financing.

## **Assessing Needs and Planning Recovery**

The program spearheads the World Bank's post-disaster engagement by serving as the focal point for PDNAs and other government-led assessments of damages, economic losses, and needs that also outline a recovery strategy.

To speed up this critical step, the program has developed an innovative rapid assessment methodology that significantly reduces the time and effort needed to assess damages. It also can contribute to a PDNA or serve as a substitute for events that do not warrant one that is full-scale. This method uses technology, such as remotely sensed data and social media analytics, and has routinely been used for conflict zones, where access is difficult (see p. 6).

## **Strengthening Recovery Systems**

The program offers technical assistance to disaster-prone countries to improve their preparedness to address post-disaster challenges.

This is done by helping countries to develop disaster recovery frameworks (see p. 7), as well as programs that build the capacity of vulnerable countries and regional organizations to conduct post-disaster assessments.

## **Promoting Contingent Financing**

The lack of available financing is a key factor in delaying the start of recovery.

To address this constraint, the program is helping the World Bank and its client countries to quickly mobilize financial resources from the existing portfolio of projects, and to have accelerated disbursement procedures in place for financing recovery priorities (see box on p. 4–5).

## **More Effective Recovery**

Post-disaster recovery needs to be quicker – but it also needs to be efficient, and enable countries to “build back better.”

By providing tools and resources for planning, financing, and implementing resilient recovery, and by helping to leverage financial resources, the Resilient Recovery program helps ensure that recovery is both faster and more efficient.

## **Developing and Sharing Knowledge**

Access to tools and guidance on good practice can help planners and practitioners improve the impact of recovery investments.

The program generates new knowledge by producing sectoral and thematic recovery guidance notes, country case studies, and specialized guidance on important themes. It has produced, for example, a guide for local actors involved in rebuilding, and a study on civil protection systems around the world. This and other information are made available online through the Recovery Hub (see box on p. 4).

## **Leveraging Finance for Recovery**

The Resilient Recovery program helps countries leverage financing for recovery.

Since 2012, the program has helped raise over \$6.5 billion from the World Bank and comparable resources from other international partners. The support provided enhances the clients' ability to muster the external financial resources often needed to implement an effective post-disaster recovery.

## **Partnerships for Coordinated Recovery**

The Resilient Recovery program supports coordination between the World Bank, the UN, and the EU, in close consultation with national governments.

The aim is to ensure clear lines of communication and a shared approach during the potentially chaotic post-disaster period. The three agencies adopted a 2008 declaration, putting in place standard protocols for post-crisis responses that bring all operations, from assessment to recovery, under the leadership of the affected country's government.

The program also supports other coordination efforts such as the Global Preparedness Partnership, which seeks to bring vulnerable countries to a minimum degree of readiness to respond to emergencies. Specific partnerships for coordination also exist with the Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Secretariat, the International Recovery Platform, UNDP, and UNISDR.

The program sponsors the World Reconstruction Conference (WRC) in order to bring stakeholders together for coordination and knowledge sharing. The WRC is also an opportunity to highlight emerging issues such as disasters in fragile and conflict-affected situations (see p. 6).



## Supporting Recovery in Nepal

**GFDRR's program approach was used following the devastating 2015 earthquakes in Nepal by providing immediate financial and technical assistance to begin post-disaster recovery coordination.**

### Accelerating the Recovery Process

The program provided critical advisory and technical support for recovery and reconstruction, assisting the government in carrying out a comprehensive PDNA, which involved officials from all government ministries spanning 23 sectors, and which was completed in a record six weeks.

### Making Recovery More Effective

The PDNA estimated damage at \$5.15 billion, losses at \$1.9 billion, and recovery needs at \$6.7 billion — about a third of Nepal's economy. These findings, which were presented at the International Conference for Nepal's Reconstruction, helped the government secure pledges of \$4.4 billion toward its recovery and reconstruction needs. It also led to a World Bank-financed Earthquake Housing Reconstruction Project of \$200 million that is rebuilding 55,000 homes (see box).

### Ensuring Coordination

The program facilitated the World Bank's close collaboration with the UN, EU, and other development partners to provide streamlined support to the government on resilient recovery and reconstruction planning, and helped develop a Disaster Recovery Framework (DRF). The Resilient Recovery program's efforts in Nepal benefited from synergy with other GFDRR initiatives, such as the Global Program for Safer Schools. The programs collaborated to assess some 5,000 schools in the country and advised the government on the reconstruction of education infrastructure.

"Our house collapsed completely when the earthquake struck.

They are giving us financial aid and that is why we have started building the house now. Once we started, we thought it better to build a concrete house. I started it as I thought it would be better to take loan and invest in a concrete house rather than the one with the old structure.

Hopefully, the new house will be able to protect us from the earthquake. The engineers have helped us build the house. I think everyone is happy that they are receiving the money to build their houses.

As for me, it is very difficult to get by. The children have to be educated but no matter how hard it is, having a house is essential and therefore I have taken on this task.

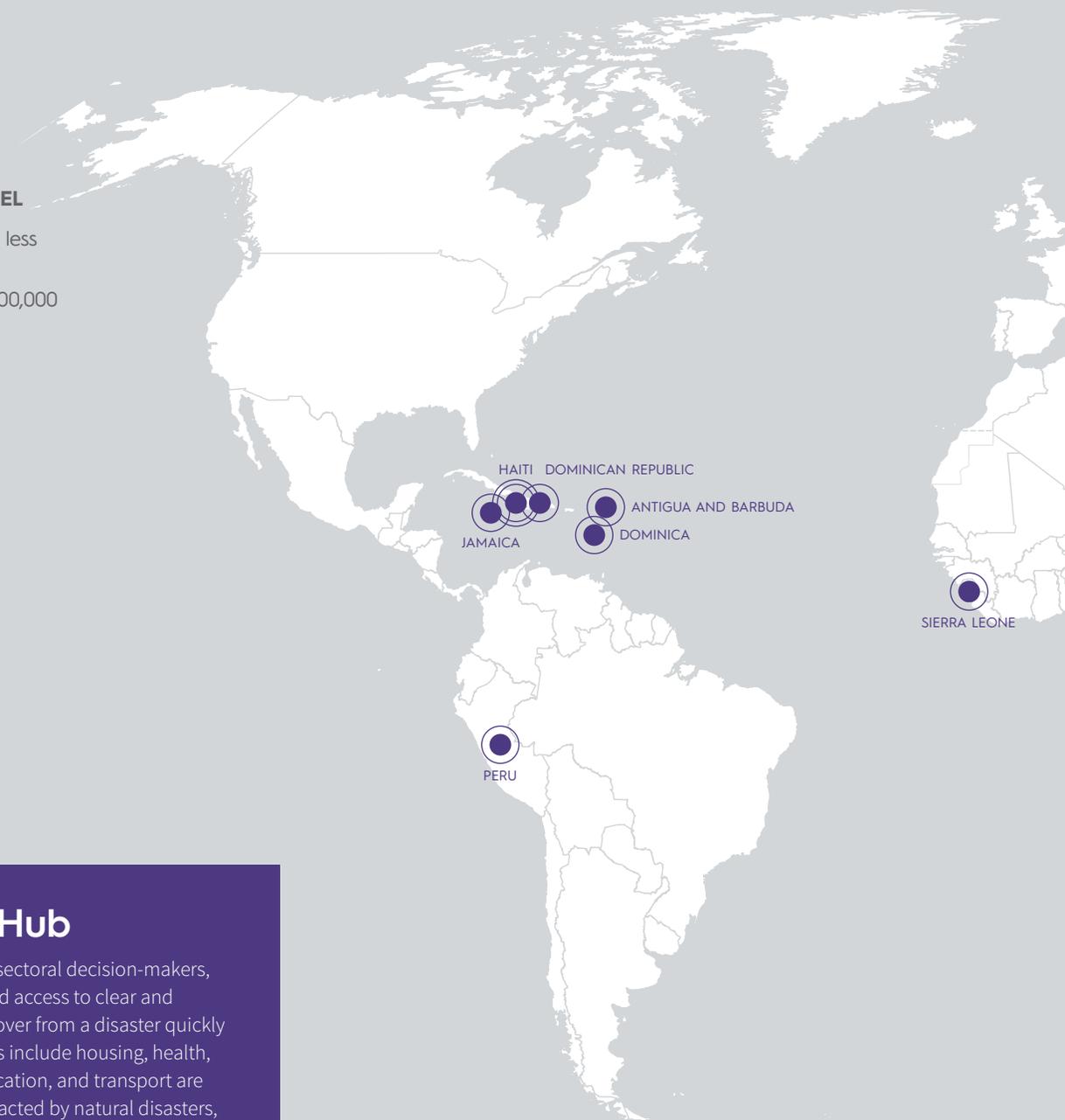
—**Rukmedi Adhikari**, a beneficiary of the Earthquake Housing Reconstruction Project, Thansingh, Nepal



# ACTIVE ENGAGEMENTS

## ENGAGEMENT LEVEL

- \$500,000 and less
- \$500,100-\$1,500,000
- \$1,500,100+



## Recovery Hub

Government officials, sectoral decision-makers, and their partners need access to clear and smart guidance to recover from a disaster quickly and effectively. Sectors include housing, health, social protection, education, and transport are often significantly impacted by natural disasters, resulting in specific damages, operational losses, and recovery needs. GFDRR has launched a Recovery Hub ([gfdr.org/recoveryhub](http://gfdr.org/recoveryhub)), a web-based 'one-stop shop,' that addresses this need by hosting a set of guidance notes, references, and project documents on disaster recovery for governments and key development sectors as well as cross-cutting themes.

■ [gfdr.org/recovery-hub](http://gfdr.org/recovery-hub)

## Contingency Financing

The Resilient Recovery program is working with teams from across the World Bank to integrate into their projects innovative financial tools that provide vulnerable countries with swift access to financial support in case of major emergencies. These tools help countries improve their contingency planning and readiness for future emergencies by developing their capacity to activate contingent financing in an



emergency. For example, in the event of a crisis, one financing mechanism allows rapid reallocation of uncommitted funds from Bank-financed projects to finance urgent needs and physical, economic, and social recovery. Through these financial instruments, countries can gain almost-immediate access to bridge financing needs for a quicker, more effective recovery and early reconstruction following an emergency like a natural disaster.

## Next Steps

- » The program assists up to eight countries each year to assess damages, losses and recovery needs, and helps prepare a disaster recovery framework. In addition, it will continue work in three countries (Malawi, Nepal, and Sri Lanka) to strengthen recovery systems this year.
- » It helps shape the international dialogue through high-profile events such as the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and the World Reconstruction Conference. The program also supports a community of practice on resilient recovery within and outside the World Bank.

## Supporting Recovery in Fragile and Conflict Situations

More than half of all people affected by natural disasters live in fragile or conflict-affected states, making the link between disasters and fragility critical in resilient recovery efforts. In a growing area of support, Resilient Recovery is increasingly tailoring its proven post-disaster assessment methodology and expertise to complex conflict and fragile situations. It has provided technical assistance for assessments in Iraq, Syria, Ukraine, Yemen, West Bank and Gaza, and Boko Haram-affected areas of Nigeria.

In Syria, GFDRR supported the World Bank to conduct a preliminary damage assessment. Using estimations derived from satellite imagery and social media analytics, the team developed a watching brief that surveyed seven sectors in six cities — Aleppo, Dar'a, Hama, Homs, Idlib, and Latakia. The assessment techniques and innovative methodology pioneered by this activity informed a subsequent damage appraisal in Iraq that was conducted through GFDRR support in a record time of ten days.

In Ukraine, GFDRR supported the completion of the first phase of the Eastern Ukraine Recovery and Peacebuilding assessment in just six weeks. The assessment identified \$1.5 billion in initial recovery, reconstruction, and peacebuilding needs, and provided recommendations in three areas: restoring critical infrastructure and services; improving access to economic livelihoods; and strengthening social resilience, initiating reconciliation, and peacebuilding. GFDRR's Rapid Assessment Methodology was used, and will help inform recovery and reconstruction projects in the region once hostilities sufficiently subside for positive engagement.

Such assessments not only expand GFDRR's support capacity to respond to clients suffering from crisis beyond natural hazards, but also innovate methodologies that leverage recent advancements in technology through remote sensing and social media analytics.

As an outcome of GFDRR's recent engagement in fragile and conflict situations, existing World Bank partnerships have been strengthened, and new alliances built, with a variety of actors working on development and humanitarian efforts in the world's most vulnerable countries.

## Philippines

On November 8, 2013, Typhoon Haiyan made landfall in the Philippines with the full impact of a maximum category 5 storm. More than 6,000 people were reported dead, millions were displaced, and damage and losses totaled nearly \$13 billion.

GFDRR provided advice on core principles for reconstruction, with specific technical guidance in areas such as shelter assistance during recovery. This helped the government develop an initial reconstruction plan in an unprecedented five weeks after the disaster. In coordination with partners, GFDRR also launched a PDNA that sought feedback from affected communities on priority areas to fast track recovery. This "bottom up" approach served as a baseline for local funding requirements.

As part of the Recovery Framework, the program also advised on the development of Filipino legal and institutional framework for strengthening the government's recovery systems. The review examined the adequacy, effectiveness, and appropriateness of policies and institutional structures.

In addition to supporting resilient recovery, GFDRR has long supported the Philippines in a range of resilience measures such as risk reduction and risk insurance.





## A New Framework to Help Prepare Countries for Resilient Recovery

In 2014, GFDRR—in partnership with the EU, the UN Development Program, and the World Bank—launched the Guide to Developing Disaster Recovery Framework (or DRF Guide). The guide not only helps governments create disaster recovery frameworks to facilitate a smooth recovery process, but also aims to improve resilience for the future.

A dynamic document, the guide incorporates new lessons learned from recovery efforts. It has also gleaned recovery experiences from eight country case studies—Bangladesh, Haiti, Lao PDR, Mozambique, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, and Yemen—and from other good practices from around the world. Additional expansions of the document include thematic notes that provide detailed guidance on specific sector or context.

The guide is unique in that it offers a flexible methodology that countries can adapt to their own context in order to create a national framework that will help them rebuild and recover. Over the past two years, Fiji, Malawi and Nepal have all used the guide to help organize disaster-recovery efforts.

After the 2015 floods in Malawi, the government used it to develop their National Disaster Recovery Framework, which has guided the rehabilitation of 838 km of roads, the planting of 276 hectares of forest, the restoration of 626 hectares of irrigation schemes, and the targeting and distribution of 36,942 metric tons of maize.

The positive recovery-planning experience in Malawi was recognized at the International Recovery Forum in early 2016.

## DRF Guide Structure

### 1

Establishes the link between the PDNA, or similar disaster assessment, and the DRF.

### 2

Describes the guiding recovery principles, good practices, and key results associated with developing programs for integrated, cross-sectoral disaster recovery.

### 3

Describes good practices and key results associated with the development of effective institutional structures, leadership and human resources—for overseeing, managing, coordinating, and implementing reconstruction.

### 4

Concentrates on the major financing challenges of post-disaster reconstruction. These challenges include quickly quantifying the economic and financial costs of the disaster, developing reconstruction budgets, identifying sources of financing, and setting up the mechanisms to manage and track funds.

### 5

Supplies the background information required to ensure that program implementation is effective, equitable, timely, and working toward building back a better future.

### 6

Examines various reforms and improvements to institutional and legislative arrangements that can be developed and implemented in advance of disasters.

# GFDRR Engagement Notes

## Resilient Recovery

[www.gfdr.org/resilient-recovery](http://www.gfdr.org/resilient-recovery)

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The Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) is a global partnership that helps developing countries better understand and reduce their vulnerability to natural hazards and climate change.

GFDRR is a grant-funding mechanism, managed by the World Bank, that supports disaster risk management projects worldwide.

Working on the ground with over 400 local, national, regional, and international partners, GFDRR provides knowledge, funding, and technical assistance.