Composite Indicators and Scoreboards
COMMUNITY of PRACTICE
08-09 November 2018
Joint Research Centre, Ispra

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Joint Research Centre
the European Commission's in-house science service

JRC Science Hub: ec.europa.eu/jrc
“Countries or areas of countries at risk from humanitarian emergencies that could overwhelm national response capacity and lead to a need for international assistance”

**purpose**

- Support objective, risk-based decision to help prevent, prepare for and respond to crisis and disaster and build resilience

**users**

- Governments, humanitarian, development and DRR sector and others

This year is the 5th annual release of the global INFORM model
INFORM is a collaboration of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Reference Group on Risk, Early Warning and Preparedness and the European Commission. INFORM partners include:
BEGINNINGS

USER DRIVEN MODEL....

Partners

All trying to solve the same problem

Data providers

JRC has been leading the technical work on INFORM

....DATA DRIVEN MODEL
FEATURES

Based on the best methods and data, published regularly and comparable over time

GLOBAL
191 COUNTRIES

OPEN

all results, underlying data and methodology are completely transparent and freely available

...and OBJECTIVE while using quantitative data

...as well as FLEXIBLE to meet specific needs of all users

Based on the RISK CONCEPT....
Risk = Hazard/Exposure × Vulnerability × Coping capacity
METHODOLOGY

INFORM

Dimensions
- Hazard & exposure
- Vulnerability
- Lack of coping capacity

Categories
- Natural
- Human
- Socio-economic
- Vulnerable groups
- Institutional
- Infrastructure

Components
- Earthquake
- Tsunami
- Flood
- Tropical cyclone
- Drought
- Current conflict intensity
- Projected conflict risk
- Development & deprivation (50%)
- Inequality (25%)
- Aid dependency (25%)
- Uprooted people
- Other vulnerable groups
- DRR
- Governance
- Communication
- Physical infrastructure
- Access to health system

50 indicators
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AFGHANISTAN
South Asia
Low-income

Risk Profile

INFORM Risk: 8.1
Hazard & Exposure: 8.8
Vulnerability: 7.4
Coping capacity: 8.2

Global Peers

Region and Income Group Context
SUBNATIONAL

Supporting local entities to develop their own INFORM tailored to the local context using national data to assess crisis and disaster risk within a county or region.

Colombia
The development of the INFORM Colombia model was initiated by USAID and UNICEF. It is a municipal level risk index, which identifies threats, vulnerabilities, and response capacities throughout the country. The results have been used in the Humanitarian Needs Overview 2015 and by UNICEF planners and donors. The model includes specific components to evaluate risk levels for children and adolescents. Partners are now investigating if the model can be expanded to cover all rural counties in the region.

Lebanon
INFORM Lebanon was developed by the American University of Beirut in collaboration with UNICEF Humanitarian Data Centre and the development of the Lebanon Humanitarian Development and Support Network that supports cross-sectoral analysis of the national level INFORM report, as well as the National Humanitarian Support and Coordination Committee. This model is expanding to support region-level disaster risk, including urban areas, beyond the spatial limits of the region, taking into account the Lebanese context.

Greater Horn of Africa region
The INFORM Greater Horn of Africa model is a part of an initiative of the Inter-governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and OCHA to improve risk awareness by analyzing, visualizing, and disseminating information to support the prevention, preparedness, and response to humanitarian crises and disasters in the region. The model will be updated regularly to support national coordination and prioritization of humanitarian, development, risk management, and resilience investments.

Senegal region
The region INFORM Senegal model was initiated by the United Nations Development Programme and<br>encompasses a wide range of stakeholders. The model is designed to<br>support humanitarian, development, and security operations in Senegal, taking into account cross-sectoral<br>interactions. The model helps prioritize the approach to risk management and<br>disaster preparedness within the region.
You can use INFORM to...

- Prioritise countries by risk, or any of its components
- Decide how best to reduce risk
- Monitor risk trends

...or misuse if users are not aware of limitations of the methodology and data
Understanding and communicating the reliability

**INFORM LACK OF RELIABILITY INDEX**

**MISSING DATA**
The total number of original indicators missing, including any that have been estimated (e.g., HDI derived from GDP per capita).

**OUT OF DATE DATA**
The average of the total number of years older than the reference year per indicator, to account for any older data used as a proxy for the most recent year.

**CONFLICT STATUS**
We define a country in conflict if the Conflict Barometer of the Heidelberg Institute for International Conflict Research (HfKS) sets a conflict intensity 4 or 5 (highly violent conflict), to account for the challenges of the data collection in a country affected by conflict.

**Classification of risk for visualisation**

**INFORM RISK INDEX**

2015 APPROACH

- **QUARTILE**
  - Low: 0 - 2.30
  - Medium: 2.31 - 4.64
  - High: 4.65 - 6.5
  - Very High: 6.51 - 10

2016 CLUSTER APPROACH – fixed thresholds

- **CLUSTER APPROACH**
  - Very low: 0 - 2
  - Low: 2.1 - 5.0
  - Medium: 5.1 - 6.5
  - High: 6.6 - 10
  - Very High: 10.1 - 10

**Validation**

1. Statistical coherence
2. Expert based
3. Outcomes

**UNSOLVED**

- **Methodological limitations** (No interactions among dimensions)
- **Conceptual limitations** (Risk related to climate change is not included)
- **Data limitation** (no real-time, proxy indicators, missing values, missing biological and technological hazard)

**DEVELOPING**

- Making INFORM hazard dependent
- Introducing SDG and SENDAI indicators
**IMPACTS**

More and more partners/users

1. **Global INFORM**
   - 2018: 28 partners

2. **Subnational INFORM**
   - 2018 12 PARTNER GROUPS
   - 25 LOCAL/REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS

**Publications by other organizations, featuring INFORM**

**MEDIA**

- Annual release
  - >2,000 download

- >1,000 followers

[www.inform-index.org](http://www.inform-index.org)

[Nov 2016 – Nov 2017]

- Sessions: 49,879
- Users: 31,340
- Page views: 114,653
**IMPACTS**

**SURVEY**

- Did INFORM succeed in introducing the risk approach in decision-making of the partner organizations?
- Is INFORM used to its full extent?

**who**
- joint effort of
  - United Nations University (UNU-EHS)
  - European Commission (JRC).

**focus**
- synthesize expert knowledge on
  - awareness, usefulness and impact of global risk indices

**purpose**
- Map the use of INFORM
- Understand the current impact
- Extract best practices
- Suggestions for improvements which could increase the impact of INFORM

.....goes online in mid-November 2018
LESSONS LEARNT

INFORM is not just a tool. It has become a platform for common understanding of disaster risk.

As such also an important contribution to global initiatives.
Get the results...

INFORM results are available at www.inform-index.org, where you can: download a spreadsheet with all the results, calculations and source data; view and print country profiles; explore the data interactively; and find out more about how INFORM works and how you can use it.