# The Sustainable Development Goals Extended Report 2023

## 13 CLIMATE ACTION

# Contents

**Target 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries**

Indicator 1.5.1/11.5.1/13.1.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population

At mid-point of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, disaster related mortality has been progressively declining barring the global shock of the COVID-19 pandemic

The year 2022-23 marks a midpoint for the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, adopted in the same year as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement. Among key progress in disaster risk reduction, the Framework measures the pace in reduction of disaster-related mortality. Average mortality or missing persons per 100,000 population, has steadily decreased globally – from 1.64 in the decade 2005-2015 to 0.86 during the decade 2012-2021. Yet, in absolute terms, countries have reported an average disaster mortality of 47,337 per year during 2015-2021.

Further, Least Developed Countries (LDCs), small island developing States (SIDS) and Land-locked Developing Countries (LLDCs) have emerged high on disaster vulnerability, while facing severe human and economic constraints. From 2012 to 2021, these three groups of countries in total, recorded 21.8 per cent of the global disaster-related mortality, even though they accounted for only 13.3 per cent of the total population of reporting countries. Compared to the global average of 0.86 deaths or missing per 100,000 people during 2012-2021, LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs returned figures of 1.24, 2.80 and 1.85 respectively, demonstrating the disproportionate impact of disasters in countries with special needs.

However, these figures don't include the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic which as a biological hazard, is by far the single most global shock affecting disaster mortality during the SDG period. In 2021 itself, 414,318 deaths from the pandemic were reported through the Sendai Framework Monitor, which is already more than five times the average disaster mortality resulting from other hazards. Although about 1 million COVID-19 related mortality in 2020 and 2021 has been reported through the Sendai Framework Monitor, it constituted a significant underreporting given WHO's records that showed 5.45 million deaths due to COVID-19 through the end of 2021. Excess deaths estimated from the global pandemic during the same period was estimated to be even higher.

Notwithstanding the unprecedented biological catastrophe of the COVID-19, the decrease in relative disaster mortality deserves recognition. A key adaptation and risk reducing measure to contain disaster mortality is early warning systems. In response to the UN Secretary-General's call for ensuring that every person on Earth is protected by early warning systems by 2027, UNDRR and WMO released a global status report on early warning systems in 20224, based on the country reporting in the Sendai Framework Monitor and other sources including from WMO. This has shown an increase in the number of countries having multi-hazard EWS from 47 in 2015 to 95 in 2021. The analysis in the report shows evidence suggesting that countries reporting good coverage of MHEWS have lower mortality rates compared to countries that have little or no early warning systems.

While global disaster-related mortality has seen a decline this progress is not seen when it comes to affected population. The number of persons affected by disasters per 100,000 people increased from 1,198 during 2005-2015 to 2,113 during 2012-2021 (excluding COVID-19 related cases). On an average, 151 million people were affected by disasters each year globally.

**Disaster-related mortality ***
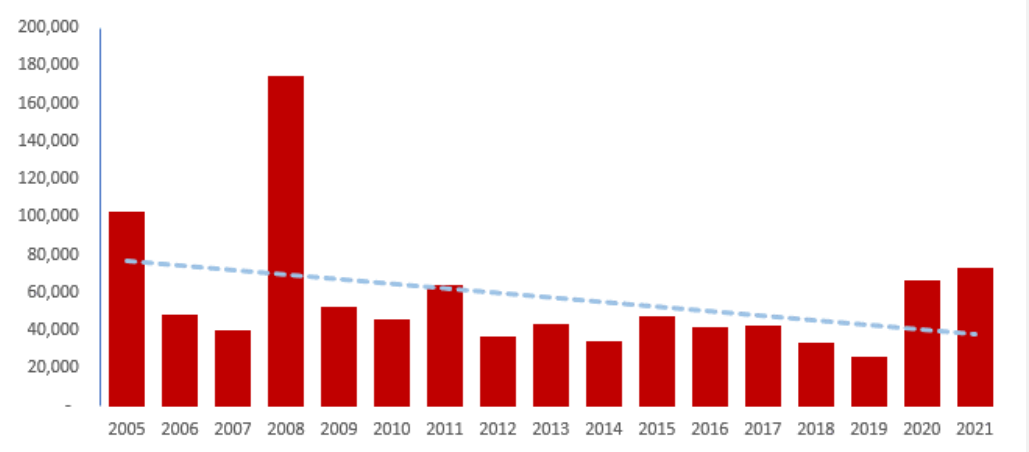


\* Excluding COVID-19 deaths

**Disaster-related mortality per 100,000 population***
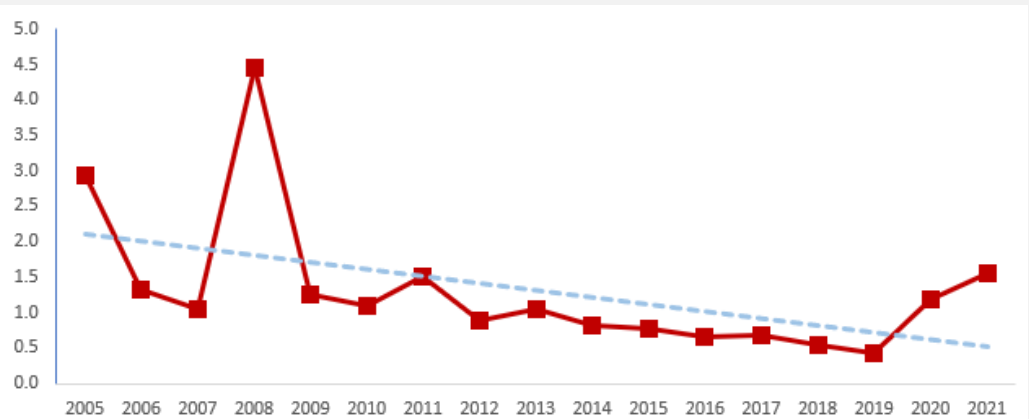


\* Excluding COVID-19 deaths

Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- https://covid19.who.int/
- https://www.who.int/data/sets/global-excess-deaths-associated-with-covid-19-modelled-estimates
- https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2022-11-07/secretary-generals-remarks-the-launch-of-the-early-warnings-for-all-executive-action-plan-delivered
- https://www.undrr.org/publication/global-status-multi-hazard-early-warning-systems-target-g

**Storyline authors(s)/contributor(s):** Animesh Kumar, UNDRR; Xuan Che, UNDRR; Rahul Sengupta, UNDRR

Custodian agency(ies): UNDRR

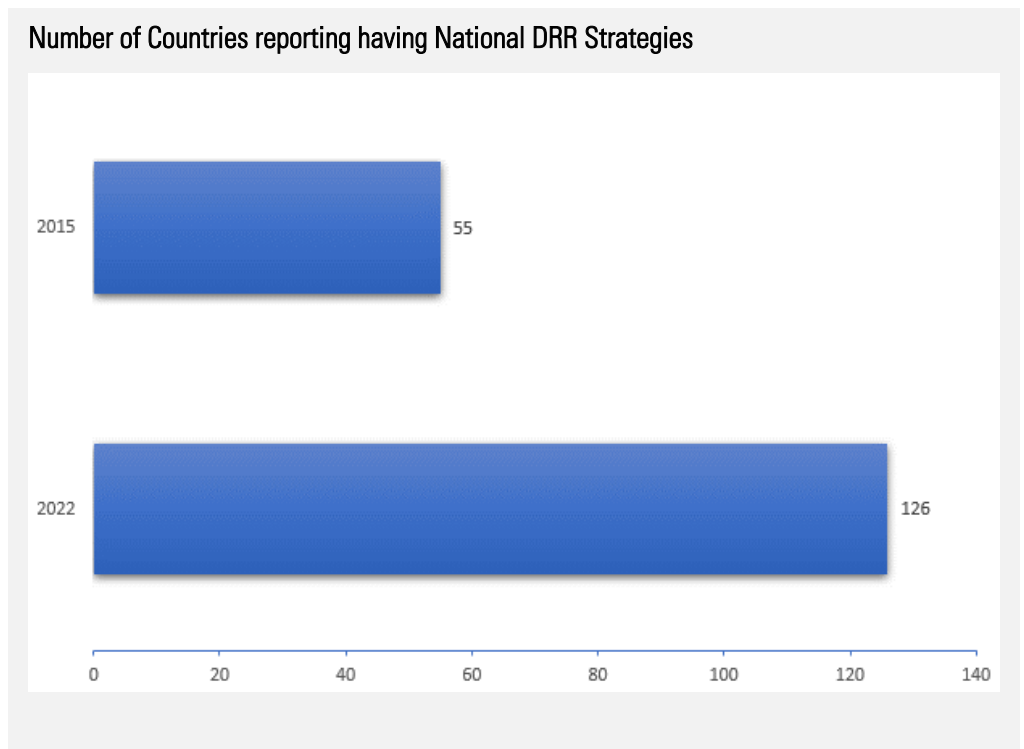**Indicator 1.5.3/11.b.1/13.1.2 Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030**

## 65% of the countries in the world have reported having national disaster risk reduction strategies

Governments have placed high importance on the achievement of associated Target E of the Sendai Framework by 2020. This was seen as the foundation for the successful implementation of the Framework's goal, priorities for action and global targets by 2030. They also recognized the need for putting in place appropriate disaster risk reduction governance arrangements and creating a conducive institutional framework with strong multi-stakeholder and multisectoral engagement to effectively reduce disaster risk.

Advancements have been made in strengthening disaster risk governance since the adoption of the Sendai Framework in 2015. The number of countries with national strategies for disaster risk reduction has increased from 55 in 2015 to 126 until end of 2022. The United Nations system continues to provide technical support and capacity development for their enhancement and implementation of these national strategies.

Moreover, the governments are expected to score their respective national disaster risk reduction strategies on the basis of 10 key elements whose average score highlights the level of maturity of the respective strategy. The global average score stands at 0.66 on a scale of 0 to 1. One of the Key elements of national disaster risk reduction strategies is to promote policy coherence and compliance, notably with the SDGs and the Paris Agreement. On the basis of this, a total of 118 countries have reported having some level of policy coherence.

**Number of Countries reporting having National DRR Strategies**



Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- https://www.undrr.org/publication/review-covid-19-disaster-risk-governance-asia-pacific-towards-multi-hazard-and-multi
- https://www.undrr.org/publication/increasing-global-resilience-systemic-risk-emerging-lessons-covid-19-pandemic
- https://www.undrr.org/publication/understanding-and-managing-cascading-and-systemic-risks-lessons-covid-19

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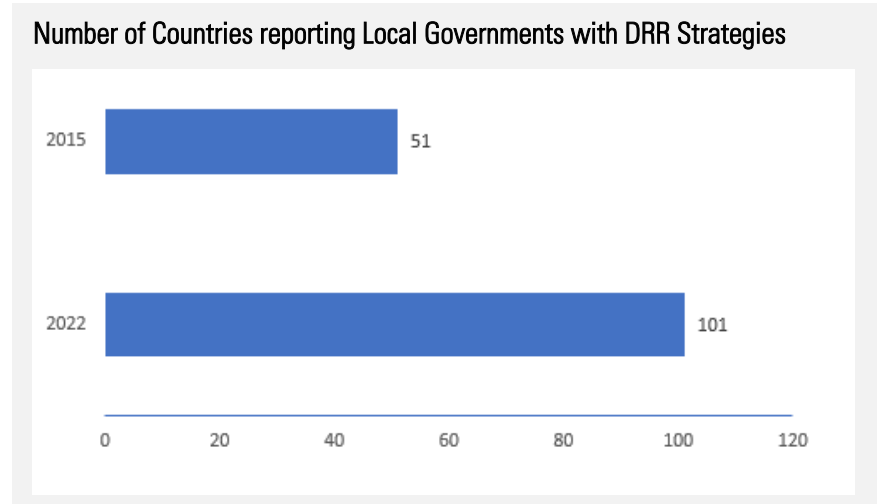
Custodian agency(ies): UNDRR

**Indicator 1.5.4/11.b.2/13.1.3 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies**

## Local action to accelerate resilience building

The accumulated economic, social and environmental cost of small-scale disasters can be higher in comparison to high-impact, low-frequency events occurring over the same time period [Marulanda et al (2010)]. Local governments globally have made concerted efforts in developing and implementing local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the national strategies. As at the end of 2022, there were 101 countries that reported having local governments with disaster risk reduction strategies. Though definitions in local governance vary across regions and countries, even in terms of the constitution of local administrative units, the governments have made considerable success in tracking the changing landscape in local level policy-making. Globally, the average proportion of local governments with such strategies is estimated to be 72 percent.

Understanding of localized impact of disasters and extreme events is a critical basis to avert, minimize and address losses and damages. To support Member States to comprehensively track such losses and damages, UNDRR, UNDP and WMO are jointly developing a disaster losses and damages tracking system that will inform risk reducing and adaptation measures, as well as benchmark the outcomes of their implementation. This system will enable a stronger exchange of information both horizontally across departments (such as National Meteorological and Hydrological Systems, National Disaster Management Organizations and other ministries) and vertically between the local governance structures and national data repositories.

**Number of Countries reporting Local Governments with DRR Strategies**



**Storyline authors(s)/contributor(s):** Animesh Kumar, UNDRR; Xuan Che, UNDRR; Rahul Sengupta, UNDRR
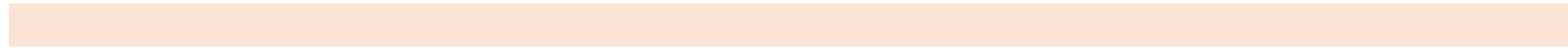
Custodian agency(ies): UNDRR

## Target 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning

Indicator 13.2.1 Number of countries with nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans and adaptation communications, as reported to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Custodian agency(ies): UNFCCC

Indicator 13.2.2 Total greenhouse gas emissions per year

Custodian agency(ies): UNFCCC

## Target 13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

Indicator 4.7.1/12.8.1/13.3.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment

### Young people are demanding more information on climate change

Most young people (91 per cent) say they learn about climate change at school and nearly all countries (94 per cent) report that climate change education is taught as part of the curriculum. However, 70 per cent of youth can, at best, explain only the broad principles of climate change. Many express concerns about the quality of the education they receive and would like to have more information in order to be better prepared to take action to tackle climate change. Teachers too have their concerns. While 95 per cent of teachers report that it is important to teach about the severity of climate change only about one-third are able to explain well the effects of climate change in their region. Although most countries (94 per cent) report that pre-service and in-service training is available, only 55 per cent of teachers have received training on climate change. One in five say they do not have the ability to choose the topics they teach or the time to teach them or feel they didn't have the necessary knowledge and skills.

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Custodian agency(ies): UNESCO-UIS

## Target 13.a Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to a goal of mobilizing jointly $100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund through its capitalization as soon as possible
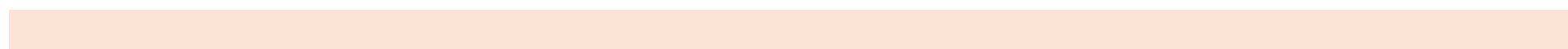
Indicator 13.a.1 Amounts provided and mobilized in United States dollars per year in relation to the continued existing collective mobilization goal of the $100 billion commitment through to 2025
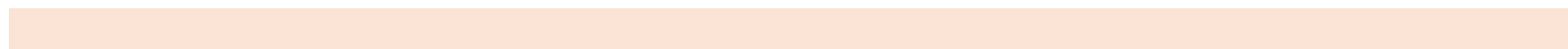
Custodian agency(ies): UNFCCC

## Target 13.b Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities

Indicator 13.b.1 Number of least developed countries and small island developing States with nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans and adaptation communications, as reported to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Custodian agency(ies): UNFCCC