

PRESS RELEASE



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Roundtable for International Disaster Reduction Day

19 October, 2015 – Dushanbe, Tajikistan

On 16 October 2015 UNDP's Disaster Risk Management Programme (DRMP) organized an International Disaster Reduction Day Round Table on integrating disaster risk reduction (DRR) into the development process.

Tajikistan's National Disaster Risk Management Strategy (NDRMS) and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction call attention to the need to integrate disaster risk reduction into the development process. It is clear that preventing disasters is better than providing assistance once they have occurred. Research has proved that investing in risk reduction is cost effective, necessary on the grounds of policy and promotes sustainable development, in line with the new Sustainable Development Goals.



The event brought together disaster managers and development practitioners to (1) Present perspectives on DRR integration challenges, (2) Facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experience, and (3) Raise awareness on the importance of disaster risk reduction and was attended by 34 representatives of international organizations, development agencies and national partners.

Short opening presentations at the Round Table covered:

- The Sendai Framework's focus on DRR integration, by Abdurahim Muhidov, Program Officer, UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, Central Asia & South Caucasus.
- Challenges and opportunities with integrating DRR into the development process by Firdavs Faizulloev, Disaster Risk Management Programme Manager, UNDP Tajikistan.
- The donor perspective on DRR integration, Regina Gujan, Swiss Cooperation in Tajikistan
- Implementation of DRR integration under the current Tajik National Disaster Risk Management Strategy, by Col. Jamshed Kamolov, National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction Secretariat, Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense, Government of Tajikistan.
- DRR integration under the Tajik NDRMS, the new National Development Strategy for Tajikistan and the new National Disaster Risk Management concept, by C. Kelly, DRR and Recovery Advisor, Disaster Risk Management Programme, UNDP Tajikistan

The discussions highlighted following points:

- Tajikistan is affected by many small-scale disasters which have the cumulative effects of a large disaster.
- Disaster Risk Reduction is well established in policy but not in practice.
- Some donors, such as SDC, integrate DRR into their development portfolio but it is not clear whether all donors do this.
- There are a number of avenues for Disaster Risk Reduction but the mechanism for choosing the best approaches is not yet clear.
- Experiences from other countries, such as Pakistan, could be very valuable to Tajikistan because of geographical and cultural similarities.
- Communities should play a central role in discussions and actions in reducing disaster risk.
- Gender and age should be incorporated through efforts to reduce disaster risk.
- While the policy for integrating DRR into development is generally accepted, work remains to define mechanisms, which are most appropriate for Tajikistan to reduce disaster risk.

For more details, including presentations, please follow the below link:

http://untj.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=644&catid=95.

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