



SRMUN CHARLOTTE 2021
Unity: Coming Together to Address A Changing World
March 26-28, 2021
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Dear Delegates,

Welcome to SRMUN Charlotte 2021 and the General Assembly Plenary. My name is Makayla McDermott, and I have the pleasure of serving as your Director for the General Assembly Plenary. This will be my third time as a SRMUN Charlotte staff member. Previously, I have served as the Director for the African Development Bank at SRMUN Charlotte 2020 and as the Assistant Director for the Security Council at SRMUN Charlotte 2019. In December of 2017, I graduated from Pace University at Pleasantville with a BA in Political Science and Religious Studies. I am currently a second-year law student working toward my Juris Doctorate with an Advanced Certificate in International Law at the Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University. Our committee's Assistant Directors will be Taheerah Smith and Andrew Whittmayer. This will be Taheerah's second time as a SRMUN staff member, having previously served as the Assistant Director for the Security Council at SRMUN Atlanta 2020. In addition, she has participated as a delegate in three SRMUN conferences. Taheerah is currently majoring in Health Systems Management and Communications at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. This will be Andrew's first time as a SRMUN staff member, but he is certainly no stranger to SRMUN, having participated as a delegate at two SRMUN conferences. Andrew is currently double majoring in History and Political Science at Kennesaw State University.

The United Nations General Assembly Plenary (UNGA) is comprised of all 193 Members of the United Nations which provides a unique forum for multilateral discussion of the full spectrum of international issues. The UNGA occupies itself as the chief deliberative, policymaking, and representative organ of the United Nations. It also plays a significant role in the process of standard-setting and the codification of international law. The overarching mission of the UNGA is to recommend diplomatic and multilateral solutions to issues involving peace and security, human rights, development, international law and justice, and social, economic and political unrest. By focusing on the mission of the General Assembly Plenary and the SRMUN Charlotte 2021 theme of "*Unity: Coming Together to Address a Changing World*" we have developed the following topics for delegates to discuss at the conference:

- I. Developing Disaster Risk Reduction and Socio-Economic Resilience Strategies for Natural and Sudden Onset Disasters
- II. Promoting Multilateral Partnerships to Achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

This background guide provides an introduction to the committee and the topics that will be debated at SRMUN Charlotte 2021. It should be utilized as a foundation for a delegate's independent research. However, while we have attempted to provide a holistic analysis of the issues, the background guide should not be used as the single mode of analysis for the topics. Delegates are expected to go beyond the background guide and engage in intellectual inquiry of their own. The position papers for the committee should reflect the complexity of these issues and their externalities. Delegations are expected to submit a position paper and be prepared for a vigorous discussion at the conference. Position papers should be no longer than two pages in length (single spaced) and demonstrate your Member State's position, policies, and recommendations on each of the two topics. For more detailed information about formatting and how to write position papers, delegates can visit srmun.org. All position papers **MUST be submitted no later than Sunday, March 7, 2021, by 11:59pm EST via the SRMUN website in order to be eligible for Outstanding Position Paper Awards.**

Taheerah, Andrew and I are very excited to be serving as your dais for the General Assembly Plenary. We wish you all the best of luck in your conference preparation and look forward to working with you in the near future. Please feel free to contact Director-General Vanessa DuBoulay, Andrew Whittmayer, Taheerah Smith or myself if you have any questions while preparing for the conference.

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History of the General Assembly Plenary

Following the end of World War II, the United Nations (UN) was founded as an international body with the purpose of restoring international peace and security, fostering amicable relations between Member States, upholding human rights, and endorsing social progress.¹ The United Nations General Assembly Plenary (UNGA) was then created as one of the six principal organs of the UN.² Serving as the deliberative, policy making, and representative organ of the UN, it aimed to resolve a wide range of issues faced by the international community.³ At its first session on January 10, 1946, the UNGA was inaugurated with representatives from 51 Member States.⁴ Today, the UNGA hosts 193 Member States which seek diplomatic and multilateral solutions to issues such as peace and security, human rights, development, and international law and justice.⁵ The UNGA is a unique committee as it ensures equal representation and voting power for all 193 of its Member States.⁶ In addition, the UNGA also includes two permanent observers, the Holy See and Palestine.⁷

The General Assembly has recommendatory power, meaning its adopted resolutions are not generally binding on Member States nor on international law at large.⁸ However, more than 560 widely accepted multilateral treaties have been created under the auspices of the General Assembly, most notably the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, the four Geneva Conventions, the Paris Agreement, or the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which are largely adhered to by all Member States.⁹ Additionally, according to Article 11 of the United Nations Charter, the General Assembly can refer an issue to the Security Council to put in place a binding resolution.¹⁰ Furthermore, the scope of its function and powers includes the appointment of the United Nations Secretary-General and the election of the non-permanent members of the Security Council.¹¹

In the General Assembly resolutions require a simple majority to pass, with each Member State having one equal vote.¹² Additionally, the body can determine that an issue is an important question, an action which is reserved for issues dealing with the following: maintenance of international peace and security; admission of new members to the United Nations; suspension of the rights and privileges of membership; expulsion of members; operation of the trusteeship system, and; budgetary questions.¹³ The designation of a matter as an “important question” implies that decisions on the issue require a 2/3 majority of the members present and voting to pass.¹⁴ Every Member State has the right to vote unless they have sustained financial debts to the UN for two or more years.¹⁵ Observers have no

¹The United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, June 26th, 1945, Art. 1

<https://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/un-charter-full-text/>. (Accessed July 20, 2020).

² “History of the United Nations.” United Nations, <http://www.un.org/en/sections/history/history-united-nations/> (Accessed June 17, 2020).

³ “History of the United Nations.” United Nations, <http://www.un.org/en/sections/history/history-united-nations/> (Accessed June 17, 2020).

⁴ “History of the United Nations.” United Nations, <http://www.un.org/en/sections/history/history-united-nations/> (Accessed June 17, 2020).

⁵ “History of the United Nations.” United Nations, <http://www.un.org/en/sections/history/history-united-nations/> (Accessed June 17, 2020).

⁶ UNITAR. *The GA Handbook: A practical guide to the United Nations General Assembly* <https://www.eda.admin.ch/dam/mission-new-york/en/documents/UNGAFinal.pdf> (Accessed June 19, 2020).

⁷ “The Role of the UN General Assembly,” Council of Foreign Relations. <https://www.cfr.org/background/role-un-generalassembly> (Accessed July 20, 2020).

⁸ Schwebel, Stephen M. “The Effect of Resolutions of the U.N. General Assembly on Customary International Law.” *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting (American Society of International Law)*, vol. 73, 1979, pp. 301–309. JSTOR, www.jstor.org/stable/25658015. (Accessed July 20, 2020).

⁹ “United Nations Treaty Collection.” United Nations, <https://treaties.un.org/> (Accessed July 20, 2020).

¹⁰ The United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, June 26th, 1945, Art. 11 <https://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/un-charter-full-text/> (Accessed July 20, 2020).

¹¹ “Functions and Powers of the General Assembly,” United Nations General Assembly. <https://www.un.org/ga/about/background.shtml> (Accessed July 20, 2020).

¹² The United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, June 26th, 1945, Art. 18 <https://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/un-charter-full-text/>. (Accessed July 20, 2020).

¹³ The United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, June 26th, 1945, Art. 18 <https://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/un-charter-full-text/>. (Accessed July 20, 2020).

¹⁴ Kerley, Ernest L. “Voting on Important Questions in the United Nations General Assembly.” *The American Journal of International Law*, vol. 53, no. 2, 1959, pp. 324–340. JSTOR, www.jstor.org/stable/2195807/. (Accessed November 19, 2020).

¹⁵ The United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, June 26th, 1945, Art. 19

voting rights as they are considered “non-Member States, entities, and organizations” and can only participate in the deliberations of the General Assembly.¹⁶

Over the course of its history, the UNGA has adopted several important resolutions regarding displaced persons, refugees, missing persons, food security and disaster relief.¹⁷ The UNGA established the World Food Program in 1961 which has helped promote food security in areas affected by natural disasters, healthcare emergencies, and poverty.¹⁸ In 1968, the committee adopted the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons which aimed to secure commitments from substantial world powers to promote worldwide disarmament.¹⁹ Within its most recent efforts, the Assembly adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in September of 2015, known as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.²⁰ These goals are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and improve the lives and prospects of everyone, everywhere. The goals include but are not limited to: the eradication of poverty and hunger; ensuring access to clean water, sanitation, quality education, and healthcare; reducing inequality, and; taking action against the implications of climate change.²¹

With only a decade remaining to achieve the SDGs, the General Assembly has recently approved a new budget of over USD 3 billion for continued efforts.²² Although the General Assembly can only make non-binding recommendations, it is the sole institution close enough to a world government, and is thus the most efficient catalyst for the achievement of solutions to the international community’s most pressing issues. During its recent 73rd Session, the General Assembly passed six resolutions, most notably A/RES/75/4, which included a special session of the General Assembly in response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.²³ This resolution sought to: foster international cooperation to ensure global access to medicines, vaccines, and medical equipment to face COVID-19; organize comprehensive and coordinated responses to the pandemic, and; unite Member States against global health threats.²⁴ The General Assembly further noted the multifaceted effects of the pandemic, including the severe disruption to societies, economies, global trade and travel, and the devastating impact on the livelihoods of all people.²⁵ The General Assembly noted its commitment to international cooperation and multilateralism, and the fundamental role of the United Nations system in the comprehensive global response to the COVID-19 pandemic.²⁶ Most notably, this resolution invited all relevant United Nations system entities, funds, programs, and specialized agencies and regional commissions as well as relevant inter-governmental, regional and sub-regional organizations, to participate in the special session, proving its ultimate commitment to fostering amicable relationships between all Member States and endorsing social, economic and humanitarian progress for all global citizens.²⁷

<https://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/un-charter-full-text/> (Accessed November 19, 2020).

¹⁶ “Observers,” The United Nations. <http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/observers.shtml> (Accessed on July 20, 2020).

¹⁷ “General Assembly Resolutions,” The United Nations. <http://www.un.org/en/sections/documents/general-assembly-resolutions/index.html> (Accessed June 17, 2020).

¹⁸ “General Assembly Resolutions,” The United Nations. <http://www.un.org/en/sections/documents/general-assembly-resolutions/index.html> (Accessed June 17, 2020).

¹⁹ “General Assembly Resolutions,” The United Nations. <http://www.un.org/en/sections/documents/general-assembly-resolutions/index.html> (Accessed June 17, 2020).

²⁰ “The Sustainable Development Agenda.” United Nations, <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/>. (Accessed July 20, 2020).

²¹ “The Sustainable Development Agenda.” United Nations, <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/>. (Accessed July 20, 2020).

²² UN News. “General Assembly Approves \$3 Billion UN Budget for 2020,” December 27, 2019. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/12/1054431>. (Accessed on June 17, 2020).

²³ “General Assembly Resolutions,” The United Nations. <http://www.un.org/en/sections/documents/general-assembly-resolutions/index.html> (Accessed November 19, 2020).

²⁴ “General Assembly Resolutions,” The United Nations. <http://www.un.org/en/sections/documents/general-assembly-resolutions/index.html> (Accessed November 19, 2020).

²⁵ “General Assembly Resolutions,” The United Nations. <http://www.un.org/en/sections/documents/general-assembly-resolutions/index.html> (Accessed November 19, 2020).

²⁶ “General Assembly Resolutions,” The United Nations. <http://www.un.org/en/sections/documents/general-assembly-resolutions/index.html> (Accessed November 19, 2020).

²⁷ “General Assembly Resolutions,” The United Nations. <http://www.un.org/en/sections/documents/general-assembly-resolutions/index.html> (Accessed November 19, 2020).

I. Developing Disaster Risk Reduction and Socio-Economic Resilience Strategies for Natural and Sudden Onset Disasters

“Little undermines development like disaster. Decades of sustainable development gains can be wiped out overnight.” – Antonio Guterres, United Nations Secretary General²⁸

Introduction

Natural and Onset Disaster reduction is critical to the development and maintenance of the socioeconomic well-being of all global citizens of all Member States.²⁹ Increasing disaster risk and low socio-economical resilience are two major causes of Member States yielding economic losses caused by the effects of climate change, natural disasters, biological disasters, and nuclear threats.³⁰ Disasters, which can be either man-made or natural events, have general consequences including the disruption of social and psychological organization of communities, destruction of roads, infrastructure and residential dwellings, deaths and injuries, and the demolition of assets and properties. Disaster Risk Reduction strategies (DRR) are formal action plans put into place to combat the aforementioned issues.³¹ These plans are also used to protect Member States from the implications caused by these disasters that include resource depletion, infrastructural defects and socioeconomic losses.³²

As different Member States may have varying goals and objectives in terms of DRR strategies, these plans may vary based upon timeframe, target areas and key indicators.³³ Furthermore, many vulnerable Member States have yet to report whether they have implemented any strategic plan or disaster reduction strategy.³⁴ In terms of disaster prone measurements, vulnerable Member States include those that are adversely impacted by disasters due to their location, socioeconomic position or lack of overall development.³⁵ As far as vulnerability to natural hazards, for example, vulnerable Member States include: Least Developed Countries (LDCs); Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs); and, Small Island Developing States (SIDS).³⁶ To date, only 81 Member States have reported having national DRR strategies in place and many of these strategies fail to include threats that propose risk from biological hazards to any disaster reduction task forces.³⁷ DRR strategies imposed on a national basis communicate the needs to the citizens within that region in respect to sudden disaster, therefore leaving guidelines and actions to be evaluated on an international basis.³⁸

Another issue faced by Member States is violent interstate conflict which adversely impacts constructing national disaster reduction strategies.³⁹ Regions classified as conflict-affected, post-conflict, or fragile are statistically less likely to have DRR action plans.⁴⁰ DRR strategies that are conflict-sensitive to tailor proposed interventions while avoiding potential impacts that aggravate conflict are typically successful in their implementations.⁴¹ DRR strategies that include conflict factors and statistics could be used as a means for not only risk reduction but also for conflict reduction and prevention, peacekeeping, and diplomacy.⁴² Ultimate versatility of a national DRR strategy shall

²⁸ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Work Programme 2020-2021*. https://www.unisdr.org/files/68235_undrrworkprogramme20202021.pdf (Accessed October 13, 2020).

²⁹ Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform. *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030*, <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/frameworks/sendaiframework#:~:text=Since%20the%20adoption%20of%20the,countries%20and%20other%20relevant%20stakeholders> (Accessed July 20, 2020).

³⁰ United Nations Disaster Relief Reduction. *The History of the UNDRR*. Accessed July 20, 2020. <https://www.undrr.org/about-undrr/history>

³¹ United Nations Disaster Relief Reduction. *The History of the UNDRR*.

³² United Nations Disaster Relief Reduction. *The History of the UNDRR*.

³³ Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform. *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction...*

³⁴ Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. *UNDRR*: Accessed July 20, 2020.

<https://www.undrr.org/publication/sendai-framework-disaster-risk-reduction-2015-2030>

³⁵ Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform. *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction...*

³⁶ Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform. *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction...*

³⁷ Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. *UNDRR*

³⁸ Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform. *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction...*

³⁹ Shaw, R. (2014). Disaster Risk Reduction Education: Issues and Challenges. *Disaster Risk Reduction Education for Sustainable Development and Disaster Risk Reduction*, 37-51. doi:10.1007/978-4-431-55090-7_3

⁴⁰ Shaw, R. (2014). Disaster Risk Reduction Education: Issues and Challenges...

⁴¹ Shaw, R. (2014). Disaster Risk Reduction Education: Issues and Challenges...

⁴² Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform. *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction...*

include not only natural disaster relief, but also relief for biological disasters and chemical or nuclear disasters followed by a socioeconomic resilience plan for post-disaster recovery.⁴³

One of the most lasting consequences of natural and sudden onset disasters is psychological trauma.⁴⁴ In this regard, psychological distress caused by natural and onset disasters is found to be substantially higher in disaster-prone Member States lacking DRR action plans.⁴⁵ Psychological consequences following disasters of any kind are proven to affect the lives of those experiencing them long after the critical conditions have subsided and can emerge at both individual and social levels.⁴⁶ Psychological impacts of natural and onset disasters can surface in a variety of manners depending on the culture of people affected and their socioeconomic status. For example, the disproportionality of the psychological effects has left the world's most vulnerable populations all the more vulnerable.⁴⁷ Research supports that disasters cause and exacerbate trauma on a massive scale.⁴⁸ Development of coping mechanisms and psychological intervention specialist teams for post-traumatic disorders caused by disasters are integral to the success of a DRR strategy.⁴⁹

History

Throughout the 1960s, numerous severe global disasters occurred, encouraging the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) to propose adoptive measures to counteract future global disasters.⁵⁰ In culmination, these disasters wreaked havoc on Member States around the world, killing thousands and causing serious, considerable material damage.⁵¹ This guide will touch upon three specific disasters which have significantly influenced the international community to develop DRR strategies: the Buyin-Zahra earthquake of 1962; the Skopje earthquake in 1973, and the Eastern Caribbean hurricane of 1963.⁵²

On September 1, 1962, the Buyin-Zahra earthquake originated in the Ghazin basin, roughly 90 miles west of Tehran in the Islamic Republic of Iran (Iran).⁵³ The Buyin-Zahra earthquake was devastating for Iran, damaging 21,300 houses beyond repair, injuring 2,800 persons, killing 35 percent of livestock in the area, and taking the lives of 12,300 persons.⁵⁴ Following the devastating earthquake of 1962, evidence has surfaced that indicates the Buyin region is one of the most seismically active areas in Iran.⁵⁵ Furthermore, Iran is recognized as a natural disaster-stricken Member State requiring dynamic disaster management structures for adequate coping.⁵⁶

In 1973, an earthquake struck Skopje, Yugoslavia (in current day Republic of North Macedonia) causing vast material and cultural damage and leaving more than 1,200 persons dead.⁵⁷ The first time the UNGA took notice and reacted to natural disasters and the necessity of subsequent recovery strategies was in UNGA A/RES/1882, which highlighted the consequences of the severity of the earthquake and noted the preparation a five-year plan to aid in the relief of the Yugoslavian victims involved.⁵⁸ Consequently, collaborative effort from various Member States and

⁴³ Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform. *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction...*

⁴⁴ Shaw, R. (2014). Disaster Risk Reduction Education: Issues and Challenges...

⁴⁵ Shaw, R. (2014). Disaster Risk Reduction Education: Issues and Challenges...

⁴⁶ Rabiei, Ali et al. "Shortcomings in dealing with psychological effects..."

⁴⁷ Rabiei, Ali et al. "Shortcomings in dealing with psychological effects..."

⁴⁸ Rabiei, Ali et al. "Shortcomings in dealing with psychological effects..."

⁴⁹ Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform. *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction...*

⁵⁰ Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform. *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction...*

⁵¹ Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform. *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction...*

⁵² Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform. *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction...*

⁵³ Afshar, H. K. The Institute of Geophysics, Tehran University. "Report on the Great Buyin-Zahra Earthquake of Sep. 1st 1962", Pub. No. 15.

⁵⁴ Ambraseys, N. N., vol. 3, ser. 7, Cambridge University, 1982, pp. V-7-V-26, *An Earthquake Engineering Study of the Bayin-Zahra Earthquake of September 1st, 1962 in Iran*. https://www.iitk.ac.in/nicee/wcee/article/vol3_V-7.pdf Accessed September 20, 2020.

⁵⁵ Ambraseys, N. N. (1982). *An Earthquake Engineering Study...*

⁵⁶ Brandon PS (2011). Extreme Management in Disaster Recovery. *Proc Eng*, 14: 84–94.

⁵⁷ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. "Measures in Connexion with the Earthquake at Skoplje, Yugoslavia." *Refworld*, www.refworld.org/docid/3b00f04b10.html.

⁵⁸ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. "Measures in Connexion with the Earthquake..."

NGOs such as the World Food Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund combined to lessen the effect on Yugoslavia.⁵⁹

Shortly after the devastating earthquake in Skopje, one of the deadliest hurricanes of the Atlantic Ocean in history began its tropical depression near the Intertropical Convergence Zone on September 26, 1963.⁶⁰ The rapid escalation of the hurricane made it nearly impossible for affected areas to seek refuge or evacuate.⁶¹ Ultimately, the Republic of Cuba was vastly affected and experienced widespread suffering that set their agricultural-based economy back by approximately four years.⁶² The Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago also experienced considerable material damage.⁶³

In response to the catastrophic events of 1962 and 1963, the UNGA formally requested assistance from Member States as well as the United Nations Fund to aid in cases of natural disaster and emergency relief.⁶⁴ In cooperation with the League of Red Cross Societies it was noted that the UN should offer guidance and technical assistance with creating pre-disaster plans to Member States that should request such resources.⁶⁵ These plans were to include rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in terms of collateral damages.⁶⁶ The UNGA further suggested in A/RES/2034, the consideration of proposing national planning appropriate to each Member State's varying conditions and degrees of relief.⁶⁷

Between the years of 1970 and 1986, pre-disaster planning began on both the national and international levels.⁶⁸ The initial goals of A/RES/2717 were to define appropriate machinery and contingency, technology and research that could adequately aid in disaster solution.⁶⁹ Member States agreed to disseminate the use of research from satellites as well as other sophisticated technology to assist in the improvement of early warning signs for natural disasters.⁷⁰ The United Nations Disaster Relief Office (UNDRO) was created in 1971 to offset the harsh reality of disasters, especially for developing Member States⁷¹.

The UNDRO was established to help coordinate managerial development of international and national disaster reduction strategies.⁷² The UNDRO was given a mandate to mobilize, direct, and coordinate efforts for disaster preparedness.⁷³ Three key elements of disaster work include disaster relief, disaster preparedness, and disaster prevention.⁷⁴ However, the implementation of this disaster work was more difficult to administer than previously anticipated. The inability to establish clear leadership roles, international presence and clearly defined functions are all catalysts which led to the ineffectiveness of the UNDRO plan.⁷⁵ Despite these implications, the UNDRO was able to develop early-warning monitoring systems, such as the multi-hazard early warning system.⁷⁶

The 1990s were referred to as the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR), calling special attention to fostering international cooperation for disaster reduction due to the overwhelming international support and collaboration that took place.⁷⁷ The UNGA pleaded with the international community to implement the

⁵⁹ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. "Measures in Connexion with the Earthquake

⁶⁰ Dunn, Gordon E. "The Hurricane Season of 1963." Monthly Weather Review Vol. 92, No. 3. Mar. 1964. Pp 133-136. Web.

⁶¹ Dunn, Gordon E. "The Hurricane Season of 1963."

⁶² Dunn, Gordon E. "The Hurricane Season of 1963."

⁶³ Tropical Cyclones Affecting Trinidad and Tobago 1725 to 2000. Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service. Collaged by C.B. Daniel and R. Maharaj (1986) and updated by G. De Souza (2001).

⁶⁴ United Nations Disaster Relief Reduction. *The History of the UNDRR*

⁶⁵ UNGA. A/RES/2034. 1965.

⁶⁶ UNGA. A/RES/2034. 1965.

⁶⁷ UNGA. A/RES/2034. 1965.

⁶⁸ United Nations Disaster Relief Reduction. *The History of the UNDRR*

⁶⁹ UNGA. A/RES/2717. 1970.

⁷⁰ UNGA. A/RES/2717. 1970.

⁷¹ United Nations Disaster Relief Reduction. *The History of the UNDRR*

⁷² Allen, Mark E., et al. 1974, *Evaluation of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-Ordinator*.

⁷³ Allen, Mark E., et al. 1974, *Evaluation of the Office....*

⁷⁴ Allen, Mark E., et al. 1974, *Evaluation of the Office...*

⁷⁵ Allen, Mark E., et al. 1974, *Evaluation of the Office...*

⁷⁶ United Nations. Federal Foreign Office, 2006, *Developing Early Warning Systems: A Checklist*, www.unisdr.org/files/608_10340.pdf.

⁷⁷ United Nations Disaster Relief Reduction. *The History of the UNDRR*

International Framework of Action of the IDNDR following the adoption of A/RES/44/236.⁷⁸ Major objectives of the IDNDR were to reduce loss of life, poverty damage, and economic disruption caused by disasters worldwide.⁷⁹

In 1999 the IDNDR Program Forum concluded the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction but reaffirmed that disaster prevention should remain a long-term solution in terms of disaster reduction.⁸⁰ An implication of the IDNDR Program Forum was to create a global culture of implementing disaster prevention strategies.⁸¹ To accomplish this, a platform was designed to allow for global multi-sectoral and inter-disciplinary dialogue between all interested parties within the IDNDR.⁸² The UN Economic and Social Council, World Health Organization, and Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization all served as bodies of major input in developing the IDNDR program.⁸³

In accordance with A/RES/54/219, the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) was developed in the early 2000s to further champion global risk reduction in support of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA).⁸⁴ The ISDR was intended to be more concise than the IDNDR on its role and strategies at focal points.⁸⁵ Effective partnerships were integral to ensuring that DRR solutions could be mainstreamed to support a variety of initiatives in development sectors.⁸⁶ An inter-agency task force and an inter-agency secretariat were appointed to accomplish these missions.⁸⁷ Further, the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in 2002 allowed for the ISDR to put these policies into action, which has assisted with identification of gaps through data collection and charts for disaster action.⁸⁸

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction 2015-2030

The United Nations most current effort to prevent disaster risk and subsequent socioeconomic implications was the introduction of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction 2015-2030.⁸⁹ On March 18, 2015, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction 2015-2030 was adopted in Sendai, Japan during the Third United Nations World Conference.⁹⁰ The Sendai Framework is the successor to the HFA 2005-2015.⁹¹ The Sendai Framework sets forth a global policy blueprint for reducing disaster risk and building social, political, and economic resilience.⁹² Supported by the United Nations General Assembly, the United Nations Office of Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) urges Member States, through the Framework, to take action based on four priorities.⁹³ First, it urges Member States to understand disaster risk.⁹⁴ Second, it calls upon the strengthening of disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk.⁹⁵ Third, it suggests that Member States invest in disaster risk reduction for resilience.⁹⁶ Lastly, the Framework

⁷⁸United Nations Disaster Relief Reduction. *The History of the UNDRR*

⁷⁹United Nations Disaster Relief Reduction. *The History of the UNDRR*

⁸⁰UNGA. "A/54/132 - E/1999/80" Activities of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction." *United Nations*, United Nations, 21 July 1999, www.un.org/esa/documents/ecosoc/docs/1999/e1999-80.htm.

⁸¹UNGA. "A/54/132 - E/1999/80"

⁸²UNGA. "A/54/132 - E/1999/80"

⁸³United Nations Disaster Relief Reduction. *The History of the UNDRR*

⁸⁴United Nations. 2010, *United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) Secretariat Evaluation*, www.unisdr.org/files/12659_UNISDRevaluation2009finalreport.pdf.

⁸⁵ United Nations. 2010, *United Nations International Strategy...*

⁸⁶ United Nations. 2010, *United Nations International Strategy...*

⁸⁷ United Nations. 2010, *United Nations International Strategy...*

⁸⁸"WSSD Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform." *United Nations*, United Nations, 4 Sept. 2002, sustainabledevelopment.un.org/milestones/wssd.

⁸⁹ United Nations. 2015, *Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction 2015-2030*, https://www.preventionweb.net/files/43291_sendaiframeworkfordrren.pdf (Accessed October 13, 2020).

⁹⁰ United Nations. 2015, *Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction 2015-2030...*

⁹¹ United Nations. 2015, *Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction 2015-2030...*

⁹² United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Work Programme 2020-2021*.

⁹³ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction...*

⁹⁴ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction...*

⁹⁵ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction...*

⁹⁶ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction...*

seeks for Member States to enhance disaster preparedness for effective response, and to Build Back Better in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.⁹⁷

Most recently, in 2019, the United Nations Assessment Report of Disaster Risk Reduction (GAR) was issued to address the need for ambitious collective action to reduce disaster risk, build resilience, and achieve sustainable development.⁹⁸ The report proclaimed that the world has not faced, at any other point in human history, such an array of both familiar and unfamiliar risks while interacting in such a hyperconnected and rapidly evolving world.⁹⁹ Not only is the world faced with decade old issues of disaster risk such as climate change, but there are new risks requiring immediate innovative solutions.¹⁰⁰ Member States adopted the Sendai Framework to address a broader scope of hazards and risks.¹⁰¹ Disaster risk reduction has typically been aimed at preparing Member States against common natural hazards such as natural disasters and their increased intensity due to the effects of climate change.¹⁰² However, in an increasingly interconnected and globalized society, the world is being introduced to new hazards: biological, nuclear, chemical and man-made.¹⁰³

Current Disaster Risks

Natural Hazards

If Member States develop plans to make a society resilient, a hazard does not necessarily have to become a disaster.¹⁰⁴ Natural hazards include tsunamis, hurricanes, landslides, floods, and fires.¹⁰⁵ Natural hazards are defined by UNDRR as natural processes or phenomena that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihoods and services, social and economic disruption, or environmental damage.¹⁰⁶

Biological Hazards

Calculating the exposure to a virus is different from calculating the exposure to a landslide.¹⁰⁷ Biological hazards are of organic origin or conveyed by biological vectors, including pathogenic microorganisms, toxins, and bioactive substances.¹⁰⁸ Examples are bacteria, viruses or parasites, as well as venomous wildlife and insects, poisonous plants, and mosquitoes carrying disease-causing agents.¹⁰⁹ These hazards are often the result of a natural occurrence but can also result from a deliberate or accidental release.¹¹⁰ Some specific case studies of recent large outbreaks, epidemics or pandemics due to biological hazards either independent of or following a disaster include: the global SARS-CoV-2, also known as COVID-19; the Ebola Virus outbreak in West Africa in 2013-2016; the outbreak of Zika virus infection in the Americas and Pacific region associated with congenital and other neurological disorders; the significant increase in diarrheal disease following recurrent floods in a number of African Member States following the 2004 tsunami in Indonesia and Thailand, and; outbreaks of yellow fever in Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda in 2016.¹¹¹

⁹⁷ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction...*

⁹⁸ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction 2019*. https://gar.undrr.org/sites/default/files/reports/2019-05/full_gar_report.pdf/ (Accessed October 12, 2020).

⁹⁹ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction 2019*.

¹⁰⁰ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction 2019*.

¹⁰¹ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction 2019*.

¹⁰² United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction 2019*.

¹⁰³ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction 2019*.

¹⁰⁴ Mizutori, UN News. *Natural Hazards Don't Always Spell Disaster: UN Risk Reduction Chief*, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/11/1050631/> (Accessed October 13, 2020).

¹⁰⁵ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction 2019*.

¹⁰⁶ United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs. *Risks and Disasters*, <https://un-spider.org/risks-and-disasters/> (Accessed 13, 2020).

¹⁰⁷ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction 2019*.

¹⁰⁸ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *Biological Hazards and Risk Assessment*, https://www.preventionweb.net/files/52828_05biologicalhazardriskassessment.pdf/ (Accessed October 13, 2020).

¹⁰⁹ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *Biological Hazards and Risk Assessment*.

¹¹⁰ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *Biological Hazards and Risk Assessment*.

¹¹¹ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *Biological Hazards and Risk Assessment*.

In order to combat biological hazards, Member States must assess the unique characteristics of the risks.¹¹² Characteristics of biological risks include: agent diversity; routes of transmission; pathogenicity; hazard identification; sensitivity to climate, environmental or land use changes.¹¹³ Perhaps the most important combatant to biological hazards is prompt detection and response.¹¹⁴

Chemical or Nuclear Hazards

Unfamiliar to the Hyogo Framework for Action and a newer risk introduced by the Sendai Framework includes nuclear/radiological, chemical/industrial, and natural hazards triggering technological disasters (NATECH).¹¹⁵ With the adoption of the Sendai Framework came the addition of the scope of disaster risk reduction which has been broadened significantly to focus on both natural and man-made hazards and related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks.¹¹⁶ The Framework states that it will apply to the risk of small-scale and large-scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden and slow-onset disasters caused by natural or man-made hazards, as well as related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks.¹¹⁷ Technological or man-made hazards are events that are caused by humans and occur in or close to human settlements and can include environmental degradation, pollution and accidents.¹¹⁸ Emergencies arising from terrorist acts using chemical or biological weapons can happen in circumstances or present aspects that are similar to emergencies relating to humanitarian disasters. Additionally, present certain circumstances, some humanitarian agencies would provide assistance also in the context of chemical and/or biological emergencies.¹¹⁹

Socioeconomic Resilience Strategies, Case Studies

The Republic of India

The Republic of India has been plagued by various natural hazard-related disasters over the past two decades and is among the five Member States most frequently impacted by disasters.¹²⁰ Despite this adversity, India has been named by the UN as a frontrunner in leading disaster reduction strategies, being the first and only Member State to have both national and local plans enforced.¹²¹ In 2005, the Disaster Management Act was passed by the Parliament of India.¹²² The Act established a National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) committee which is responsible for enforcing policies, plans, and guidelines to manage natural and onset disasters and ensure a timely response to all disasters.¹²³ Most notably in this Act, the NDMA sets guidelines to be followed on the State level as well.¹²⁴ Furthermore, the National Executive Committee was appointed to assist the NDMA in all preparation of the National Disaster Management Plan for the Member State as a whole, while also performing annual reviews and evaluations.¹²⁵ The State Disaster Management Authority committee was created to monitor all State departments and ensure their preparedness for prescribed National and State Authority plans.¹²⁶ Each of these committees have

¹¹² United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *Biological Hazards and Risk Assessment*.

¹¹³ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *Biological Hazards and Risk Assessment*.

¹¹⁴ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *Biological Hazards and Risk Assessment*.

¹¹⁵ United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction 2019*.

¹¹⁶ United Nations. 2015, *Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction 2015-2030*.

¹¹⁷ United Nations. 2015, *Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction 2015-2030*.

¹¹⁸ United Nations Office of Counterterrorism, *Ensuring Effective Interagency Interoperability and Coordinated Communication in Case of Chemical or Biological Attacks*, (Accessed October 13, 2020).

¹¹⁹ United Nations Office of Counterterrorism, *Ensuring Effective Interagency Interoperability and Coordinated Communication in Case of Chemical or Biological Attacks*.

Strengthening disaster risk management in India: A review of five state disaster management plans. (2016, July 01). Retrieved November 8, 2020, from <https://www.odi.org/publications/10488-strengthening-disaster-risk-management-india-review-five-state-disaster-management-plans>

¹²¹ Strengthening disaster risk management in India: A review of five state disaster management plans...

¹²² Strengthening disaster risk management in India: A review of five state disaster management plans...

¹²³ Gazette of India (2005) *The Disaster Management Act*. New Delhi: Ministry of Law and Justice. <https://www.ndmindia.nic.in/images/The%20Disaster%20Management%20Act.%202005.pdf>

¹²⁴ Gazette of India (2005) *The Disaster Management Act...*

¹²⁵ Gazette of India (2005) *The Disaster Management Act...*

¹²⁶ Gazette of India (2005) *The Disaster Management Act...*

an appointed chairperson and a designated number of committee members, providing the essential oversight needed to maintain both national and local DRR plans.¹²⁷

The Act of 2005 called for the creation of a National Disaster Response Fund, focusing on disaster response, as well as a National Disaster Mitigation Fund, providing funds primarily for disaster risk reduction.¹²⁸ Each State receives operational state disaster response funding partially by central and state government contributions.¹²⁹ Over the past two decades, the States have worked to be more inclusive in coverage to marginalized groups over their DRR strategies.¹³⁰ Significant improvements in catering to women, children, and elderly people has been noted in disaster reduction planning.¹³¹ For instance, women participation in disaster response training has increased heavily in India by up to 36%.¹³²

After the UNGA's endorsement of the Sendai Framework, India is the only Member State out of the 87 that have expressed commitment to it, that has actually produced execution plans in response.¹³³ India has enacted a short-term achievement goal set for 2020.¹³⁴ Within these plans, India partners the Act of 2005 with clearer targets to align well with the Sendai Framework.¹³⁵ More attention is included to collect consistent data on pre-disaster conditions that would help the States predict, understand, and acclimate to disaster shocks and stressors.¹³⁶

The Republic of Indonesia

Since 2004, The Republic of Indonesia has suffered from one natural disaster per month, on average.¹³⁷ Indonesia is primarily hit by large-scale tsunamis, landslides, floods, and earthquakes.¹³⁸ This constant suffering causes extreme loss of productivity and industry, excessive economic instability and diminutive economic growth for Indonesia.¹³⁹ Over the last two decades, demand has increased for DRR solutions focused on prevention in the region.¹⁴⁰

In 2007, Indonesia passed a law entitled Law 24/2007 Concerning Disaster Management to protect the entire nation from natural and non-natural disasters and provide aid in response to such events.¹⁴¹ Similar to India's approach, a National and Local Agency for Disaster Management was created to centralize efforts to identify disasters and investments in terms of reduction and management.¹⁴² The central government is tasked with dispersing disaster funds and aid on an "on call" basis after a disaster has been declared.¹⁴³ All other emergency funds are set to distribute from the local government itself. Indonesia invests one to two percent of its yearly budget in DRR methods and strategies to complement disaster risk financing.¹⁴⁴ Reportedly, a majority of this money is being used for physical disaster reduction in terms of infrastructure resilience.¹⁴⁵ These financing strategies proposed by Indonesia are noteworthy as a strong positive step towards key DRR strategy implementation.¹⁴⁶

¹²⁷ Gazette of India (2005) *The Disaster Management Act...*

¹²⁸ Gazette of India (2005) *The Disaster Management Act...*

¹²⁹ Gazette of India (2005) *The Disaster Management Act...*

¹³⁰ Strengthening disaster risk management in India: A review of five state disaster management plans...

¹³¹ Strengthening disaster risk management in India: A review of five state disaster management plans...

¹³² Strengthening disaster risk management in India: A review of five state disaster management plans...

¹³³ Shah, A. J. (2011). An overview of disaster management in India. *Disaster Management and Human Health Risk II*. doi:10.2495/dman110081

¹³⁴ Shah, A. J. (2011). An overview of disaster management in India...

¹³⁵ Strengthening disaster risk management in India: A review of five state disaster management plans...

¹³⁶ Strengthening disaster risk management in India: A review of five state disaster management plans...

¹³⁷ Staff, P. (2019, March 27). Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Indonesia. Date Accessed November 7, 2020, from <https://econreview.berkeley.edu/disaster-risk-reduction-and-management-in-indonesia/>

¹³⁸ Staff, P. (2019, March 27). Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Indonesia...

¹³⁹ Staff, P. (2019, March 27). Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Indonesia...

¹⁴⁰ Staff, P. (2019, March 27). Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Indonesia...

¹⁴¹ Law 24/2007 (2007), National Agency Disaster Management (BNPD) Date Accessed November 7, 2020, from https://www.ifrc.org/PageFiles/139604/Indonesia_DMAct_2007.pdf

¹⁴² Law 24/2007 (2007), National Agency Disaster Management (BNPD)...

¹⁴³ Law 24/2007 (2007), National Agency Disaster Management (BNPD)...

¹⁴⁴ Staff, P. (2019, March 27). Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Indonesia...

¹⁴⁵ Staff, P. (2019, March 27). Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Indonesia...

¹⁴⁶ Anantasari, E., Daly, M., Glassey, P., Grace, E., Coomer, M., & Woods, R. (2017). Disaster risk reduction (DRR) Capacity and Capability of Local Government in Indonesia. *Disaster Risk Reduction in Indonesia Disaster Risk Reduction*, 127-155. doi:10.1007/978-3-319-54466-3_5

Additionally, Indonesia has adopted the HFA and the Sendai Framework.¹⁴⁷ Indonesia has remained active in reviewing, amending, and promoting laws that contribute to DRR.¹⁴⁸ This legislation has been reported from not only national, regional, and district levels, but also village level, indicating a strong grassroots approach.¹⁴⁹

The Republic of Mozambique

The Republic of Mozambique has also been identified as a region that is extremely vulnerable to disasters, therefore DRR remains on the agenda for the Mozambique government.¹⁵⁰ Initiatives have been mostly guided by the HFA since 2008 and invested in strengthening institutional capacities as well as shifting from reactive to proactive approaches for risk reduction.¹⁵¹ Mozambique suffers from extreme flood and drought hazards, which will only become more heightened over time by climate change, making prevention essential to the region.¹⁵² Nearly half a million of the population has been directly affected by floods and cyclones since 2007, leaving the poor disproportionately affected, which is typical for most extremely vulnerable areas.¹⁵³

The government began addressing disasters in 1997 after the establishment of the Department for Combating Natural Disasters was created.¹⁵⁴ Three large scale floods that occurred from 1999-2001 encouraged a shift from reactionary methods to preventative approaches to DRR.¹⁵⁵ The National Disaster Management Institute (NDMI) was created as an institutional body responsible for DRR, national strategic planning activities, as well as state systems and policies.¹⁵⁶

Mozambique's plan is to concentrate on 4 key areas: the development of integrated and operational policy and regulatory framework for effective coordination and implementation of disaster risk reduction, active participation from local communities, integrated information management and monitoring systems for disasters, and ensuring emergency preparedness.¹⁵⁷ The expected achievement is broad stakeholder involvement of all stakeholders within the local civil society: families, communities, customary governance structures and local NGOs.¹⁵⁸ Over the course of the last decade, households and communities have developed a number of strategies for DRR.¹⁵⁹ For example, some can read weather and ecological systems to foresee storms, droughts, cyclones and other weather events. When disasters strike, households are generally the first to respond by implementing specific DRR activities for preparedness.¹⁶⁰

Conclusion

Natural hazards, biological hazards, and chemical or nuclear hazards have proven to adversely impact the socioeconomic well-being of all global citizens of every Member State. The combination of increased disaster risk and low socioeconomic resilience of Member States yields economic losses and depletes social progress. Disasters have severe consequences on communities, infrastructure, job security, food security, and the overall social and economic stability of all people, their communities, and their governments. With guidelines in place such as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and studies of successful socioeconomic resilience strategies in Member States such as India, Indonesia, and Mozambique, it has been proven possible that the international

¹⁴⁷ Anantasari, E., Daly, M., Glassey, P., Grace, E., Coomer, M., & Woods, R. (2017). Disaster risk reduction...

¹⁴⁸ Anantasari, E., Daly, M., Glassey, P., Grace, E., Coomer, M., & Woods, R. (2017). Disaster risk reduction...

¹⁴⁹ Anantasari, E., Daly, M., Glassey, P., Grace, E., Coomer, M., & Woods, R. (2017). Disaster risk reduction...

¹⁵⁰ UNDP. Strengthening capacities and frameworks for Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaption to Climate Change: UNDP in Mozambique. Retrieved November 8, 2020, from <https://www.mz.undp.org/content/mozambique/en/home/projects/strengthening-capacities-and-frameworks-for-disaster-risk-reduct.html>

¹⁵¹ UNDP. Strengthening capacities and frameworks for Disaster Risk Reduction...

¹⁵² Clark-Ginsberg, A. (2014). Concern's Approach to Disaster Risk Reduction. *Concern Worldwide*.

¹⁵³ Clark-Ginsberg, A. (2014). Concern's Approach to Disaster Risk Reduction. *Concern Worldwide*.

¹⁵⁴ Clark-Ginsberg, A. (2014). Concern's Approach to Disaster Risk Reduction. *Concern Worldwide*.

¹⁵⁵ Clark-Ginsberg, A. (2014). Concern's Approach to Disaster Risk Reduction. *Concern Worldwide*.

¹⁵⁶ Clark-Ginsberg, A. (2014). Concern's Approach to Disaster Risk Reduction. *Concern Worldwide*.

¹⁵⁷ UNDP. Strengthening capacities and frameworks for Disaster Risk Reduction...

¹⁵⁸ UNDP. Strengthening capacities and frameworks for Disaster Risk Reduction...

¹⁵⁹ Clark-Ginsberg, A. (2014). Concern's Approach to Disaster Risk Reduction. *Concern Worldwide*.

¹⁶⁰ Clark-Ginsberg, A. (2014). Concern's Approach to Disaster Risk Reduction. *Concern Worldwide*.

community, regional areas, and Member States together have the ability to implement disaster risk reduction strategies and have a plan to build back better with regard to social and economic progress following a disaster.

Committee Directive

Risk is complex. It disproportionately impacts socioeconomically underdeveloped Member States and vulnerable communities. It challenges the world's most advanced societies. It bears human losses, asset losses relative to gross domestic product, and crumbles years' worth of development in minutes. As delegates conduct research, they should become fluent in their understanding of the scope of the risks associated with sudden and onset disasters, whether it be a natural disaster, a biological hazard, or a chemical or nuclear emergency. Delegates should consider the multitude of socio-economic impacts Member States face due to disaster, such as the immediate financial impact, destruction of infrastructure, loss of access to food and water sources, forced migration, and human loss. Delegates should be mindful of the disaster risk reduction frameworks already in place and ask themselves where these frameworks need to be improved to further safeguard the global economy. What efforts would be most effective in disaster risk reduction? Is there a comprehensive solution that will encompass disaster risk reduction for all types of imminent disasters? Will developed, developing and underdeveloped Member States share or differ in their potential methods of disaster risk reduction and the resilience that follows?

II. Promoting Multilateral Partnerships to Achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

“The pandemic has underscored the need for a strengthened and renewed multilateralism: a multilateralism based on the powerful ideals and objectives enshrined in the Charter and in the agreements defined across the decades since.”¹⁶¹ - Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations

Introduction

With ten years left to attain the goals set forth by the international community for 2030, there are warning signs regarding the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and many Member States’ inability to achieve them. To achieve the SDGs set forth in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the international community must rely upon the interplay between developed Member States, donor Member States, underdeveloped Member States, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and non-profit organizations (NPOs).¹⁶² Member States cannot achieve these goals alone, and thus, the world has seen an influx in governments forging new partnerships between developed and underdeveloped Member States, NGOs, NPOs, businesses, and the scientific and technological communities.¹⁶³

To achieve the goals set forth in the 2030 Agenda, multilateral cooperation is necessary through the use of economic partnerships, knowledge sharing, and resource apportionment between Member States.¹⁶⁴ Developed Member States, donor Member States, and other organizations have the ability to promote and foster the self-reliance of developing Member States by addressing specific development problems through knowledge sharing, resource sharing, developing creative new solutions and empowering participation in international economic activities to bolster international cooperation for increased and enhanced development.¹⁶⁵ Recent developments in South-South Cooperation (SSC) include an influx of South-South trade, an increase of South-South foreign direct investment, movements towards regional integration, new technology transfers, sharing of solutions and experts, and other forms of exchanges.¹⁶⁶ Ensuring that Developing Member States are capable of utilizing these resources and strategies is of paramount importance to supporting the efforts of all Member States to achieve the goals of the 2030 agenda.

However, Member States continue to meet obstacles as they strive to achieve the 2030 agenda. Unequal access to knowledge, resources, and data has proven to be a major obstacle to the universal implementation of the 2030 Agenda, particularly for underdeveloped Member States and Small Island Developing States.¹⁶⁷ Many Member States have been proactively implementing the SDGs, incorporating them in policies and strategies, and outlining their long-term vision for transformation to more sustainable and just economies and societies. However, the shared view is that the global response is not yet sufficiently transformative.¹⁶⁸ For such efforts to be effective, it is imperative that all Member States pursue the SDGs as systems, fully recognizing the interconnections across sectors nationally, regionally, and internationally. Across those areas, governance, economy and finance, individual and

¹⁶¹ “UN / GUTERRES COVID-19 MULTILATERALISM.” n.d. United Nations UN Audiovisual Library. Accessed November 15, 2020. /tv/unifeed/asset/2551/2551452.

¹⁶² FAO, *FAO’s South-South and Triangular Cooperation Strategy in Action*, 2016, p. 10; UN General Assembly, *State of South-South cooperation: Report of the Secretary-General (A/69/153)*, 2014, p. 2.

¹⁶³ Williams, Amanda, Gail Whiteman, and John N. Parker, 2019, *Backstage Interorganizational Collaboration: Corporate Endorsement of the Sustainable Development Goals*, *Academy of Management Discoveries* 5 (4): 367– 95. doi:10.5465/amd.2018.0154.

¹⁶⁴ FAO, *FAO’s South-South and Triangular Cooperation Strategy in Action*, 2016, p. 10; UN General Assembly, *State of South-South cooperation: Report of the Secretary-General (A/69/153)*, 2014, p. 2.

¹⁶⁵ FAO, *FAO’s South-South and Triangular Cooperation Strategy in Action*, 2016, p. 10; UN General Assembly, *State of South-South cooperation: Report of the Secretary-General (A/69/153)*, 2014, p. 2.

¹⁶⁶ UN High-Level Committee on SSC, *Framework of Operational Guidelines on United Nations Support to South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Note by the Secretary-General (SSC/17/3)*, 2012, p. 5.

¹⁶⁷ FAO, *FAO’s South-South and Triangular Cooperation Strategy in Action*, 2016, p. 10; UN General Assembly, *State of South-South cooperation: Report of the Secretary-General (A/69/153)*, 2014, p. 2.

¹⁶⁸ Williams, Amanda, Gail Whiteman, and John N. Parker, *Backstage Interorganizational Collaboration: Corporate Endorsement of the Sustainable Development Goals*, 367– 95. doi:10.5465/amd.2018.0154.

collective action, and science and technology are important levers that can help Member States to achieve positive synergistic impacts across the SDGs.¹⁶⁹

Effective implementation of the 2030 (SDGs) necessitates that Member States located in the Global North and South collaborate through the utilization of multilateral partnerships such as South-South Cooperation and its bridge to North-South Cooperation, the South-South Triangular Cooperation (SSTC).¹⁷⁰ As defined by the High-Level Committee on South-South Cooperation, a SSC is “a process whereby two or more developing states pursue... national shared capacity development goals through exchanges of knowledge, skills resources, and technical know-how.”¹⁷¹ SSC partnerships, expanded to incorporate North-South Cooperation through South-South Triangular Cooperation, are effective at utilizing international organizations, Member States’ private sectors, and non-governmental organizations to foster financial partnerships and promote technology transfer between Member States and the creation of mutually-advantageous trade agreements between the Member States of the Global North and South, as outlined in the *Nairobi Outcome Document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation* (2009).¹⁷² Furthermore, SSTCs are widely accepted by the Member States and institutional arms of the United Nations for their crucial role in achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.¹⁷³

Key Terms, Defined

“North” and “South”

The division between “North” and South” refers to the economic development disparity between developing and developed Member States.¹⁷⁴ The terms arose out of the political and geographical distinctions developed during the Cold War, particularly with the usage of the terms First, Second, and Third World, respectively.¹⁷⁵ Former German Chancellor Willy Brandt developed the idea of a geographic split in overall development, with States located in the northern hemisphere classified as highly developed while States located in the southern hemisphere were classified as developing.¹⁷⁶ The geographic distinction has become less useful over time, particularly in light of inflated assessments of the former Soviet Union’s industrial and economic capacity and the rapid economic development of States such as India and China.¹⁷⁷ Nevertheless, the North-South framework between developed and developing States has persisted to the present, with minor definitional adjustments made to reflect that the distinction lies mostly in economic and political factors between Member States.¹⁷⁸

South-South Cooperation

¹⁶⁹FAO, *FAO’s South-South and Triangular Cooperation Strategy in Action*, 2016, p. 10; UN General Assembly, *State of South-South cooperation: Report of the Secretary-General (A/69/153)*, 2014, p. 2

¹⁷⁰ FAO, *FAO’s South-South and Triangular Cooperation Strategy in Action*, 2016, p. 10; UN General Assembly, *State of South-South cooperation: Report of the Secretary-General (A/69/153)*, 2014, p. 2.

¹⁷¹ UN High-Level Committee on SSC, *Framework of Operational Guidelines on United Nations Support to South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Note by the Secretary-General (SSC/17/3)*, 2012, p. 5.

¹⁷² UN DPI, *Adopting Nairobi Outcome Document, South-South Conference Encourages Developing Countries to Make Cooperative Efforts Work Better in Tackling Challenges*, 2009.

¹⁷³ IFAD, *Strategic Framework 2016-2025 Enabling Inclusive and Sustainable Rural Transformation*, 2016, p. 20.

¹⁷⁴ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *What Is ‘South-South Cooperation’ and Why Does It Matter?*, March 20, 2019,

¹⁷⁵ Tomlinson, B, *What was the Third World?*, *Journal of Contemporary History* 38, 2003, 307 - 321.

¹⁷⁶ Independent Commission on International Development Issues, *North–South: A Programme for Survival—The Report of the Independent Commission on International Development Issues under the Chairmanship of Willy Brandt*, London: Pan Books, 1980.

¹⁷⁷ Solarz, Marcin Wojciech, *North–South, Commemorating the First Brandt Report: Searching for the Contemporary Spatial Picture of the Global Rift*, *Third World Quarterly* 33 (3): 559–69, 1 April 2012, <https://doi.org/10.1080/01436597.2012.657493>.

¹⁷⁸ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *What Is ‘South-South Cooperation’ and Why Does It Matter?*, March 20, 2019, <https://www.un.org/development/desa/en/news/intergovernmental-coordination/south-south-cooperation-2019.html>.

SSC refers strictly to the collaboration between the actors of developing states.¹⁷⁹ Within the bounds of SSC, developing Member States' governments and the organizations within their borders work with one another to achieve shared goals through the sharing of resources, knowledge, and technology.¹⁸⁰ SSCs are effective at achieving shared short-term goals between developing Member States. Longer-term initiatives, however, require substantially more resources, such as financial capital, that developing Member States are unable to contribute towards.¹⁸¹ To achieve the 17 SDGs globally, especially in Member States that lack the necessary resources to effectively work towards achieving the 2030 Agenda, multilateral strategies such as SSCs must evolve to incorporate developed Member States and international organizations.¹⁸²

Triangular Cooperation

SSTC seeks to address this tension by having developed Member States, development partners, and international organizations contribute financial and technological support to other Member States engaged in SSC.¹⁸³ This type of relationship discourages a dynamic where aid flows one-way to developing Member States, fostering a dependency on other Member States outside of the SSC.¹⁸⁴ Through the creation of regional markets and technology transfers, SSTCs help build developing Member States' capacities to work towards long-term sustainable development initiatives.¹⁸⁵

Multilateral Development Banks

Multilateral Development Banks are global financial institutions, such as the World Bank, African Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the International Monetary Fund, that provide technical and financial support to developing Member States.¹⁸⁶ Each institution has an important role to play in multilateral strategies such as the SSCs and SSTCs.¹⁸⁷ In October 2016, the World Bank reaffirmed its commitment towards utilizing its resources to aid multilateral development banks with the expressed purpose of achieving the 2030 Agenda.¹⁸⁸ They sought to redouble their efforts to scale-up financing for development as well as the capacity to achieve the SDGs by leveraging, mobilizing, and catalyzing resources at all levels.¹⁸⁹ They further have committed themselves to engaging in knowledge and technology transfers, strategies that play a crucial role in SSTCs.¹⁹⁰

History

¹⁷⁹ UNOSSC, *About South-South and Triangular Cooperation.*, n.d., Accessed October 11, 2020, <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/about/about-sstc/>.

¹⁸⁰ UNOSSC, *About South-South and Triangular Cooperation.*, n.d., Accessed October 11, 2020, <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/about/about-sstc/>.

¹⁸¹ UN DPI, *Adopting Nairobi Outcome Document, South-South Conference Encourages Developing Countries to Make Cooperative Efforts Work Better in Tackling Challenges*, 2009.

¹⁸² UN High-Level Committee on SSC, *Framework of Operational Guidelines on United Nations Support to South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Note by the Secretary-General (SSC/17/3)*, 2012, p. 5.

¹⁸³ World Health Organization, *South-South and Triangular Cooperation*, n.d., Accessed October 11, 2020, <http://www.who.int/entity/country-cooperation/what-who-does/south-south/en/index.html>.

¹⁸⁴ UN High-Level Committee on SSC, *Framework of Operational Guidelines on United Nations Support to South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Note by the Secretary-General (SSC/17/3)*, 2012, p. 5.

¹⁸⁵ World Health Organization, *South-South and Triangular Cooperation*, n.d., Accessed October 11, 2020, <http://www.who.int/entity/country-cooperation/what-who-does/south-south/en/index.html>.

¹⁸⁶ World Bank, *Statement by Multilateral Development Banks: Delivering on the 2030 Agenda*, October 9, 2016, <https://doi.org/10/09/delivering-on-the-2030-agenda-statement>.

¹⁸⁷ World Bank, *Statement by Multilateral Development Banks: Delivering on the 2030 Agenda*, October 9, 2016, <https://doi.org/10/09/delivering-on-the-2030-agenda-statement>.

¹⁸⁸ World Bank, *Statement by Multilateral Development Banks: Delivering on the 2030 Agenda*, <https://doi.org/10/09/delivering-on-the-2030-agenda-statement>.

¹⁸⁹ World Bank, *Statement by Multilateral Development Banks: Delivering on the 2030 Agenda*, <https://doi.org/10/09/delivering-on-the-2030-agenda-statement>.

¹⁹⁰ World Bank, *Statement by Multilateral Development Banks: Delivering on the 2030 Agenda*, <https://doi.org/10/09/delivering-on-the-2030-agenda-statement>.

The *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* is a plan of action encompassing 17 SDGs and 169 target items that was passed by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on October 21, 2015.¹⁹¹ At the heart of the *2030 Agenda* are the 17 SDGs. These goals are ambitious in scope, and range from goals to “eradicate poverty in all its forms...” (SDG 1), “end hunger,” (SDG 2), “ensure healthy lives and promote well-being...” (SDG 3), to promoting “sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth...” (SDG 8), ensuring “sustainable consumption and production patterns...” (SDG 12), and “to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts,” (SDG 13).¹⁹² These goals are interconnected and Member States of the United Nations are cognizant of the fact that one goal cannot be achieved without the full achievement of another interlocking goal.¹⁹³ For example, the promotion of “peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development,” (SDG 16) is not fully possible without also achieving full gender equality (SDG 5).¹⁹⁴

Two decades prior, 178 Member States had already begun to develop a framework with which to address what would become the *2030 Agenda*.¹⁹⁵ In June 1992, Agenda 21, a comprehensive plan of action to address social inequalities and environmental degradation, was adopted in Rio de Janeiro at the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).¹⁹⁶ Six months later, the UN followed up on the UNCED by establishing the Commission on Sustainable Development to monitor Member States’ implementation of the goals outlined in Agenda 21.¹⁹⁷ The adopted Agenda 21 would go on to serve as the base for the eventual *2030 Agenda*.¹⁹⁸

On September 8, 2000, the UNGA unanimously adopted A/RES/55/2, otherwise referred to as the United Nations Millennium Declaration.¹⁹⁹ The Millennium Declaration created eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that Member States would seek to achieve going forward into the new millennium, including but not limited to: the eradication of poverty (MDG 1), the reduction of child mortality (MDG 4), ensuring environmental sustainability (MDG 7), and crucially, the establishment of a global partnership for development (MDG 8).²⁰⁰ The *2030 Agenda* would go on to build upon the MDGs.²⁰¹

On 4 September 2002, Member States participating in the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa affirmed the creation of the Johannesburg Declaration, which expanded upon the SDGs established in Agenda 21 and the Millennium Declaration by establishing provisions for the utilization of multilateralism as a fundamental strategy in the achievement of SDGs.²⁰² Crucially, the Johannesburg Declaration built upon such commitments towards multilateralism by reaffirming pledges towards the monitoring of progress in the achievement of SDGs.²⁰³

¹⁹¹ UN General Assembly, *Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, 21 October 2015, A/RES/70/1.

¹⁹² UN General Assembly, *Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, A/RES/70/1.

¹⁹³ UN General Assembly, *Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, A/RES/70/1.

¹⁹⁴ UN General Assembly, *Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, A/RES/70/1.

¹⁹⁵ UN General Assembly, *Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, A/RES/70/1.

¹⁹⁶ United Nations Conference on Environment and Development Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, *Agenda 21 : Programme of Action for Sustainable Development ; Rio Declaration on Environment and Development ; Statement of Forest Principles: The Final Text of Agreements Negotiated By Governments At the United Nations Conference On Environment and Development (UNCED), 3-14 June 1992, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil*. New York, NY: United Nations Dept. of Public Information, 1993.

¹⁹⁷ “Agenda 21: Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform,” Accessed August 29, 2020, <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/outcomedocuments/agenda21/>

¹⁹⁸ UN General Assembly, *Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, A/RES/70/1.

¹⁹⁹ UN General Assembly, *United Nations Millennium Declaration*, A/RES/55/2, 8 September 2000, <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/Millennium.aspx>

²⁰⁰ UN General Assembly, *United Nations Millennium Declaration*, A/RES/55/2, 8 September 2000, <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/Millennium.aspx>

²⁰¹ UN General Assembly, *Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, 21 October 2015, A/RES/70/1

²⁰² World Summit on Sustainable Development, *Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development: the final text of agreements negotiated by governments at the World Summit on Sustainable Development*, 26 August-4 September 2002.

²⁰³ World Summit on Sustainable Development. 2003. *Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development: the final text of agreements negotiated by governments at the World Summit on Sustainable Development*, 26 August-4 September 2002.

On June 22, 2012, the UN held the Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, otherwise referred to as the Rio+20 Conference.²⁰⁴ The Member States present expanded upon Agenda 21, the MDGs, and the Johannesburg Declaration by passing A/C.2/66/L.59, which sought to “develop a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will build upon the MDGs and converge with the post 2015 Development Agenda.”²⁰⁵

On January 22, 2013, the United Nations followed up on A/C.2/66/L.59 and developed the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals in accordance with decision 67/555 of the General Assembly.²⁰⁶ By January 2015, the Open Working Group’s proposal for 17 SDGs was incorporated into UNGA’s deliberations on the adoption of the post-2015 Development Agenda.²⁰⁷ In September 2015, the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* was adopted at the UN Sustainable Development Summit.²⁰⁸

In 2015, the UN began accelerating the development of plans for the implementation of initiatives that would work in conjunction with or adjacent to the previously established SDGs, utilizing multilateralism as a preferred strategy to enhance their effectiveness. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction was adopted in March 2015.²⁰⁹ It established a framework aimed at achieving a substantial reduction of losses in lives and income related to disaster by 2030.²¹⁰ In July of 2015, the UN adopted the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development (AAAA), a plan which provided over “100 concrete measures to finance sustainable development, transform the global economy and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.”²¹¹

International and Regional Frameworks

In 1978, the use of SSC was introduced to tackle complex problems related to overall global development with the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA) for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries.²¹² With the adoption of the *Bogota Statement: Towards Effective and Inclusive Development Partnerships* in 2010, the framework initially developed in 1978 was expanded to address how SSTC could act as a bridge between South-South and North-South cooperation.²¹³ This bridge utilizes a three-partner structure based on the needs of a recipient developing state, a cooperative developing state, and an international organization or developed state that will provide a solution and/or resources for the recipient state.²¹⁴ The Bogota Statement provided a benchmark for furthering the use of multilateralism in achieving sustainable development goals.²¹⁵

²⁰⁴ “United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20 .. Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform.” n.d. Accessed August 30, 2020. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/rio20>.

²⁰⁵ “United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20 .. Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform.” n.d. Accessed August 30, 2020. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/rio20>.

²⁰⁶ “Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals.” n.d. Accessed November 15, 2020, <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/owg.html>.

²⁰⁷ Hub, IISD’s SDG Knowledge. n.d. “Intergovernmental Negotiations on Post-2015 Development Agenda Begin with Stocktaking | News | SDG Knowledge Hub | IISD.” Accessed August 30, 2020. <http://sdg.iisd.org/news/intergovernmental-negotiations-on-post-2015-development-agenda-begin-with-stocktaking/>.

²⁰⁸ UN General Assembly, *Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, 21 October 2015, A/RES/70/1

²⁰⁹ UNISDR (United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction), 2015, *Sendai framework for disaster risk reduction 2015–2030*. http://www.wcdrr.org/uploads/Sendai_Framework_for_Disaster_Risk_Reduction_2015-2030.pdf, Accessed Apr 2015.

²¹⁰ UNISDR (United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction). 2015. *Sendai framework for disaster risk reduction 2015–2030*. http://www.wcdrr.org/uploads/Sendai_Framework_for_Disaster_Risk_Reduction_2015-2030.pdf, Accessed Apr 2015.

²¹¹ United Nations. *Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the third international conference on financing for development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)*, 2015.

²¹² UN Conference on Technical Cooperation Among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, 1978.

²¹³ High-Level Event on South-South Cooperation and Capacity Development, *Bogota Statement: Towards Effective and inclusive Development Partnerships*, 2010, p. 1.

²¹⁴ High-Level Event on South-South Cooperation and Capacity Development, *Bogota Statement: Towards Effective and inclusive Development Partnerships*, 2010, p. 1.

²¹⁵ High-Level Event on South-South Cooperation and Capacity Development, *Bogota Statement: Towards Effective and inclusive Development Partnerships*, 2010, p. 1.

The strategy of SSC and SSTC was further elaborated upon with the adoption of the Nairobi Outcome Document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation in 2009.²¹⁶ This document focuses on how to promote SSC and SSTC through the creation of mutually-beneficial trade agreements, the importance of fully incorporating SSTC into Member States' initiatives, and fostering technology transfers among Member States through the use of international organizations, non-governmental organizations, and the global private sector.²¹⁷ Finally, with the adoption of the AAAA in July 2015, and the subsequent adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the United Nations had firmly committed itself to the use of SSTC as the preferred strategy for achieving SDGs.²¹⁸ While AAAA reaffirmed the utilization of technology transfers and knowledge sharing as outlined in the Nairobi Outcome Document six years prior, the 2030 Agenda further stressed the use of multilateral partnerships in the achievement of the SDGs through the "Revitalize the Global Partnership" goal explicated upon in SDG 17.²¹⁹

Multilateral Partnerships and the 2030 Agenda

Through the use of multilateral partnerships such as SSC, SSTC, and the use of Development Banks for Financial Partnerships, Member States are provided with efficient and effective strategies to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.²²⁰

Sustainable Development Goal 1: No Poverty

One instance with which SSTC has been used to great effect is in the China-Ethiopia South-South Cooperation project. The project has been overseen by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) China SSC program, which is the third partner in this SSTC plan, and has helped enhance agricultural production through the provision of technical assistance.²²¹ Upwards of 85 percent of Ethiopia's population works in agriculture. This sector constitutes the backbone of the state's economy, though Ethiopia, due to poor resource management and limited agricultural and technical development, has suffered from annual food deficits.²²² As of 2015, the People's Republic of China had deployed 30 experts and technicians to Ethiopia to assist with livestock and crop production, as well as irrigational development.²²³ This program has had multiple successes, with the SSC team introducing 52 new techniques, eight new crop varieties, and 31 pieces of agricultural equipment and tools," according to the FAO.²²⁴ Chinese experts have improved livestock life expectancy and improved Ethiopian small business operations through innovations in food processing techniques. The FAO has recommended that this

²¹⁶ UN General Assembly, High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (A/RES/64/1), 2009, p. 23; UN General Assembly, Nairobi Outcome Document of the High-Level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (A/RES/64/222), 2009, p. 2.

²¹⁷ UN DPI, Adopting Nairobi Outcome Document, South-South Conference Encourages Developing Countries to Make Cooperative Efforts Work Better in Tackling Challenges, 2009.

²¹⁸ UN General Assembly, Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1), 2015, p. 1; UN General Assembly, Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda) (A/RES/69/313), 2015, p. 1.

²¹⁹ "Global Partnerships." *United Nations Sustainable Development* (blog). Accessed September 2, 2020. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/globalpartnerships/>.

²²⁰ "UN Secretary-General's Strategy for Financing the 2030 Agenda." n.d. *United Nations Sustainable Development* (blog). Accessed November 15, 2020. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sg-finance-strategy/>.

²²¹ FAO, China-Ethiopia South-South Cooperation Project: Ethiopian Farmers See Increase in Net Income, 2016, p. 1; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, China-Ethiopia Relations: An Excellent Model for South-South Cooperation, 2014; CFS, Coming to Terms with Terminology: Food Security, Nutrition Security, Food Security and Nutrition, Food and Nutrition Security, 2012, p. 4.

²²² FAO, China-Ethiopia South-South Cooperation Project: Ethiopian Farmers See Increase in Net Income, 2016, p. 1; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, China-Ethiopia Relations: An Excellent Model for South-South Cooperation, 2014; CFS, Coming to Terms with Terminology: Food Security, Nutrition Security, Food Security and Nutrition, Food and Nutrition Security, 2012, p. 4.

²²³ FAO, China-Ethiopia South-South Cooperation Project: Ethiopian Farmers See Increase in Net Income, 2016, p. 1; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, China-Ethiopia Relations: An Excellent Model for South-South Cooperation, 2014; CFS, Coming to Terms with Terminology: Food Security, Nutrition Security, Food Security and Nutrition, Food and Nutrition Security, 2012, p. 4.

²²⁴ FAO, China-Ethiopia South-South Cooperation Project: Ethiopian Farmers See Increase in Net Income, 2016, p. 1; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, China-Ethiopia Relations: An Excellent Model for South-South Cooperation, 2014; CFS, Coming to Terms with Terminology: Food Security, Nutrition Security, Food Security and Nutrition, Food and Nutrition Security, 2012, p. 4.

program be scaled up from the local to the regional and national level in order to improve food security and agricultural diversification throughout Ethiopia.²²⁵

Sustainable Development Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Another SSTC that has seen success in addressing Sustainable Development Goals 8.5 and 8.b (targets which call for the creation and implementation of a global strategy for youth employment) are the recent collaborations between the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the International Network for Bamboo and Rattan.²²⁶ The International Fund for Agricultural Development and the International Network for Bamboo and Rattan has supported bamboo and rattan production in smallholder farms through technological transfers and the awarding of grants, which benefited smallholders throughout Ethiopia, Madagascar, and Tanzania through knowledge-sharing and training workshops.²²⁷ These jobs supplemented the income of smallholders through job creation and youth placement in Common Processing and Training Centers.²²⁸ Further, this program has created upwards of 1,650 jobs, established micro-nurseries in over 1,300 households, and improved bamboo production to 250,000 plants in 2015.²²⁹

Sustainable Development Goal 9: Industry, Innovation, Infrastructure

A final example of effective SSTC is exemplified by collaborative efforts seen between Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 2011-2013. The structure of the cooperative effort followed that the UNDP utilized funding from the Saudi Fund for Development to oversee its Sustainable Development Through Peace Building, Governance & Economic Recovery initiative in Pakistan.²³⁰ The UNDP allocated funding through the initiative to orchestrate community development, peace building projects, and local economic recovery in regional Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Such projects included the Cash for Work (CFW) program, a make-work initiative implemented in close to 125 villages under a total of 131 schemes.²³¹ The CFW program saw the disbursement of over USD 8,400 in direct payments to CFW workers who worked on schemes including community infrastructure rehabilitation, link road construction, and drinking water supply schemes.²³² Funds were further used for grant funding worth USD 21505.38 distributed to 330 individuals for enterprise development. Seed funding was used in transportation infrastructure rehabilitation, computer literacy training, food planting, and to construct two youth facilitation centers. The program has been successful in peace building, tailoring its approach to support the return of internally displaced persons, as well.²³³

Conclusion

With adequate cooperation between developing and developed Member States and international organizations, significant progress can be made towards achieving the 2030 SDGs. It is imperative that Member States utilize

²²⁵ FAO, China-Ethiopia South-South Cooperation Project: Ethiopian Farmers See Increase in Net Income, 2016, p. 1; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, China-Ethiopia Relations: An Excellent Model for South-South Cooperation, 2014; CFS, Coming to Terms with Terminology: Food Security, Nutrition Security, Food Security and Nutrition, Food and Nutrition Security, 2012, p. 4.

²²⁶ UNOSSC, Good Practices in South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Sustainable Development, 2016, p. 131.

²²⁷ IFAD, Annual Report 2013, 2013, p. 74; IFAD, President's Report on Proposed Grants Under the Global/Regional Grants Window to Non-CGIAR-Supported International Centres, 2009, pp. 5-31; INBAR, Bamboo for Climate Change Action (COP22 Side Event) South-South and Trilateral Collaboration to Implement Nationally Determined Contributions, 2016.

²²⁸ CSU Africa Center for Sustainable Ecosystems & Societies Under Global Change, South-South Learning on Bamboo for Income and Resilience, 2015.

²²⁹ CSU Africa Center for Sustainable Ecosystems & Societies Under Global Change, South-South Learning on Bamboo for Income and Resilience, 2015.

²³⁰ UNDP, Project Brief Sustainable Development Through Peace Building, Governance and Economic Recovery in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa/FATA, 2013, p. 4.

²³¹ UNDP, Project Brief Sustainable Development Through Peace Building, Governance and Economic Recovery in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa/FATA, 2013, p. 15.

²³² UNDP, Project Brief Sustainable Development Through Peace Building, Governance and Economic Recovery in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa/FATA, 2013, p. 15.

²³³ UNDP, Project Brief Sustainable Development Through Peace Building, Governance and Economic Recovery in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa/FATA, 2013, p. 8.

multilateral partnership strategies such as SSC and SSTC to achieve the 2030 Agenda. These partnerships provide an immeasurable benefit in this endeavor, as individual Member States cannot solely achieve these goals. The interconnected nature of the SDGs necessitates a multilateral approach at all levels of development, from political to economic, to local, regional, national, and global. Member States should utilize these partnership strategies to foster knowledge- and technology-sharing, mutually advantageous trade agreements, and the use of existing international institutions in the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, African Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and other multilateral development banks to finance developmental programs in developing Member States to achieve the 17 SDGs.

Committee Directive

With a decade left to achieve the 2030 Agenda, Member States should act with urgency to formulate innovative developmental strategies and build upon multilateral partnership frameworks to set about achieving the 2030 Agenda. As delegates conduct research, they should consider the following questions: How can Member States make SSTC more effective to reach the 2030 Agenda? How can the General Assembly Plenary, Member States, and development agencies collaborate on promoting multilateral partnerships? How can Member States mainstream SSTC in their national development plans? What are the major issues of spreading successful SSTC activities and implementing them in different developing Member States? Is SSTC a sustainable solution to eradicate poverty? How can UN development agencies best serve the needs of development solution seekers and promote the SDGs?

Annotated Bibliography

I. Developing Disaster Risk Reduction and Socio-Economic Resilience Strategies for Natural and Sudden Onset Disasters

United Nations Disaster Relief Reduction. *The History of the UNDRR*. Accessed July 20, 2020.
<https://www.undrr.org/about-undrr/history>

United Nations Disaster Relief Reduction (UNDRR) has held several world summits over the course of the last 50 years. This report details the history of International Disaster Relief initiatives. Some notable resolutions set forth over the last several decades include initiatives to implement pre-disaster planning, early warning systems and special Inter-Agency task forces.

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. *UNDRR*: Accessed July 20, 2020.
<https://www.undrr.org/publication/sendai-framework-disaster-risk-reduction-2015-2030>

This site is home to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction Plan. This plan outlines seven clear targets and four actions necessary to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risks. The priorities of action include understanding risk, strengthening disaster governance, investing in disaster resilience and enhancing preparedness for disasters. This document entails how it aims to achieve major disaster reduction.

Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform. *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030*. Accessed July 20, 2020.
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/frameworks/sendaiframework#:~:text=Since%20the%20adoption%20of%20the,countries%20and%20other%20relevant%20stakeholders>

This website gives many different historical examples of previous disaster reduction initiatives and details how successful they were and what lessons were learned after their implementation. This article provides areas of growth in the field of disaster reduction and details how the Sendai Framework will accomplish it. The possible areas of growth outlined in this article are grassroots efforts on national and local level, educating on understanding disaster risk and global expansion of disaster risk protocol.

World Bank Group. *Disaster Risk Management*. Understanding Poverty. Accessed July 20, 2020.
<https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/disasterriskmanagement/overview>

This website gives context, strategy and results to disaster risk management in particular. This article emphasizes the impact of disaster risk for impoverished and vulnerable regions. The article gives astounding statistics and data on how disaster phenomena have impacted the world. In addition, this article details proposed on-going strategies to disaster reduction, their results and those who partner in these initiatives.

United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism. *Ensuring Effective Interagency Interoperability and Coordinated Communication in Case of Chemical and/or Biological Attacks*. Accessed July 20, 2020.
https://www.un.org/sites/www.un.org.counterterrorism/files/uncct_ctitf_wmd_wg_project_publication_final.pdf

The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism published this document to promote the enhanced support to States faced with possible chemical or biological attacks and provides disaster risk reduction strategies. In the international community, there has been a heightened concern about the use of weapons of mass destruction, major natural disease outbreak, and other chemical and biological attacks. This document presents recommendations for States to implement disaster risk reduction strategies and relief similar to strategies currently in place that deal with natural disasters and other complex emergencies. In addition, this

article calls upon a multitude of United Nations' agencies such as the WHO, for example, to provide assistance during emergencies with public health consequences in order to ensure a more effective and predictable response and recovery from natural disasters, epidemics, chemical, or nuclear incidences.

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. Biological Hazards and Risk Assessment. Accessed October 13, 2020).

https://www.preventionweb.net/files/52828_05biologicalhazardsriskassessment.pdf

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Publish this document to assess the risk of biological hazards that result in emergencies and disasters and provide for the management of risks in national communities in around the world. Biological hazards are of organic origin, including pathogenic microorganisms, toxins and bio active substances such as bacteria, viruses are parasites, venomous wildlife and insects, poisonous plants and mosquitoes carrying disease causing agents. These types of hazards are often the result of a natural occurrence but can also result from a deliberate or accidental release. Many large outbreaks, epidemics, or pandemics are due to biological hazards and have been increasingly prevalent within the international community many times within the past twenty years. This document seeks to assess risks of different biological hazards and provide solutions such as perhaps the most important combatant to these hazards which is prompt detection and response.

UNDRR. *Combating the Dual Challenge of COVID-19 and Climate-Related Disasters*. UNDRR Asia Pacific COVID-19 Brief, April 27, 2015. Accessed July 20, 2020

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/wp-content/uploads/sites/15/2020/04/UNDRR-Asia-Pacific-Brief-COVID-19.pdf>

This brief examines ongoing prevention and preparedness means at both national and local levels in high risk countries in the pacific. Recommendations are provided to help address climate and disaster risk during the era of the pandemic. The UNDRR co-organized a webinar to highlight this issue with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and it is outlined in this brief along with how the pacific is coping with coming off a year of several hazardous disasters and now combatting that with COVID-19.

Mirtha Escobar, Joaquin Toro, Jack Campbell. *Let's talk about disaster risk during COVID-19*. World Bank Blogs. June 9, 2020. Accessed on July 20, 2020

<https://blogs.worldbank.org/latinamerica/lets-talk-about-disaster-risk-during-covid-19>

This article goes into detail about vulnerability of hospitals in high disaster risk areas, such as Latin America and the Caribbean. Hurricane season is also approaching and there is no end in sight to the on-going pandemic. The financial risk associated with overwhelming response to the health crisis steers away from providing economic stability in the wake of natural hazards. This article details how some Central American countries have found a way to move forward through fluid communication between financial institutions and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR).

II. Promoting Multilateral Partnerships to Achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

UN General Assembly, *Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, 21 October 2015, A/RES/70/1

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>

This resolution was passed by the General Assembly on October 21st, 2015 and outlines the creation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. This resolution summarizes the 17 goals covering areas related to poverty, the environment, education, infrastructure development, and peace. This resolution also emphasizes the importance of fostering global partnerships for the purpose of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in Member States.

Mansell, Paul, and Simon P. Philbin. 2020. "Measuring Sustainable Development Goal Targets on Infrastructure Projects." *Journal of Modern Project Management* 8 (1): 42–63. doi:10.19255/JMPM02303. <http://eds.b.ebscohost.com/eds/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=3&sid=374d207e-dc6b-4300-9d53-292dfd3e4896%40sessionmgr103>

This academic paper seeks to develop a framework with which to measure the impact of infrastructure development projects on the Sustainable Development Goals. The findings in this paper do not make any definitive conclusions in the establishment of a formal measurement framework but emphasizes that going forward, measurement of the impact of infrastructure development on SDGs should utilize the "Triple Bottom Line" framework of economic, social, and environmental programmes (presented visually on Figure 6, pg. 16).

Faust, Paul. 2018. *Does Aid Contribute to Sustainable Development Goals? Empirical Evidence From a Donor Comparison*. Hamburg: Anchor Academic Publishing. <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&AuthType=ip,shib&db=e000xna&AN=2070402&site=eds-live&scope=site>.

This book attempts to measure the impact of aggregate aid on globally established development goals. The book's conclusion indicates that aid had a negative impact on development indicators. The book further seeks to outline reasons for aggregated aid's failure to yield a positive impact in sustainable development, from donors' relationship to power-political interests as observed in UN voting patterns and fund allocation in relation to donors' trading patterns. The book further identifies two groups of bilateral donors, one group who allocates aid in the manner as described above and another whose aid allocation is determined by recipient needs and other factors relating to overall effectiveness.

Williams, Amanda, Gail Whiteman, and John N. Parker. 2019. "Backstage Interorganizational Collaboration: Corporate Endorsement of the Sustainable Development Goals." *Academy of Management Discoveries* 5 (4): 367–95. doi:10.5465/amd.2018.0154. <http://eds.b.ebscohost.com/eds/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=3&sid=374d207e-dc6b-4300-9d53-292dfd3e4896%40sessionmgr103>

This academic paper seeks to explain and track private sector backing of the Sustainable Development Goals. The paper particularly focuses on the role of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, a network of companies dedicated to sustainability and its interactions with intergovernmental organizations. The paper identifies that while backing for the SDGs from business interests is expansive (and growing with each year), support often manifests in an improvised manner and that whether endorsements of IOC and SDG initiatives from these business networks will result in actual on-the-ground action from these companies is yet to be seen.

Perović, Lena Malešević, and Maja Mihaljević Kosor. 2020. "The Efficiency of Universities in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals" 22 (54): 516–32. <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&AuthType=ip,shib&db=eoh&AN=EP142952355&site=eds-live&scope=site>.

This academic paper seeks to determine the impact of European universities on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The paper primarily seeks to address the metric of "efficiency" in relation to universities and the SDGs utilizing University Impact Rankings. The paper's empirical analysis adopts both a micro and macro approach, analyzing a country's allocation of funds meant to achieve SDGs toward universities and a given university's internal resources. The paper's conclusion found that, generally, universities and countries are still in an ongoing process in maximizing their efficiency in relation towards achieving SDGs.