CONCEPT NOTE

**DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND EDUCATION**

*Online event: Please register [here](#)*

**Thursday 18 May 2023 – 08:30-09:30 AM (New York time)**

**Background**

Schools should be safe learning spaces, where children and staff are protected from ALL risks. Yet children, particularly in the most vulnerable regions, are facing unprecedented threats from climate change, epidemics and pandemics, violence, and conflict. When these threats are realised, they can cause permanent and complex harm to children and societies - with the most marginalised children being unacceptably vulnerable.

Compelled by the rising threats to children and education, the Global Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience in the Education Sector (GADRRRES) launched the *Comprehensive School Safety Framework (CSSF) 2022-2030*¹, calling on governments and partners to act now for child rights and resilience in education.

This Risk Reduction Hub (RRH) event on DRR and education, organised as part of the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework (concluded on 19 May 2023 with the adoption of a High-Level Political Declaration) is an opportunity to take stock of progress made in translating such commitments in the education sector, review challenges faced and solutions to address these. It follows several other

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¹ A [summary version of the CSSF 2022-2030](#) is also available in English.
events, including the CSSF 2022-2030 global launch and the UN Transforming Education Summit, both in September 2022; the CSSF 2022-2030 regional launches for Eastern and Southern Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean, respectively in December 2022 and January 2023; and precedes the CSSF 2022-2030 regional launches in West and Central Africa, and Asia-Pacific in June 2023; and COP 28 in Dubai in November/December 2023, on the occasion of which education will be high on the agenda.

The Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework and Education
2023 marks the midpoint in the implementation of several sustainable development frameworks agreed upon in 2015, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda for Financing for Development, the Paris Climate Agreement, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Within this context, the UN General Assembly decided to hold a “midterm review of the implementation of the Sendai Framework 2015-2030” (MTR SF). Convened by the President of the General Assembly, the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on MTR SF takes place from 18-19 May 2023 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

In 2022, input to the MTR SF was submitted by State and non-State stakeholders. The findings, conclusions and recommendations of the MTR SF will be drawn from these and other inputs provided.

Out of 56 country submissions – from the Americas (9), Africa (16), Asia (17), Europe (12) and Oceania (2) – approximately 47 refer to the education sector, from a short paragraph to most substantial input. The submission from Bosnia and Herzegovina, for example, includes the words “education” and “school” 137 and 81 times, respectively, making education a relatively central theme.

Out of 11 thematic studies, one focuses on the education sector. This is the thematic case view of the Caribbean Safe School Initiative (CSSI), prepared by UNDRR. Among the 7 submissions from the UN system, the one from UNESCO fully focuses on education.

This RRH on DRR and Education will consist in presenting a synthesis report on education based on the MTR SF submissions, prepared by UNESCO, as the UN agency mandated to lead and coordinate Sustainable Development Goal 4, and as GADRRRES chair. It will also showcase the CSSF 2022-2030 as a practical framework to promote DRR, child rights and resilience in the education sector, and achieve the outcome of the Sendai Framework.

About GADRRRES
GADRRRES is a multi-stakeholder platform co-chaired by UNESCO and UNICEF, advocating for and supporting child rights, resilience and sustainability in the education sector. Its membership comprises UNDRR, several child rights INGOs, the IFRC, the World Bank, the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE), etc., as well as two regional affiliates in Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean (see the full list here).

Objectives
The RRH on DRR and Education aims to:

● Raise awareness about the critical role of education towards achieving the outcome of the Sendai Framework.
● Outline major achievements, challenges and barriers to the implementation of the Sendai Framework since 2015, from the perspective of the education sector.
● Introduce and showcase the CSSF 2022-2030 as a practical framework to promote DRR, child rights and resilience within and through the education sector.

Format
Format: online event – please register here
Target audience
- Member States attending/contributing to the MTR SF
- National education, child protection, disaster management and climate change authorities
- International organisations, bilateral and multilateral funding agencies, NGOs, youth organisations, private sector, academia, etc.
- Media

Guiding questions
- What are major changes to the contexts within which the education sector has been implementing the Sendai Framework since 2015?
- From the perspective of the education sector, what is the trend for the achievement of the expected outcome of the Sendai Framework for the period until 2030?
- Has there been a reduction in disaster risk and the impacts of natural- and man-made hazards in the education sector by implementing the Sendai Framework since 2015?
- What do education stakeholders consider being the major achievements, challenges and barriers to the implementation of the Sendai Framework since 2015?

Contact Information
Please contact the GADRRRES Secretariat at gadrrres@gmail.com or l.angles@unesco.org for information or if you would like to make a short intervention.