

REGIONAL ASIA-PACIFIC CONFERENCE ON

## GENDER AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

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Ha Noi, Viet Nam

# Gender and Disaster Risk Governance

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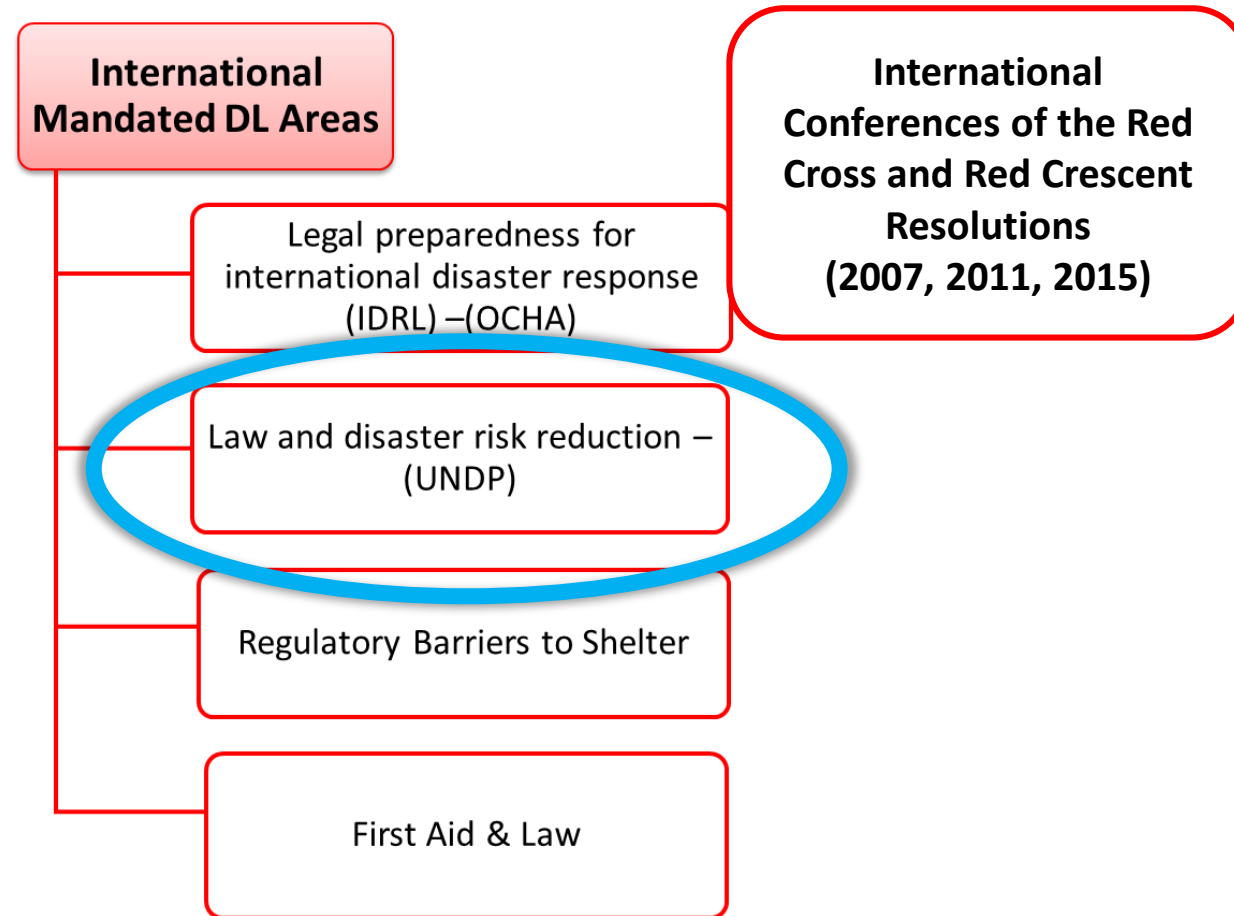
# What is risk governance?

- ✓ **Risk governance:** refers to how public authorities, civil servants, media, private sector, and civil society coordinate at community, national and regional levels in order to manage and reduce disaster and climate related risks (UNDP, 2015)
- ✓ **Why is it important?** In order to allow the full and meaningful participation of relevant stakeholders at national, regional and global levels; for effective and efficient management of disaster risks; to provide clear vision, plans, guidance and coordination within and across sectors (SFDRR, 2015)

# Risk Governance and Disaster Law

The **laws and regulations** which:

- ✓ address the **roles and responsibilities** to **manage** and **respond** to disasters
- ✓ **minimise impact** of disasters
- ✓ **reduce disaster risks**
- ✓ Typically focused on response but Sendai (priority 2) calls for stronger focus on risk management, governance etc.



# IFRC – UNDP Partnership

## The Handbook on Law and Disaster Risk Reduction




 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
[www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org) Saving lives, changing minds.



## The checklist on law and disaster risk reduction

Pilot Version, March 2015



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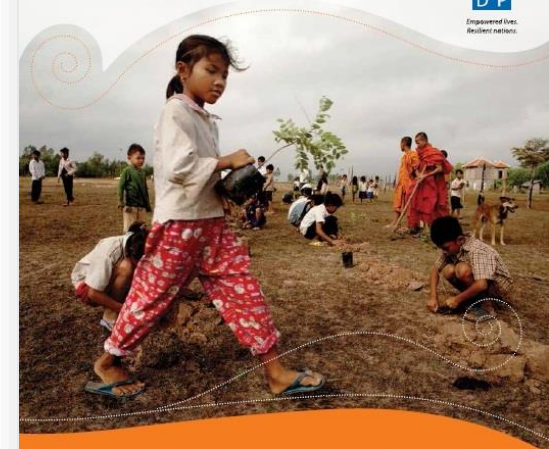
United Nations  
Development Programme

The **strengths** in  
the legal framework

Where greater  
focus is needed on  
**implementation**

If **drafting** or revising  
legislation is needed

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Effective law and regulation  
for disaster risk reduction:  
a multi-country report

# Gender, Disaster Risk Reduction and Law

- **Sendai Framework, Priority 2:** Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk
- Focus on **assigning clear roles and tasks to community representatives** within disaster risk management institutions and decision-making **through relevant legal frameworks, and undertake public and community consultations** during the development of such laws and regulations to **support their implementation**
- Highlights importance of implementing **gender-sensitive DRR policies and plans**, esp. after slow progress in implementation of the HFA in mainstreaming gender considerations in DRR at the national level
- National DM/DRM laws; should include provisions for women's roles and responsibilities, especially **active participation in decision-making**
- **Avoiding tokenism**; general aspirational statements with no mechanism for implementation
- Existing legal frameworks protecting women and vulnerable groups should be **continually reviewed and improved**



## The Checklist on Law and Disaster Risk Reduction

- 1 Does your country have a dedicated law for disaster risk management that prioritizes risk reduction and is tailored to your country's context?
- 2 Do your country's laws establish clear roles and responsibilities related to risk reduction for all relevant institutions from the national to the local level?
- 3 Do your country's laws ensure that adequate resources are budgeted for disaster risk reduction?
- 4 Do your country's relevant sectoral laws include provisions to reduce existing risks and prevent the creation of new risks?
- 5 Do your country's laws establish clear procedures and responsibilities for conducting risk assessments and ensuring risk information is considered in development processes?
- 6 Do your country's laws establish clear procedures and responsibilities for early warning?
- 7 Do your country's laws require education, training and awareness-raising to promote a whole-of-society approach to disaster risk reduction?
- 8 Do your country's laws ensure the engagement of all relevant stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, scientific institutions and communities, in risk reduction decisions and activities?
- 9 Do your country's laws adequately address gender considerations and the special needs of particularly vulnerable categories of persons?
- 10 Do your country's laws include adequate mechanisms to ensure that responsibilities are fulfilled and rights are protected?



# Regional level

- **ASEAN**

- Agreement for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER); mentions community engagement but no specific mention of women or vulnerable groups
- AADMER Work Programme 2016-2020; key highlight is that it calls on states to ensure social protection in the context of disasters and explore measures to promote greater access to SP programmes and services.
- Other ASEAN commitments e.g. on human rights, welfare and development of women and children, etc.



- **Pacific Island Forum**

- Draft Regional Guidelines for International Disaster Assistance and Cooperation in the Pacific (IDRL) – has one reference to gender
- Gender Policy 1998 (rev. 2003) – investing in gender equality is central to sustainable development



- **Progress and challenges;** seen some good developments but still a way to go...

# Country level: Philippines

## The Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010;

- Emphasises a whole of society approach to all aspects of disaster risk reduction and management, and climate change measures that are **gender responsive** and sensitive to indigenous knowledge systems.
- Ensures a '**seat at the table**'; National Commission on Role of Filipino Women are part of the NDRRMC
- Institutionalises **gender analysis** to be part of early recovery and post-disaster needs assessment.
- Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office; responsible for **ensuring efficient mechanism for immediate delivery of food, shelter and medical supplies for women and children**, and providing safe spaces for women and children.



# Country level: Indonesia

- Law of the Republic of Indonesia, number 24 of 2007 concerning disaster management
  - Regulation Number 13 of 2014 on gender mainstreaming in disaster management
  - Regulation Number 14 of 2014 on handling, protection and participation of the disabled in disaster management
- Gaps, implementation and dissemination
  - Gap in legal provisions addressing women's participation in decision-making processes and adequately addressing their specific needs and vulnerabilities.
  - Regulations are issued by BNPB – question of applicability outside of BNPB, do not carry same weight as law, require further **implementation and dissemination**.
  - DRR law workshop Feb 2016: call to better address gender equality in the framework AND implementation as a priority





# Country to local level: Viet Nam

- Law on Disaster Prevention and Control (2013)
  - Recognises the need for gender disaggregated data and vulnerability based targeting
  - Number of regulations requiring gender and age reporting
  - Women's Union has been invited to join the Central Committee for Disaster Prevention and Control
  - Women in leadership roles in Government and at the local level, and increasingly in DRM quotas for 30% women's participation are being applied
  - Gender equity is largely recognised- but gender equality is still an issue



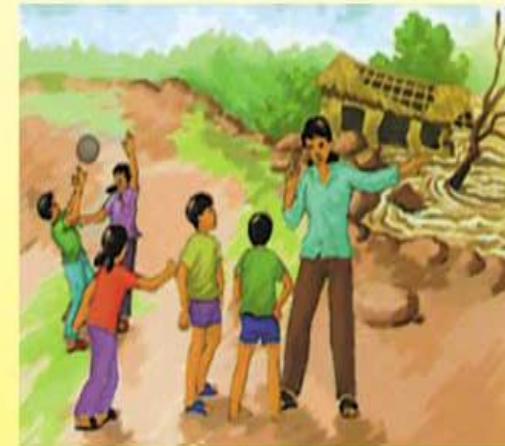
Nên chuẩn bị nguồn thắp sáng (như pin và đèn pin, dầu và đèn dầu vv...)



Nên tìm và chuyển người, tàu thuyền và gia súc đến nơi trú ẩn an toàn trong suốt thời gian có gió, bão



Nên ngắt điện và kiểm tra dây, ổ điện trước khi sử dụng lại



Nên trông coi trẻ em khi đang có thiên tai

# Country to local level: Viet Nam

- Gaps, implementation and dissemination
  - DRM gender indicators focus on quantity not quality, and feed-back mechanisms are not yet well established
  - Women are under-represented in management roles in both civil society and Government
  - Women influence's in the private sphere is under-valued: Gender analysis still tends to be about women's needs and men's actions in DRM
  - Need to redefine gender targets to use women's skills, and role in managing domestic resources/finances
  - Move beyond “capacity building” of women and their “voluntary” work
  - Leverage technology to improve feedback mechanisms for people affected by disasters- including women



# Women's Union Role in Central Disaster Prevention and Control Committee

- Major advocacy achievement for Viet Nam
- Has already influenced implementation of gender indicators and policy
- However, roles and functions not well defined with WU role more in implementation, organisation or communications than agenda setting
- (Just because Women's Union is invited, doesn't mean its gender sensitive)





# The Storm and Flood-Resistant Credit and Housing Scheme in Da Nang City

WU members established a revolving loan system to help low-income households in hazard-prone areas to borrow access low interest 5-year loans to reconstruct, renovate, or construct their house with storm-resistant techniques. The loan amount was 15-30 millions VND /household (USD800-USD1,500).





# What remains to be done

- Facilitate women to manage investments in risk reduction: local level risk pooling, investing in risk sensitive planning, monitoring relief expenditures
- Focus on actual implementation of gender sensitive indicators and data analysis
- Women Union needs to advocate actively for the next generation of gender targets in government disaster plans and to leverage its huge network to achieve 3-4 targets for DRM
- Need to look at how to build the next generation of gender-balanced leaders- mainstream into Government staff college not just external workshops

# Moving Forward

- Many of the legal and institutional arrangements are there; what is needed is:
  - Stronger representation with decision-making authority
  - Better implementation and accountability
  - Enhanced engagement at community and local level – not just in principle but in practice
  - Improved emphasis on tracking gender sensitive finance and investment for DRR (such as Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review - CPEIR)
  - Facilitating exchange on risk assessment, risk reduction and risk sharing tools
  - Enabling “grassroots-up” advocacy for women’s leadership and empowerment
  - Support in roll-out of policy and good practice
- IFRC – UNDP MoU 2015: a foundation to continue supporting governments and key partners to strengthen risk governance, gender and DRR
  - ‘Strengthening the content and implementation of domestic legal and policy frameworks’ (para 2.3(e))
  - ‘Building inclusive societies and promoting a culture of non-violence and peace, including through increased civic engagement and gender equity through the reduction of vulnerabilities of people and communities’ (para 2.2 c))

# Thank you!

**For more information please contact:**

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