

Developing a national strategy for disaster risk reduction and resilience in Sweden

Recommendations for the implementation of the Sendai Framework Global Target E



Workshop Agenda

- 09.45 Introduction (MSB)
- 09.55 Presentation of study (LU)
- 10.20 Q&A (LU)
- 10.30 Group work I
- 10.45 'Bensträckare'
- 10.50 Group presentations I
- 11.10 Group work II
- 11.30 Group presentations II
- 11.50 Joint conclusions (LU&MSB)

Purpose of study

- **Purpose:** To offer some recommendations as to how Sweden can work towards achieving global target E of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction by 2020.
- **Target E:** Countries either need to show how strategic and comprehensive work on disaster risk reduction and resilience (DRRR) is already embedded and reflected in existing strategies, or develop dedicated strategies on this issue.
- **Specific goal:** To provide knowledge and recommendations for decision-making and implementation.

➔ Assessing the factors that influence relevance and scope

Methods

- **34 interviews** of 1-3 hours were conducted, transcribed and analysed.
- **Group discussions and participatory observation** during meetings and key events: 1) annual European Forum for DRR (November 2018, Italy); 2) annual German Forum for DRR (October 2018).
- **Document reviews** of academic literature, reports and policy documents. For Sweden, national policies and regulations were analysed based on interviewees' perceptions and in relation to UNDRR's ten criteria for DRRR strategies and the Sendai Framework's four priority areas.

Results: Three key messages



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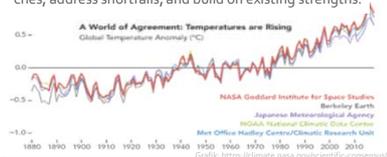
- **There is a clear need, and vast support,** for the development of a dedicated national strategy to improve current approaches, address shortfalls, and build on existing strengths.
- **Concrete measures and associated budgets** are needed for the strategy to become useful and effective.
- **The process for developing and implementing** the strategy is as important as the strategy itself.

➔ Specific recommendations

Results:
Why develop a national strategy?



Clear need, and vast support, for the development of a **dedicated national strategy** to improve current approaches, address shortfalls, and build on existing strengths.



A World of Agreement: Temperatures are Rising
Global Temperature Anomaly (°C)

NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies
Berkeley Earth
Japanese Meteorological Agency
NOAA National Climatic Data Center
Met Office Hadley Centre/Climatic Research Unit
Grafik: <https://climate.nasa.gov/evidence/>

Results:
Why develop a national strategy?

Needs ↔ Aims

- To outline the overall intentions, goals and priorities of the government in relation to DRRR in order to give it the **political status** that is needed in a context of increasing social and climatic changes.
- To support **mainstreaming** of DRRR in all ministerial work and sectors to create synergies and a common understanding going forward.
- To allow more systematic work and follow-up based on a broader understanding of risk, with a **substantial focus on preventing and mitigating hazards**.
- **Better define responsibilities** and provide better support for regional and local levels.
- **Link DRRR to climate change adaptation and sustainable development** in accordance with Sweden's international commitments – showing **more coherent engagement** nationally and internationally.
- Maintain Sweden's status as a **role model** in DRRR and allocate **resources** to internally develop and internationally transfer knowledge.

Results:
Why develop a national strategy?

Needs ↔ Aims

It is not possible to meet the mentioned needs/ aims within the current policy landscape. What is missing is a generic document collating related information which is now scattered in different legislation, mechanisms, processes, and guidelines or is, so far, not at all addressed.



VECKANS FRÅGA:
RISKERAR VI ATT FÅ EN KLIMATUNDERKLASS?

Results:
Achieving policy coherence

Three out of the six national strategy aims relate to the need for improved policy coherence. Key measures for increasing policy coherence:

- **Inclusion of DRRR considerations in existing sectoral policies and mechanisms**, particularly those related to spatial and land use planning, environment and water, building and critical infrastructure development.
- **Revision of the current risk assessment system** across all levels: i) improving the process for national risk and capacity assessments to give appropriate ownership to different sectors as an incentive to actively pursue the mainstreaming of DRRR, and ii) improving the local risk and vulnerability assessments to make them more comprehensive and relevant.
- **Inclusion of explicit linkages** between relevant national strategies and mechanisms related to DRRR, climate change adaptation and sustainable development.

Results:
Achieving policy coherence

"It is not enough to say there are laws, ... it is not about creating something separate, parallel, ... it is about connecting things ... risk analyses, crisis planning, Agenda 2030..."



ACCEPTING THE CHALLENGE – SWEDEN AGENDA 2030 AND SENDAI

Results:
Meeting UNDRR's criteria

- **Priority 1:** Understanding disaster risk
- **Priority 2:** Strengthening disaster risk governance
- **Priority 3:** Investing in DRRR
- **Priority 4:** Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to build back better



Results show the need and value of a dedicated national strategy to explain the interlinkages and connections between existing national and local regulations, strategies and associated mechanisms and how they help to achieve the goals and priorities expressed in the Sendai Framework.

Results: Meeting UNISDR's criteria

Addressing gaps in current legislation and strategies

- **No comprehensive understanding of risk:** Current focus on crisis management. Prevention and mitigation do not receive sufficient attention, related legislation not linked to DRRR.
- **Weak DRRR policy landscape:** One-sided focus on rapid-onset weather extremes, while smaller, more frequent hazards, receive little attention/ support. Work in silos. Need to better link PBL, Miljøbalken/ Environmental Code, Water Legislation.
- **Inadequate financing:** Lack of resources to increase capacities and implement measures for more comprehensive DRRR.
- **Inadequate system for data collection, monitoring & analysis** to inform cost-benefit analyses, more preventive planning; own understanding and reporting.
- **Recovery planning inadequate:** Lack of preparedness planning for building back better. Lacking linkages to development.

Results: National-local synergy creation

Three out of the six national strategy aims relate to the need for improving national-local synergy creation for DRRR.

Agreement that a strategy needs to provide **clear benefits for the local level**. Related key measures:

- **Provision of resources and guidance for strengthening DRRR initiatives and capacities at regional and local levels**, e.g. for conducting more comprehensive and inclusive risk and vulnerability assessments (with clear links to climate adaptation and sustainable development).
- **Revision of current risk and vulnerability assessments to make them more comprehensive and useful.** Their potential to help mainstream DRRR across all sector work has not been tapped into.

Results: National-local synergy creation

Linked to the need to establish a better system to adequately understand disaster risk (for slow and rapid onset, frequent and less frequent, large and small-scale events) through more **systematic national-local data collection, monitoring, evaluation and learning**.



Results: Indicators

- The **three levels** of indicators (global-national-local) should **support and complement** each other.
- The lack of national indicators was seen as an important weakness in the current system. It prevents systematic support, monitoring, evaluation and learning.
- Indicators should be developed to become a **useful tool for improving current work** (not another administrative/political burden).
- The development of indicators that reflect the **four Sendai's priority areas** was considered to be a useful approach.



Results: Develop & implement

A national strategy cannot be adequately implemented if it does not promote ownership throughout its development and implementation. Recommendations:

- **Political status:** A clear governmental decision and mandate for the strategy's development, from the highest national level, supported by all ministries.
- **Leadership:** An inter-ministerial coordination group with one coordinating body and a clear mandates.
- **Gap analysis:** As part of the strategy development to identify strengths and weaknesses in relation to the four Sendai priority areas.
- **Cooperation:** Systematic participatory process to foster mutual learning, motivation and ownership. Breaking up old structures & creating a cultural shift.
- **Internal reforms:** Within the coordinating body are needed if it is to adequately manage the process.

Three key messages (recap)

- **There is a clear need, and vast support**, for the development of a dedicated national strategy to improve current approaches, address shortfalls, and build on existing strengths.
- **Concrete measures and associated budgets** are needed for the strategy to become useful and effective.
- **The process for developing and implementing the strategy** is as important as the strategy itself.

➔ Specific recommendations

Recommendations (recap)

- Create a **generic strategy** that addresses current shortfalls and ties together current legislation.
- **Outline overall intentions, goals and priorities.**
- **Define responsibilities** at all levels, based on a comprehensive understanding of risk.
- **Focus on DRRR mainstreaming**, and strengthening prevention and mitigation work.
- Create **explicit linkages** between DRRR, climate adaptation and sustainable development.
- Create **budget** and finance activities.
- Include **concrete changes** regarding sectoral policies.
- **Improve risk data collection and assessments.**
- **Provide better support for regional & local-level actors.**
- **Engage in a more coherent way** nationally and internationally, develop & transfer related knowledge.

Thank you!



Group work I: Content of strategy

Group discussion on the strategy's content (groups of 5-6)

Questions:

Is there something particularly important that you or your organisation would like to see included in the strategy (explicit measure/activity) ?



20+20 min



Bensträckare



Group work II: Process

Group discussion on the strategy's development process

Question:

Next steps: How can we create motivation and engagement in the process of developing & implementing the strategy?

How would you or your organisation like to be involved?



15+20 min



Thank you

MSB contacts for the study

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