



ECO Regional Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (ECORFDRR)

and Regional Priorities for Action

**(As finalized by the 2nd ECO Experts Group Meeting
held on 11-12 October 2017 in Ankara)**

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ECO Regional Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (ECORFDRR)

And Regional Priorities for Action

I. Introduction

1. The present global efforts at Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) are underpinned by the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR, 2015-2030), which was adopted in the “Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction” held on 14-18 March 2015 in Sendai, Japan. SFDRR aims to achieve the following outcome over next 15 years: *The substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries.* According to the SFDRR to attain the expected outcome, the following goal must be pursued: *Prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery, and thus strengthen resilience.*
2. To support achieving the above outcome and seven global targets, which are to be measured by the indicators at the global level, the ECO countries declare their commitments through the present Framework.
3. The SFDRR calls for the adoption and implementation of national, sub-national, local and regional disaster risk reduction policies, strategies and plans, across different timescales, with targets, indicators and timeframes.
4. In the SFDRR, regional cooperation remains pivotal in supporting the efforts of States to reduce disaster risk. Regional organizations should take into consideration the key activities listed under each of four priorities of the SFDRR and should implement these priorities of action, as appropriate, taking into consideration respective capacities and capabilities, in line with national laws and regulations.
5. The Paris Agreement under the UNFCCC highlights the importance of climate change and variabilities and recognizes the importance of support for and international cooperation on adaptation efforts. The agreement also emphasizes on strengthening cooperation on enhancing action on adaptation, taking into account the Cancun Adaptation Framework, with regard to strengthening scientific knowledge on climate, including research, systematic observation of the climate system and early warning systems, in a manner that informs climate services and supports decision-making; and disaster risk reduction as the critical need to build resilience, reduce vulnerability and increase preparedness and recovery from

disasters through international cooperation. The areas of cooperation and facilitation to enhance understanding, action and support may include:

- (a) Early warning systems;
- (b) Emergency preparedness;
- (c) Slow onset events;
- (d) Events that may involve irreversible and permanent loss and damage;
- (e) Comprehensive risk assessment and management;
- (f) Risk insurance facilities, climate risk pooling and other insurance solutions;
- (g) Non-economic losses; and
- (h) Resilience of communities, livelihoods and ecosystems.

6. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) regards disaster risk reduction as a core aspect of development, to be attained, among others, through the promotion of regional solidarity and leadership through regional commitments and partnerships. Increasingly, interlinks between sustainable development goals and the disaster risk management emphasized further the overall focus on DRR for community resilience building. The recognition to the urgent need to reduce the risk of disasters are expressed in terms of its direct references to the Sendai Framework as well as in identifying specific opportunities to achieve the SDGs through reducing disaster risk. There are also goals and targets that implicitly aim to contribute to, among others, reducing disaster risk and building resilience including targets related to promoting education for sustainable development, building and upgrading education facilities and ensuring healthy lives.

7. More recently, the World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey in May 2016, echoed the SDG's principles of "*putting people at the centre*" and "*leaving no one behind*" by ensuring special service and protection to the vulnerable and ascertaining children and education during crisis. The international community also resolves to improve the way of working together in the humanitarian sphere. This entails upholding the humanitarian values, entering the so-called "the grand bargain", counting on all players in the coordination and reorienting the humanitarian work from delivering aid to ending needs. All-in-all, the Summit marked the shifting the paradigm towards working closer with localities, counting on the private sector's contribution, leveraging innovations and more importantly, stating the collective commitment to preventing and ending conflicts; and strengthening resilience. Similarly, Habitat III adopted a "New Urban Agenda" which also outlined DRR and resilient infrastructure issues as an important consideration for regional work on the resilient infrastructure.

8. Given these drivers, the time is high for ECO Member States to formulate a framework to refocus their priorities for action towards attaining disaster resiliency, and for the ECO Secretariat to be more effectively facilitating the synergy among Member States and with their partners on the said issue.

9. ECO is uniquely positioned to be a multi-sectoral and regional platform for coordination, knowledge sharing, and capacity building and capacity development

to bring together disaster risk reduction and sustainable development agendas in the Region. This includes the right approaches and sound policies and strategies to address the contributing elements, including multi-hazard early warning systems, data and information dissemination systems, local capacity and resilience building, community awareness raising, training and advocacy, etc.

Purpose

10. The purpose of ECO Regional Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (ECORFDRR) is to reduce impact of disasters through *fostering more efficient planning, creating common information systems and exchanging good practices and programmes for cooperation and capacity development, in particular to address common and trans-boundary disaster risks and facilitating Member States in developing and implementing the right approaches and sound policies*".

11. Further, ECO Regional Framework aims *"to strengthen the disaster risk management capacities of the people, communities, institutions and States of the ECO Region and enhance the effectiveness of the mechanisms"* for preventing and reducing disaster losses in lives, and in social, economic, and environmental assets of ECO Member States and *"to facilitate Member States to jointly respond to disaster emergencies"* through concerted national efforts and intensified regional cooperation.

12. The ECORFDRR seeks to guide and support the national implementation of the SFDRR, but is not a replacement of national plans. It does so by identifying regional priorities to support national and local actions; enhance exchange of traditional good practices, science based technologies, knowledge products and information among governments and stakeholders to reduce disaster risks. In addition to strengthening regional cooperation to support the implementation of the SFDRR, this Framework will also serve as a roadmap for the region and for the priorities for action that Member States will follow.

Background for the Framework

13. The 9th ECO Summit in 2006 highlighted the importance of regional cooperation on the issues of disaster risk reduction and recommended consideration of regional programmes and projects for early warning, preparedness and management of natural disasters and the need for strengthening collaboration within and beyond the Region in this regard. ECO Member States demonstrated their interest and willingness to take necessary joint measures for reducing the risk of disasters at the regional level and for putting in place a permanent regional response mechanism dedicated to preparedness measures for earthquake safety and drought risk management.

14. Given the regional implications of disasters, ECO has organized several meetings, conferences, workshops, seminars and symposiums on disaster risk reduction in collaboration with regional and international organizations. These events aimed at making sound assessment of disasters risk in the Region through

identifying the needs, defining the level of risk to people's lives and livelihoods as well as the capacity and commitment of the main actors, including regional and local organizations, institutions and governments.

15. The latest "ECO Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction" held on 15 March 2015 on the sidelines of the "Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction" in Sendai, Japan, explored enhanced regional cooperation on disaster risk reduction in post-2015 and discussed the imperative of implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in the ECO Region.

16. For implementing the decision of the Ministerial Meeting, ECO Secretariat organized an Expert Group Meeting on 26-28 October 2016 in ECO Secretariat Headquarters in Tehran with financial support by Islamic Development Bank (IDB). In the Meeting, ECO Member States with the support of UNESCAP, formulated a draft ECO Regional Framework for DRR that serves as a roadmap for the implementation of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. The second Experts Group Meeting was held on 11-12 October 2017, in AFAD, Ankara, Turkey and finalized the draft of the ECO Regional Framework for DRR. The relevant ministers of ECO Member States will discuss and approve the ECO Regional Framework for DRR.

II. Rationale of the ECO DRR Framework

17. The ECO Region is one of the most disaster prone regions in the world and faces various types of natural and man-made hazards and disasters. The Region is located on a high-risk geography that is heavily affected by disasters due to its geological structure, topography and climactic characteristics. ECO Region is exposed to a wide range of hazards such as floods, earthquakes, landslides, storms, droughts, glacial lake outburst flood (GLOFs), heat and cold waves, sea water intrusion, cyclones and avalanches that trigger various types of natural disasters, which cause human and economic losses.

18. Since 2000, statistics show that vulnerability to hazards in the region is increasing. Hundred thousands of people have lost their lives, more than 70 million people have been affected by natural hazards in ECO Region. Every year during this period, ECO has incurred losses on an average of a staggering more than 2 billion US dollars due to natural disasters.

19. Therefore, ECO finds itself standing in the face of increasing vulnerability to disasters in a changing climate. This compelled the ECO Member States to explore a regional and collective response to these phenomenal risks which constantly claim their economic and human capitals. ECO has to make its framework for disaster risk reduction. ECO priority objectives in this framework are promoting a culture of risk prevention and mitigation in the society, using modern technologies and communication facilities, expanding cooperation at regional and international levels and playing a coordinating role in the Region.

20. ECO Member States clearly realise that in the globalized world it became very clear that no country possesses enough resources and powers to effectively manage catastrophic natural disasters by its own. Millions of people are affected by these disasters. Countries need to work together and cooperate to manage disaster risks and respond to disaster threats. Since 2006 ECO Ministerial Meeting, ECO has been committed to addressing the disaster risk management. The Region recognizes the imperative of a comprehensive regional strategy on disaster risk reduction and is determined to expand the activities and outreach in this regard.

III. ECO Regional Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

21. It is understood that while some types of hazards are inevitable, and the elimination of all risk is impossible, there are science based technical measures, non-structural mitigation, traditional practices, and public experiences that can reduce the vulnerabilities and consequently the extent or severity of economic and social disasters. Hazards are common and these are part of living with nature, those cannot be controlled but impact can be managed through changing human behaviour introducing risk resilient cultural practices. Hence, ECO Region set forth the following framework as the general direction in implementing disaster risk reduction in accordance with the Sendai Framework, in synergy with the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and other frameworks under the overall context of sustainable development.

ECO's Vision on DRR

22. The vision of disaster resilience in the ECO Region shall, necessarily, inspired by the overall vision of the ECO itself, i.e. the sustainable development of the Members States and enhanced welfare and prosperity of the peoples through regional projects and programmes; and thus the ECO DRR vision, as follow: *“Enhanced disaster and climate change resiliency of the ECO countries for attaining sustainable development towards the enhanced welfare and prosperity of the peoples at local, national, and regional levels”*.

ECO's Mission on DRR

23. Reducing the risks of disasters that pose to social and economic vulnerabilities within communities in the Region, ECO Region has to become resilient to the effects of natural disasters. To achieve this end, ECO would shift its orientation from 'disaster management' to a more 'comprehensive disaster risk management' through the integration of risk prevention and reduction into sustainable development. This shift is embodied in the following mission statement, again being guided by the ECO overall vision, as follow: *“To promote a culture of disaster risk prevention and mitigation and to develop and implement through expanded regional and international cooperation, regional projects and programmes in disaster and climate risk reduction and management for resilience as central consideration in the Member States' agenda for sustainable development”*.

Outcome

24. The Framework is aspired to achieve *“the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses of persons, businesses communities and countries in terms of loss of lives, livelihoods and social, economic and environmental assets”*.

Goal

25. The goal of ECORFDRR is very much aligned to the goal of SFDRR, as follow: *“To promote disaster and climate change resiliency through holistic, comprehensive and integrated measures that prevent new risks and reduce climate change and hazard exposure and vulnerability, and through the enhancement of disaster preparedness for near real time response and for the build back better”*.

Objectives

26. Attainment of the stated goal would be supported by the following objectives:

- a. To increase political commitment of Member States to disaster risk reduction; (transforming the traditional development approaches into risk-informed and resiliency in order to manage risks, sustainably seize opportunities, and strengthen resilience) projects and programmes;
- b. To improve identification, assessment and mapping of disaster risks;
- c. To develop multi-hazard early warning system and ensure access of Members States;
- d. To develop damage loss and needs assessments tools;
- e. To enhance knowledge management capacities for disaster and climate risk management;
- f. To increase public awareness about the risks of natural (hydro meteorological, geological, biological, and environmental) hazards;
- g. To improve risk governance through enhancing capacities of disaster risk management institutions;
- h. To enhance engagement of public participation at all levels of implementation to create disasterresilient communities through increased partnership and expanded risk reduction networks at all levels;
- i. To develop mitigation and adaptation measures and risk transfer mechanisms with supporting arrangements and resources for climate and disaster prevention at all levels of activity;
- j. To develop regional mechanism for disaster response assistance and organize response team specially for urban areas;
- k. To provide regional assistance to monitoring the SFDRR; and
- l. To pursue the innovative national level as well as ECO Region funding mechanisms dedicated to sustained risk reduction and disaster prevention activities.

Targets

27. In principle, ECO regional targets will, among others include the followings based on the SFDRR targets:

- a. Substantially reduce global disaster mortality by 2030, aiming to lower the average per 100,000 regional mortality rate in the decade 2020–2030 compared to the period 2005–2015;
- b. Substantially reduce the number of affected people regionally by 2030, aiming to lower the average regional figure per 100,000 in the decade 2020–2030 compared to the period 2005–2015;
- c. Reduce direct disaster economic loss in relation to regional gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030;
- d. Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, among them, health and educational facilities, including through developing their resilience by 2030;
- e. Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020;
- f. Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of the present Framework by 2030;
- g. Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030.

Principles of Cooperation

28. In pursuing the objectives of the regional cooperation in disaster risk reduction, and as guided by the overall ECO regionalism, the following principles of cooperation are enshrined in this Regional Framework:

- a. Sovereign equality of the Member States and mutual advantage;
- b. Linking of national economic development plans with ECO's immediate and long-term objectives to the extent possible;
- c. Joint efforts to gain freer access to markets outside the ECO region for the raw materials and finished products related to disaster risk management of the Member States;
- d. Effective utilization of ECO institutions, agreements and cooperative arrangements with other regional and international organizations including multilateral financial institutions;
- e. Common endeavours to develop a harmonized approach for participation in regional and global arrangements in-particular SFDRR and Paris Climate agreement under the SDGs; and
- f. Realization of economic cooperation strategy, and exchanges in educational, scientific, social, technical and cultural fields.

IV. Regional Priorities for Action for the ECO Region

29. The Framework seeks to complement the implementation of SFDRR by Member States. In the development of the regional framework, ECO takes the guidance from SFDRR's expected activities at regional level. Deriving from these provisions, ECO Member States identified the Regional Priorities for Action (RPA) suiting to the need to fill in gaps and optimizing the opportunities in the region jointly. Regional Priorities for Action appear as follow:

Table-1: Regional Priorities for Action (RPA)

SFDRR National Level Priorities for Action	SFDRR Regional and Global Priorities for Action	ECO Regional Priorities for Action
<p>Priority 1. Understanding disaster risk <i>Policies and practices should be based on understanding of the vulnerability, capacity, exposure, hazard characteristics and the environment.</i></p>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote collection, management and access to risk information 2. Use baseline, location-based disaster risk information 3. Science policy interface for effective decision-making 4. Promote multi-hazard and solution-driven research etc. 5. Account damage & losses 6. Optimise science and technology 7. Promote awareness 8. Use risk information for development of policy & DRR 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhance & disseminate science-based methods and tools 2. Develop regional maps of multi-hazard and climate risks 3. Promote sharing of data and information from hazard observations and support risk communication 4. Develop global and regional campaigns for public awareness 5. Encourage/broker access to materials 6. Facilitate sharing of solution oriented good practices 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a regional platform of academics and researchers working on disaster risk related technologies and services, and organize regular meetings of the forum and strengthen the regional centre 2. Develop protocols and guidelines of hazard mapping and update ECO regional multi-hazard risk profile 3. Strengthen regional activities for education and training towards to establish a knowledge hub for the application of science, technology and innovations for disaster and climate change risk management in Member States 4. Promote public awareness and preparedness by implementing Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) projects 5. Promote a culture of volunteerism in disaster risk

SFDRR National Level Priorities for Action	SFDRR Regional and Global Priorities for Action	ECO Regional Priorities for Action
		reduction 6. Promote and share DRR good practices from other countries in ECO region
<p>Priority 2. Strengthening risk governance <i>Improved governance is needed and necessary to foster collaboration and partnership across mechanisms, institutions, for the implementation of DRR and sustainable development</i></p>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote coherence across systems, sectors, organizations. 2. Mainstream and integrate DRR in all sectors 3. Adopt strategies, plans, roles assignment 4. Assessment of disaster risk management capacity 5. Establish incentives for compliance, monitoring & reporting 6. Empower localities and encourage parliamentarians 7. Promote policies, standards, and partnerships 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create common information systems, exchange good practices to address common and trans-boundary disaster risks 2. Develop regional strategies, guidance, mechanisms 3. Use regional platforms for policy making, sectoral integration and partnership 4. Promote trans-boundary cooperation 5. Promote exchange, mutual learning, peer reviews etc. 6. Strengthening international voluntarism mechanisms 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop regional compendium of disaster and climate change laws, policies, regulations and guidelines (Standard Operating Procedures- SOPs) 2. Develop and implement regional disaster risk resilient safety standards (including building codes and fire protection guideline) 3. Strengthen mechanisms on cross-border data sharing on trans-boundary animal and human diseases, and other disaster situation 4. Support to strengthen capacity building of Member States to peer review of the Sendai Framework at Regional levels
<p>Priority 3. Investing in DRR for resilience <i>Public and private investment in structural and non-structural measures to enhance resilience as drivers of innovation, growth and job creation</i></p>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allocate resources to all levels and sectors 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote coherence of DRR, climate change and 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organize policy advocacy meetings at regional level to promote disaster and climate

SFDRR National Level Priorities for Action	SFDRR Regional and Global Priorities for Action	ECO Regional Priorities for Action
<p>for the development and the implementation of DRR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Improve existing critical infrastructure 3. Promote non-structural measures, e.g. standards, EWSs, data sharing, health & social safety nets, displacement 4. Protection of the cultural heritage 5. Integrate DRR in fiscal & financial instruments and explore risk sharing & transfer 6. DRR in urban and rural development planning 7. Encourage the development of new building codes and standards etc. 8. Enhance the resilience of health systems 9. Strengthen the design and implementation of inclusive policies and social safety-net 	<p>sustainable development and across sectors</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. To promote the development and strengthening of disaster risk transfer in close cooperation with partners in the international community, business, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders 3. Develop products to address needs of dev. Countries 4. Promote shared risk monitoring and assessment 5. Encourage coordination of global & regional financial institutions 6. Support health and safety nets 7. Strength collaboration for protection of productive assets 8. Broaden poverty reduction through DRR Facilitate PPPs 	<p>risk insurance in various sectors</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Develop regional disaster and climate insurance models and pilot test at national levels 3. Organize meetings, workshops and conference on public-private partnership to leveraging disaster and climate change financing as a core area of regional economic cooperation 4. Organize policy advocacy on mainstreaming disaster and climate risk financing from national budget 5. Organise policy advocacy on public-private partnership engagement in the risk resilient enterprise development 6. Develop tools and guidance note on mainstreaming public financing on disaster and climate risk management 7. Develop regional programme on promoting investment in DRR for community resilience building 8. Develop programmes of risk assessment and management methodologies for the protection of heritage of historical, cultural and religious interest 9. Development of risk informed urban development plans and standards

SFDRR National Level Priorities for Action	SFDRR Regional and Global Priorities for Action	ECO Regional Priorities for Action
mechanisms 10. Strengthen the sustainable use and management of ecosystems 11. Increase business resilience 12. Protect livelihood, tourism, etc.		
<p>Priority 4. Enhancing risk management <i>Strengthen preparedness, response and recovery at all levels as a critical opportunity for DRR and its integration into development</i></p>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preparedness and contingency policies, plans, programmes 2. People-centred multi-hazard, forecasting & EWS, disaster risk and emergency communication mechanism 3. Promote resilience of community, infrastructure services 4. Community centres for public awareness and stockpiling 5. Relief & recovery funding, coordination, procedures 6. Promote trainings and exercises etc. 7. Promote the cooperation in 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To develop and strengthen, coordinated regional approaches and operational mechanisms 2. Develop & disseminate policies, instruments, tools, standards for coordination 3. Regional preparedness approaches, mechanisms, protocols 4. Regional early warning system 5. Establish regional sharing mechanisms 6. Support focused efforts on hydro-meteorological issues 7. Support regional cooperation through common exercises and drills 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop regional multi-hazards early warning system 2. Develop ECO regional damage & loss estimation tools 3. Develop ECO regional rapid response mechanisms and host nation guideline to introduce regional disaster rapid response team, Search and Rescue team effectively 4. Establish networks and specialized ECO DRR web portal to share disaster related data information and knowledge products 5. Enhance the existing EQ monitoring capacity of ECO region through real-time seismological data exchange 6. Develop and implement comprehensive school safety framework for ECO Region 7. Develop comprehensive critical infrastructure safety framework

SFDRR National Level Priorities for Action	SFDRR Regional and Global Priorities for Action	ECO Regional Priorities for Action
<p>view of costs of post-disaster reconstruction</p> <p>8. Develop laws, guidance, procedures, mechanisms</p> <p>9. Relocation of public facilities</p> <p>10. Strengthen the capacity of local authorities</p> <p>11. Enhance psychosocial support</p>	<p>8. Promote regional protocols</p> <p>Train the existing workforce and volunteers</p>	

V. Proposed Regional Programme

In the implementation of the Framework, ECO Member States will be implementing a regional programme containing selected activities among the stated priority actions at regional level for which efforts and resources will be afforded for its implementation.

Regional Flagship Programmes

30. Regional flagship programmes are series of planned activities at ECO Regional level to pursue both the capacity development as well as the practical application of particular subject matters or themes. They are considered pertinent to the advancement of disaster and climate risk management in the region and degree of urgency to be addressed at the regional level. Such flagship programme is designed to rally the awareness, focused attention, and resources required to accomplish such shared challenges. The ECO regional flagship programmes are as follow:

i. ECO Regional Seismic Hazard Atlas

31. The ECO Secretariat has recently concluded a project on seismic hazard mapping. It is necessary to provide additional layers on vulnerability, element-at-risk, and exposure to become ECO Regional Seismic Risk Atlas in order to be of practical use for seismic disaster risk reduction. The scale of such an Atlas ideally should extend to the sub-national locality, and its trans-boundary data to be appropriately harmonized for consistence sake. Mechanisms need to be in place to make this Atlas

a living document where national geological agencies and disaster management authorities jointly downscale them and validate as a matter of update of the data on periodical basis. Along this line, other relevant programmes including the development of infrastructure resilience, development and application of building codes and other non-structural mitigation measures as well as pre-disaster recovery plans will be put in place.

ii. Insurance as Disaster and Climate Risk Transfer Mechanism

32. Leveraging the broader economic cooperation among Member States, feasibility studies and existing good practices as well as economic and financial modelling should be undertaken to determine the viability of the development of disaster and climate change risk insurance. This should encompass various options for solutions including those at the regional level coverage, national schemes as well as market mechanisms.

iii. Regional Disaster Response Preparedness Programme

33. Given that most Member States have the historical record of seismic disaster occurrences in the recent and distant past, regional disaster response preparedness becomes a regional necessity. ECO Region should actively pursue the engagement with the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG). Such an engagement would gradually level out the emergency response standards and humanitarian coordination mechanisms of Member States. Also there is need to develop regional projects for response exercises, mock drills that link the Member States and other international Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) systems. ECO should also develop an expert pool to train national experts in Members States through Training of Trainers (ToT) and organize training for Search & Rescue experts in Members States.

iv. Capacity Development of Members States to Peer Review on the SFDRR Implementation

34. As ECO Member States, both individually and as a region, are implementing SFDRR within the broader context of sustainable development, inevitably there will be ample challenges and opportunities. Leveraging its status as regional platform and based on regional solidarity and spirit of multilateralism, ECO would put in place systematic mutual audit to assist Member States exchange experience, develop and implement shared and mutual accountability, and promote the search and application of appropriate corrective measures in order to promote more effective implementation of SFDRR in conjunction to the global targets and the associated indicators.

v. Knowledge Management and Web Portal development

35. A central, standardized and integrated Management Informations System (MIS) Platform which is GIS enabled, an all-encompassing system capable of rendering

required information at the right time should be established. It may be populated with disciplines like meteorology, hydrology, seismology, geology, climatology, health and social aspects of disasters. In addition, data and information would be accessible for and used at emergency services and also for use of academics, researchers, development practitioners, disaster managers and general public users, taking into account user friendliness and data security considerations.

vi. Capacity Building at Community Level to Reduce and Manage EQ Risk by Developing Resilience Communities at ECO Region

36. Promoting resilience and taking appropriate activities for earthquake risk reduction and capacity building need continued public awareness and participation. Safe public buildings specially safe schools are perfect mode for raising awareness and implementing community based activities in DRR/M, since they are local hubs in each community involving parents, children, teachers and local residents. Unlike in different temporal and spatial scales, and the interaction between local residents and local school teams help improve social capital, community involvement, civic awareness and social cohesion. The main objective of this programme called as safe school resilient communities is to raise awareness and preparedness towards resilience at local level and involving communities in implementation EQ risk reduction and management measures using the capacities of safe schools.

vii. Policy Advocacy Support to Afghanistan

37. Considering the pivotal role of Afghanistan in ECO Region, there is a need to build on outcomes of ECO-ESCAP DRR joint assessment mission to Afghanistan (20-22 February 2017) which, among others, evaluated the disaster and climate change situations, opportunities and challenges of the Country. ECO should continue, in collaboration with interested Member States' disaster management authorities, and partner institutions, help Afghanistan in its DRR programmes, including in implementation of SFDRR and this Regional Framework, including through organizing relevant events, missions and technical assistance programmes.

viii. Completion of the Inventory of DRR Agencies

38. Member States should take the opportunity to complete the inventory of DRR agencies and resources. ECO Secretariat has initiated this activity which is currently pending for the more submissions from several Member States.

ix. Promotion of International and Regional Disaster Management Workshop, Seminar, Symposium, Exhibition and Conference

39. Delegates from ECO Members States are encouraged for participation of their stakeholders in the various International and Regional events on disaster risk management, early warning and other relevant issues relating to disaster and climate risk management to be held in ECO countries. This participation will enhance the

data and information sharing as well strengthening linkage of the major stakeholders of disaster and climate risk management in ECO region.

Member States uptakes of ECO Regional Framework

40. In the further development of the ECO Regional Framework and its prospective implementation, Member States expressed their support and commitment by making explicit their intention to extend support to DRR in the region, and in some cases, what they would expect to benefit from this regional cooperation which are reflected in the Table-2 below:

Table-2: Explicit Intend to Support DRR

Country	Intended support to other Members Countries	Expected Benefit from Regional Framework
Afghanistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interagency Standard Operation Procedure for Emergency Response • National Disaster Management Information Systems • Development of the Road Map for SFDRR implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Safety Programme • Hospital Safety and Preparedness programme • DRM institutions building • Risk transfer mechanism through insurance • Risk mapping
Azerbaijan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster management policies • Good practices on topical aspects of disaster management • DRR integration into education system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional level data coordination and knowledge sharing • Exchange of good practice to reduce people's vulnerability to natural disaster • Building safe school in the disaster risk areas
Iran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and development of regional disaster response system • Regular international and regional DRR events & exhibitions • Safe school programme • Standards and building code • Community based disaster risk management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More predictable services and facilitation through the establishment of a DRR unit in ECO Secretariat
Kyrgyz Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of Crisis Management Center for technical capacity development on disaster management • Good practices on the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange of disaster management technology and innovations • Scope to introduce and strengthen disaster

Country	Intended support to other Members Countries	Expected Benefit from Regional Framework
	<p>mobilization of various media for the dissemination on early warning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good practices on training of mountainous rescue teams and water facilities. • Good practices in the single registry of incidents and the response dispatch system 	<p>management as a discipline in higher education system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of rescue teams on work in mountains regions and underwater
Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The electronic form of various disaster management products and good practices at local and national as well as regional level • Wide ranging disaster management capacity development facilities and opportunities including on risk mapping, response planning, Search and Rescue (SAR), Early Warning System particularly on hydrometeorology • Best practices in flood management and reservoir SOPs • Earthquake rehabilitation & reconstruction under Build Back Better • Building codes, fire safety guidelines, Disaster Management (DM plans), sub Divisional DM Plan • Multi-hazards Vulnerability and Risk Assessment (MHVRA) Guideline • Provision of School Safety Framework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology applications on risk assessment tools and risk atlas • Learning from experience from DRM policy documents and plans
Tajikistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good practice on preparedness aspects of natural disaster 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interaction of ‘Search and Rescue operations’
Turkey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience and body of knowledge as well as facilities for risk mapping • Opportunities for exchange of expertise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EQ data from near abroad data centers • Sharing of good practices

Country	Intended support to other Members Countries	Expected Benefit from Regional Framework
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training development including peer reviews on response preparedness plan • Scope for regional preparedness plan and early warning system • Hosting of regional events • Introduction and experience sharing on IT based applications on hazard and damage assessment • Seismic hazards mapping and building code • Earthquake data sharing protocols • Damage and loss estimation tools 	

VI. Parties and Stakeholders

41. The ECO Framework is underpinned by the key principle that the Governments of the Member States have the overall responsibility for reducing disaster risk. Relevant stakeholders play an important role in supporting Member States in the implementation of the ECO Framework. It is critical that the ECO Regional Framework is implemented and driven by the synergy among Member States as well as by the participation of and collaboration with various partners and stakeholders.

- a. **International and Regional Development Partners:** ECO Member States, as developing countries, in their efforts to reduce disaster risk, would require different kinds of means of implementation, including adequate, sustainable and timely resources, through international cooperation and global partnerships for development, and continued international support. Member States would need the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, international and regional financial institutions and donor agencies engaged in disaster risk reduction, to promote the optimum use of resources and to support them by enhancing the coordination of their strategies, primarily through the United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience, United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and country programmes.
- b. **Civil Society and Non-Governmental Organizations:** These organizations are uniquely situated in and among the people and, often specific sectoral groups. Such familiarity and expertise constitute key partner of ECO in realizing the vision of a people-centred resilience. It is critical that the implementation of

this framework is strengthened through consultation with and integration of civil society. It is thus imperative that ECO and its Member States nurture these relationships and invest in new ones as the DRR portfolio expands and new actors emerge.

- c. **The Private Sector**: Business community including CSR, have the largest share of investment in economic development also the ones shouldering the most of disaster-induced damages and losses. It is important that ECO encourages companies to come together to prevent the creation of new risks, to not exacerbate the existing ones, and to ensure that they remain competitive and profitable even given the risk environment in the ECO Region. The involvement of the private sector in the overall disaster risk management will also contribute to innovation as well as effectiveness and efficiency of the priority actions in this Regional Framework. These potent resources, however, would only materialize if ECO put in place all the necessary regional platforms and/or coordination mechanism to enable them participate actively in disaster risk management efforts in ECO Region.
- d. **Local Communities**: People who are at the grassroots and at the frontline of the risks and risk management should be at the center of the stage. It is important that Member States strive to extend the implementation of this present Framework to the lowest possible unit of government administration. This would heighten the opportunity to promote a people-centred disaster risk management.
- e. **Education, Research and Technology**: The ECO Region is fortunate to have been endowed with strong tradition and presence of centres of excellence in disaster and climate-related science and technology. The demand for multidisciplinary enquiry to address the complex and inter-related problems of climate change, disasters and sustainable development is quite visible in the present Framework. Science and technology society has the key role in providing evidence for policy, supplying innovations in methods, tools and analyses in making data to become more widely accessible and in finding solutions as well as in promoting more explicit links of empirical evidence to decision making. The effective implementation of this framework would require the increasing research and practitioner engagement; increasing technology transfer and innovation mechanisms; open data and knowledge sharing; communication of usable evidence and user's needs; and education and training of all in the context of regional and international cooperation.
- f. **Secretariat** : ECO Secretariat will act as the Coordinator at the regional level in implementation of the Regional Framework through, inter alia, building on the capacities, experiences and actions within the Member States as well as relevant platforms in outside Region.

VII. Timeframe

42. The Regional Framework will focus on activities and actions in the period up to 2030 and will also provide basis for necessary review and follow-up measures upward to the end of Sendai Framework.