

Regional Expert Group Meeting on Advancing Disaster Resilience: Harnessing Data, Technology, and Policy for a Safer Tomorrow

7-8 December 2023, Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan

Introduction on objectives and agenda of the Regional Expert Group Meeting on Advancing Disaster Resilience: Harnessing Data, Technology, and Policy for a Safer Tomorrow

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Alignment with the 80th Commission Theme Topic: Leveraging Digital Innovation for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific

Organizers

APDIM and the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense, the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Objectives

- To facilitate knowledge exchange, explore innovative solutions, and share best practices in the field of disaster resilience, with a focus on **integrating data, technology, and policy** to enhance the preparedness and response capabilities of the Asia-Pacific region.
- To present the UNDRR- APDIM joint study on **Risk Data Governance and Policy Design**

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Why these topics?

Essential Pillars in Disaster Management:

- Risk Data Governance and Policy Design are fundamental for effective preparedness and response.
- They inform decision-making and contribute to risk-informed planning.

Integration into National Development:

- Information management facilitates the integration of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into national development plans.

Innovation in Disaster Information Management:

- Startups, AI and new emerging technologies enhance disaster response and resilience.

Private Sector Contributing to Change:

- The private sector, through Public-Private Partnerships, plays a pivotal role in fostering innovation.

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Structure:

The EGM will feature two main sessions:

Session 1: Synergy Building; Navigating the Science-Policy-Action Nexus through Data-Driven Decision-Making and Policy Design

In this session, the focus is on the critical components of **risk data governance and policy design**.

Discussions will revolve around **mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) into national development plans**.

The session will emphasize the **importance of risk-informed development to mitigate existing risks and prevent new ones generated** in the various socio-economic sectors.

Session 2: Catalyzing Resilience; The Power of New Technologies and Startups in Disaster Information Management

This session explores how **emerging technologies and startups including digital innovations can enhance disaster information management and foster resilience**. Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) are essential in creating an enabling environment for startups in this field by bridging public and private sectors, providing necessary resources, mentorship, and real-world testing. Through PPPs, startups can drive technological innovation, enhancing disaster resilience for a safer world.

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Expected Outcomes:

- Enhanced understanding of the vital link between science, policy, and practical solutions in disaster resilience efforts.
- Identification of good practices in risk data governance and policy design to enhance regional disaster preparedness.
- Knowledge sharing on the mainstreaming of DRR and CCA into national development plans.
- Recognition of the importance of risk-informed development to reduce existing and potential risks associated with various socio-economic sectors.
- Exploration of the transformative potential of startups and emerging technologies including digital innovations in disaster information management.
- Insight into how countries worldwide leverage innovative solutions to bolster resilience and adaptability in the face of disasters.

The outcomes of the EGM will be presented and discussed at the Eighth Session of the APDIM Governing Council.

APDIM Services at Country Level

❖ Long-term Outcome 1: Risk Information

Impact-Based Forecasting and Early Warning (*Deliverable 1.1.2.*)

Diagnosing and Support towards Enhancing Risk Data Governance (*Deliverable 1.2.1*)

National-level knowledge-based Products (*Deliverable 1.1.2*)

❖ Long-term Outcome 2. Information Capacity and Application

Disaster Information Management Training (*Deliverable 2.2.1*)

Integration of Disaster Risk Reduction into National Development Plans (*Deliverable 2.2.2*)

Reporting Sand and Dust Storm Impact (*Deliverable 2.1.3*)

Sand and Dust Storm Risk Assessment at National Level (*Deliverable 2.1.3*)

❖ Long-term Outcome 3: Regional Cooperation

Facilitating Data Sharing for Trans-boundary Disaster Risk Monitoring and Managing (*Deliverable 3.2.1*)

Synergizing National Level Actions and Processes for Effective Regional Efforts (*Deliverable 3.2.3*)

Infrastructure Earthquake Risk Assessment (*Deliverable 3.1.1*)

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the Development of Disaster
Information Management