



**FINAL DRAFT**

**VINH JOINT RECOMMENDATIONS ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DRR**  
**“Enhancing science technology and cooperation to facilitate**  
**DRR decision support towards an effective policy making for upgrading DRR governance”**

The 11<sup>th</sup> APEC Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum (SDMOF) was held in Vinh City, Viet Nam on 21-22 September 2017. The Forum was officially opened by H.E. Hoang Van Thang, Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Viet Nam, and H.E. Mr Dinh Viet Hong, Vice Chairman of the People’s Committee of Nghe An Province, and gathered more than 160 delegates, including senior disaster management officials from 15 APEC member economies, namely Australia; People Republic of China; Indonesia; Japan; Republic of Korea; Mexico; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; Peru; the Philippines; Russia; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; The United States and Viet Nam, as well as representatives from UNISDR and related regional, UN agencies, international and local private sectors.

In response to APEC 2017 main theme of “**Creating New Dynamism – Fostering a Shared Future**” as well as the APEC DRR Framework requesting the EPWG to further explore DRR - the 11<sup>th</sup> SDMOF gathered senior disaster management officials and regional key stakeholders and focused on “enhancing inter-regional cooperation and advanced technology, innovation and application to effective emergency response to the “New normal” in the APEC economies”.

Recognising the increasing vulnerabilities of the APEC region due to challenges triggered by natural disasters and climate change, we highlight a regional synergy in applying advanced technologies for better emergency preparedness and in exploring APEC-wide solutions to enhance disaster risk management and securing economic development. We recommend that the APEC economies should work together to:

1. Identify new innovations, share the best practices of scientific solutions, and foster voluntary technology transfer to enhance knowledge to support DRR decision-making, and increasing disaster resilience and climate change adaptation.
2. Encourage and promote research and application to mitigate the impacts of the “new normal” such as coastal/river bank erosion, super storms and typhoons, earthquakes, tsunamis, saline intrusion, and emerging natural disasters.

3. Establish and strengthen cross-fora institution networks and partnership for better mainstreaming scientific and technological knowledge to DRR policy making and implementation; Promote better-coordinated policy to accommodate needs of DRR and developments of science and technology.
4. Give priority investment in information and communication technology for strengthening ICT infrastructure for better forecasts on impacts of natural hazards and effective emergency preparedness to reduce disaster risks of affected communities.
5. Acknowledge the values and efforts at the local and community level for DRR, and support community based disaster risk management and community based disaster risk reduction by exploring scientific knowledge and technologies adapted to DRR needs at the grassroots level and through capacity building for more sustainable and disaster resilient communities.
6. Notice the importance of preventing heavy rain, flash flood, drought, salinity intrusion and coastal erosion and integrated river-basin management in accordance with growing population and cities located at coastal areas in the Asia Pacific region.
7. Strengthen DRR governance and resilience in the APEC region by intensifying the coordination role of DRR organization to build up partnership with the government.
8. Enhance APEC cross-fora cooperation on sharing DRR knowledge through synergies of PPFs, PPSTI, CSAE, TPTWG, SMEWG and PPWE to implement the APEC DRR Framework in accordance with issues of food security, science and technology, climate change, critical infrastructure supply chain resilience, business continuity and gender.
9. Strengthen the role of the EPWG in supporting APEC human security issues through carrying out the APEC DRR Framework and widening scopes of preventing interruptions to business operations by natural disasters.
10. Consider the possibility to establish mechanism and procedures of informational exchange and coordination between focal point for disaster management centers, scientific institute and other stakeholders of APEC economies.
11. Review progress of applying advanced technology for effective emergency preparedness upon the 2018 agenda of EPWG and other related meetings.

Officials agreed to report the Vinh Joint Recommendations to the Concluding Senior Officials Meetings and the Ministerial Meeting to be held in Da Nang in November 2017. Finally, officials expressed their sincere gratitude and appreciation to Viet Nam for their initiatives in raising the key issues of science and technology, and in their hospitality in hosting and organizing the 11<sup>th</sup> SDMOF. The officials look forward to further elaborating the work on emergency preparedness during PNG's hosting of APEC 2018.

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