



## International Recovery Platform

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## International Recovery Forum 2015

# Description of Sessions

### Session 1 National and Regional Engagement in Recovery Planning and Recovery Frameworks [10:15-12:00]

#### Rationale

The Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake offered an opportunity to further build resilience. In Japan, the lessons were documented, and most specifically, recovery was recognized as a critical component of disaster risk management (DRM) with the drafting of Phoenix Plan that has been regularly reviewed and updated. Twenty years after the earthquake, the lessons have been applied in various contexts worldwide with HAT Kobe serving as hub for dissemination of knowledge, technologies, and experience. One notable development is adoption of disaster recovery plans and frameworks in some governments. In view of this, it is crucial to note how the lessons have impacted the DRM systems of other countries, particularly in planning and implementing the recovery agenda.

#### Objective

The main objective of this session is to facilitate sharing of experience of governments and institutions in recovery planning and frameworks.

#### Discussions

In general, the discussion will dwell on the value of recovery planning and putting in place a recovery framework to help facilitate a more effective and efficient organization of recovery. Experiences from USA, Bangladesh, Central America, and Asia-Pacific will be shared.

Ms. Elizabeth A. Zimmerman of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will share the process of developing and adopting the National Recovery Framework of the United States of America. She is expected to highlight how the framework played an important role in organizing recovery after Hurricane Sandy.

Dr. Md. Akram H. Chowdhury of the Institute of Strategic Recovery Studies for Disaster Resilience and Research (ISRSDRR) will present the recent initiative in Bangladesh to establish a National Recovery Platform to create the foundation for promoting resilient recovery and paving the way for sustainable development.

Finally, Ms. Mayra Valle Torres of the Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPREDENAC) is expected to share the regional Intergovernmental Organization's (IGO) effort of facilitating and assisting member countries in developing their respective National Recovery Frameworks.

#### Expected Outcome

The session is expected to document the crucial steps taken by governments and institutions in promoting recovery planning and frameworks. The inputs will be consolidated to guide other governments.

### **Rationale**

While a recovery programme is considered important for the revival of economy, how different segments benefit from recovery is not very well understood. Generally, there are three observable broad trends. First, the governments tend to allocate more resources for restoration of major infrastructure. When the international financial institutions provide loans for recovery, most of the resources are earmarked for large infrastructure such as roads, bridges, electricity lines, ports, etc. Second, local governments generally find it difficult to access resources for recovery. As a result, they are not able to spend adequately for provision of services or support the revival of local economy. Finally, the provision of resources to affected households is generally inadequate and not timely. It does not help households to revive their assets and livelihoods and restore their income and consumption.

In order that the economic impact of recovery is evenly distributed through the economy, it is important that recovery programme targets all the important segments of economy. While major infrastructure and critical lifelines need to be restored as quickly as possible, local governments need better access to resources so that they can restore utilities and community infrastructure and help small and medium businesses to resume their operations. Households need timely support and adequate assistance for getting back their livelihoods. Without the recovery of households and small and medium businesses, the process of recovery would be incomplete and not inclusive. In fact, it would lead to a greater incidence of poverty and inequity among the affected households.

### **Objective**

The session attempts to discuss the economic impact of recovery on different segments, and suggest how a balanced allocation of resources in a recovery programme would improve the overall impact of recovery, and promote social inclusion and gender equity at the community and household level.

### **Discussions**

Speakers in the session will focus on different segments of recovery, and suggest how these recovery efforts contributed to the economy.

Dr. Yoshiaki Kawata, Director and Professor at Research Center for Safety Science at Kansai University and Executive Director of Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institute in Japan will discuss the macro perspective of economic impact of recovery based on his experience, including Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake and Great East Japan Earthquake.

Dr. Naresh Singh, who is former principal adviser at UNDP on Poverty and Sustainable Livelihoods, will tackle the community and household perspective of economic impact of recovery.

Dr. Toshihisa Toyoda, Professor Emeritus of Kobe University, Japan will share his thoughts and findings of studies concerning economic implications of recovery, including the case of Kobe.

### **Expected Outcome**

This session expected to compile a list of recommendations for achieving a balanced recovery with appropriate resources to be allocated more equitably among different segments. It would also improve the element of social inclusion, gender, and equity in the recovery programme.

## **Panel Discussion [15:30-16:40]**

*How can the lessons Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake further inform the strategies and actions in implementing the recovery component of Post-2015 Framework for DRR?*

### **Rationale**

Recognizing the need for greater articulation of recovery component in the global frameworks, the zero-draft of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction has substantively integrated recovery. The current articulation is a result of stakeholders and practitioners' demand for appropriate integration of recovery in the DRR framework, as expressed during consultations and expert group meetings. In view of this, strategies and actions for implementing recovery may be discussed to ensure efficiency and effectiveness.

### **Objective**

The main objective of the discussion is to share key strategies and actions in recovery planning, implementation, and monitoring.

### **Discussions**

The panelists (representing various sectors including business, civil society, government, health, and community) are expected to share the steps they have taken in formulating and implementing recovery plans and programs.

Mr. Robin D. Willison, an independent technical expert on DRR, will share the practitioner's perspective on what strategies and actions can be culturally appropriate for recovery programs.

Mr. Mihir R. Bhatt, Managing Trustee of All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI), is expected to share the strategies and actions his institutions have undertaken in India, including application of lessons from Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake.

Hon. Alex Byarugaba Bakunda, Member of Parliament Uganda and UNISDR Champion for Disaster Risk Reduction, will discuss the importance of putting in place legislative frameworks and appropriate budget to ensure that strategies and actions for recovery are properly implemented.

Mr. Orliber R. Paule of the Bonifacio Estate Services Corporation (BESC) in the Philippines will share how the Bonifacio Global City (BGC) came up with the idea to initiate a pre-disaster recovery plan and steps undertaken during the planning process.

Finally, Ms. Mayumi Kako of the World Health Organization Kobe Center (WKC), Japan will share the actions in implementing the recovery of health systems after disaster.

### **Expected Outcomes**

This session will document the strategies and actions on implementing recovery along various sectors. These actions will be further analyzed to inform the implementation of the recovery component of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

## Session 3 Messages from Tohoku Region on the 20<sup>th</sup> Commemoration of the Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake [16:40-17:20]

### **Rationale**

The Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake in 1995 was an epoch event in Japan. In 2011, the Great East Japan Earthquake had severely impacted Tohoku region, making it another critical epoch event. In view of these two epoch events, the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR) was organized in Kobe, where the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) was adopted by 168 nations in 2005. As HFA is culminating towards a new level, the third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) will be organized in Sendai in March 2015, where the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction – a successor to HFA – is expected to be adopted.

Against this backdrop, the learnings from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake as well as the lessons from organizing the WCDR in Kobe will be shared to Sendai as host city for the WCDRR.

### **Objective**

The objective of this session is to bridge the learnings of Hyogo Prefectural Government from hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR) to Sendai City Government which will host the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR).

### **Discussions**

In reference to the keynote speech, to be delivered by Governor Toshizo Ido, the speakers in this session will offer their respective messages in preparation for the 3<sup>rd</sup> WCDRR.

Ms. Kumi Onuma will speak on behalf of the Tohoku Revival Reinforcement Office of the Development Bank of Japan, Inc. (DBJ) Tohoku Branch.

Prof. Yuichi Ono will speak on behalf of the International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS) of Tohoku University.

Mr. Daisuke Otsuka will speak on behalf of the Earthquake Disaster Restoration Policy Planning Department of the Miyagi Prefectural Government.

### **Expected Outcomes**

The session is expected to orient participants of the recovery developments in Tohoku, the application of lessons learned from Hyogo, and the overview of the forthcoming activities and events at Sendai, specifically those that promote the recovery agenda. .