9. **Faith Action to Reduce Risk, Strengthen Resilience, and Respond to Disaster**
 August 16, 2021

Rising numbers and severity of extreme weather disasters are an expected long-term effect of climate change. Changes already perceptible in different world regions include intensity and duration of heat waves, more frequent and more severe drought incidents, flooding frequency and severity, and the power of storms. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework) adopted by UN member States in 2015 offers a framework for reducing disaster risk and losses. Actions aimed to prevent, protect, and reduce disaster risk and increase resiliency outlined in this Framework, and by experts in the field, are an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

As local civil society actors in some of the world's most vulnerable areas, religious and faith-inspired organizations are consistently at the forefront of attending to the physical and spiritual needs of communities affected by disasters. At transnational levels many religious actors are leading advocates for action to address both response and mitigation as well as responders.

This brief urges G20 Leaders to promote more robust partnerships across disciplines and sectors to mitigate the hazards of climate change, and specifically to reduce risk, build long-term resilience, and limit future costs of increasingly severe disasters. More specific focus on religious roles in assessing, communicating, and meeting local needs can increase the reach and impact of planning, policies, and programs for disaster risk reduction (DRR).

Recommendations

- Devise and improve national and local DRR strategies in G20 countries in partnership with local faith communities.
- Support such strategies in non-G20 countries and especially the V-20 nations (Vulnerable)
- Develop and assure consistent, well prepared and tuned, and reliable information flows between governments and religious/faith groups whose focus is response to disasters both globally and very locally.
- Establish and implement robust frameworks for coordination and sharing of best practices with religious networks, organizations, and actors to increase the efficacy of DRR strategies and mitigate impending risks and development losses.