



WORKSHOP REPORT

UNISDR/DPPI SEE Sendai Framework Monitoring training

Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

05-06 March 2019

The Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South-Eastern Europe (DPPI SEE) and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction organised a two-day training workshop on 'Sendai Framework Monitoring', held on 05 - 06 March 2019 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. The training workshop was co-hosted by the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sector for rescue and protection. Countries represented at the workshop were: Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria; Croatia; Montenegro; North Macedonia; Romania; Serbia; Slovenia; and Turkey.

The event provided policy and technical support to the ten DPPI SEE member countries in undertaking monitoring and reporting process to implement the Sendai Framework, focusing on its technical elements, its use and usability of the online monitoring systems, as well as the broader political landscape in which it fits and contributes. An underlying objective was the sustainability of the monitoring and reporting process, in ensuring that participants could take home sufficient knowledge to make good progress in setting up and carrying out the reporting exercise. The interactive nature of the workshop would allow to capitalize on the sharing of experiences and peer to peer exchanges among countries present.

As such, and following introductory words by Mr Samir Agić, Assistant Minister and Head of the Sector for Rescue and Protection, Mr Andrew Bower and Ms Ritsuko Yamazaki-Honda, Programme Management Officers of the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, and Vlatko Jovanovski, Head of the DPPI SEE Secretariat, the two day workshop was structured around a set of technical sessions – looking at data collection and disaster loss databases, data disaggregation, and custom indicators – and political elements – looking at how the reporting process involves a set of governance and policy coordination considerations, requires a coherent approach with other policy processes and international processes (e.g. Sustainable Development Goals), and is enrooted in a broader implementation process of the Sendai framework through national platforms, local level engagement, and DRR strategies. Core elements of the workshop focused around an interactive exchange of experiences, and hands-on and interactive/participatory sessions, during which participants had the opportunity to test the SFM tool, run practical exercises and address ongoing difficulties in their reporting process.

A number of overall observations can be made to summarise the outcomes of the workshop:

- In a regional context where disaster risk challenges are often shared or similar, the various levels of advancement proved an enriching aspect of the workshop: indeed, countries engaged actively in sharing experiences, raising questions and challenging other national approaches in view of reinforcing their understanding and capacity including monitoring of the Sendai Framework. As an outcome, the value of such regional initiative was strongly underlined, and will be considered for future training sessions led by UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and DPPI SEE.
- Understanding of the broader political landscape is not systematically clear, nor is the contribution of the SFM reporting process in this regard. The workshop allowed to clarify certain elements, and help contextualise the broader framework in which the reporting takes place.
- In this light, the role of National Platforms was reiterated by a number of countries to be central in providing the coordination channel to engage with the right stakeholders, and consolidating a governance structure needed for the sustainability of the exercise (examples in Croatia and Bulgaria). Similarly, the reporting process is also closely associated with the political work around DRR strategies, which integrate the reporting exercise into the broader implementation and loss data collection processes undertaken at local and national levels.
- Finally, many challenges and questions touched upon technical elements of the reporting process – for example, regarding the linkage with national disaster loss databases (the SFM tool allows an export function from DesInventar compatible national databases), the validation process (a recurrent challenge identified in various countries), the possibility of providing written contributions in support of submitted data, the attribution of roles and engagement of different ministries.

A set of outcomes were identified as next steps to the workshop:

- Defining main take-away actions in national contexts, with the aim of making concrete progress in reporting: UNISDR and DPPI SEE will undertake an informal progress review in 3 months;
 - Ensuring that 2017 data has been reported against the global targets and indicators;
 - Where not done so, initiating the reporting process for 2018 data, starting with completion of the metadata and baseline data - Working towards the milestone of 31 March 2019 for 2018 data, in view of contributing to the SDG monitoring process;
- Disseminating at national level the knowledge and expertise gained at the workshop;
- Global Platform, 13-17 May in Geneva: Key milestone events providing political visibility;
- Discussing the results of the training at the next DPPI SEE Regional meeting, within the DMTP steering group;
- Other follow-up actions:
 - engaging through other relevant fora (Participating States in the Mechanism can explore prevention initiatives at EU level);
 - bilateral engagement with the UN Office for DRR, through technical support, awareness raising, and advocacy;
 - future DPPI SEE trainings: explore a more structured capacity development training program on SFM and DRR by using the existing potential of the member states and refreshing the pool of experts.