Let’s get bigger and create synergies

Memorandum of Understanding on scope and relationship pattern between Networks (global vs regional)

Background of this paper:

Global Network of the Civil Society Organisation for Disaster Reduction (GNDR) is essentially a network where individual agencies and regional network with similar goals convene together. Acknowledging the value of the regional network in terms of regional influence and the wide range of activities they are undertaking, it is critically important to have a clear understanding on who will do what. In this world of scarce resources, there is no point in duplicating efforts. Rather with a clear demarcation of roles, we can ensure the best utilization of our resources and efforts. This paper will try to spot out few rules of thumbs that will help maintaining a healthy working relationship between the networks.

The relationship pattern:

GNDR envisages the relationship with the regional networks as a “hub and spoke” type. By this the global network will maintain direct relationship with the regional network and help each other in issues of mutual interest. On the outer periphery, the regional network may also maintain relationship among them in ensuring cross learning and supporting each other.

The codes of respect - rule of thumbs:

- **Automatic membership**: As soon as the regional networks become a member of the global network, all the members of the regional network will be regarded as members of the global Network; unless any agency of the regional network opts differently.
- **Positional endorsement**: being a member of a global network, will not automatically mean that regional network will support or endorse every position global network is proposing. It will require explicit consent from the regional network. Position on any issue will require written consent from regional network.
- **Right of individual agency**: Every individual agency/organisation will reserve their right to be a part of both or any of the networks of their choice.
- **Partnering in specific intervention**: Global network will consult the regional network before taking up any specific intervention within the region. Provided that the regional network has expertise and interest to be a part of that intervention, global network will give preference to partner with the regional network.
- **Visibility**: Both the regional network and global network will ensure proper visibility of others, provided that they agree on certain activity and publication of mutual interest. However, if one does not really support a specific position of others, that network can opt out their logo/visibility from the materials of concern.
Parties involved in this MoU:

- **First Party:** Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR)
- **Second Party:** Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN)

**Time line:**

This MoU will be in effect for the next 4 years from the date of signing this document. After the completion of 4 years, on mutual consent, the time can be extended further.

**Who brings what: Strengths of the partnering networks**

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<tr>
<th>GNDR</th>
<th>ADRRN</th>
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<tr>
<td>Global Outreach, extensive experience / expertise of members - 900 CSOs  137 Countries</td>
<td>Regional outreach with strong linkages with national governments in Asia through 52 active members from 22 countries and partnerships with national networks of CSOs</td>
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<td>Enhance collaboration amongst civil society globally to increase effectiveness and impact</td>
<td>Setting agenda for the regional dialogue between CSOs and build consensus for regional advocacy</td>
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<td>Vertical Bridge: local – global</td>
<td>Tracking of commitments of AMCDRR and sharing the same with various stakeholders</td>
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<td>Access to global processes ECOSOC Major Group Organising Partner</td>
<td>Working relationship with national governments academic institutions, FBOs and private sector in various countries</td>
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<td>Develop, Mobilise and coordinate global actions</td>
<td>Strong board members from southern CSOs with dedicated 4 member secretariat team</td>
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<td>Horizontal bridge - facilitate cross-regional information exchange, comparatives and peer to peer learning</td>
<td>Regional analysis about emerging issues through community resilience survey</td>
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<td>Relationship with northern based donor governments, intergovernmental actors and coalitions (e.g. OECD / GFDRR) including UNISDR GVA</td>
<td>Ability to work in various stakeholders in a multi stakeholders forum</td>
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<td>Relationship with north and south based research and academic bodies including advisory group</td>
<td>Strong working partnerships with national CSOs networks in various Asian countries</td>
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<td>Member of northern civil society networks / coalitions</td>
<td>Able to lead global campaign “Road to Sendai” with partners from region and globally</td>
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<td>London-based secretariat &amp; 5 regional offices</td>
<td>Strengthening of humanitarian response and DRR link in the region</td>
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<td>Global advocacy capability drawn from distillation of national / regional positions</td>
<td>Advocacy around accountability issues in DRR and humanitarian response</td>
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<td>Global monitoring coordination capability (VFL)</td>
<td>Local leader partnerships and leadership development for resilience</td>
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<td>Global profile and credibility amongst key DRR actors</td>
<td>Providing innovative solutions for DRR issues</td>
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<td>Ability to legitimise civil society actors</td>
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<td>Ability to facilitate multi-stakeholder engagement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working relationship with regional &amp; national civil society networks / alliances</td>
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<td>Regionally-representative global governance arrangements</td>
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Possible joint and complementary actions:

- Promote regional issues / learning to global audience
- Enhance / promote exchange of knowledge and learning across regional and global interfaces
- Connect global and regional issues / discourse / developments
- Provide regional context to global actions - e.g. Sendai monitoring
- Provide global awareness of regional actions
- Undertake joint actions i.e. advocacy; public campaigns; monitoring; evaluations, research
- Peer to peer review, exchanges and learning across networks
- Facilitate access of regional actors to global processes
- Connect global discourse with local realities
- Mutual actions to strengthen network collaboration capacities
- Develop and undertake mutually-reinforcing capacity building / training programmes for members
- Logistics support to regional and global events as appropriate
- Develop mutually-reinforcing joint global / regional implementation strategy for transformational system-wide change
- Joint implementation of some of the key actions e.g. localising SFDRR and sharing it with global CSOs
- Invite GNDR members in capacity building programs
- Joint proposals for fund raising for activities at regional level

Specific actions agreed to jointly work with:

Agreed areas of joint cooperation for the next 2 years (this section will be reviewed at the end of second year and be agreed on for the rest two years of the tenure of this MoU)

- Promotion of Frontline approach developed by GNDR in the region through training as well as using the methodology for some of the actions at the local level to expanded coverage in country and to other regional countries by ADRRN
- Supporting “Sendai Spring” campaign being developed by ADRRN in the region as well as globally through other members of the GNDR, building on the experiences of collaboration under the “Road To Sendai” campaign
- Working together on monitoring of CSO commitments to AMCDRR and SFDRR based on the methodology developed by ADRRN for monitoring and reporting commitments at 5th and 6th AMCDRR. The methodology needs to be set and agreed jointly.
- ADRRN can use/adapt Frontline methodology for local level actions program for its new planned regional program initiative on creating local level leadership
- GNDR and ADRRN will support national networks growth and development in the region. ADRRN has signed MoUs of partnership with two national networks and have two more in the pipeline, and GNDR could extend support through this channel, or focus on new countries not yet covered by ADRRN. In both cases, appropriate exchange of information and coordination will characterize efforts by ADRRN and GNDR to support networks in the same country in the Asian region.
- Working of joint proposals based on the needs from the region and opportunities
Any other new actions, that is jointly formulated/reviewed/agreed to work together.

**Point of initial contacts**

Though this MoU is signed by the respective head of both Networks and endorsed by respective governing Boards, for ensuring effective operational coordination between secretariats, the Regional Development Coordinator of GNDR and Coordinator of ADRRN will act as the primary point of contacts.