

Please fill out this section *only* if you are nominating an *institution*

Institution name Myanmar Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group (DRR WG)

Address of headquarters No. 6 Natmauk Road Tamwe Township PO Box 650
Yangon 11211 Myanmar

Address of nominated institution if different from headquarters same as above

Date of creation Dec 2008 Main fields of activity Disaster Risk Reduction

Size 61 Member Agencies Organization structure Honorary Chair: Relief and Resettlement Department (RRD)
Chair: UNDP (elected annually)
Steering Committee: 11 elected members (3UN, 3INGO, 3LNGO, Red Cross and 1 professional institution)
DRR WG (all registered 61 members, in October 2014)

Annual budget and sources of income Pool resources as per Annual Workplan
(please see attached AWP 2014-2015)

Name and title of chief executive officer Lat Lat Aye (Ms), Chair, Myanmar DRR WG, Team Leader,
Environmental Governance and Disaster Resilience, UNDP

For those submitting nominations, please provide your details

Nominator's name Toily Kurbanov (Mr)

Address No. 6 Natmauk Road Tamwe Township PO Box 650 Yangon 11211 Myanmar

Email toily.kurbanov@undp.org

Present position Country Director

Previous posts and functions UN Deputy Resident Representative in Fiji and Pacific Island Countries
UNDP Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Embassy of Turkmenistan in the Republic of Armenia
Chairman, State Tourism Corporation of Turkmenistan
Minister of Foreign Economic Relations, Turkmenistan

In less than 800 words, please describe the remarkable and innovative effort carried out by the nominee to reduce the impact of disasters and build disaster resilience under the theme “*Shaping the Future.*”

Myanmar is at its historic crossroads, to become a peaceful and prosperous country through the reform process initiated by the new Government in 2011. However, Myanmar is prone to various natural hazards with high levels of exposure and vulnerability. While small-scale, localized disasters occur more frequently, the high impact of Cyclone Nargis (2008) highlighted the vulnerability of communities and lack of preparedness measures.

Several agencies actively supported the relief and recovery for the Nargis-affected area and the Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group (DRR WG)¹ was established as part of the Early Recovery coordination system in 2008. Whereas the initial scope was to coordinate and share information among agencies, it steadily evolved to become the independent working group it is today, supporting and advancing Myanmar’s DRR agenda. Its members have actively contributed to four thematic areas, including the strengthening DRR institutions; community-based disaster preparedness and mitigation; building DRR knowledge and awareness; as well as mainstreaming DRR into development sectors. Members worked through partnerships (technical and financial) to support the Government, by gaining and building its trust at various levels and by reaching the most vulnerable communities.

The rapid changes occurring in Myanmar since 2008 highlight the need to have a robust DRR network that can support the Government as well as the communities in their efforts to build a resilient country. DRR WG members continued to build on the collective approach of their initial partnership. By leveraging technical expertise beyond individual mandates and by looking forward to the opportunities of the reform process, the DRR WG members embarked on an extensive consultation internally and externally. In 2012-2013, under the aegis of DRR WG, Government and donors took stock of achievements. Together they identified gaps, defined the scope, as well as challenges and opportunities in line with National and Global priorities². This consultative process led to development of a Strategic Framework³ for the period 2014-2018 with clear scope, vision, mission, work plan and expected outcomes. Through enhanced participation, governance and implementation structure, as well as resource mobilization strategies were agreed upon.

With the Strategic Plan’s vision of “A disaster resilient Myanmar where everyone is safe”, the mission statement was set to encourage the “Collective efforts of a diverse mix of partners for disaster resilience through sharing, learning and working together”. The Strategic Framework formulates three objectives for the DRR WG:

- To strengthen the operationalization of a DRR framework that is inclusive, responsive to the needs of the hazard-prone communities and takes into account climate change
- To support the mainstreaming of DRR into development processes as a way to ensure that livelihood and essential infrastructures are protected in the face of disasters
- To become a Government-led model of DRR coordination, championing DRR learning and innovation

¹ <http://www.themimu.info/sector/disaster-risk-reduction>

² A Situational Analysis of Disaster Risk Reduction in Myanmar (June 2013) is located at <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/iocs3gmnxy4u6l3/AAD8-vhng9wqe61O2lwsFBIa?dl=0>

³ DRR WG Strategic Framework (2014-2018) is located as <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/iocs3gmnxy4u6l3/AAD8-vhng9wqe61O2lwsFBIa?dl=0>.

The Expected Outcomes of the Strategic Framework are laid out as:

- Outcome 1: A policy and legal framework on DRR that is inclusive, responsive to the needs of hazard-prone communities and takes into account climate change is in place
- Outcome 2: Government partners at different levels have increased capacity to implement the DRR framework and mainstream DRR into development processes
- Outcome 3: Communities and civil society organizations have access to information on the DRR framework and tools and resources to strengthen their resilience
- Outcome 4: Local organizations have the capacity to take on leading roles in the DRR sector
- Outcome 5: Effective partnerships for DRR are established with the private sector, professional bodies and other relevant stakeholders
- Outcome 6: The DRR WG is effective and accountable and provides the Government with tools, experiences and capacities to coordinate the broader DRR Sector

The DRR WG complies with the five Principles of Partnership endorsed by the Global Humanitarian Platform in 2007. These are: 'Equality, Transparency, Complementarity, Responsibility and Result Orientation'. The DRR WG moreover adheres to the two other principles of 'Inclusiveness' and 'Integration.'

In 2014, the first year of the Strategic Framework, DRR WG members have constituted six Technical Task Forces. By starting work under these Technical Task Forces, members kicked-off implementation under each of the work-plan's outcomes.

With its ongoing commitment, the DRR WG makes an essential contribution to shaping the future of Myanmar as a disaster resilient country.

In less than 400 words, please describe how the nominee's work is funded.

Since the DRR WG's establishment, its member agencies have voluntarily provided technical, financial, human resources (coordination) and logistical resources, thus contributing to implement the collaborative work of the DRR WG. In particular for meeting the financial needs of activities agreed upon by the DRR WG, the members prepared a concept note, a work-plan and budget requirements. This allowed agencies to contribute financial resources to different parts in the budget and the work-plan.

While there is no dedicated core funding for the activities under the DRR WG Strategic Framework, WG members have committed to implement through their existing resources with the current practice of pooling resources, while also mobilizing additional resources.

If DRR WG won the 2015 UN Sasakawa Prize, the award money would be used to implement the DRR WG Strategic Framework. The activities in the work-plan of the Strategic Framework would be prioritized by the Working Group members, according to the principles of partnership outlined above, and the award money would contribute to implementation of the prioritized activities.

Any recognition through the Sasakawa Award, but especially winning it, would encourage DRR WG, and the Government to even firmer commitment to disaster resilience in Myanmar.