



Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation (DRR and CCA)

In 2017 alone, 96 million people were affected by natural hazards that resulted in disaster,¹¹⁵ with many such hazards increasing in intensity and frequency due to the changing climate. Not only is climate change worsening the risk of floods, droughts, heatwaves and other hazards, but vulnerability and exposure are increasing through environmental degradation and unregulated urbanization. Disasters are causing unprecedented economic damage that threatens sustainable development, and the poorest tend to live in harm's way.

DRR and CCA actors are increasingly collaborating with young people to reduce vulnerabilities and enhance resilience before a humanitarian crisis occurs. As promoted in the Sendai Framework on DRR and the Paris Agreement,¹¹⁶ resilience means strengthening the capacities of everyone – including young people – to prevent, prepare for, adapt to, cope with and recover from hazards.

These issues are growing in importance to young people, and possibilities exist at all levels to support them in efforts appropriate for their age, such as developing age-appropriate school teaching curricula about climate change. Young people are working with school officials to develop comprehensive school safety plans;¹¹⁷ teaching their families about home safety;¹¹⁸ mobilizing youth volunteers in early warning systems;¹¹⁹ leading climate-related school walkouts and legal actions;¹²⁰ and advocating for youth-centred DRR and CCA strategies.¹²¹



Tip sheet

Key actions for disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA) programming at each stage of the humanitarian programme cycle (HPC)

| HPC phases | What to do | Tips for young people's participation |
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| Needs assessment and analysis 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Collect data on the differing experiences of young people with regard to DRR and CCA, and analyse these data disaggregated by sex, age and disability. → Consult with a diverse cross-section of young people to understand their specific vulnerabilities to multi-hazard risks and their potential roles in response and adaptation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Hold consultations – grouped by age and sex of participants – with a diverse cross-section of young people to identify needs and barriers to DRR and CCA. |
| Strategic planning 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Ensure that the DRR and CCA response plan addresses the needs of adolescents and youth identified during the needs assessment, and from any other relevant data on young people. → Ensure that the project activities and outcomes in the DRR and CCA response plan directly address the needs of young people, including activities to reduce risk and enhance resilience using the unique capacities, knowledge and skills of young people, especially those from marginalized populations.¹²² → Develop community recovery and resilience plans (including preparedness) after hazardous events, incorporating DRR and CCA in ways that build on the skills and recommendations of young people. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Enable young people living in vulnerable situations to influence development of local and national DRR and CCA strategies, including services, early warning systems and emergency response plans, in accordance with the Sendai Framework (Target E) and the Paris Agreement. |
| Resource mobilization 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Develop information and key messages on adolescents and youth, such as from assessment reports, to influence DRR and CCA funding priorities. → Report on gaps in funding for adolescents and youth in DRR and CCA to donors and other humanitarian stakeholders. → Advocate for sufficient funding for adolescent- and youth-informed and -focused programmes before a humanitarian crisis occurs, to reduce vulnerabilities and enhance resilience of young people and their communities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Engage young people in developing key advocacy messages for DRR and CCA funding. |

HPC phases

What to do

Tips for young people's participation

Implementation and monitoring

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- Train young people of all ages, genders and abilities to identify, manage and respond to disaster risk, and provide opportunities for them to assess risk at school, home and in their communities, including climate-related risks.
- Integrate adolescent- and youth-friendly, gender-sensitive and inclusive DRR and CCA training into national formal and informal education, including on the rights that young people have before, during and after a hazardous event.
- Involve young people in DRR and CCA education and campaigns, providing them with information about DRR and CCA relevant to young people in their communities.
- Develop and maintain a feedback mechanism for young people to provide their perspectives on the effectiveness and quality of DRR and CCA education and advocacy campaigns.
- Address barriers or biases in DRR and CCA programming that may compromise the safety of adolescent girls and young women and other at-risk groups.

- Support young people to gain the knowledge, skills, resources and support, including mentorship, to innovate towards reducing risk, such as by building on their skills in social media, interpersonal negotiation, technology and entrepreneurship.
- Consult young people during routine review of DRR and CCA programmes and activities.

Operational peer review and evaluation

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- Review projects within the DRR and CCA response plan to assess to what extent adolescents and youth were effectively reached through humanitarian programming.
- Document and share good practices on addressing the needs of young people in DRR and CCA.

- Facilitate the participation of young people in project reviews.