

**Niels Annen, MdB**

**Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Economic  
Cooperation and Development**

**Official German Statement at the Global Platform for Disaster  
Risk Reduction**

Video message

**23-28 May 2022**

*The spoken word is valid!*

**Your Excellency Mr. Joko Widodo, President of Indonesia,  
Honorable Special Representative of the Secretary General  
for Disaster Risk Reduction, Ms. Mami Mizutori,  
Distinguished Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**Moving from “Risk to Resilience”!**

- That is the slogan for this year’s Global Platform. –  
And it is very timely.
- Hurricanes in the Caribbean, typhoons in Asia, droughts in Africa and floods in Europe: they have all had devastating effects on individuals, on communities and on us as nations.
- The mandate of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction is more relevant than ever before.
- I would therefore like to thank the Government of Indonesia for co-hosting and UNDRR for facilitating this Global Platform.

**Germany is committed to increasing resilience towards disasters:**

**At the national level,**

- we are seeking to improve early warning, including cell broadcast systems. Our challenge is to ensure a coherent, nation-wide warning practice through all administrative levels. There is a lot we can learn from more disaster-prone countries in this regard.

### **With our partners in developing countries,**

- Germany is fostering risk-informed planning and decision-making.
- We are helping to upgrade critical infrastructure and supply systems so as to make them more resilient, and we are enabling innovative solutions for climate risk financing.
- Our focus is on fragile contexts. Making those communities most at risk more resilient, and involving them in decision-making and planning will be key to achieving the Sendai Framework as well as the 2030 Agenda.

### **We are making sure our humanitarian assistance is risk-informed**

- and we commend UNDRR's efforts to make Disaster Risk Reduction an integral part of humanitarian programming.
- Together with our partners we are aiming to significantly increase financial resources, and scale up and mainstream anticipatory action.
- The needs of people at risk or already affected by displacement are in our focus, informing actions to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity.

### **Three aspects in disaster risk reduction are key for success:**

**First, we need to enhance our understanding of risks.**

**Because we know that risk-informed decision-making is the best form of prevention.**

- This will require joint analysis and the exchange of reliable data.
- But it will also require getting local knowledge by listening to farmers, youth groups, displaced persons or women's associations, as that will build trust, which is a foundation for good risk governance.

**Second, all of us must ensure that our efforts are well coordinated:**

- Governments, civil society, business and research: we all must address complexity and ensure coordination across all relevant levels and sectors, in order to support those most in need.

**And third, we will only build resilience together –**

- Strong multilateral and regional partnerships with the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and civil society networks are a key element on our way to success.

**Investing in reducing disaster risks is a “smart investment”**

- It saves money.

**But more importantly: disaster risk reduction saves lives!**

- Let us work together to make it more effective.