



State of Play of Disaster Risk Reduction IN AFRICA 2022 – 2026

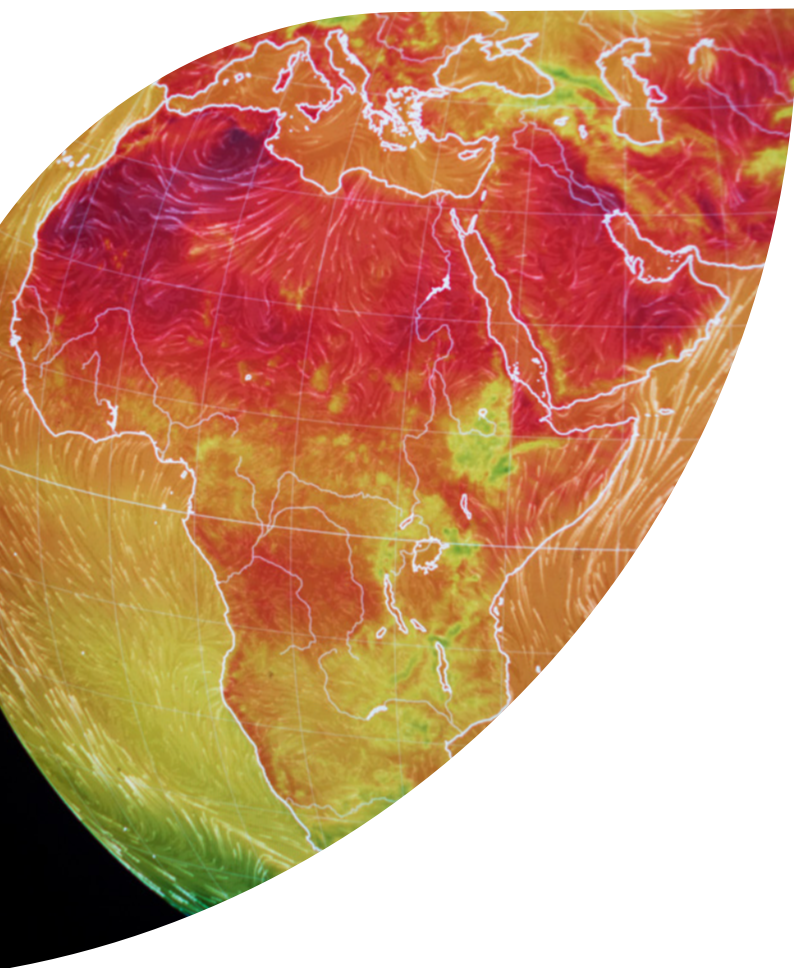




Table of Contents

Executive Summary	03
1. Purpose and Scope	04
2. Regional Risk Context: Key Changes Since 2022	04
2.1 Overview of Africa's Disaster Profile	04
2.2 Major Hazard Events and Turning Points (2022–2026)	05
3. Policy and Institutional Developments	07
3.1 Regional level	09
3.2 National Level	09
4. Progress Against DRRP Strategic Objectives	10
4.1 Strengthening Disaster Risk Governance	10
4.2 Investment in DRR for Resilience	12
4.3 Preparedness, Response, and "Building Back Better"	13
4b. Sendai Framework and PoA Target Achievement	14
5. Cross-cutting issues – Inclusion and digital	15
5.1 Gender, Youth, and Persons with Disabilities	15
5.2 Digital Tools, Artificial Intelligence, and Innovation	17
6. Knowledge Management, Good Practices, and South-South Cooperation	18
6.1 Knowledge Products and Platform	18
6.2 Good Practices and Scalable Innovation	18
6.3 South-South Cooperation and Peer Learning	19
7. Partnerships and Coordination	19
7.1 Institutionnal Architecture	19
7.2 Development Partners and EU Engagement	20
7.2 Coordination Mechanisms and Gaps	20
8. Key Gaps, Challenges, and Risks	21
8.1 Institutionnal and Technical Capacity Gaps	21
8.2 Political, Contextual, and Systemic Risks	21
Key Sources and References	23

This Report provides a general summary, prepared by the ACP DRRP Regional Coordinator for Africa, of the current state of play of disaster risk reduction in the African region, based on a synthesis of relevant and available resources.



738
DISASTER EVENTS RECORDED
IN AFRICA IN 2023–2024



63.9 MILLION
PEOPLE AFFECTED
AND 74,174 DISASTER-RELATED
DEATHS IN 2023–2024



US\$133+
BILLION IN DIRECT ECONOMIC
LOSSES FROM DISASTERS
BETWEEN 2015 AND 2024



OVER 90%
OF RECORDED DISASTERS
ARE WEATHER- AND
CLIMATE-RELATED



ONLY FIVE
OACPS AFRICAN COUNTRIES
HAVE COMPREHENSIVE DISASTER
RISK FINANCING STRATEGIES



ASSESSMENT PERIOD
JANUARY 2023 TO
EARLY 2026



1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Sub-Saharan Africa remains the continent most disproportionately affected by disasters relative to its level of development. Between 2023 and 2026, the frequency, intensity and complexity of climate-related hazards has increased significantly, driven by anthropogenic climate change, rapid urbanisation, environmental degradation and entrenched structural vulnerabilities. This period has been marked by the worst El Niño-induced drought in at least two decades across Southern Africa, devastating floods in East and West Africa as well as devastating cyclones in the South West Indian Ocean region, and escalating conflict-disaster nexus dynamics in the Sahel, Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes region.

Against this challenging risk context, Africa has made important institutional and policy gains. The **Windhoek Declaration**, adopted in October 2024, provides the strongest continental DRR political commitment since the Nairobi Declaration and sets priorities for the remaining Sendai Framework period, including accelerated implementation of AMHEWAS and EW4All, establishment of a continental DRR Financing Mechanism, stronger inclusion, urban resilience and closer alignment between DRR, climate change adaptation and development planning. Africa's Common Position also helped shape the **Geneva Call for Disaster Risk Reduction**, ensuring that African priorities were reflected in the 2025 Global Platform outcome.

Preparedness and early warning are the areas of most visible progress. The **Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action System (AMHEWAS)** has advanced through continental, regional and national situation rooms, including at AUC, ACMAD, ECOWAS, IGAD, SADC, ECCAS and Tanzania. The **Early Warnings for All** agenda has also gained momentum

through national roadmaps, continental forums and renewed attention to last-mile communication and anticipatory action. The SADC Humanitarian and Emergency Operations Centre, Togo's connected situation room and nationally led recovery processes in Somalia and Burundi illustrate how preparedness, response and Build Back Better capacities are beginning to translate into operational practice. Further, the Africa Early Warnings Forum held in September 2026 launched the Addis Ababa Call to Action on Early Warnings¹ in Africa, prioritizing actions to accelerate the implementation of multi-hazard early warning systems across the continent.

However, critical gaps persist in disaster risk governance, financing and risk information. National DRR strategy coverage remains uneven: only about 55% of African countries report Sendai-aligned strategies in the Sendai Framework Monitor, while the Fourth Biennial Report records 49 Member States with disaster risk management strategies, of which five are not yet aligned with the Sendai Framework. The implementation of these strategies remain uneven and particularly weak at the subnational level.

Comprehensive Disaster Risk Financing strategies are in place in only five OACPS African countries (Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Seychelles and Sierra Leone) and domestic DRR budget allocations remain limited, at an average 4% of national budgets allocated to disaster risk reduction (DRR)². As a result, financing continues to be weighted toward humanitarian response and post-disaster recovery rather than prevention, preparedness, resilient reconstruction and Build Back Better.

Risk information and loss and damage accounting systems remain fragmented and insufficiently institutionalised. Data

gaps are particularly acute for slow-onset hazards, conflict-affected areas and fast-growing urban informal settlements. Although new dashboards, hazard profiles and assessments are emerging, including in the IGAD region, many remain project-based and are not yet embedded in sustainable national systems. Disaggregated data on gender, age, disability and location also remain limited, constraining inclusive DRR planning and monitoring.

The **EU-financed Intra-ACP Disaster Risk Reduction Programme (DRRP)** has supported progress across governance, risk-informed investment and preparedness. Under SO1, the programme has strengthened continental coordination through the AWGDRR, supported Sendai Framework reporting, contributed to national DRR strategy development and helped advance risk-informed planning and budgeting. Under SO2, it has supported risk-informed investment, contingent financing and sovereign risk transfer, including CAT DDO-related technical, and ARC risk modelling and insurance products. Under SO3, it has strengthened preparedness, situation-room connectivity, post-disaster needs assessments and nationally led recovery planning, including the PDNA-informed Bujumbura Port rehabilitation investment.

The period 2026–2028 will therefore be decisive. As the Sendai Framework enters its final five years, successor programming should consolidate institutional gains, accelerate financing for prevention and resilience, strengthen loss and damage accounting, embed early warning and anticipatory action in national and local systems, and institutionalise knowledge management, inclusion and South-South cooperation. This report provides the analytical foundation for those decisions and identifies priority actions to sustain and scale Africa's disaster risk reduction progress.

¹<https://www.undrr.org/media/120612>

²[Disaster-risk-reduction-in-Africa-Summary.pdf](#)

2 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this note is to assess the state of play of disaster risk reduction in Africa for the period **2023–2026**, with comparative references to the **2015 Sendai Framework** baseline where data permits. It is structured around the analytical framework of the DRRP Strategic Objectives (SOs). Progress is captured from desk research drawing on a variety of recognized authoritative sources (presented in the Annex under Key Sources and References).

Geographic scope: All African member states of the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), with particular attention to regional differentiation across the five AU regions (North, West, Central, East, Southern Africa) and the six key Regional Economic Communities (ECOWAS, IGAD, SADC, ECCAS, EAC, CEN-SAD/UMA (Mauritania being the only OACPS MS))³.

3 REGIONAL RISK CONTEXT: KEY CHANGES SINCE 2022

2.1 Overview of Africa's Disaster Profile

Africa accounts for a disproportionate share of global disaster mortality and humanitarian need relative to its economic size. According to the Sendai Framework Monitor, the period 2021–2025 has been described as the **deadliest five-year period in 15 years** for the continent, with over 221 million people affected. The average annual economic loss from disasters in Africa represents approximately **0.6% of GDP**, a figure that masks severe heterogeneity. For smaller or lower-income economies, disaster losses can represent multiples of their annual development budgets.

Longer-term data confirm the scale and trajectory of the challenge. Sendai Framework Monitor data presented at the 24th session of the AWGDRR indicate that disaster-related mortality and the number of people affected by disasters in Africa rose by 26% and 83% respectively over the decade 2015–2024, while direct economic losses attributed to disasters exceeded US\$133 billion over the same period⁴.

The most recent continental accounting, from the **Fourth Biennial Report (2023–2024)**, shows a partial improvement over the exceptional 2021–2022 reporting cycle (which was dominated by COVID-19). The number of recorded disaster events increased from **612 to 738**. Disaster-related deaths fell sharply, from 279,103 to **74,174**, but this figure remains the second-highest since reporting started in 2015. The **IGAD/EAC region** was the dominant driver of mortality, primarily from flooding⁵. ECOWAS was the only region to record an increase in disaster mortality (from 3,606 to 14,625 deaths). The number of people affected fell from 137.1 million to **63.9 million**, with SADC accounting for approximately 30.7 million through cyclones, floods and drought, one of only two regions, together with North Africa, to record an increase. Direct economic losses contracted **from US\$37.3 billion to US\$7.9 billion**, though this figure reflects both genuine risk reduction progress and persistent underreporting (all RECs except SADC reported lower losses). Floods, tropical cyclones and droughts continued to cause **nearly 90% of all disaster losses** in the period, consistent with the broader 2015–2025 hazard profile.



Africa is facing an increasingly severe disaster burden. Between 2015 and 2024, disaster-related mortality rose by 26% and the number of people affected by 83%, while direct economic losses exceeded US\$133 billion.

³ Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo (Republic of the), Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

⁴ Sendai Framework Monitor data as presented by the UNDRR Regional Office for Africa in the opening remarks to the twenty-fourth session of the AWGDRR; see AUC/UNDRR (2026), Outcome Report: Twenty-fourth Session of the AWGDRR, p. 3.

⁵ Also captures road accident mortality

Weather and climate hazards account for over **90% of all recorded disasters** affecting the continent. Floods, droughts, tropical cyclones, epidemics and food insecurity dominate the hazard profile, with geophysical hazards concentrated in the Rift Valley zone and the Maghreb. **The INFORM Risk Index (2025)**⁶ places sub-Saharan Africa, the Sahel, the Horn of Africa and Central Africa consistently in the highest-risk tiers globally, driven by compound vulnerability, high exposure combined with low coping capacity and fragile governance systems.

2.2 Major Hazard Events and Turning Points (2023–2026)

El Niño and the 2023–2024 Southern Africa Drought

The 2023–2024 El Niño phenomenon, declared by WMO in July 2023, triggered the most severe drought in Southern Africa in at least two decades. By 2024, **six SADC Member States** (Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana) had declared states of emergency⁷. Aggregate cereal yields in the subregion fell 16% below the five-year average; in Zambia and Zimbabwe, the decline was 43% and 50% respectively. An estimated **tens of millions of people** faced acute food insecurity in the subregion, with food security outcomes deteriorating to Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels across large portions of southern Malawi, southern Mozambique and Zimbabwe. According to the ACCOF-21 statement⁸ this year in late 2026, with peak intensity expected between October and December, Africa is expected to suffer from a strong El Niño.

East Africa Flooding (2023–2024)

Simultaneously, El Niño-enhanced rainfall drove **catastrophic flooding** across East Africa. From March to May 2024,

exceptionally heavy “long rains” triggered severe flooding in Kenya, Tanzania, Burundi and parts of Ethiopia, while South Sudan and Sudan experienced extensive flooding later in the season. In May 2024, flash floods in Kenya’s Rift Valley affected hundreds of thousands; in Tanzania, flooding in coastal areas caused significant infrastructure damage. The pattern continued into 2025, though with more spatially uneven impacts: Tanzania experienced flood damage in March 2025, including house collapses and displacement in Morogoro region, while extreme rainfall in August 2025 contributed to extensive flooding in South Sudan and recurrent floods and landslides in Ethiopia. At the same time, the eastern Horn shifted back toward rainfall deficits during the October–December 2025 season, especially in eastern Kenya, southeastern Ethiopia and southern Somalia, reinforcing the region’s “whiplash” dynamic between drought and flood shocks. Across the Greater Horn of Africa, the compound effect of multi-year drought (2020–2023), intense flooding in 2023–2024 and renewed dry conditions in parts of 2025 created severe food insecurity, displacement and livelihood stress; the Greater Horn alone counted an estimated 50.1 million people in food insecurity in 2024.

West and Central Africa Floods (2024)

West and Central Africa experienced unprecedented flood events in 2024. Niger, Nigeria, Chad and Cameroon were among the worst affected, while the wider region saw major impacts across the Lake Chad Basin, the Niger River system and flood-prone urban and rural areas. In Borno State, northern Nigeria alone, floods in September 2024 killed 230 people and displaced 600,000 persons, destroying hospitals and contaminating water supplies. Across West and Central Africa, flooding in 2024 affected about 7.5 million people across 18 countries



DEADLIEST PERIOD IN 15 YEARS

Africa experienced its deadliest five-year disaster period in 15 years during 2021–2025, with **more than 221 million people affected**. Over 2015–2024, disaster mortality rose by 26% and the number of people affected by 83%.



CLIMATE HAZARDS DOMINATE THE RISK LANDSCAPE

Floods, droughts and tropical cyclones alone **account for nearly 90% of disaster losses**, with increasingly severe impacts on food security, infrastructure and livelihoods.



DISASTER LOSSES ARE ERODING DEVELOPMENT GAINS

Direct disaster losses exceeded US\$133 billion between 2015 and 2024, while average annual losses represent around 0.6% of Africa’s GDP. For smaller and lower-income economies, individual disasters can absorb multiples of annual development budgets.



COMPOUND RISKS ARE DEEPENING VULNERABILITY

Climate shocks increasingly overlap with **conflict, displacement, food insecurity and weak coping capacity**. Across the Sahel, Sudan, the DRC, Somalia and other high-risk areas, these interacting pressures are creating increasingly complex humanitarian and resilience challenges.

⁶ <https://drmkc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/inform-index/INFORM-Risk>

⁷ World Meteorological Organization (WMO) State of the Climate in Africa 2024

⁸ Statement from the twenty-first African Continental Climate Outlook Forum (accf-21)

with Chad, Niger, Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Cameroon among the largest caseloads. The 2025 season began with continued high risk: by early July 2025, floods had already affected around 129,000 people in the Central African Republic, the Republic of Congo, Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Ghana, displaced about 33,000 people, damaged or destroyed more than 5,300 houses, affected over 5,300 hectares of farmland and caused at least 361 deaths. These events compounded pre-existing food insecurity and conflict-related displacement, especially in the Lake Chad Basin and Sahelian areas where floods intersect with fragile livelihoods and humanitarian access constraints.

Tropical Cyclones : Indian Ocean Subregion

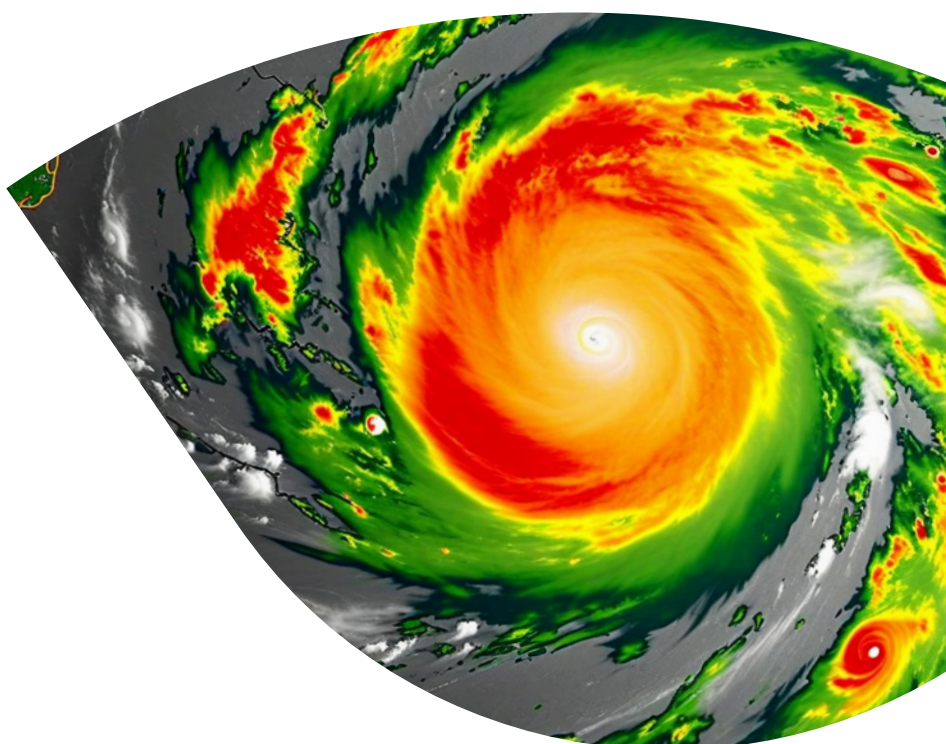
The South West Indian Ocean cyclone basin continued to produce high-impact events, with Madagascar, Mozambique, Comoros, Mayotte, Malawi, La Réunion and Tanzania experiencing repeated tropical cyclone and storm impacts during 2023–2025. While fewer Category 4–5 events occurred compared to 2019–2022 (Idai, Kenneth, Eloise, Batsirai, Freddy), the cumulative toll on already-stressed communities and infrastructure remained severe. Cyclones Freddy, Filipo and Chido were major drivers of disaster mortality and numbers of people affected in Mozambique and the wider SADC region during the 2023–2024 reporting period.

The 2024–2025 season then extended the pattern into 2025: Chido, Dikeledi, Honde, Garance and Jude affected an estimated 2.6 million people across Comoros, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Mayotte and La Réunion between December 2024 and March 2025, with Chido alone causing major devastation in Mayotte and northern Mozambique, Dikeledi compounding damage

in northern Madagascar and Mozambique, and Honde, Garance and Jude affected an estimated 2.6 million people across Comoros, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Mayotte and La Réunion between December 2024 and March 2025, with Chido alone causing major devastation in Mayotte and northern Mozambique, Dikeledi compounding damage in northern Madagascar and Mozambique, and Honde and Garance bringing further flooding, wind damage and service disruption in Madagascar and La Réunion.

Conflict-Disaster Compounding

The conflict-disaster nexus is increasingly defining vulnerability across the Sahel, Sudan, South Sudan, the DRC and Somalia. In Sudan, the outbreak of armed conflict in April 2023 triggered one of the world's largest displacement crises, with over 7 million internally displaced persons and severe disruption to humanitarian operations. In the DRC, M23-related displacement of approximately 7.3 million people coincided with flood and food insecurity events, generating compound humanitarian emergencies that are inherently difficult to address with conventional DRR tools.



3 POLICY AND INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Between 2023 and 2026, disaster risk reduction in Africa gained renewed institutional and policy momentum, supported by global mechanisms to strengthen governance, EWS, financing and implementation of Sendai Framework.

The **8th Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction** brought together more than 3,600 participants from 165 countries. Its outcome, the Geneva Call, recognised progress in reducing disaster mortality and expanding early warning coverage, while stressing that risks continue to outpace resilience globally. The Africa Common Position, adopted in June 2025 ahead of the Global Platform, set out a unified continental agenda for accelerating Sendai Framework implementation, addressing loss and damage financing gaps, advancing EW4All and integrating DRR into national development financing. It helped ensure Africa's priorities were reflected in the Geneva Call and in discussions on the post-2025 DRR financing architecture.

Early Warnings for All (EW4All) global initiative also emerged as a major continental priority during this period. Following the launch of the Africa Action Plan in 2023, African institutions and partners accelerated efforts to expand multi-hazard early warning systems and strengthen the full chain from risk knowledge and forecasting to warning dissemination and early action⁹. This momentum culminated in the **Africa Early Warnings Forum**, held in Addis Ababa from 2 to 4 September 2026, which brought together more than 400 experts and officials from governments, regional institutions and international partners to assess progress and identify priorities for scaling sustainable early warning systems. The Forum adopted

the **Addis Ababa Call to Action on Early Warnings in Africa**, setting out five priorities to close remaining gaps and accelerate protection for all by 2027 and beyond¹⁰.

The priorities are: carry forward Early Warnings for All as a global political priority; bridge remaining gaps and reach the last mile, including in fragile countries; make multi-hazard early warning systems a core public investment; enable early action based on warnings; and make universal protection a shared and measurable responsibility. In order to achieve the priorities these elements have been identified as enablers: continental coordination and accountability mechanism; inclusivity, particularly for remote communities, fragile states, women, youth, persons with disabilities, and displaced populations.

The **Santiago Network on Loss and Damage**, operationalised after COP27, provides a new channel for technical assistance on that can support policies and institutional development to reduce disaster losses. African countries' access remains at an early stage, with technical assistance proposals being financed for Kenya, Rwanda, Zambia and Namibia¹¹.

The operationalisation of the **Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD)** creates a further opportunity for African countries to address rising climate-related disaster impacts. The Fund could help close financing gaps linked to residual risk and recovery, particularly in highly vulnerable countries. Proposals submitted on 15 June are under review, and recipient countries have not yet been confirmed¹².



⁹ <https://wmo.int/news/media-centre/early-warnings-all-action-plan-africa-launched>

¹⁰ <https://www.undrr.org/news/africas-early-warning-experts-and-officials-call-sustained-momentum-life-saving-disaster>

¹¹ <https://santiago-network.org/opportunities/calls-for-proposals>

¹² https://www.frlld.org/sites/default/files/FRLD_B.9_7%20Report%20on%20the%20status%20of%20the%20pipeline%20for%20the%20BIM.pdf

3.1. Regional Level

At the regional level, recent progress has centred on strengthening continental policy commitments, early warning coordination, preparedness and risk-informed investment.

The **Windhoek Declaration on Advancing the Programme of Action for the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 in Africa**, adopted by ministers and heads of delegations at the 8th High-Level Meeting on DRR (Windhoek, 24 October 2024), is the defining continental policy document of this period. It builds on the 2021 Nairobi Declaration and sets out political commitments on:

- Accelerating implementation of AMHEWAS and EW4All by 2027;
- Establishing a continental DRR Financing Mechanism;
- Strengthening inclusive DRR, notably gender-responsive and disability-inclusive approaches;
- Developing a new Programme of Action Implementation Matrix for 2026–2030;
- Advancing risk-informed urban development through the Africa Urban Resilience Programme (AURP);
- Deepening alignment between DRR, climate change adaptation (CCA) and the 2030 Agenda.

The African Union-led **Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action System (AMHEWAS)** became an important continental mechanism supporting interoperability and coordination between regional and national systems. Progress has been significant, with Africa recording the largest global improvement in the comprehensiveness of multi-hazard early warning systems since 2015.

The African Union, with the support from the Government of Sweden and UNDP, developed and launched the **Africa Urban Resilience Programme** in 2024 at the first Africa Urban Forum. Following its endorsement by AU Member States and the AU Executive Council, the AURP prescribes an integrated urban resilience model that strengthens governance,

improves risk information, enhances institutional capacity, and promotes resilient and sustainable urban development across Africa. Its governance framework, composed of the AURP Steering Committee and Technical Working Group (TWG), is designed to help regional actors operationalize global and continental DRR commitments through coordinated urban resilience actions. The formalization of AURP institutionalizes urban resilience within the African Union's regional DRR framework, creating the governance, policy, and coordination mechanisms needed for sustained implementation across Africa.

The African Union Heads of State and Government adopted the Statute for the African Continental Civilian Capacity Mechanism for Disaster Preparedness and Response in February 2025. This institutional mechanism is intended to operationalise rapid, coordinated continental civilian response capacity, which is a long-standing gap in Africa's DRM architecture. Finally, the Africa Climate Resilient Investment Facility (ACRIF), supported by UNECA and partners, aims to channel climate-resilient investment diagnostics into infrastructure decision-making and link DRR finance more directly to investment planning. At present, it appears to function mainly as a technical assistance, knowledge and capacity-building facility rather than as a large standalone financing vehicle.

3.2. National Level

At national level, progress remains incremental and uneven. National DRR strategies are still incomplete: as of 2025, only about 55% of African countries reported Sendai-aligned strategies in the Sendai Framework Monitor. By contrast, the Fourth Biennial Report (2023–2024) indicates that 49 Member States have disaster risk management strategies in place, unchanged from 2021–2022. Of these, five (Burkina Faso, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali and Niger) reported that their strategies are not yet aligned with the Sendai Framework, while the remaining 44 reported alignment. This suggests that several strategies exist but are not fully Sendai-aligned hence do not appear in SFM reporting. Further, only five OACPS



African countries, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Seychelles and Sierra Leone, currently have comprehensive Disaster Risk Financing (DRF) strategies.

Several good progress have been made at national level that is worth highlighting:

- **RWANDA** adopted a Sendai-aligned national DRR policy in May 2023 and established an emergency command system down to district level, integrating DRR across sectoral ministries.
- **DRC** developed and validated a National DRR Strategy in September 2024 with CREWS/DRRP support, DRM Strategy (2025–2030) and DRM Policy (2025–2035). With the adoption of two landmark decrees that anchor disaster risk management in national law and establish a robust institutional architecture for resilience.
- **TANZANIA** strengthened its legal, institutional and policy frameworks for DRR and inaugurated the first AMHEWAS-connected National Situation Room for Early Warning and Disaster Operations in Dodoma in June 2024.
- **SIERRA LEONE** developed a disaster risk financing mechanism and strengthened flood forecasting within the national early warning system.
- **UGANDA** developed a comprehensive, multi-sectoral National DRR Management Plan and strengthened coordination mechanisms across levels of government.
- **KENYA** developed and validated a National DRR Strategy, officially launched on 18 June 2025, and Disaster Risk Financing (DRF) Strategy 2026–2030 launched on 24 June 2026 with support provided through the DRRP. In parallel with these strategies, the President of Kenya signed into law the National Disaster Risk Management Act 2026 in May 2026, establishing the National Disaster Risk Management Authority which provides a legal foundation for disaster governance in Kenya. While the Division of Revenue Act, 2026 was also signed into law, further strengthening fiscal systems. Alongside these legislative achievements, the new strategy provides vital instruments to strengthen the country's financial resilience by moving from reactive, crisis-driven financing to proactive, risk-informed financial preparedness through 2030.
- **SOUTH SUDAN** revised its DRM Policy in June 2026, this revised disaster risk management policy helps the country to move away from fragmented, reactive approaches. It provides clarity on institutional roles and responsibilities, ensuring that ministries, state authorities, and partners can work in a coordinated manner rather than in isolation. Importantly, the policy aligns DRR with climate adaptation, agriculture, water, and economic development strategies, ensuring that resilience is mainstreamed across sectors. Funded by the Netherlands.
- **ESWATINI** officially launched the National Disaster Risk Management Authority (NDRMA) on 28 April 2026 marking the transition from the former National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA). The NDRMA is established under the National Disaster Risk Management Act of 2025, which provides a strengthened legal and institutional basis for disaster risk governance in Eswatini.
- **SEYCHELLES**, the Disaster Risk Management Division (DRMD) was elevated to the Department of Risk and Disaster Management (DRDM) under the Office of the Vice President led at Principal Secretary level in December 2025.
- **MAURITIUS**, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Centre (NDRMC) was repositioned under the Prime Minister's Office, strengthening its coordination role in November 2024.
- **COMOROS**, the National DRR Strategy was validated by the Government. In December 2024, the National DRR Strategy and its Action Plan were officially endorsed by the Cabinet.

4 PROGRESS AGAINST DRRP STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

SO1 4.1. Strengthening Disaster Risk Governance

Governance improvements during 2023–2026 reflect notable, if moderate, progress. Key achievements recorded in the DRRP's 3rd Annual Progress Report (2025), some of which are also documented through case studies, include:

- **Political and high-level declarations** endorsed in support of DRR goals (Windhoek declaration);
- **The National DRR Management Strategy** and DRR financing Strategy elaborated and formally adopted, in Kenya, National DRM law enacted;
- The establishment of **Africa's Continental Civilian Capacity Mechanism for Disaster Preparedness and Response**;
- **The IGAD East Africa Hazards Watch** and East Africa Drought Watch platforms, which are hosted by IGAD -ICPAC with integrated vulnerability and exposure data for Kenya and Ethiopia;

Regional coordination

At continental level DRRP resources have been devoted to the Africa Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction (AWGDRR), which functions as the primary technical working group on DRR for the region. The AWGDRR has held six sessions during the review period:

- **19th Session (March 14–16, 2023, in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea)**: Reviewed progress in implementing the Programme of Action for the Sendai Framework, with discussions focusing on multi-hazard early warning systems, disaster preparedness and response capacities, climate and disaster risk information, loss and damage, climate change adaptation, and the mobilisation of predictable domestic resources for DRR. The session was also used to present 11th EDF Intra-ACP DRR Programme in Africa.
- **20th Session (Lomé, Togo in October 2023)**: Reviewed progress in implementing the Programme of Action for the Sendai Framework in Africa, with discussions focusing

on disaster risk governance, preparedness, early warning systems, and strengthening implementation at national and regional levels. The event was also held back-to-back to the 1st Africa Regional Programme Steering Committee (RPSC) for the 11th EDF.

- **21st Session (Kigali, Rwanda in April 2024)**:

Focused on accelerating implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sendai Framework in Africa, including strengthening disaster risk governance, early warning systems, risk information and data management, disaster risk financing, and locally led disaster risk reduction.

- **22nd Session (Kampala, Uganda in April 2025)**:

Focused on moving from commitments to action and accelerating implementation of the priorities identified in the Windhoek Declaration. Discussions addressed disaster risk governance, financing for disaster risk reduction, risk knowledge, early warning and anticipatory action, and the localisation of disaster risk reduction. **Back-to-back to the 2nd Africa Regional Programme Steering Committee for the 11th EDF.**

- **23rd Session (Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe in November 2025)**:

Focused on moving from commitments to action and delivering on the Windhoek Declaration and the Africa Common Position to the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2025. Discussions included the Programme of Action for 2026–2030, Early Warnings for All, disaster risk financing, inclusive and locally led DRR, urban resilience, and anticipatory action. The insights and recommendations from the AWGDRR inclusion-related sessions informed the development of the new 2025–2030 implementation matrix for the Programme of Action for the Sendai Framework in Africa. Organizations of Persons with disabilities now participate in the AWGDRR's.

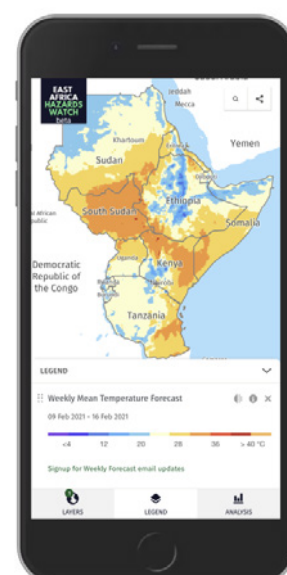
- **24th Session (Bujumbura, Burundi in 25–27 March 2026)**:

Focused on accelerating implementation of the Windhoek Declaration and the Africa Common Position to the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2025.

SO1 – KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Regional Coordination is deepening

The **Africa Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction held six sessions** between 2023 and 2026, reinforcing continental coordination around governance, financing, early warning, anticipatory action and implementation of the Sendai Framework.



¹⁵ The footnote 15 is missing in the original text.

The session reviewed progress on the recommendations of the 23rd session and addressed disaster risk financing, risk knowledge and inclusive and locally led DRR, multi-hazard early warning systems and anticipatory action, infrastructure resilience, and health-related aspects of the Sendai Framework.). The meeting also adopted the AWGDRR Financing Facilitation Sub-Working Group Terms of Reference. **Back-to-back to the 3rd Africa Regional Programme Steering Committee for the 11th EDF.**

The AUC with support from UNDRR as the secretariat has been coordinating across-REC technical cooperation, but follow-through on AWGDRR recommendations to national-level actors remains inconsistent. This is a structural challenge explicitly identified at the 21st and 23rd sessions. The 24th session (March 2026) moved to address these gaps: it agreed to constitute a Sub-Working Group on DRR Financing Facilitation under the AWGDRR by 31 July 2026 and updated the Programme of Action Matrix 2026–2030, to finalise the Terms of Reference of the Continental Sub-Working Group on Anticipatory Action under the AMHEWAS Technical Working Group by 31 October 2026, and requested AUC and UNDRR to follow up with lead entities on pending recommendations and report progress to the 25th session.¹³

Risk information and data

Risk data and information systems remain chronically weak in the region. DRRP resources have been devoted to support government officials in the Sendai Framework Monitor (with SFM support days), which serves as the primary regional reporting mechanism. DRRP resources have also been used to support SFM reporting in Burundi, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya and Togo. Further, the DRRP has supported the enhancement of IGAD's East Africa Disaster Dashboard, which represents a promising step to integrate risk data for

monitoring impact of drought, floods and other natural hazards (cyclones) and provide a single access point to MS on climate risk information.

Integrating DRR and CCA into development planning

DRRP resources have been used by UN agencies (UNDRR and UNDP) to support integration of DRR and CCA into development planning and budgeting, with steady progress across the countries. In **Kenya**, the disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation budget tagging report was finalized and is guiding efforts to enhance financing for DRR, while the launch of the Disaster Risk Financing Strategy (2026–2030) and the National Symposium on DRR strengthened dialogue on financing, governance and inclusive partnerships. In **Ethiopia**, the institutionalization of risk-informed development planning and budgeting advanced through a three-phase capacity-building process, complemented by a political economy analysis for DRR/CCA. In **Burundi**, government capacities were enhanced to coherently integrate DRR and CCA into development planning and budgeting, including in the priority sectors of agriculture and urban resilience, supported by a parallel political economy analysis. In **Togo**, the validated analysis of national budgets (2019–2023) is being operationalized through a new practical guide.

AUC fourth Biennial Report (2023–2024) on DRR

The AUC's Fourth Biennial Report on the Programme of Action for the Implementation of the Sendai Framework in Africa provides a key evidence base for this state of play, particularly on disaster trends, Sendai Framework target performance, national DRR strategies, early warning systems, financing and persistent implementation gaps. Its 2023–2024 findings will be formally launched on the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction on 13 October.

SO1 – KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Risk information systems are expanding - But Gaps Remain

The DRRP supported Sendai Framework Monitor reporting in Burundi, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya and Togo, while regional tools such as the East Africa Hazards Watch, Drought Watch and Disaster Dashboard are strengthening access to risk and loss data. However, data quality, completeness and regular reporting remain uneven.

DRR is increasingly embedded in development planning

Countries are progressively integrating DRR and climate change adaptation into national planning and budgeting. Kenya, Ethiopia, Burundi and Togo have advanced budget tagging, political economy analysis, practical guidance and risk-informed planning approaches.



¹³ AUC/UNDRR (2026). Outcome Report: Twenty-fourth Session of the AWGDRR, pp. 6–7 and Annex I, recommendations 1, 4, 9 and 10.

SO2

4.2. Investment in DRR for Resilience

Key achievements under SO2 recorded in the DRRP’s 3rd Annual Progress Report (2025), some of which are also documented through case studies, include::

- **Global Gateway investments** informed by the WB Mombasa risk-informed urban resilience analysis in Kenya;
- **Contingent financing instruments** advanced through technical support informing CAT DDOs in Rwanda and Zambia.
- **Risk transfer solutions** strengthened through the customisation of 38 ARC risk models across 20 African countries, including support for flood risk modelling, sovereign insurance readiness in Madagascar and anticipatory drought insurance in Malawi and Zambia.

Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance

The **African Risk Capacity Group (ARC)** remains the continent’s flagship sovereign disaster risk financing institution. ARC Agency, operating as Africa’s first sovereign parametric development insurer, has provided over **\$1 billion in total coverage** to member states and disbursed more than **\$350 million in claims** since inception. In 2024, ARC payouts included US\$31.9 million to Zimbabwe and US\$11.6 million to Malawi for El Niño-related drought and food insecurity (Centre for Disaster Protection 2025). As of 2024, ARC Agency encompasses **39 member countries**, with a target to cover all 55 AU Member States by 2034.

The **DRRP supported €13 million in parametric insurance** payouts as part of African sovereign insurance policies, demonstrating the catalytic value of technical assistance in unlocking sovereign risk transfer. ARC also launched a **new flood risk insurance product** (2024), expanding coverage from drought and tropical cyclone to riverine and flash flood hazards.

The process of developing the flood risk product was kicked off in 2022, but the Flood Risk Insurance was completed in November 2025, with Madagascar taking the first insurance policy in January 2026.

Catastrophe Deferred Drawdown Options (CAT DDOs) have become an increasingly important source of pre-arranged contingent financing for African countries. According to the World Bank’s DPF CAT DDO Dashboard, as of 30 June 2026, 16 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa had CAT DDO operations approved (nine in Eastern and Southern Africa and seven in Western and Central Africa). The programme’s technical assistance has informed Cat DDOs in two Africa countries:

- **RWANDA** – Rwanda Disaster Risk Management Development Policy Financing with a Cat DDO (\$141 million, Pipeline).
- **ZAMBIA** – Second Zambia Climate and Economic Resilience Programmatic DPF with Cat DDO (\$100 million, Active).

SO2 – KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Soverign Risk Financing is Scaling up

The **African Risk Capacity** has provided more than **US\$1 billion in coverage** and over US\$350 million in claims, while DRRP support contributed to €13 million in parametric insurance payouts and the customisation of **38 risk models across 20 countries**.

Pre-arranged Financing is Reducing Reliance Emergency Funding

African countries are increasingly using **insurance, disaster risk financing strategies and CAT DDOs** to secure financing before disasters strike. DRRP technical assistance has supported CAT DDO operations in Rwanda and Zambia, strengthening the shift from reactive response to proactive financial protection.

Table 1. Total IDA CAT DDO approved African (highlighted are the DRRP supported CAT DDO).

Category	Approved African operations	Amount (US\$ million)
 Approved operations	● Seychelles (FY2015)	7
	● Kenya (FY2018 – first CAT DDO in an IDA country)	200
	● Cabo Verde (FY2019 and FY2023)	20
	● Malawi (FY2019 and FY2024)	87
	● Madagascar (FY2020)	50
	● Morocco (FY2020)	275
	● Benin (FY2024)	80
	● The Gambia (FY2024)	20
	● Mauritania (FY2024)	24
	● Somalia (FY2025)	20
	● Tanzania (FY2025)	200
	● Zambia (FY2025)	100
	● Sierra Leone (FY2025)	20
	● Liberia (FY2025)	20
	● Rwanda (FY2026)	141
	Total	1,244
 Recent drawdowns	● US\$57.1 million to Malawi in 2024 for El Niño related food insecurity	
	● US\$54.7 million to Benin in June 2024 for floods	
	● US\$35.04 million to Cabo Verde in August 2025 for floods	

SO3 4.3. Preparedness, Response, and "Build Back Better"

The DRRP's 3rd Annual Progress Report (2025) records strong progress under SO3, with approximately **88% of targets achieved**. Key achievements, several of which are documented through case studies, include:

- **EU Global Gateway and AfDB investment in Bujumbura Port rehabilitation**, informed by a DRRP-supported Post-Disaster Needs Assessment in Burundi;
- **SADC SHOC operational readiness**, strengthened through regional risk evidence, preparedness systems, institutional capacities, early warning, operational coordination and emergency readiness across Southern Africa;
- **Togo's civil protection agency**, equipped with a connected situation room to strengthen disaster response coordination;
- **Somalia's nationally led recovery after the 2023 Deyr floods**, demonstrating stronger national ownership of post-disaster recovery planning.

Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems

In the area of EWS it is important to note that several DRRP actions have been supporting indirectly the **AMHEWAS Programme**. Under this programme several operational situation rooms have been established at **AUC and ACMAD** (continental), **ECOWAS, IGAD, SADC and ECCAS** (regional), and **Tanzania** (national). Resources from DRRP have been devoted in particular to support institutional mechanism at regional level.

Further, it is important to note that in parallel, DRRP actions have been also supporting the EW4All initiative. The first **EW4All Multi-Stakeholder Forum for Africa** was held in Windhoek on 21 October 2024, producing an outcome document on continental early warning priorities.

SADC SHOC operational readiness

The DRRP made a direct contribution to strengthening the **operational readiness of the SADC Humanitarian and Emergency Operations Centre (SHOC)** by supporting improvements in infrastructure, coordination systems and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Emergency Response Team (ERT) induction trainings, together with simulation-based collaboration with OCHA, further reinforced regional preparedness and response coordination. These investments have translated into operational action, including SADC ERT deployments to the Mozambique floods in January 2026 and to Madagascar following Tropical Cyclone Gezani in February 2026, demonstrating the region's growing response capacity. In addition, SADC, in collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Mozambique, Member States and regional and international partners, conducted a Regional Cyclone and Flood Response Simulation Exercise (SIMEX) in Nacala, Mozambique, from 27 to 31 July 2026.

Post-Disaster Recovery and Building Back Better

Post-Disaster Needs Assessments (PDNAs) have become more institutionalised during this period, with DRRP resources supporting nationally led recovery processes in Somalia, Burundi and Cabo Verde. A notable example is the **Bujumbura Port rehabilitation in Burundi**, where a PDNA helped shape a €30 million EU/AfDB investment and translate disaster risk analysis into a concrete Build Back Better intervention. This provides a replicable model for linking post-disaster recovery assessments to resilient infrastructure investment.

SO3 – KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Early warning coverage is expanding

Africa's **multi-hazard early warning coverage rose from 40% in 2022 to 57% in 2024**, supported by new continental, regional and national situation rooms and EW4All roll-out.

Regional Preparedness is becoming more operational

Investments in **SADC and other regional emergency systems** have strengthened coordination, simulation exercises and actual deployment capacity for floods and cyclones.

Build Back Better remains the Next Challenge

PDNAs are increasingly institutionalised, but translating them into **risk-informed reconstruction** remains uneven; Bujumbura Port provides a strong example of BBB principles shaping major investment.



4b SENDAI FRAMEWORK AND POA TARGET ACHIEVEMENT (2023–2024)

The Fourth Biennial Report (2023–2024) provides the most recent continental stock-take on SFDRR and Programme of Action

(PoA) target performance, drawing on data from 40 Member States. The following table summarises continental achievement levels.

Table 2. Progress towards the Sendai Framework targets in Africa.

Target	Description	2021–2022	2023–2024
 Target A	Reduce disaster mortality	 Not achieved	 Partially achieved (74,174 deaths — down 73% but 2nd-highest on record)
 Target B	Reduce number of people affected	 Not achieved	 Partially achieved (63.9M — down from 137.2M; 3rd-highest on record)
 Target C	Reduce direct economic losses	 Not achieved	 Partially achieved (US\$7.9B — down from US\$37.3B; underreporting persists)
 Target D	Reduce critical infrastructure damage	 Not achieved	 Partially achieved (health and education facility damage increased; transport infrastructure damage decreased)
 Target E	Increase national DRR strategies	 Partially achieved	 Partially achieved (49 MS with strategies; sub-national coverage improved to 34)
 Target F	Enhance international cooperation	 Achieved	 Achieved (all 55 MS reporting at least one cooperative partnership)
 Target G	Increase multi-hazard EWS coverage	 Achieved	 Achieved (MHEWS: 104 → 113; single-hazard EWS: 90 → 94)

Summary shift: In 2021–2022, Africa achieved two targets (F and G) and partially achieved one (E). By 2023–2024, two targets continued to be reported as fully achieved (F and G), while five were partially achieved (A–E), indicating meaningful progress despite persistent gaps. However, the assessment of Target F should be treated with caution: the target concerns international support for DRR, including official development assistance, capacity development and technology transfer, yet ODA for DRR remains poorly reported in the Sendai Framework Monitor by most countries. It is therefore hard to assess the real progress against quantitative ODA for DRR measures based on the PoA qualitative reporting of having at least one cooperative partnership.



PoA Additional Target Performance (2023–2024)

All five PoA Additional Targets, which are specific to Africa's Programme of Action,

reached at least a **moderate level of achievement** in 2023–2024, compared with four moderate and one limited in 2021–2022.

Table 3. Progress on the Programme of Action (PoA) targets in Africa

PoA Target	2021–2022	2023–2024	Key Development
 1 DRR in educational systems	 Moderate	 Moderate	Tertiary/professional integration strongest; primary/secondary remain weak.
 2 DRR in development and CCA frameworks	 Moderate	 Moderate	Clear upward trend since 2015; most RECs made incremental progress, while IGAD declined from moderate to limited achievement.
 3 Expand domestic DRR financing	 Limited	 Moderate	Domestically funded DRR projects: 270 (2021–22) → 450 (2023–24).
 4 Risk-informed preparedness plans	 Moderate	 Moderate	Improvement driven by EAC, ECCAS, IGAD and ECOWAS through increased investment in preparedness and contingency planning.
 5 Regional knowledge networks	 Moderate	 Moderate	WADPI (ECOWAS, established 2021–2022); IGAD/EAC TACs and TWGs; UMA specialised centre established (Arab Centre for Seismology and Natural Disaster Management, Algiers).
 High / Achieved	 Moderate	 Limited / Not achieved	

Summary shift: Best-performing OACPS Member States in PoA implementation (maintaining or achieving scores equal to substantial achievement of all targets): Botswana, Ethiopia, Liberia, Mauritius, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

CC

5 Cross-cutting issues – inclusion and digital and innovation

5.1 Gender, Youth, and Persons with Disabilities

African continental DRR frameworks increasingly reference inclusion in principle, but progress in practice remains limited. The **23rd AWGDRR** explicitly flagged gender-responsive and disability-inclusive DRR as areas requiring accelerated attention, noting that participation of women in AWGDRR sessions (39% in the 21st session, April 2024) falls short of gender parity targets. At the 24th session (Bujumbura, March 2026), women

accounted for 34 of 91 participants (37%) an improvement over the previous session but still short of parity. Organisations of persons with disabilities are members of the AWGDRR and participate in the meetings, since the 19th AWGDRR in Malabo. Key recommendations included supporting countries to implement the Sendai Gender Action Plan, including through the Gender Action Plan Implementation Checklist, tracking of the GAP in Africa is monitored by the AWGDRR through the revised PoA 2026–2030¹⁴.

¹⁴ AUC/UNDRR (2026). Outcome Report: Twenty-fourth Session of the AWGDRR

Following a UNDRR organized SFM and Risk Knowledge workshops in Burundi (funded by Japan), a dedicated session focused on strengthening gender- and disability-inclusive DRR in Africa during the 24th AWGDRR, using Burundi as a case study for the country-level application of the Sendai Gender Action Plan Implementation Checklist. Burundi shared good practices related to Sendai GAP key objective 1: increasing the availability of sex, age, income and disability disaggregated data and qualitative information on gender and disaster risk. Panelists included representatives from the Directorate-General of Civil Protection and Disaster Management, the Collectif des Associations et ONGs Féminines du Burundi, and the Fédération des Associations des Personnes Handicapées du Burundi. UNDRR commissioned an issue brief in 2024 on “Including persons with disabilities in disaster risk reduction in Africa”¹⁵ which featured insights from the 5 DRRP countries: Burundi, Cameroon, Ethiopia, and Kenya. The brief

proposes a series of recommendations for Member States and other stakeholders aimed at strengthening the resilience of persons with disabilities across Africa. Implementation Checklist. Burundi shared good practices related to Sendai GAP key objective 1: increasing the availability of sex, age, income and disability disaggregated data and qualitative information on gender and disaster risk. Panelists included representatives from the Directorate-General of Civil Protection and Disaster Management, the Collectif des Associations et ONGs Féminines du Burundi, and the Fédération des Associations des Personnes Handicapées du Burundi. UNDRR commissioned an issue brief in 2024 on “Including persons with disabilities in disaster risk reduction in Africa”¹⁵ which featured insights from the 5 DRRP countries: Burundi, Cameroon, Ethiopia, and Kenya. The brief proposes a series of recommendations for Member States and other stakeholders aimed at strengthening the resilience of persons with disabilities across Africa.

CROSS-CUTTING KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Inclusion Progressing, but Gaps Remain

Gender and disability inclusion is gaining attention, but participation, disaggregated data and measurable national targets remain limited.

Key positive developments:

- The DRRP has supported capacity building for **gender-responsive DRR in Djibouti, Somalia and Sudan**;
- **UNDRR training on the Inclusive Early Warning Early Action Checklist** (gender and disability) was delivered for Liberia, Mozambique, Mauritius (December 2024), Seychelles (June 2025) IGAD member states (April 2025)(CREWS funding); increased SADDD reporting by Burundi in SFM (Japan funding);
- **Tanzania’s study identifies that road sector** requires 30% of maintenance budgets to be set aside for marginalised groups (women, persons with disabilities, youth);
- **The Africa Youth Advisory Board on Disaster Risk Reduction (AYAB)** contributes to scientific mapping of DRM institutions, supported through PERI-PERI U and Af-STAG.
- **Several Member States reported the integration of gender-specific regulations** into existing disaster management legislation during the 2023–2024 reporting cycle (Fourth Biennial Report, Target E).

Key gaps : Most national DRR strategies lack gender-disaggregated risk data and do not set measurable targets for women’s or youth participation in DRR governance. Persons with disabilities remain largely invisible in both DRR planning and response systems, despite obligations under the CRPD.

¹⁵ Including persons with disabilities in disaster risk reduction in Africa

5.2 Digital Tools, Artificial Intelligence, and Innovation

The use of digital technologies in African DRR has advanced considerably during 2022–2026, in particular in the area of preparedness:

- **Situation rooms** integrate satellite data, climate models, hydrological monitoring, and social media feeds to generate multi-hazard early warning products at regional scale;
- **IGAD's East Africa Disaster Dashboard (2025)** to integrate risk data for monitoring impact of drought, floods and other natural hazards (cyclones) and provide a single access point to MS on climate risk information
- **African Drought Watch** represents the first continent-wide, impact-based drought forecast bulletin using remote sensing and probabilistic modelling;

CROSS-CUTTING KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Digital Innovation Transforming DRR

Situation rooms, digital dashboards and impact-based forecasting are strengthening preparedness, while AI applications are emerging but remain largely at pilot stage.

Artificial intelligence applications in hazard prediction, flood inundation modelling and crop stress monitoring are emerging, but remain largely pilot-stage and dependent on international technical partnerships. Strengthening Africa's own science, technology and innovation capacity for DRR rather than relying on externally developed tools is a medium-term priority identified by the African Science, Technology

Advisory Group on DRR (Af-STAG. AFSTAG). Reflecting this agenda, the 24th AWGDRR dedicated a thematic session to the use of artificial intelligence in climate and disaster resilience and recommended leveraging AI-based tools (including Google's climate AI models alongside IGAD's East Africa Hazard Watch) to strengthen early warning delivery and close the last-mile gap.



6 KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT, GOOD PRACTICES, AND SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

6.1 Knowledge Products and Platforms

Several key knowledge products and platforms are in use or being developed across the region:

- **AMHEWAS products:** Continental Watch, Africa Drought Watch, Disaster Situation Reports
- **Africa Biennial DRR Reports** (1st: 2015–2018; 2nd: 2019–2020; 3rd: 2021–2022; 4th: 2023–2024): serve as the continent’s primary DRR accountability framework. The 4th Biennial Report (covering 40 of 55 AU Member States) represents the most current empirical baseline for continental DRR performance, and it is the primary quantitative source for Sendai Framework target achievement data used in this report;
- **INFORM Risk Index:** used by development partners and donors for resource allocation and programme design across Africa; through support from GIZ, INFORM has been further developed in the SADC region with the INFORM Subnational Risk Model. While UNDRR has completed INFORM for Mauritius (funded by Japan), Ethiopia and South Sudan (funded by Germany)
- **Sendai Framework Monitor:** it’s nationally owned and used for national reporting, but quality varies and reporting is often discontinuous. IGAD’s disaster dashboard aims to automate and improve reporting also for SFM;
- **FEWS NET and FAO GIEWS:** for food security and drought early warning integration;
- **PreventionWeb:** knowledge management platform for global and regional DRR resources;
- **PERI-PERI U Network:** a consortium of African universities building DRM academic capacity, supporting the EMHEWIR and AFSTAG research projects.

Underused Knowledge Assets

The MTR SF Good Practices compendium (2023) contains several Africa-relevant examples that have not been systematically disseminated or integrated into DRRP programming. African good practices featured

include Burundi (community-based risk mapping), Gambia (devolved data collection governance), Tanzania (budget allocation for marginalised groups), and Mauritius (Community Disaster Response Programme). These should have been systematically highlighted in DRRP knowledge management products.

6.2 Good Practices and Scalable Innovations

Table 4. Example of Innovation in DRR across Africa

Country/Region	Innovation	Key Features
Rwanda	National DRR Policy (2023) + district-level emergency command	Full sectoral integration, local governance reach
Tanzania	National EWS Situation Room (Dodoma, 2024)	First AMHEWAS-linked national situation room
Sierra Leone	Disaster Risk Financing Mechanism	Links DRF to national EWS
IGAD Region	African Drought Watch v2.0 + Anticipatory Action Platform	Impact-based forecasting, peer learning
SADC Subregion	SADC Framework for Resilience + multi-hazard data sharing	Subregional resilience architecture
Burundi	Bujumbura Port rehabilitation (PDNA-informed)	Model for Build Back Better in practice i.e. informing investments

6.3 South-South Cooperation and Peer Learning

South-South DRR cooperation is advancing primarily through:

- **AWGDRR sessions** as peer-learning platforms, featuring lightning talks and field visits (Nyandungu Eco-Park, Rwanda 2024; Zambezi River, Zimbabwe 2025);
- **REC-to-REC knowledge exchange** and member state to member states on situation room establishment (ECOWAS supporting ECCAS; IGAD sharing anticipatory action tools) Mozambique, Ethiopia, South Sudan visits to Tanzania situation room;
- **PERI-PERI U** multi-country research projects (EMHEWIR covering Namibia, Malawi, South Africa);
- **AMHEWAS co-production meetings** (annual, with all continental and regional stakeholders);
- **ARC risk modelling exchange**, with customised models deployed in 20 countries supporting learning across ARC's 39-member mutual structure.
- **The EU-funded South-South Cooperation exchange between Small Island Developing States (SIDS)** in the Indian Ocean and the Caribbean facilitated peer learning, knowledge sharing and the exchange of good practices on disaster risk reduction, climate resilience and risk-informed development.
- **Africa Network of Centres of Excellence for Disaster Risk Reduction¹⁷**, to enhance the existing capacity of African research, academic, and science centres, and foster joint development and delivery of customised services, tools, products and training to respond to the needs of African institutions whose mandate and focus is DRR, early warning and anticipatory action. It includes mobility exchanges where UNDRR organized study tours for Ghana, Mozambique, and Uganda.

Gaps : South-South cooperation remains project-driven and episodic rather than institutionalised. Systematic capture and dissemination of peer learning across OACPS member states is not yet operational. The planned DRRP knowledge management reshuffle strategy (noted in the 3rd Annual Report) is a step in the right direction but requires dedicated resourcing in the 2026–2028 period. Further, South-South Cooperation across developing countries should be strengthened in particular across OACPS member States with similar characteristics such as SIDS. CDM 14 represents an opportunity for SINDS exchanges.

7 PARTNERSHIPS AND COORDINATION

7.1 Institutional Architecture

The continental DRR partnership architecture is led by the **African Union Commission** (specifically the Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy Directorate), with **UNDRR Regional Office for Africa** (with a liaison office for AUC in Addis Ababa) serving as the primary technical partner and AWGDRR secretariat. RECs implement continental frameworks within their subregional mandates.

The **AWGDRR** functions as the continent's primary multi-stakeholder coordination

platform, bringing together AUC, UN agencies, RECs, member states, civil society and development partners. Following the 24th session (March 2026), an enhanced AWGDRR structure is being developed, with stronger linkages to RECs and a more systematic recommendation follow-up mechanism. This was taken forward at the 24th session (March 2026), which mandated AUC and UNDRR to follow up with lead entities on pending recommendations by 31 October 2026 and agreed to establish new sub-working groups on DRR financing facilitation and on anticipatory action.

¹⁷ <https://www.preventionweb.net/hubs/africa-noe>

7.2 Key Development Partners and EU Engagement

South-South DRR cooperation is advancing primarily through:

Table 5. Key partners supporting DRR in Africa

Partner	Role	Key Programme
African Development Bank	Co-financing resilient infrastructure	ACRIF, Bujumbura Port, urban resilience
Government of Germany (FFO/BMZ/GIZ)	Bilateral DRR support, anticipatory action	GIZ Resilience Initiative Africa (RIA)
Government of Italy	AWGDRR and AMHEWAS support	CIMA Research Foundation partnerships
Government of Sweden/SIDA^[1]	EWS and anticipatory action	AMHEWAS co-financing
CREWS	EWS	SOHC and preparedness projects
Government of the Netherlands	Strengthening Early Warning Systems and Water Resilience Along the Nile	Water at the Heart of Climate Action
Denmark	EW4ALL Africa	Niger, Somalia, South Sudan, Uganda, and Tanzania



EU Delegations have played a growing role in DRR coordination at regional and country level in Africa, for example the EU multi country delegation in Mauritius has led the Resilience Building and Disaster Response Management in the Indian Ocean (RDRM-IO) project which has now completed, in coordination with the SADC EU delegation in Botswana. While IOM is the lead implementer for the Regional Responses to Climate Displacement in Sub-Saharan Africa (RE2CLID) programme addresses the growing challenges of climate-driven displacement through coordinated, multi-level action across Lake Tanganyika Basin and Southern Africa/South-West Indian Ocean. The Team Europe Initiative (TEI) on Climate Change Adaptation and DRR is providing a coherent EU-wide framework for engagement. However, coordination between the TEI, the DRRP, and bilateral instruments (GIZ RIA, CREWS) has been identified as an area requiring strengthening to reduce fragmentation and duplication.

7.3 Coordination Mechanisms and Gaps

Synergies and coordination: The DRRP's multi-implementing-partner model (AUC, WB/GFDRR, UNDP/UNDRR, ARC, SADC) creates positive complementarity across

governance, finance and preparedness streams. However, continental initiatives such as AMHEWAS would benefit from a clear support by all partners, similarly, the AWGDRR provides a regular political and technical forum for partner alignment (including for the DRRP Africa Regional Programme Steering Committee) but DRRP's IPs have not engaged regularly in those forums.

Risks of Fragmentation: Coordination challenges persist between the Team Europe Initiative (TEI), the Intra-ACP DRR Programme (DRRP), including DRRP and CLIMSA, and GIZ's Regional Integration for Africa (RIA) programme. While efforts to improve alignment are underway, collaboration remains insufficiently structured and systematic. The SADC region presents a particular coordination challenge, as both the RIA and DRRP have supported disaster risk reduction activities through separate funding streams with limited strategic coordination. In addition, SADC has received direct support under the DRRP but continues to face implementation delays. Strengthened coordination, clearer delineation of roles, and a well-defined transition and sustainability plan will be important to

maximise synergies, avoid duplication, and ensure continuity of support. However, the AWGDRR has provided a platform for coordinating DRR activities in Africa in particular with GIZ RIA participating.

Duplication risk between AMHEWAS situation rooms and national/bilateral EWS investments (notably WMO and bilateral me-

cooperation programmes) needs active management and coordination at the continental level ;

Civil society engagement in formal coordination mechanisms is limited; CSO participation in AWGDRR sessions averages below 20% of attendance.

8 KEY GAPS, CHALLENGES, AND RISKS

8.1 Institutional and Technical Capacity Gaps

- **Low national-level DRR staffing and technical capacity:** Most African national DRM agencies operate with limited technical staff, and high turnover, undermining institutional memory and continuity.

- **Loss and damage data systems remain absent, fragmented or underdeveloped in many countries.** Without robust and standardised disaster loss and damage accounting systems, evidence-based planning, risk-informed investment and effective prioritisation of prevention measures remain severely constrained. The 21st Session of the African Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction (AWGDRR) identified strengthening loss and damage accounting as a continental priority. In this context, **DELTA Resilience represents a promising advancement, providing an open-source, internationally aligned system to track hazardous events and their human, economic and non-economic impacts**, generate comparable data, support risk analysis and strengthen reporting against the Sendai Framework. However, country-level implementation and institutionalisation remain challenging due to institutional delays, capacity constraints, data governance gaps, limited interoperability across institutions and the need for sustained technical and financial support.

- **Disaggregated risk data scarce:** Data disaggregated by gender, age, disability, and geographic location, is seldom collected or reported.

- **Fragmented implementation of CCA and DRR:** While many countries have made

progress in developing disaster risk reduction strategies, climate adaptation plans, Nationally Determined Contributions and sustainable development frameworks, these instruments are often prepared through separate processes, led by different institutions, and implemented through parallel planning, financing and monitoring systems. This fragmentation reduces the effectiveness of national risk governance. It can lead to duplication of efforts, gaps in accountability, inefficient use of limited resources, and missed opportunities to integrate risk reduction into development planning, public investment, climate action, early warning, preparedness and recovery systems.

- **Local-level DRR capacity weak:** The sub-national level remains the critical delivery gap. National strategies are not consistently translated into local DRR plans, budgets or risk management functions.

- **DRM academic and training capacity concentrated:** The AFSTAG mapping (2026) confirms that DRM programmes are heavily concentrated in South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria and Egypt, leaving large swathes of Central, West and North Africa with limited academic and technical training capacity.

8.2 Financing and Sustainability Constraints

- **Domestic budgets absent:** Domestic budgets for DRR prevention remain negligible in most African countries.

- **Private capital mobilisation limited:** Despite the DRRP's ambition to leverage private finance, the Windhoek Declaration's call for



private sector engagement, and the availability of instruments like catastrophe bonds and blended finance, private capital mobilisation for resilience in Africa remains minimal outside of ARC's risk pooling model.

- **Loss and Damage Fund access:** The Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage represents a new financing channel, but African countries' capacity to access it and to quantify eligible losses remains nascent.

lead to duplication of efforts, gaps in accountability, inefficient use of limited resources, and missed opportunities to integrate risk reduction into development planning, public investment, climate action, early warning, preparedness and recovery systems.

8.3. Political, Contextual, and Systemic Risks

- **Conflict and political instability:** Active conflicts in Sudan, South Sudan, DRC, Sahel and Somalia directly undermine DRR programme implementation, block humanitarian access, and redirect limited national resources from prevention to response.

- **Debt distress:** A growing number of African countries face unsustainable debt burdens that sharply constrain fiscal space for any discretionary investment, including DRR. IMF debt sustainability analyses for 2024 flag 22 African countries at high risk or in debt distress.

- **El Niño/La Niña cycle risk:** La Niña conditions expected in 2026-2027 may trigger the opposite pattern to 2023-2024 – excess rainfall in areas that experienced drought, potentially causing floods in already-stressed communities.

- **Governance and institutional fragility:** In fragile states, the very institutions responsible for DRR are often the most dysfunctional, creating a paradox where need is highest and delivery capacity lowest.

- **Climate change trajectory:** Continued global GHG emission trajectories (tracking toward 2.5–3°C of warming by 2100) will make current DRR benchmarks increasingly inadequate. DRR frameworks must be designed with climate change scenarios as their reference point.

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