

## GLOBAL INITIATIVE ON DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT (GIDRM) COOPERATION WITH THE RED SNIP TO STRENGTHEN MULTI-RISK APPROACHES

Extreme natural events, slow-onset events such as droughts and sea-level rise, and technological or man-made hazards often have disastrous impacts if the resilience of people and infrastructure is not sufficiently strengthened. As urbanization continues apace, coupled with inadequate health care, environmental degradation, fragile statehood and violent conflicts, disaster risks become more acute, complex, and increasingly interdependent. Climate change amplifies these factors.

Disaster risk management (DRM) is a cross-sectoral issue. Disasters have impacts on a variety of areas such as public health, economy, governance, tourism, critical infrastructure (e.g. hospitals, transport, water, communication) and can have devastating effects in already fragile contexts. The current **COVID-19 pandemic** illustrates the vulnerabilities and interdependencies of all socio-political and economic areas and sectors worldwide. The pandemic has pushed many health systems to their limits, and the rapid spread of the virus has also created immense economic and socio-political burden in almost all sectors and areas of society. Increasing interdependencies and complex hazards and risks confront us with the challenge of finding new and more resilient approaches to reduce the risk of critical infrastructures failure.

Despite an increasing understanding of the complexity of risks, these are not always adequately considered in development planning and programming. A lack of ability to understand and manage systemic risks jeopardizes the achievement of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030) and the Sustainable Development Goals. **Disasters suddenly wipe out many years of development successes and reduce the development opportunities of countries.**

### OUR GOAL IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARRIBEAN: ENSURING RISK-INFORMED PUBLIC INVESTMENT

While the pandemic is leading to major socio-economic repercussions worldwide, the impact of COVID-19 crisis is especially severe in the LAC region exacerbating existing inequalities. The pandemic has exhausted the existing responsive capacities in many sectors. Besides imposing a severe burden on healthcare systems, the pandemic has entailed many cascading negative impacts in other sectors: Preventive measures of the government to contain the spread of the virus, such as the suspension of services and the interruption of commercial activities, resulted in

economic recession, supply shortages and rising unemployment rates and a deterioration of working conditions. In this context, **public investment in resilient infrastructure** emerges as a sensitive variable for the recovery during and after the Covid-19 pandemic. As public investment projects (PIP) can generate direct, indirect, and induced employment, the **recovery process presents a window of opportunity for sustainable public investment.**

GIDRM aims at **strengthening the capacities and skills of the decision-makers on national level to contribute to a risk-informed development** while considering context-specific fragility factors.

### OUR COOPERATION WITH THE RED SNIP

In Latin America and the Caribbean, GIDRM is working with the **Network of National Public Investment Systems (Red SNIP)**, which is committed to mainstream disaster risk management in the region. However, in many member states of the Red SNIP network, governments focus on responding to emergencies, instead of also considering comprehensive risk mitigation, disaster preparedness and prevention. Besides supporting the SNIPs in incorporating disaster risk management and climate change adaptation into regional and national development decision- and policymaking, GIDRM focuses on encouraging more sustainable and resilient public investments.



#### What is the Red SNIP?

The Network of National Public Investment Systems of Latin America and the Caribbean (Red SNIP) was created in 2010 to strengthen sustainable, effective, and efficient public investment that enhances positive economic and social impact as well as resilient and inclusive development in the LAC region.

The network is comprised of state institutions that govern the public investment processes in the member countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay.

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There is an opportunity to adopt a risk-informed development approach to understand and reduce risks as well as to strengthen the **coordination between sectors** allowing for the evaluation of complex disaster and climate risks.

GIDRM focuses on four **main areas of intervention**:

- (1) the participation and representation in the Steering Committee of the Red SNIP,
- (2) the elaboration of knowledge products to strengthen the capacities of the Red SNIP members
- (3) the sharing of innovative public investment tools between the member states and with other actors in and beyond the region and
- (4) the strengthening of coordination and communication mechanisms between the network and other strategic actors.

**Expected outcomes of these processes are:**

- Summary of the legal, institutional, methodological, ITS-related (information technology systems), financial measures taken by the SNIP during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Evaluation of the effectiveness of the measures and adjustments taken by the SNIP in light of the pandemic and of the considerations regarding the resilience of investments;
- Document with recommendations, lessons learned (good practices and failures), and improvements based on national experiences for the strengthening of capacities of the SNIP Network;
- Continued exchange with the SNIPs on experiences in the region in post-pandemic recovery and public investment in the framework of disaster risk management.



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