



IRP Shared Experiences of Integrating “Build Back Better” into DRR Plans

17-20 April 2018, Gujarat, India

In support of the *Making Cities Resilient Campaign*, the International Recovery Platform Secretariat dispatched a resource person to the “Urban Risk Reduction and Resilience: Capacity Development for Making Cities Resilient to Disasters” workshop, 17-20 April 2018 in Gujarat, India. The event was jointly organized by the National Disaster Management Authority of India (NDMA), and the Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management (GIDM) in collaboration with UNISDR ONEA-GETI.

Forty-one participants, including city government officials and representatives from the NDMA, attended the four-day workshop, which aimed to guide government planners in integrating the *Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient* into their respective Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Plans. These “Ten Essentials” can be categorized into three groups of actions.

Commit to Resilience: Political leaders need to voluntarily commit to make the municipality resilient to disasters. Leaders who make a commitment to resilience can facilitate

the following enabling essentials: (1) Organize for disaster resilience; (2) Identify, understand, and use current and future scenarios; and (3) Strengthen financial capacity for resilience.

Improve Activities for Resilience:

Lessons from past experiences show that building resilience is a continuous process, where activities are regularly improved to adapt to recent trends and conditions. Activities under the following operational essentials need greater consideration: (4) Pursue resilient urban development and design; (5) Safeguard natural buffers to enhance the protective functions offered by natural ecosystems; (6) Strengthen institutional capacity for resilience; (7) Understand and strengthen social capacity for resilience; and (8) Increase infrastructure resilience.

Prepare for Disaster: Cities and municipalities that are resilient to disaster begin response and recovery efforts even before a disaster happens. They institute mechanisms and systems beforehand to address anticipated challenges from a disaster. Preparedness activities are highlighted in the following build back better essentials: (9) Ensure effective preparedness and disaster response; and (10) Expedite recovery and build back better.

The IRP Secretariat shared experiences and lessons, particularly for Essential 9 (Ensure effective preparedness and disaster response) and Essential 10 (Expedite recovery and build back better), which were mostly drawn from IRP Guidance Notes on Recovery.



IRP Secretariat shared cases on Build Back Better

The 10 Essentials

Enabling Essentials

- 1 Organize for Disaster Resilience
- 2 Identify, Understand and Use Current and Future Risk Scenarios
- 3 Strengthen Financial Capacity for Resilience

Build back better Essentials

- 9 Ensure Effective Disaster Response
- 10 Expedite Recovery and Build Back Better

Operational Essentials

- 4 Pursue Resilient Urban Development and Design
- 5 Safeguard Natural Buffers to Enhance Ecosystems' Protective Functions
- 6 Strengthen Institutional Capacity for Resilience
- 7 Understand and Strengthen Societal Capacity for Resilience
- 8 Increase Infrastructure Resilience

Adapted the chart from UNISDR, Making Cities Resilient: My City is Getting Ready

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