

**5th meeting of the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific
and
Workshop on Disaster Risks in East and North-East Asia**

**20 – 22 September 2017
Incheon, Republic of Korea**

CONCEPT NOTE

Background

At its fourth meeting in October 2016, the Expert Group finalized a report of findings from their pilot studies and developed a list of priority pending measurement issues or areas in need of further study to provide concrete recommendations for finalizing the DRSF. The recommendations would include discussions on the relationships with indicators for the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in order to confirm a good alignment between the draft DRSF and core concepts and monitoring and reporting requirements under the Sendai Framework and SDGs.

The DRSF outlines statistical methodology for the building blocks of disaster-related statistics in a systematic and consistent manner, thereby serving as a reference guide for developing and improving the quality of basic statistics related to disasters. The DRSF is intended for use by officials from Governments to develop the quality of national statistics on disasters, with the added benefit of improving comparability among nationally reported statistics that are used for calculation of indicators for international progress monitoring.

The Expert Group has functioned since 2014, and is expected to deliver its recommendations and outcomes of its work (in the form of its final draft of the DRSF) to the ESCAP Commission in May 2018.

Taking advantage of the opportunity to organize this meeting in the Republic of Korea, hosted by ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office, a training workshop will be organized in connection with this meeting focussing on special considerations for disaster risks in East and Northeast Asia.

Objective

The 5th meeting of the Expert Group will review and discuss the latest version of the draft DRSF, i.e. the provisional conclusions on recommendations towards harmonize statistical methodologies. It is expected that the meeting will arrive at concrete recommendations that will allow the Expert Group to finalize the DRSF subsequent to the meeting while ensuring its alignment with the emerging indicators for Sendai Framework and the SDGs.

Discussions during the meeting will provide experts with opportunities to contribute to the development of harmonized international guidance for official statistics and, at the same, develop and build their own capacities to implement the framework and improve the quality of their statistics in their home countries after the meeting. Meeting participants will have opportunities to learn from presentations of experiences with innovative approaches to producing disaster statistics, indicators and reports from leading experts from around the world.

Agenda topics

- a) Discussion on the Relationships to the Sustainable Development Goal 11, “Make cities and human settlements inclusive”: analytical applications for a basic range of disaster-related statistics for issues like increasing urbanisation and the emergence of “mega cities” in Asia and the Pacific.
- b) Break-out group discussions to collect and summarize feedback for finalizing the content of the draft DRSF
- c) Way forward and the future for the Asia-Pacific Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics
- d) Sharing of experiences of good practices and new approaches to disaster statistics from participating countries
- e) The implementation of the principle of “Leaving no one behind” to statistics and risk-informed development planning
- f) Briefing on Asia-Pacific Disaster Report 2017: Discussion on the report and its implications for disaster risk reduction and resilience in the Asia-Pacific region.