

Women's Major Group Chairs dialogue with major groups - DRR, SDGs and CC

The best way to align the post-2015 DRR Framework more closely with SDGs is to align the targets and indicators with the ambitious set of Goals and targets so far proposed by the High Level Panel (HLP) and the Open Working Group (OWG) in terms of both gender and of building resilience/reducing vulnerability.

In terms of gender, the stand alone goal (SDG 5) looks set to have a strong focus on VAWG, including trafficking and sexual exploitation, early and forced marriage. VAWG and these harmful practices are all said to increase post-disaster. At present they are not routinely monitored post-disaster but, in line with the SDGs, the post-2015 DRR policy framework should ensure any changes in the short and medium term are monitored.

Similarly, as the SDGs promote (5.6) 'universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights' as agreed in accordance with the Programme Financial and Administrative Committee (PfA) of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and Beijing Platform for Action (BpfA), then the post-2015 DRR policy framework needs to explicitly recognise that such services be part of the health services provided during and after an event in section 31d) of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction Zero Draft.

Women's groups and movements are best placed to provide independent monitoring of changes in violence and other gendered rights and could provide a vital bridge between the SDGs and the post-2015 DRR policy framework. However, many women's groups and movements are stretched to the limit due to higher demands on their time and lower resources to fund their activities. Thus, to bridge the two would demand an investment in women's groups and movements. This is a good investment, as women-led initiatives in post-conflict situations - such as the the 'Situation room' in Senegal - have demonstrated the ability of women's movements to act as independent observers, holding governments, systems and processes to account.

In fact the SDGs call for (5.5) women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life; this should include women's active participation in DRR and that their leadership is supported in DRR; without this, the post-2015 DRR Framework is actually going against the SDGs. Thus there is an urgent need to (re) include women's leadership in the post-2015 DRR policy framework as per the pre-zero draft and also a focus on the means to support and resource this participation.

To align the SDGs and the post-2015 DRR Framework demands that the two are measuring equivalents. In the SDGs, gender is further mainstreamed throughout all the goals through the disaggregation of data being called for as standard in the OWG's SDG 17 (17.18 enhance capacity.....increase significantly the availability of high quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location....). In line with the SDGs the post-2015 DRR Framework should also aim to disaggregate data by gender as standard.

The SDGs (5.1) call to 'end all forms of discrimination against women and girls everywhere'. This suggests that if the post-2015 DRR Framework does not explicitly recognise women's rights before, during and after disaster it is going against the fundamental principle of the SDGs.

The SDGs also have DRR and resilience mainstreamed in various goals and targets (1.5 poverty; 2.4 hunger; 11.5 11.b Cities; 13.1 CC) and the Goals within which they sit have a sustainability focus far more well developed than currently in the HFA2 suggesting that the HFA2 needs to promote more holistic targets in line with the SDGs or it will represent a step backwards.