



GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION 2025

CALL TO ACTION



GPDRR 2025 Call to Action

Every day counts. Act for resilience today.

This Call to Action maps out the key policy messages GNDR members have highlighted as priority topics for the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2025 (GP 2025).

GNDR is the largest network of civil society organisations working on disaster risk reduction, with 1,965 members across 131 countries. Our Call to Action has been developed through consultation with the GNDR membership, including targeted policy surveys, inputs from our members, and GNDR policy positions.

The Global Platform (GP) is the global multi-stakeholder forum to review progress on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. GNDR recognises the importance of this particular GP as it is the first since the Sendai Mid-Term Review (MTR) process was completed and the penultimate GP for the Sendai Framework for Action.

The theme of GP 2025, “Every Day Counts: Act for Resilience Today,” underscores the urgency of taking bold action to safeguard communities and build a sustainable future. Stakeholders from across the globe will gather together in a now-or-never push toward achieving the goals and targets of the Sendai Framework.

Therefore, in reflection of this and the outcome of the Sendai MTR, GNDR strongly advocates for all stakeholders to be meaningfully engaged to accelerate a whole-of-society approach for the last five years of the Sendai Framework for Action implementation.

In the six months leading up to the GP, GNDR rolled out two policy surveys and held two briefing webinars where our members highlighted what they felt were the most important topics to advocate for at GP 2025.

Global Policy Focus

In alignment with GNDR’s member-developed strategy, the network’s overarching policy messages remain focused on risk-informed development, localisation and the role of civil society in taking a whole-of-society approach to disaster risk reduction.

GP 2025

Specifically, our members have highlighted eight key policy messages for the GP 2025.

We call on member states, policymakers, practitioners and all stakeholders to champion the following calls to action in their engagement at the GP 2025.

1. Listen to communities

- Strengthen localisation and community-based disaster risk reduction
- Our primary call is to listen to the community, to those on the frontline of risk, the first responders
- Those living in communities on the frontline of risk have the local knowledge, expertise, and capacity to significantly strengthen risk governance in policy and practice
- Meaningfully include local leaders in the implementation and monitoring of the Sendai Framework
- Institutionalise the enabling environment for community voice, knowledge and recommendations to lead decision-making
- Avoid tokenistic inclusion and empower local voice to lead decision-making
- Empower the community to be key stakeholders in DRR – not just beneficiaries
- Utilise the specific role CSOs have in achieving localisation, and locally-led risk reduction
- Support grassroots initiatives, and ensure that local communities have the resources and capacity to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters
- Strengthen cooperation and collaboration, and encourage investments in local actions – in particular, local and indigenous knowledge and information for risk prevention and reduction
- Within this, those representing indigenous communities have specifically called on the need to invest effort and resources into understanding and recovering ancestral indigenous knowledge for risk reduction and resilience strengthening through nature-based solutions

2. Finance Local Early Warning & Action

- Not enough at-risk communities have access to finance to be able to act quickly in the event of an early warning
- Prioritise locally accessible finance for multi-hazard early warning and early action for all
- Specifically, prioritising finance that can be accessed at the local level in the event of a warning, prior to a disaster, is essential
- We call on member states to prioritise locally accessible early warning and finance for early action
- We call on all stakeholders to support member states to do this effectively

3. Strengthen DRR in conflict zones

- Global conflict is increasing and, combined with climate change, the intersection between conflict and natural hazards is intensifying
- Those on the frontline of disaster risk in fragile states specifically call on the global community to implement risk governance
- We have failed to move forward and make progress on this in the past three years
- We must support conflict-affected and fragile states to implement disaster risk reduction governance, policy, and plans

- Invest in understanding which conflict-affected states do not meaningfully include DRR governance; understand the barriers and identify solutions
- Specifically understand how risk reduction finance can reach the local level in fragile states and what the international community needs to do to ensure this happens
- Tackle the root causes of conflict, establish resilient livelihoods and address displacement caused by conflict and disasters
- Without a conscious and collective effort to address this, those most at risk communities living with conflict and disaster risk will continue to be left behind

4. Make DRR legally binding

- Make disaster risk reduction legally binding - we advocate for the need for legal empowerment through legislation and legally binding commitments on disaster risk reduction
- Apply a human rights-based approach to DRR
- Reflecting on progress being made on the convention of human rights to include a specific law on the rights of persons affected by disasters, we call on member states to explore the possibility of moving from a voluntary commitment model to legally binding commitments
- Establish accountability mechanisms where all stakeholders can easily track and monitor progress being made in the Sendai Framework
- Increase the platforms, resources and opportunities for south-south risk reduction cooperation

5. Implement a whole-of-society approach

- Recognise the value of different stakeholders
- We urge all stakeholders to champion the whole-of-society approach to risk reduction
- Recognise that all stakeholders in society have value and a critical role to play in reducing disaster risk, from grassroots organisations to member states
- Within this it is also important to understand which areas of society could be included more in disaster risk management to strengthen collective action
- We recognise two stakeholder groups who could be engaged with more:
 - Firstly, faith-based organisations. As well as recognising the crucial role grassroots organisations, CSOs and NGOs play in disaster risk management, there is also a need to recognise the specific role that faith-based organisations and networks could play in strengthening disaster risk reduction
 - Secondly, financial services. We also recognise a gap in private sector engagement and call on member states to specifically engage with financial institutions and explore how financial services could help improve sustainable and equitable finance for disaster risk reduction

6. Institutionalise inclusive DRR

- A whole-of-society approach must include all members of society and make a specific effort to leave no one behind by including the expertise and needs of all
- This must meaningfully include those with disabilities, young people, women leaders, indigenous leaders and marginalised groups
- Empower young people by including DRR in educational syllabuses at all levels
- Institutionalise the inclusion of all actors in society in decision-making on risk reduction
- Mainstream DRR in social protection programmes to address systemic inequalities

7. Invest in local green DRR

- The potential for technology, innovation and nature to align to reduce current and future risk is exciting yet underfunded
- Invest effort and resources in understanding how we can utilise innovation to enhance nature-based solutions. This includes capacity building, including DRR in formal education and ensuring communities on the frontline of risk have access to technology and expertise
- Advance green innovation to foster sustainable and tech-driven solutions for DRR
- Integrate traditional knowledge with science for effective preparedness and response
- Promote cross sectoral capacity building and sustainable resourcing for innovative risk reduction solutions

8. All development must be risk-informed

- Particularly prioritise urban resilience and disaster-ready infrastructure
- Specifically, we call on member states to invest in sustainable urban development policies that incorporate DRR measures, especially in rapidly expanding urban centres
- This must include investment in resilient, green infrastructure, reforestation, and sustainable urban planning
- With this, we highlight the important role of civil society in monitoring, advocating, and ensuring transparency in infrastructure development

We call on member states, UNDRR and all stakeholders to integrate these eight key call to action messages into the discussions and decisions made at the GP 2025. We call on member states to ensure all eight of these recommendations are meaningfully included in the outcome document of the GP 2025.

GNDR will continue to work to create space for local voices in decision-making on disaster risk reduction. We commit to investing in capturing local knowledge, evidence, expertise and recommendations and amplifying the voice of those living on the frontline of risk. Some key examples of this can be found in our following toolkits:

1. <https://www.gndr.org/locally-led-anticipatory-action-guide-toolkit/>

2. <https://www.gndr.org/making-displacement-safer-cookbook/>
3. <https://www.gndr.org/urban-living-laboratories-guide/>

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**Global Network of Civil Society
Organisations for Disaster Reduction**

gndr.org/gp

COVER PAGE

FENI, BANGLADESH: Young volunteers, with the support of YouthNet Global, taking the lead in providing disaster relief to communities devastated by the recent severe flooding in Feni, Bangladesh. Young people distributed food, clean drinking water, and hygiene kits to flood-affected families, many of whom were displaced from their homes. Photo credit: YouthNet Global.