The CADRI Partnership is an UN-led interagency initiative that delivers customized capacity development support in disaster risk reduction (DRR) to countries at risk. Drawing upon the diversity of expertise of its members, CADRI offers a unique combination of knowledge, experience and resources to support the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Zimbabwe: Assessing national DRR capacities

The El Nino-induced drought – the worst in 35 years – has affected over 40% of the total Zimbabwean population. On March 2nd 2017, a national state of emergency has been declared in relation to flooding which affected the same vulnerable groups. This reality continues to be a stark reminder that the Government and its partners must collectively do more to address the root causes of vulnerabilities.

From 20 to 31 March, the CADRI Partnership was mobilized to facilitate a multi-sectoral analysis of existing capacities, needs and gaps of the disaster risk management (DRM) system in Zimbabwe. The CADRI international team was composed of FAO, OCHA, UNDP, WHO and IOM and 3 UNDAC experts (Malawi, South Africa, Australia). More than 100 institutions (Government, NGOs, UN) were involved at central and local levels and 4 districts (Chiredzi, Mwenezi, Bulilima and Tsholotsho) presenting various risk profiles were visited.

The findings were presented to the Ministers of Local Government and Defense, as well as the Office of the President and Cabinet and discussed with 60 national stakeholders. A critical recommendation was to ensure that the draft DRM Bill be passed, triggering measures to reinforce the institutional architecture for DRM.

A medium to long term recommendation was for the Government to further explore establishing a single Government coordination entity placed within a suitable Government body that has adequate convening power.

The assessment made a set of sectoral recommendations targeting agriculture, food security, human mobility and health.

In the area of preparedness, it was recommended to establish fast track funding allocation procedures in line ministries and at sub-national level to fund timely response, to pre-position contingency stocks, and to consolidate disparate existing capacities that can be used in the event of a disaster.
Serbia and Georgia approve their National DRM Strategies and Action Plans

Influencing institutional and policy reform takes time and sustained engagement. The CADRI Partnership has been called upon to support national capacity assessment and planning processes for DRM in Georgia (2015) and Serbia (2015-2016).

In March 2017, the Government of the Republic of Serbia validated the Action Plan of the National Disaster Risk Management Program, the main national instrument that supports the country in attaining the Sendai Framework targets at national level. The Implementation Plan has been developed with technical assistance from the CADRI Partnership throughout 2016.

In December 2016, the Government of Georgia approved its National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy, which was informed by the CADRI Partnership-supported capacity assessment and prioritization processes. These examples showcase the importance of sustained engagement of the UN System and the Red Cross/ Red Crescent movement in pushing forward policy and institutional reform that CADRI engagement typically catalyzes.

Outcome of CADRI regional consultations

Dakar, Johannesburg, Cairo, Panama and Almaty

The post 2015 CADRI strategy makes the case for activating the CADRI Partnership in the regions with a view to ensure that CADRI services are tailored to fit each region-specific capacity development context as well as promote stronger alignment of CADRI interventions with regional United Nations Development Group (UNDG) priorities.

Consultations were attended by a broad representation of regional agencies (CADRI agencies and observers, UNISDR, UNEP, UNFPA) as well as UN Country Teams’ representatives from Comoros, Madagascar, Zimbabwe, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, OPT, Sudan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

The CADRI regional consultations resulted into the identification of a host agency for CADRI in every region (OCHA, UNDP and UNISDR) as well as a set of recommendations to adjust the CADRI offer to each region-specific context.

These include the development of new sector assessment tools (for instance on water resource management, cultural heritage, or technological and industrial hazards), the adaption of the CADRI approach to work in fragile contexts, and the setup of a South-South cooperation facility including a peer review mechanism.

Twenty countries have been prioritized by regional agencies for CADRI engagement in 2017-2018: Comoros, DRC, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Uganda, Jordan, Sudan, Egypt, Lebanon, OPT, Morocco, Tunisia, Bolivia, Honduras, Dominican Republic, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova and Tajikistan.
CADRI at the UNDAC Advisory Group

The United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) is designed to mobilize and deploy experts from countries as well as personnel from International organizations to countries affected by disasters. CADRI was invited at the UNDAC Advisory Group on 7 February to share lessons from the deployment of UNDAC expertise into the CADRI missions to Guinea, Namibia, Sao Tome e Principe and Zimbabwe. Building on this successful experience, CADRI and UNDAC are developing common methodology and procedures to systematize the deployment of UNDAC national experts in CADRI capacity assessment missions to provide practitioner expertise in all aspects of preparedness for response.

CADRI at the Istanbul Development Dialogue

For its 2017 edition, the Istanbul Development Dialogue gathered development thinkers and policy makers from the Europe and the CIS region to consider risk and resilience in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). CADRI was invited to speak on how the UN system is responding to the challenges of negotiating the humanitarian - development nexus. CADRI’s intervention stressed that while the convening power of the UN System remains instrumental to advocate for and contribute to resilient development, the UN System lacks tools and approaches for risk informed programming and the capacity of the office of the Resident Coordinator need significantly strengthening in this regard.

CADRI at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Cancun, Mexico

The CADRI Partnership will contribute to the Global Platform in Cancun, Mexico from 22 to 26 May. Countries supported by CADRI will be invited to share lessons learnt through the process of designing inclusive national strategies (target e) of the Sendai Framework. CADRI partners will contribute to two main events: Global partnerships for risk in-formed development and Capacity development for DRR.
Coming up

- **Lomé, 10-11 April**
  CADRI country scoping mission to Togo (Contact: UN Resident Coordinator Office)

- **Cotonou, 12-14 April**
  Validating the findings of the capacity assessment facilitated by CADRI in Benin (Contact: UN Resident Coordinator Office).

- **Panama, 29-31 May**
  CADRI Regional Training for UN Agencies and observers in the Latin America and Caribbean region on CADRI methodology and sector tools (Contact: CADRI Regional Focal Point – UNDP LAC Regional Office).

- **Geneva, 27-28 June**
  The CADRI Partnership will organize its annual retreat in Geneva to consider options for the next CADRI phase in 2018-2022. All CADRI agencies and observers are invited to participate from HQ and regional level.

- **Amman, 10-21 September**

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For more information on CADRI, please contact sophie.baranes@undp.org or check our website.

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**Welcoming IOM!**

CADRI extends a warm welcome to the International Organization for Migrations who joined the Partnership as an Observer. With 19 million people displaced by disasters in 2014, facilitating and managing human mobility is key to reducing an important driver of disaster risk and to ensuring the protection of vulnerable individuals in the wake of a crisis. IOM expands the expertise available within CADRI to develop systems and skills to improve the governance and management of migrations as an adaptation strategy, and better protect and assist vulnerable mobile populations including at times of crisis.

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Photo: IOM