

# Sectoral Plan for the thematic area **Disaster Risk Management and Resilient Development**



PROSUR

The original version of the Sectorial Plan was delivered to the Pro Tempore Presidency in December 2019. This version was updated in October 2020.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

On March 22, 2019, the presidents of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay and Peru signed the Presidential Declaration on a renewed strengthening of South American integration and agreed on the creation of PROSUR as a space for regional coordination, cooperation and integration.

The Sector Ministries and other Chilean government agencies, such as the Pro Tempore Presidency (PTP), were mandated to lead the process of building the sector plans and the first annual working plan (2020) for PROSUR. In this regard, the sector coordination team, supported by a team of external sector experts, worked on the enhancement of cooperation and integration initiatives and spaces on the matter and listed the common priority actions for the countries of the region.

The following elements are part of what will be the Sectoral Plan of the thematic area that must be presented on October 30, 2019 before the PTP authorities to be circulated and validated by PROSUR National Coordinations vested in the Foreign Ministries.

## 2. ABOUT THE THEMATIC AREA

In 2017, 93 of the 335 largest disasters recorded in the world occurred in the Americas; that is, about 28 percent. As a result of these events, victims on the continent rose from 4.4% to 17.9% of the world total in the 2007-2016 period. A particularly significant fact is that out of the total US\$ 335 billion in global economic losses, America recorded the greatest losses, representing 88% of the total reported cost.<sup>1</sup>

The American continent is diverse in terms of exposure to natural hazards, environmental, economic and social characteristics that condition its vulnerability and the dynamics of cooperation and integration between its countries.

PROSUR activities represent an opportunity for the articulation of a South American space for dialogue and cooperation in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), with the aim of strengthening sectorial capacities to contribute significantly to sustainable and resilient development. The founding process of the bloc offers the opportunity to give a specific approach to the Working Group, focused on R+D+i+e<sup>2</sup> initiatives, which would avoid duplication of efforts in areas of governance and action frameworks for DRR, based in other forums.

## 3. GENERAL GOAL OF THE AREA

---

<sup>1</sup> CRED. Natural Disasters 2017, Brussels: CRED; 2018 EM-DAT file dated 02/07/2018

<sup>2</sup> Research, Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

To foster cooperation towards resilient and sustainable development of member countries' and their territories, through management of disaster risk reduction in South America.

The group will promote and implement initiatives in all areas and processes of disaster risk management, in consonance with international frameworks and regional plans for DRR, as well as agendas aimed at contributing to sustainable development of South American countries, with emphasis in R+D+i+e initiatives to reduce disaster risk and strengthen resilience capacities in South America.

#### 4. SPECIFIC GOALS

**Specific Goal 1:** To promote R+D+i+e (research, development, innovation and entrepreneurship) in the area of DRR and resilience.

Action towards disaster risk reduction and resilience building must assume the uncertainty derived from climate change, urbanization, and other contemporary phenomena. This presents the challenge of updating governance mechanism and the opportunity to think of innovative solutions of high social, economic, and environmental value. Therefore, administering uncertainty implies investing in prospective management based on knowledge and understanding of risk, through research and development. Hence, the focus of this specific goal is to develop a South American R+D+i+e hub for resilience initiatives since it represents an investment for a sustainable future in the region.

**Specific goal 2:** To promote intersectoral dialogue to ensure the resilience of Critical Infrastructure and Lifelines, through Disaster Risk Management (DRM).

The resilience of vital infrastructure is a fundamental axis for the sustainable development of countries with increasingly urban populations. This is why the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 highlighted that critical infrastructure is one of the cornerstones for sustainable development, since these physical structures, facilities, networks and other assets provide indispensable services for the social and economic functioning of a community or society.

**Specific goal 3:** To strengthen collaboration in border areas and promote border integration projects in disaster risk reduction.

Threats do not respond to political-administrative boundaries of countries. In the region there are common challenges for disaster risk management, such as monitoring and early warning of shared hazards. Likewise, it is possible to generate synergies between border countries based on shared risk management processes and investment projects, generating territorial resilience. In this context, a joint action in border areas not only is a guarantee for the

continuity of fundamental services, but represents an enabler of cooperation for disaster response and an opportunity to join efforts for resilience investment.

**Specific goal 4:** To strengthen the mechanisms of coordination and mutual assistance in disaster situations.

Collaboration and cooperation between countries in situations of emergency and disasters will allow the implementation of international mechanisms and parameters for humanitarian assistance, so that the national coordination mechanisms for the reception of aid can optimize the addressing of the needs of affected populations in a timely and effective manner.

Additionally, developing common experiences of practice and simulation is an asset of countries to identify common challenges and detect gaps. It also represents a vehicle to connect people and form sectorial communities of practice in the region.

## 5. PROPOSAL FOR SUB WORKING GROUPS

### I. Sub working group of R+D+i+e for resilience

To promote and create national and regional spaces for research, development, innovation and entrepreneurship that allows the implementation of disaster risk management as an essential development policy for regional sustainability and resilience.

Leading country: Chile

Participant countries: Paraguay and Colombia

Lines of Action	Products
Resilient Economy and Financing for disaster risk management.	- Consolidated report of best practices of fiscal resilience.
Cooperation for monitoring and early alert.	- Cooperation strategy/alliance for hydrometeorological capacity building (monitoring, forecast and early warning).
Data infrastructure for disaster resilience	- Methodologies for integration and analysis of data sets.
To encourage the challenge of providing innovative solutions to the entrepreneurial ecosystem	- Guidelines to develop “national challenges” to search of innovative solutions to urgent issues.

### II. Sub working group of Resilient Critical Infrastructure

To involve and encourage collaboration of the sectors and institutions responsible for the

development, operation, sustainability and resilience of critical services and infrastructure in case of disaster risk. To this end, initiatives may be articulated with the Prosur's Infrastructure Thematic Area.

Leading country: pending

Participant countries: Colombia

<b>Lines of Action</b>	<b>Products</b>
Methodologies for estimating risk and sustainability indicators for different types of infrastructure.	- Methodology for cost-benefit analysis (in resilient infrastructure) of investing in DRR. - Diagnosis of existing methodologies.
Standards, design and regulation for the development, operation and maintenance of critical infrastructure, with emphasis on operational continuity.	- Seminar best practices for operational continuity.
Planning for rehabilitation and resilient reconstruction.	- Sectoral training programs in resilient critical infrastructure.
Incorporation of the countries of the region to the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).	- PROSUR countries adhered to the Resilient Infrastructure Coalition.

### **III. Sub working group of Resilience and Reduction of Cross-Border Risk**

To identify border areas with potential for collaborative work for disaster risk management and promote actions for the resilience of border areas.

Leading country: Brazil

Participant countries: Chile, Colombia, Guyana and Paraguay

<b>Lines of Action</b>	<b>Products</b>
Cooperation for alert and monitoring threats in border areas.	- Manual of best alert and monitoring practices in border areas. - Strategy for binational and multi-country agreements.
Border strategies for emergency and disaster response.	- Baseline for the design of mutual assistance plans in border areas. - Mutual assistance plans in priority border areas.
Infrastructure resilience, process and land management in cross-border areas	- Implementation of development and integration projects in border areas that do not increase the risk of disasters. - Border interaction strategy for disaster resilience.

#### IV. Working Subgroup on Mutual assistance

To strengthen agreements and mutual assistance actions in case of disasters those contribute to the existing humanitarian coordination mechanisms in each country.

Leading country: Ecuador

Participant countries: Brazil, Colombia

Lines of Action	Products
Guidelines on mutual assistance in case of disasters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Cooperation manual/guidelines for mutual assistance in case of disasters.</li><li>- Single card for border transit of humanitarian aid.</li></ul>
Simulations and drills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Regional exercise.</li><li>- Multi-country exercise.</li><li>- Participation of member countries in national simulations and drills (national, sub-national, sectoral).</li></ul>
Capacity building of human resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Regional trainings.</li><li>- Participation of member countries in national training (national, sub-national, sectoral)</li><li>- Exchanges and internships.</li></ul>

#### 6. WORK SCHEDULE

Date	Action
October 10, 2019	First circulation of the Sectoral Plan draft with sectoral focal points of the member countries.
October 30, 2019	First videoconference.
November 8, 2019	Second videoconference.
November 19, 2019	Third videoconference.
December 18, 2019	Fourth videoconference.
December 20, 2019	Delivery of final Sectoral Plan.
August 18, 2020	Review and adjustment of the Sector Plan and Annual Work Plan