



4th Global Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Disaster Related Statistics

28 October - 01 November 2024
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

CONCEPT NOTE

1. Introduction

Disasters caused by natural and man-made hazards have a significant impact on societies and economies worldwide. The ability to understand, monitor, and respond to these events is crucial for effective disaster risk management and mitigation efforts. Disaster-related statistics plays an important role in informing decision-making, formulating policies, and allocating resources for disaster prevention, preparedness and response. However, there is often a disconnect between the producers of this data, such as statisticians, and the users, including policymakers, researchers, and practitioners. Establishing a platform where producers and users can come together to exchange knowledge, share experiences, and collaborate on improving the quality and accessibility of disaster-related statistics is essential. Developing disaster statistics and risk metrics will not only support evidence-based policy and decision making, but also improve monitoring and reporting of progress towards internationally agreed goals and targets including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Agenda 2063, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

An Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Disaster-related Statistics is organized every year, by the United Nations in collaboration with its partners, to advance the production and use of disaster-related statistics for risk-informed development in support of the aim of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics (IAEG-DRS) of the United Nations Statistical Commission. The Forum provides a platform where users and producers of disaster-related statistics collaborate and share knowledge. Previous forums were organized and hosted by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (2023)¹, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (2022)², United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (2021)³.

¹ <https://www.unescap.org/events/2023/third-expert-forum-producers-and-users-disaster-related-statistics>

² <https://www.unescwa.org/events/producers-and-users-disaster-related-statistics>

³ <https://unece.org/statistics/events/first-expert-forum-producers-and-users-disaster-related-statistics-online>



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The 2024 Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Disaster-related Statistics will be organized in **Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**, back-to-back with the Statistical Commission for Africa (STATCOM) and the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa (UN-GGIM: Africa), from **28 October to 01 November 2024**.

2. Objectives

The main objectives of the 2024 Expert Forum are to

- a) provide a platform to discuss and exchange knowledge among stakeholders involved in the production and use of disaster-related statistics;
- b) inform about recent developments relevant for the production of disaster-related statistics, such as the ongoing review of the UNDRR/ISC hazard information profiles and other related work by regional and international organisations (e.g. WHO, WMO);
- c) identify important emerging areas of work which should be considered in the work programme of the IAEG-DRS;
- d) formulate conclusions and recommendations for improving statistical frameworks and methodologies for disaster-related statistics, in particular for the development of the Global Framework on Disaster-related Statistics.

The specific objectives are to:

- Identify and discuss the needs for disaster-related statistics and explore strategies to meet such needs given the urgent need to effectively implement and accelerate progress towards achievements of the goals of key global and regional frameworks including the 2030 Agenda, the second ten-year Plan of implementation of Agenda 2063, the Sendai Framework, the Paris Agreement, Early Warnings for All, and African Union Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan (2022-2032)
- Facilitate dialogue and knowledge exchange among statisticians, policymakers, researchers, and practitioners involved in disaster risk management
- Share and discuss best practices, methodologies, and innovative approaches used and adopted at national, regional and international level for collecting, analysing, and disseminating disaster-related statistics
- Share and discuss country experiences and best practices in the production of disaster-related statistics
- Share and discuss country experiences and best practices in the utilization of disaster-related statistics to monitor national and global disaster risk reduction commitments or guide risk-informed development.



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3. Expected Outcomes:

- Identify challenges and gaps in existing statistical frameworks to improve disaster-related data collection, standardization, and harmonization
- Identify priority needs of countries to inform capacity development and technical support
- Identify regional and international guidelines and indicators in the production of disaster-related statistics to be replicated and adopted by the nations.
- Identification of best practices and innovative approaches in data collection, analysis, dissemination and use
- Promote collaborations and partnerships between producers and users of disaster-related statistics for evidence-based decision-making
- Enhance the capacity and skills of stakeholders in generating, interpreting, and utilizing disaster-related statistics
- Recommendations for improving statistical frameworks and methodologies for disaster-related statistics.

4. Audience

The Expert Forum will invite participation from governments, academia, NGOs, the private sector, international organizations, and champion experts, that are involved in the utilization and production of disaster-related statistics, including statisticians, disaster risk management experts, geospatial scientists, as well as policy and decision makers.

5. Organizing Partners

The Expert Forum organizing partners include African Center for Statistics (ACS) and Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources Development (TCND) of ECA, African Union Commission (AUC), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Kingdom Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and UN regional commissions: Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP), Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic and Social



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Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), and Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean (ECLAC).

6. Date and Format

The Expert Forum will be held back-to-back with the StatCOM: Africa from 28 October to 01 November 2024, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The meeting will to be held in hybrid format, both in person and virtual participation.

The Expert Forum will be held in English. Subject to funding and logistics, interpretation for other United Nations official languages may be provided.

7. Agenda Overview

Day	Session	Session Outlines
Day 1	Session 1: Setting the Scene	<p>The session will feature an overview of the work of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics and the African Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction, the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and other global development agenda.</p> <p>The session will receive opening remarks from the host, ECA and panel discussion with organizing partners and key stakeholders. The session will also present the objectives and agenda of the Forum. Keynote Presentation will also be delivered in this session by selected distinguished expert in the field</p>
	Session 2: Current Landscape of Disaster Statistics	<p>The session targets a diverse cohort of speakers, discussants, and audience, to bring together stakeholders of disaster-related statistics to create a collaborative disaster data community. It is to the uttermost most importance, for this session to unite the producers, users, and stakeholders in disaster-related statistics from across the globe, to establish a forum and platform, sharing knowledge, discuss challenges and provide feedback. At the session, producers and users from national statistical offices (NSOs), national disaster management agencies (NDMAs), international organizations, academia, and civil society will share their good practices, challenges, latest</p>



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		development in new innovative technology, and remote sensing and geoinformation applications in disaster-related statistics, of which collectively contribute to the disaster losses and damages data tracking, risk analyses and impacts mitigation through universally accepted metrics in line with the global common framework of disaster-related statistics
Day 2	Session 3: Collaboration and Partnerships	Producers and users of disaster-related data and statistics come from a spectrum of backgrounds, including national government entities, members of academia and the scientific community, civil society, and the private sector. This session maps out the various actors involved with disaster data, allowing for an interactive exchange among views of the various partners with a view toward strengthening future-oriented collaborations in this area
	Session 4: Communicating Disaster Statistics for Effective Decision-Making	Bridging the gap between data producers, data users, and broader stakeholders is a communication issue. This session will build on the prior conversation to delve deeper into current practices in taking stock of current practices in analysing, sharing, communicating and using this data for generating insights for decision-making
Day 3	Session 5: Strengthening Capacity and Resource	This session will adopt a workshop format to organize three parallel sessions on capacity development and resources, informed by prior sessions and outcome of previous forums. Considering capacity needs, enabling environments, data ecosystem maturity differs greatly for the three key dimensions on disaster related statistics, the breakout/parallel sessions looking at risk information; disaster impact; and DRR expenditure. Across all 3 dimensions, the sessions will look at core issues related to capacity needs and resources required for producing and applying data, data governance related capacity development needs. The scope of resource encompasses financing and funding mechanism, capacity development (capacity need assessment and monitoring tools, technical assistance, peer learning, job shadowing, mentoring, and training), standards, guidance and templates,



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		technology and innovation to support production and use of disaster-related statistics
	Session 6: Closing Session	The session main objective is to summarize highlights and outcomes of the Forum and come up with recommendations and way forward as next steps. The session will summarise the main discussions and outcomes of the sessions and conclude with recommendations on how to enhance the production and use of disaster-related statistics for risk-informed development and decision-making. Each session chairs will present key findings and recommendations of their respective sessions. The session will finally receive the closing remarks from selected Forum organizers and partners.
Day 4	Open sessions/Associate Events	See Associate-Events Description
Day 5	Open sessions/Associate Events	See Associate -Events Description

8. Registration | Documentation

The online registration can be done using the following link: <https://indico.un.org/event/1013285/registrations/16989/>

You are encouraged to register well in advance, and no later than Monday, 14 October 2024, to ensure that credentials and visas can be processed and that badges can be issued on time.

All documents including the programme of work, the information note for participants and all technical documents and materials will be posted on the Forum Web page: <https://www.uneca.org/eca-events/fourth-global-expert-forum-producers-and-users-disaster-related-statistics>



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9. Contacts

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