

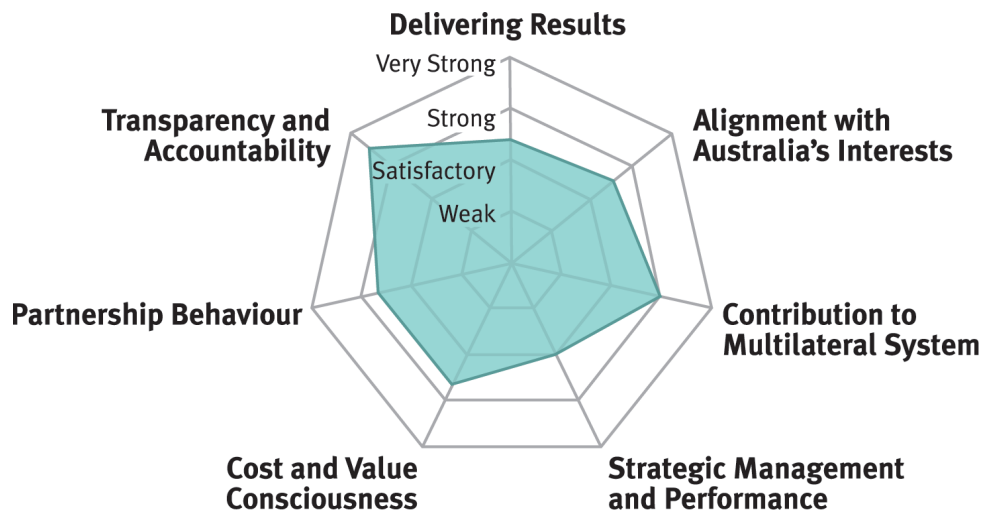


Australian Multilateral Assessment March 2012

The Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)



OVERVIEW OF ORGANISATION RATINGS



ORGANISATION OVERVIEW

The Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) was launched in 2006 by the World Bank as a partnership within the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction system with the UN, donors and developing countries.

The partnership comprises 39 countries and eight international organisations. It was established to mainstream disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate adaptation in country development strategies by supporting country-led and country-managed implementation of the commitments under the Hyogo Framework for Action. GFDRR also provides assistance for disaster resilient recovery and reconstruction.

Australia is a leading donor. Since 2007, Australia has provided \$26.4 million to GFDRR. In 2010–11, Australia provided \$13.4 million in non-core funding to GFDRR.

RESULTS AND RELEVANCE

1. Delivering results on poverty and sustainable development in line with mandate

SATISFACTORY

Since its launch, GFDRR has responded to the growing needs and demands of countries, currently funding more than 120 disaster risk reduction (DRR) and inter-related climate risk management programs in many disaster-prone low and middle income countries.

A 2010 independent evaluation by Universalia found GFDRR has increased political awareness of DRR as a development objective in many countries.

GFDRR's results framework reflects its partnership charter's focus on mainstreaming DRR and climate change adaptation in country development strategies, creating new tools and instruments and building capacity to promote an enabling environment, particularly at country-level. However, the framework remains broad and there are some gaps in its coverage meaning that some of its reporting is not systematic.

Despite the inability of its results framework to demonstrate clear and tangible outcomes, and a reporting and communication focus on the breadth of its activities rather than results, GFDRR has been effective in many areas.

GFDRR supports progress towards the Millennium Development Goals by targeting support to low income countries and those most vulnerable to risk of disasters and climate changes impacts. However, GFDRR's focus is on building partnerships with national governments, rather than systematically targeting the poorest communities.

a) Demonstrates development or humanitarian results consistent with mandate

STRONG

GFDRR has been able to demonstrate some results in line with its mandate. The GFDRR business lines and services are closely based on its goals as set out in the Strategic Partnership Agreement and aligned to the priority areas of the Hyogo Framework for Action. There is a clear and evident linkage from the mission and vision of the organisation to the portfolio design and structure.

GFDRR has responded to the growing needs and demands of countries and currently funding more than 120 disaster risk reduction (DRR) and inter-related climate risk management programs in many disaster-prone low and middle-income countries.

A 2010 independent evaluation by Universalia found GFDRR has increased political awareness of DRR as a development objective in many countries. It has advanced the DRR integration agenda and supported disaster risk assessments in many of its priority countries. GFDRR has also built capacity in early warning, emergency preparedness and post disaster needs assessments, all of which have helped leverage large World Bank and other investments for DRR.

b) Plays critical role in improving aid effectiveness through results monitoring	SATISFACTORY
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GFDRR’s results framework reflects its partnership charter’s focus on mainstreaming DRR and climate change adaptation in country development strategies, creating new tools and instruments and building capacity to promote an enabling environment.

However, the framework is based on a program-level, contribution model which generates reporting that can be too general and it does not report regularly at country-level. Also, the framework has not yet reported on GFDRR’s Track 1 business line—a joint work program with the Secretariat of the UN International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction’s (UNISDR). So the evidence of GFDRR’s contribution to creating more resilient communities can be more anecdotal than systematic. GFDRR’s management body the Consultative Group has noted a need for continuing dialogue on the parameters of the results framework so that GFDRR can communicate results on the ground more clearly. The GFDRR Secretariat is starting to orient its reporting in this sense.

c) Where relevant, targets the poorest people and in areas where progress against the MDGs is lagging	SATISFACTORY
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There is a strong correlation between disasters and difficulties in achieving the MDG targets, especially for low income and developing countries. Disasters can derail progress towards the MDG targets and push communities further behind in achieving sustainable development. The GFDRR strategy specifically establishes a focus on providing technical and financial assistance to high risk low income countries, particularly Least Developing Countries (LDCs) to mainstream disaster reduction in national development strategies and plans to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

GFDRR’s ability to systematically target the poorest communities within these countries has been restrained because its main partners are national governments. GFDRR is exploring how it might also work with civil society to help translate policy advances from national and sub-national governments into resilience at local-level.

2. Alignment with Australia’s aid priorities and national interests	STRONG
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GFDRR’s strategic focus and programs are closely aligned with the strategic priorities and objectives of Australia’s aid program. It has been flexible and responsive to Australia’s concerns for a sharper focus on the needs of Pacific Island countries. Its work aligns directly with two of the five strategic goals of the Australian aid program—saving lives and humanitarian and disaster response. GFDRR plays a critical role in supporting countries to incorporate DRR into their national plans and in supporting stronger coordination among actors.

Australia has established close and active engagement with GFDRR through financial contributions and its current role as the 2011 Co-Chair of the Consultative Group.

GFDRR has a sound approach to gender mainstreaming although there is a need to give greater visibility to its efforts in gender and the Consultative Group is seeking specific outcomes in this area.

There is a clear and cohesive approach to environmental issues, particularly climate change adaptation, although there has been limited visibility of its progress in mainstreaming climate change adaptation.

GFDRR does not have a specific focus on fragile states but it has demonstrated effectiveness in supporting weak countries in post-disaster assessments, recovery and in developing country action plans for DRR.

a) Allocates resources and delivers results in support of, and responsive to, Australia’s development objectives	STRONG
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GFDRR’s strategic focus and programs are closely aligned with Australia’s development objectives and broader interests, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region. It has been flexible and responsive to Australia’s concerns for a sharper focus on the needs of Pacific Island countries. GFDRR’s goals and programs specifically fall with the priority areas for Australia as a partner in the international disaster risk reduction (DRR) system.

The impact of disasters on economic growth is particularly negative in countries in the Asia-Pacific region, with GFDRR allocating a large portion of its funding to Asia-Pacific regional programs.

GFDRR supports countries throughout the region and in their commitments to action under the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) and provides technical assistance and operational support to regional associations, such as ASEAN and the Pacific Forum, on DRR implementation. Information and knowledge sharing is supported through databases, websites and other tools and methodologies under the GFDRR services program.

b) Effectively targets development concerns and promotes issues consistent with Australian priorities	STRONG
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GFDRR’s work aligns directly with two of the five strategic goals of the Australian aid program—saving lives, and humanitarian and disaster response. GFDRR plays a critical role in supporting countries to incorporate DRR into their national plans and in supporting stronger coordination among actors.

Collaboration with GFDRR supports Australia’s policy priorities, articulated in *Investing in a Safer Future: A Disaster Risk Reduction* policy for the Australian aid program, launched in 2009. This policy commits to reduce vulnerability and enhance resilience of countries and communities to disasters.

GFDRR is responsive to donor priorities and has established special trust funds to enable donors to target specific priority countries. Australia has established one of the four such trust funds. In addition to financial contributions, Australia maintains a very active engagement with GFDRR and was the 2011 Co-Chair of the GFDRR Consultative Group, GFDRR’s policy-making body.

c) Focuses on crosscutting issues, particularly gender, environment and people with disabilities	SATISFACTORY
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GFDRR has a sound approach to gender mainstreaming. GFDRR gives particular recognition to the role women play in sustaining households, community economies and social networks. It promotes a gender inclusive approach to disaster risk management through policies and in design and implementation of community strategies and plans. GFDRR has linked its gender mainstreaming strategy to that of the World Bank and has a Gender Action Plan, has developed learning courses, tools and methodologies and provides Guidance Notes in support of mainstreaming for World Bank staff, clients and development partners.

There may be a need, however, to give greater visibility to GFDRR’s efforts in gender. There are some gaps in how well gender concerns are embedded in GFDRR documentation, and there is a need for greater clarity on how gender is incorporated into the Results Framework, and gender analysis in the Damage, Loss and Needs Assessment Guidance Notes for Task Managers.

GFDRR has a clear approach to environmental issues, particularly climate change adaptation. Support for climate adaptation strategies is a core component of the GFDRR mandate. GFDRR is providing specialist expertise to provide advisory support to disaster-prone counties to strengthen the synergy between DRR and climate adaptation strategies and investments in the country. Presently, GFDRR estimates that it is beginning to deliver climate change adaptation and climate risk management mainstreaming results in around 39 per cent of the portfolio (12 out of 31 focus countries). GFDRR has invested considerable effort in adaptation, through its technical products such as climate risk and adaptation profiles and open data GeoNodes, as well as advocacy through the UNFCCC process. Nevertheless, efforts could be fast tracked to ensure that mainstreaming climate change adaptation is entrenched across a greater proportion of its portfolio.

To facilitate ‘climate-smart’ decision making, GFDRR recently completed the development of country climate risk and adaptation profiles for all its priority countries in partnership with the World Bank Climate Change Team.

d) Performs effectively in fragile states	SATISFACTORY
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GFDRR does not have a specific focus on fragile states but it has demonstrated effectiveness in supporting weak countries in post-disaster assessments, recovery and in developing country action plans for DRR.

Many of GFDRR’s regional projects include fragile states and it has provided assistance directly to fragile countries, particularly in post disaster assessment and recovery, such as in Haiti, Pakistan, and Burma. GFDRR is also seeking opportunities to partner with UN and bilateral agencies to ensure the nexus between disaster and conflict, and fragility is better understood so that its program designs better support an integrated and comprehensive approach to resilience.

3. Contribution to the wider multilateral development system	STRONG
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GFDRR has demonstrated effective capacity to enhance international coordination around the Hyogo Framework for Action agenda and to strengthen donor and government collaboration on DRR. It has, however, had difficulty in demonstrating value from the US\$28 million it has allocated to its Track 1 work with UNISDR. There is a need for the working relationship between GFDRR and UNISDR to be more transparent and for results from the collaboration to be reported on.

GFDRR leverages increasing levels of international support and funding for its program and injects significant amounts of new financing into DRR activities, including by leveraging additional investment from the World Bank through its normal country support program.

GFDRR has been innovative in harnessing technology to support the development of new tools and data sources. These improve coordination and help collate disaster assessment funding requirements quicker. Simple and high-quality tools for community and beneficiary involvement in local data collection and post-disaster monitoring have also been developed.

a) Plays a critical role at global or national-level in coordinating development or humanitarian efforts	STRONG
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GFDRR has demonstrated effective capacity to enhance international coordination around the Hyogo Framework for Action agenda and to strengthen donor and government collaboration on DRR.

GFDRR has played a key role in creating a relationship between the UN International Strategy for Disaster Relief Secretariat (UNISDR) and the World Bank in the area of DRR. A good outcome of this coordination and relationship building has been a standardisation of terms and measurements of results and performance across the various actors in the DRR field.

The 2010 independent evaluation found that through an expanding and increasingly diverse range of donors and stakeholders, GFDRR has successfully enhanced aid effectiveness and donor coordination. It also provides an effective and inclusive forum to share knowledge and enhance understanding of DRR with donors, emerging economies, vulnerable developing countries, civil societies, international financial institutions, and the private sector.

Aside from these positive developments there remains, however, some lack of clarity in the working relationship between GFDRR and UNISDR. Some confusion appears to exist around the respective roles and responsibilities of these two organisations around DRR and the Hyogo Framework for Action. In this sense, there may be some difficulty in demonstrating value from the more than US\$28 million it has allocated to its Track 1 work with UNISDR. GFDRR (and UNISDR) would benefit greatly from further collaboration and cooperation and for results from the collaboration to be reported on.

b) Plays a leading role in developing norms and standards or in providing large-scale finance or specialist expertise	STRONG
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GFDRR leverages increasing levels of international support and funding for its program and injects significant amounts of new financing into DRR activities.

Since it was established, GFDRR has received over US\$158 million in contributions from donors across the three tracks. The number of donors has steadily increased, and the volume of contributions and pledges has been increasing and now stands at more than US\$334 million under different funding tracks. The Universalia independent evaluation found that GFDRR has been successful in leveraging its position within the World Bank to secure additional investment to support DRR-related activities and thus promote increased investment, including investment by the World Bank itself.

c) Fills a policy or knowledge gap or develops innovative approaches	STRONG
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GFDRR has been innovative in harnessing technology to support the development of new tools and data sources. These improve coordination and help collate disaster assessment funding requirements quicker. The broad range of tools and services developed aim to strengthen institutional capacity and which also provide avenues for better community and beneficiary involvement in local data collection and post-disaster monitoring have also been developed.

The independent evaluation by Universalia found the GFDRR has developed an impressive array of approaches, tools and methodologies all of which appeared to be of good quality and well resourced. It noted that the range of Track 3 tools including post disaster needs assessments constitute very valuable instruments which are not available elsewhere.

Recognising the importance of risk data for informed decision making, the GFDRR Open Data for Resilience Initiative program is strengthening partner country capacity to store and manage climate and other risk data, including having initiated close to 15 regional and country-level GeoNodes deployments to date.

ORGANISATIONAL BEHAVIOUR	
4. Strategic management and performance	SATISFACTORY

GFDRR's results-based management system is aligned with its mandate and grounded in the principles of the Hyogo Framework for Action. There is scope for clearer links in the results framework between strategic goals and operational decisions.

The Consultative Group, GFDRR's policy-making body, provides adequate oversight of policy and operations. However, it has now grown to 47 members and there is some concern that its size might make it less effective as a decision making body. The Results Management Council's role is to provide technical advice to the Secretariat and the Consultative Group. There may be a case to reorganise GFDRR's management arrangements to streamline its decision making and technical advisory functions.

GFDRR is aware of this need, and options for reorganising its governance arrangements will be discussed at the twelfth Consultative Group Meeting.

The 2010 independent evaluation by Universalia recommended GFDRR establish an evaluation plan and to strengthen impact evaluation methodology. This work is still in process and will be presented to the Results Management Council for technical endorsement.

GFDRR's Secretariat is engaged, energetic and responsive. It has seized opportunities to take the DRR agenda into new areas and to enlarge the GFDRR partnership. However, it needs to devote more time to strategic and analytical reporting on GFDRR progress at program- and country-levels. The Secretariat's communication products could usefully include more information on where GFDRR is heading and why.

GFDRR relies on the World Bank for many of its human resources and financial management support functions. It is effectively covered by the policies and procedures of the World Bank in relation to staff recruitment, performance assessment, disciplinary procedures and security.

a) Has clear mandate, strategy and plans effectively implemented	SATISFACTORY
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GFDRR's results-based management system is aligned with its mandate and grounded in the principles of the Hyogo Framework for Action. The business plan consists of three distinct and clearly focused lines of support, each targeting a defined set of issues and operating through a specific set of program tools and activities.

The results framework structure is well documented, showing the relationship between related elements of the portfolio and how each contributes to an aggregated assessment of the central program outcome at goal-level. The framework would benefit, however, from a revision to show results at national and community-levels. There is also scope for clearer links between strategic goals and operational decisions. At the eleventh Consultative Group meeting in November 2011 the GFDRR Secretariat undertook to report on the downstream impact of its own direct interventions as well as from other investments it has leveraged.

b) Governing body is effective in guiding management	SATISFACTORY
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The Consultative Group is GFDRR's policy-making body, which defines long-term strategic objectives of GFDRR and is responsible for managing its expected results. The Consultative Group is supported by the Results Management Council, which provides technical guidance and advice on the evaluation of the impact of GFDRR financed activities.

The composition of the Consultative Group has been expanded in recent years to include representatives of developing countries, in addition to an increase in donor representatives as full members. The total number of representatives is now 47 and there is some concern that its size might make it less effective as a decision making body. The Consultative Group takes an active and detailed approach to the work of the GFDRR, giving its attention to broad policy and strategic issues as well as examining program design, methodologies and operational aspects of implementation.

There may be a case to reorganise GFDRR’s management arrangements to streamline its decision making and technical advisory functions. GFDRR may benefit from a strategic evaluation of the functions of the Consultative Group and the more technically-focused Results Management Council and revising how the two bodies work together to optimise GFDRR’s governance functions. As immediate past Co-Chair, Australia will work with others to present options for governance reform to the twelfth Consultative Group in April 2012.

c) Has a sound framework for monitoring and evaluation, and acts promptly to realign or amend programs not delivering results	SATISFACTORY
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GFDRR has developed a web-based results-based management system to measure its contribution towards mainstreaming DRR in national development efforts. This web-based system allows for an interactive, up-to-date monitoring of GFDRR financed projects. Currently, the reporting system offers bi-annual reporting on project progress.

The GFDRR reported on its progress in developing its results framework and operationalising it across the portfolio at the Consultative Group meeting in early 2011. It is refining its approach to evaluation methodology following a 2010 independent evaluation by Universalialia which recommended GFDRR establish an evaluation plan and strengthen its impact evaluation methodology. This work is still in progress.

d) Leadership is effective and human resources are well managed	SATISFACTORY
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GFDRR’s Secretariat is engaged, energetic and responsive. It consists of a small team of technical and professional staff led by the Program Manager. It has seized opportunities to take the DRR agenda into new areas and to enlarge the GFDRR partnership. The management style is reported to be transparent and inclusive and very responsive to the Consultative Group and donors.

However, it needs to devote more time to strategic and analytical reporting on GFDRR progress at program and country-levels. The Secretariat’s communication products could usefully include more information on where GFDRR is heading and why. At the eleventh Consultative Group meeting in November 2011 the GFDRR Secretariat undertook to report on the downstream impact of its own direct interventions as well as from other investments it has leveraged.

GFDRR has sound human resources policies and practices in place. The size of the organisation means it relies on the World Bank for many of its human resources and financial management support functions. It is effectively covered by the policies and procedures of the World Bank in relation to staff recruitment, performance assessment, disciplinary procedures and security.

5. Cost and value consciousness	STRONG
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GFDRR’s approach to cost efficiency and value is essentially determined by World Bank standards and procedures. Since 2006 US\$320 million has been pledged to GFDRR, US\$153 million received and US\$103 million disbursed, with around 11 per cent going to management and administration.

The Consultative Group reviews GFDRR’s cost structure through financial reports and budget documentation. Its results-based management system enables it to track expenditure and link costs to project performance.

GFDRR is managed by the World Bank on behalf of participating donors and other partnering stakeholders. It therefore brings a strong level of cost effectiveness and value consciousness to its program development.

One way GFDRR pursues programmatic cost effectiveness and works with partners on value for money, is through the development of cost effective technological and innovative solutions to DRR issues. Some examples include trialling improvements to risk assessment, disaster mapping and risk insurance. GFDRR’s risk analysis and reduction work provides strong incentives for partner governments to invest in risk mitigation thereby contributing to lowering the costs involved with post-disaster recovery efforts.

a) Governing body and management regularly scrutinise costs and assess value for money	STRONG
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GFDRR is subject to World Bank rules and regulations on financial expenditure, which includes ensuring value for money in procurement and tendering processes.

Since 2006, US\$334 million has been pledged to GFDRR, US\$158 million received and US\$103 million disbursed. Around 11 per cent has gone to organisational management and administration. The disbursement rate in Track 2 has been fairly slow.

The Consultative Group and Results Management Council provide oversight of the budget and financial position of GFDRR. Its results-based management system enables it to track expenditure and link costs to project performance.

b) Rates of return and cost effectiveness are important factors in decision making	STRONG
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GFDRR is managed by the World Bank on behalf of participating donors and other partnering stakeholders. It therefore brings a strong level of cost effectiveness and value consciousness to its program development.

GFDRR uses a range of different tools to deliver its work and these are prepared using the World Bank standard cost analyses and cost benefit procedures. On an operational level, World Bank investment projects require cost benefit analysis and consideration of rate of return and GFDRR expenditure conforms to this requirement.

c) Challenges and supports partners to think about value for money	SATISFACTORY
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One way GFDRR pursues cost effectiveness and works with partners on value for money, is through the development of cost effective technological and innovative solutions to DRR issues. Some examples include trialling improvements to risk assessment, disaster mapping and risk insurance. GFDRR’s risk analysis and reduction work provides strong incentives for partner governments to invest in risk mitigation thereby contributing to lowering the costs involved with post-disaster recovery efforts.

GFDRR’s post disaster needs assessment methodology encourages governments to develop a realistic understanding of the costs of disasters. This in turn provides a strong incentive to improve preparedness and risk mitigation efforts seen as being better value than having to cover the expenses of recovery after a disaster.

6. Partnership behaviour	STRONG
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GFDRR’s partnership model is effective in strengthening collaboration among key stakeholders in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction system and GFDRR has been effective in its global advocacy for DRR. GFDRR could do more to demonstrate how its partnership with UNISDR achieves results.

GFDRR’s partnership with Australia at headquarters level is excellent. In countries where the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and the World Bank–GFDRR are active in DRR, collaborations are progressing but at times communications from World Bank–GFDRR country offices to AusAID counterparts need to improve to avoid duplication.

GFDRR places high value on working within country systems, as its effectiveness in mainstreaming DRR depends on integrating strategies and plans across whole of government. It collaborates closely with national and local authorities on implementation. There are doubts as to the level of host government ownership of GFDRR’s post-disaster needs assessments but the Secretariat is aware of this.

GFDRR has been generally willing to engage with stakeholders and is now proactive in seeking new layers of engagement with civil society and local communities.

a) Works effectively in partnership with others	SATISFACTORY
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GFDRR was established with a unique partnership model, which includes governments, international donors and organisations that have a role in the governance of the organisation. The partnership model is effective in strengthening collaboration among key stakeholders in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction system and GFDRR has been effective in its global advocacy for DRR. The model has increased the membership of the Consultative Group and stimulated new partnerships in support of technical and operational aspects of DRR. A feature of the model is its diversity—it brings traditional donors together with emerging economies and developing countries. These

governance arrangements have demonstrated the flexibility and responsiveness of GFDRR to incorporating partnership principles and partner views into the policy and operational structures of the organisation.

The most important partnership that GFDRR has fostered is the unique partnership between UNISDR and the World Bank. It seeks to combine the strengths of both organisations and has harnessed partnership opportunities with a wide range of stakeholders in the multiple areas of disaster risk reduction. As described in other criteria responses for this assessment, there remain, however, some questions around the clarity of roles of GFDRR and UNISDR in the global DRR field. This in turn means, particularly through its Track 1 work, that GFDRR sometimes has difficulty in demonstrating how its partnership with UNISDR achieves results.

GFDRR’s partnership with Australia at headquarters level is excellent. In countries where AusAID and the World Bank–GFDRR are active in DRR, collaborations are progressing but at times communications from World Bank–GFDRR country offices to AusAID counterparts need to improve to avoid duplication.

Other strong examples of partnership behaviour are seen in GFDRR’s country-led approach to ensure national ownership of the DRR agenda; and GFDRR’s South-South cooperation program.

b) Places value on alignment with partner countries’ priorities and systems	STRONG
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GFDRR places high value on working within country systems, as its effectiveness in mainstreaming DRR depends on integrating strategies and plans across whole of government. It collaborates closely with national and local authorities on implementation. The 2010 independent evaluation found strong evidence of the integration of DRR-related knowledge and capacity by the national or sub-national authorities. It also found that DRR agencies have utilised the support provided by GFDRR to enrich their planning capacity and to better integrate DRR into national disaster or national development plans.

The level of host government ownership of GFDRR’s post-disaster needs assessments is not entirely clear, but the Secretariat is aware of this and working to demonstrate the utility of these assessments to a broader international audience and to engage more partners in them.

c) Provides voice for partners and other stakeholders in decision making	STRONG
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GFDRR has been generally willing to engage with stakeholders and is now proactive in seeking new layers of engagement with civil society and local communities. GFDRR has developed a civil society partnership strategy which was considered by the Consultative Group during 2011. Consultations to develop this strategy have reached over 350 civil society organisation representatives from over 20 countries.

Through its innovative work in developing technology to support DRR activities, particularly in post disaster recovery situations where needs assessment is critical to effective donor action, GFDRR is supporting greater community ownership of streamlining DRR at national-level.

7. Transparency and accountability

VERY STRONG

GFDRR provides open and transparent access to its documents through its website. It has a strong policy on disclosure and adheres to the principles of the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) via the World Bank’s commitment to IATI.

GFDRR’s results-based management system is used to determine the allocation of financial resources and to monitor performance against disbursement milestones. GFDRR’s procedures relating to fund application and project designs and implementation are transparent and the application process easily understood.

GFDRR has sound financial management systems with transparent accounting procedures and policies. Oversight, financial, fraud and integrity systems all fall within the World Bank’s high standard frameworks.

GFDRR has strong requirements in its operations that promote transparency and accountability of partners for GFDRR-funded activities. Through its capacity-building activities GFDRR also helps country authorities implement stronger accountability frameworks.

GFDRR operations are generally partner-led and built on accountability and leadership from government.

a) Routinely publishes comprehensive operational information, subject to justifiable confidentiality

VERY STRONG

With management provided by the World Bank, GFDRR’s publication approach and policy on disclosure of information is the same as that of the Bank. GFDRR provides open and transparent access to its documents through its website. It has a strong policy on disclosure and adheres to the principles of the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) via the World Bank’s commitment to IATI.

b) Is transparent in resource allocation, budget management and operational planning

VERY STRONG

GFDRR’s results-based management system is used to determine the allocation of financial resources and to monitor performance against disbursement milestones. This provides a transparent way of tracking the portfolio and is also accessible through a public portal. It also incorporates a 360-degree view on impact as it incorporates qualitative information from multiple sources, in particular the views of communities and local authorities, to inform the assessment of results and quality.

GFDRR’s procedures relating to fund application and project designs and implementation are transparent and the application process easily understood. The format for submitting requests under Track 2 is available from the GFDRR website, is clear and concise in its

format. Designed for government authorities it nevertheless seeks information on the approach for civil society engagements, requires consideration of implementation and financing plans, scheduling and quality assurance and monitoring.

c) Adheres to high standards of financial management, audit, risk management and fraud prevention	STRONG
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GFDRR has sound financial management systems with transparent accounting procedures and policies. It provides clear and simple guidance for applicants to access funds and works to strengthen accountability among partners through its country-led approach.

Effective and robust oversight systems are in place and GFDRR has provided audit reports on all its funding mechanisms to donors and partners. It also regularly submits financial and audit statements to its Consultative Group. For Track 1 Trust funds the World Bank undertakes an annual progress review and UNISDR also conducts audits using its own auditor. GFDRR's fraud and integrity standards fall within the World Bank's framework and it adheres to high standards.

d) Promotes transparency and accountability in partners and recipients	STRONG
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GFDRR has strong requirements in its operations that promote transparency and accountability of partners for GFDRR-funded activities. Through its capacity-building activities GFDRR also helps country authorities implement stronger accountability frameworks.

GFDRR operations are generally partner-led and built on accountability and leadership from government.

GFDRR is subject to the Bank's fraud policy and standards for integrity and corruption. The Inspection Panel provides a mechanism for complainants which is also applicable for GFDRR supported activities.

GFDRR operations are partner-led and are built on stronger accountability and leadership from government authorities for outcomes.