

# What does endorsing the Comprehensive School Safety Framework mean for donor governments?

#### WHAT IS THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SAFETY FRAMEWORK?

The <u>Comprehensive School Safety Framework</u> is an all-hazards, all-risks approach to protecting children and education, offering governments a practical framework to advance children's rights, disaster risk reduction, peace building, climate action and the sustainable development agenda. The Framework sets out tangible actions that governments can and should take to strengthen the resilience of education systems, support education continuity and provide children with the skills, knowledge and behaviours to prepare for and respond to all shocks and stresses.

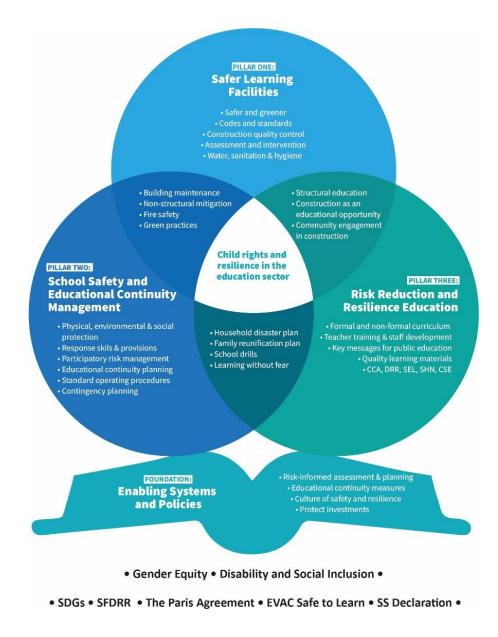
The Framework covers four interconnected areas for action:

- Foundation: Enabling Systems and Policies
- Pillar 1: Safer Learning Facilities
- Pillar 2: School Safety and Educational Continuity Management
- Pillar 3: Risk Reduction and Resilience Education

Over 80 countries have endorsed the Comprehensive School Safety Framework.

The Comprehensive School Safety Framework 2022-2030 was developed by members of the Global Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience in the Education Sector (GADRRES).





## WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR GOVERNMENTS TO ENDORSE THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SAFETY FRAMEWORK?

Endorsement means countries share GADRRRES' vision that every school in every country should be a safe school. Concretely, endorsement means agreeing with the goals of the Framework and committing to work towards implementing and institutionalising the three pillars and foundation of the Framework through:

- <u>Policy change:</u> including school safety in relevant development, national and local policies and plans, coordinating across relevant ministries and sharing these widely.
- <u>Budget:</u> allocating development and/or national budget to support implementation of the CSSF and preparedness and resilience activities.
- Implementation: implementing the 3 pillars and foundation of the Framework in schools, utilising GADRRRES resources and lessons learnt from other countries, and supporting implementation through programmatic and policy influencing through development assistance.



## SHOULD ENDORSEMENT JUST COVER DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIOS, JUST DOMESTIC PORTFOLIOS, OR BOTH?

**Both.** Hazards and risks affect all corners of the globe, sadly increasingly so. This includes high-income countries - examples from places as diverse as <a href="Australia">Australia</a> and <a href="Spain">Spain</a> demonstrate this. As such, GADRRRES encourages endorsement of the Comprehensive School Safety Framework to cover both domestic and international portfolios.

However, GADRRRES recognises the challenge of multi-agency endorsement and notes this may be a longer process. If one department is ready to endorse, this can be done as a stepping stone whilst full government endorsement is sought. This should be stated in the endorsement message sent to GADRRRES, and endorsement will be reflected accordingly on the GADRRRES website. For example -

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Atlantis endorses the Comprehensive School Safety Framework and commits to implement the Framework through its development portfolio. In the meantime, Atlantis MoFA is working with Atlantis Ministry of Education to secure domestic endorsement, but this process requires discussion with all individual sub-national units. This would be reflected on the GADRRRES website as *Atlantis - Ministry of Foreign Affairs*.

### HOW DO GOVERNMENTS ENDORSE THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SAFETY FRAMEWORK?

To endorse the Comprehensive School Safety Framework, governments should <u>send a message to the GADRRRES Secretariat</u> explaining their commitment to comprehensive school safety and the actions they propose to undertake following their endorsement. <u>A template endorsement email can be downloaded from the GADRRRES website</u>.

For more information on endorsement, see the relevant page on the <u>GADRRRES website</u>.



## HOW IS THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SAFETY FRAMEWORK CONNECTED TO OTHER GLOBAL FRAMEWORKS, INCLUDING THE INEE MINIMUM STANDARDS AND SAFE SCHOOLS DECLARATION?

The Comprehensive School Safety Framework (CSSF), the INEE Minimum Standards, and the Safe Schools Declaration (SSD) are highly complementary, offering a cohesive approach to enhancing school safety and resilience in various contexts.

The CSSF provides a holistic framework for addressing school safety through its all-hazards and risks approach, bringing together multiple sectors to address risks ranging from natural hazards to conflict-related challenges. It serves as a common agenda, fostering collaboration among climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and health actors. Additionally, the CSSF guides governments in designing education policies and programs that prioritise school safety, and it has seen strong uptake in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as in Asia and the Pacific, where several promising practices have emerged.

**The INEE Minimum Standards serve as a practical resource within this framework**, equipping education practitioners with tools and guidance to implement actions outlined under the CSSF, such as educational continuity planning, accelerated education programs, and curriculum adaptation while also explicitly referencing the SSD.

Meanwhile, the SSD reinforces the principles of the CSSF and INEE by establishing commitments to protect schools from attack, reduce military use of educational facilities, seek to ensure the continuation of education during armed conflict, advocate for conflict-sensitive approaches to education and uphold the right to education in crises.

Together, these tools and commitments form an integrated system that supports countries in ensuring the safety and continuity of education, while promoting resilience and safeguarding children's rights.

More information can be found in this <u>visual</u> and in this <u>FAQ document</u>.

#### WHERE CAN I FIND FURTHER RESOURCES?

- Comprehensive School Safety Framework
- Comprehensive School Safety Framework 2025 Advocacy Brief
- Global Status of School Safety: Results of the 2024 Comprehensive School Safety Policy Survey
- Outcome document from the 'Inclusive Comprehensive School Safety: Strengthening Resilience for Children and Youth in all hazards' side event at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2025
- Champion Countries: <u>Peru</u> and <u>Costa Rica</u>
- Comprehensive School Safety Resource Library

#### Global Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience in the Education Sector (GADRRES)

GADRRRES was established in 2013 to provide a comprehensive approach to school safety. It is a multi-stakeholder alliance composed of UN agencies, international non-governmental agencies, humanitarian and development organisations and networks, youth organisations, donors/multilateral funds, and private sector organisations that work together to advocate for and support child rights, resilience, and sustainability in the education sector across the humanitarian, development, peace nexus. GADRRRES has regional networks across the globe. **Contact: gadrrres@gmail.com.**