

**Why the
inclusion of
LGBTQIA+
people matters
in Disaster Risk
Reduction &
Climate Action.**



My discussion today

- Why inclusion of LGBTQIA+ people in disaster risk reduction & climate action policy matters
- The current state of international policy on the issue.
- Recommendations for us as practitioners, policymakers and academics on how we can build a LGBTQIA+ inclusive process.
- Next steps & how to get involved

About me

I run DRR Dynamics, a research and advocacy organisation formed in 2014 —its primary goal is to ensure marginalised groups are better included in disaster risk reduction (DRR) policy and practice at national & international level.

DRRDYNAMICS

SUPPORTING INCLUSIVE DISASTER
RISK REDUCTION

Background

The Sendai Framework was adopted by UN Member states in 2015.

It aims to ensure a more inclusive disaster risk reduction (DRR) ambition than its predecessors, including inclusion of various marginalised groups (*women, girls, older people, indigenous pops etc*).



**Sendai Framework
for Disaster Risk Reduction
2015 - 2030**

Sendai's shortfalls

In spite of its ambitious goal of engaging "all-of-society", the Sendai Framework is actually quite narrowly focused when considering marginalised & hyper-marginalised groups in disasters.

appropriate to their national circumstances and systems of governance;

(c) Managing the risk of disasters is aimed at protecting persons and their property, health, livelihoods and productive assets, as well as cultural and environmental assets, while promoting and protecting all human rights, including the right to development;

(d) Disaster risk reduction requires an all-of-society engagement and partnership. It also requires empowerment and inclusive, accessible and non-discriminatory participation, paying special attention to people disproportionately affected by disasters, especially the poorest. A gender, age, disability and cultural perspective should be integrated in all policies and practices, and women and youth leadership should be promoted. In this context, special attention should be paid to the improvement of organized voluntary work of citizens;

(e) Disaster risk reduction and management depends on coordination mechanisms within and across sectors and with relevant stakeholders at all levels, and it requires the full engagement of all State institutions of an executive and legislative nature at national and local levels and a clear articulation of responsibilities across public and private stakeholders, including business and

Extract from the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
2015-2030

So what about LGBTQIA+ & Sendai?

This lack of specific inclusion of gender & sexual minorities means there is little in the way of guidance for countries to implement their own initiatives.

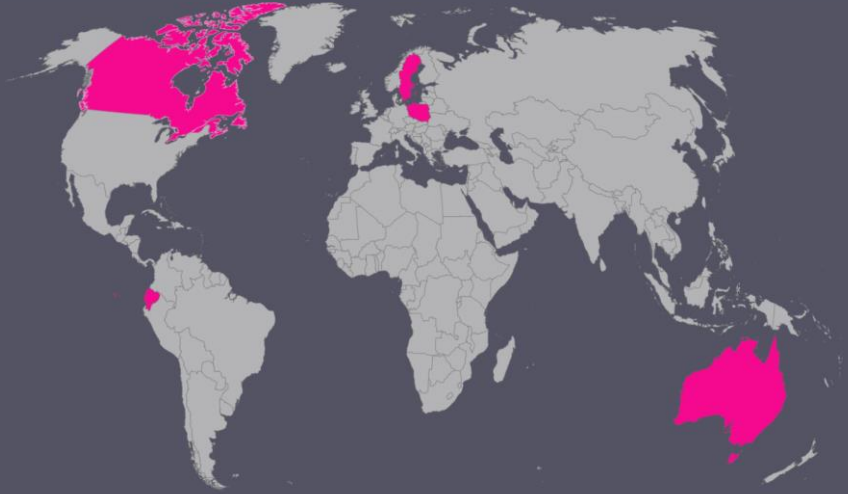
No guidance = little incentive.



Resulting policy gaps

Our research (2021) showed there were only 6 instances of LGBTQIA+ groups being considered in policy instruments related to DRR.

Much of that work was being done by academic & research institutions.



Data: DRR Dynamics, Global LGBTQIA+ policy review

Recommendations

The report provides a number of recommendations for policymakers, practitioners and officials to ensure a LGBTQIA+ inclusive process.

Inclusion shouldn't be a "checkbox" exercise & should be implemented with a committed & long term strategy



Engagement

Step one should always be engagement with the community of focus.

Working alongside individuals, organisations & others within the LGBTQIA+ community will always be the best way to develop policy that reflects specific needs and capacities.

Queer communities of colour are a vital community here.



DRR Dynamics' #DRRLive event,
25th Jan, 2019

Top down / bottom up

Develop a system that recognises the essential role of centralised policy guidance (& *funding*) to incorporate LGBTQIA+ people within disaster risk reduction policy but also accommodates local level, grassroots engagement & implementation



Research & evidence

Greater focus on research on the impacts of disaster on LGBTQIA+ people must be encouraged and importantly, funded.

There also needs to be a focus on moving that research from academia into policy development.



Next steps; Lobbying for change

We're currently working closely with a number of international organisations (incl. within the UN family), as well as national governments to advocate for greater LGBTQIA+ inclusion at policy level.



Join us

If you're interested in helping build a more inclusive disaster risk reduction process, please consider joining our Google Group on LGBTQIA+ people & disasters -

www.bit.ly/LGBT_GG



Thank you

kevin@drd.org.uk

www.drrdynamics.com

