Panel Discussion 2: “Evidence-based contributions of Build Back Better to Urban Resilience”

UNESCO’s Disaster Risk Reduction Activities for Build Back Better

Shahbaz Khan – Director UNESCO Regional Science Bureau for Asia-Pacific
**UNESCO’s Crisis Preparedness and Response follows its mandate for humanity:** it aims to foster social cohesion and resilience and to enable dialogue.

While “traditional” actions during an emergency are concerned with basic physical needs (e.g. water, food, shelter), **UNESCO’s crisis response within the broader humanitarian or recovery effort replies to social needs for education, human rights, freedom of expression, creativity, expression of identities, etc.**
Disaster Risk Reduction: UNESCO’s activities

**Response phase**
- VISUS-PDNA (for educational facilities)
- Field Investigation (to draw lessons)

**Recovery phase**
- Guidelines (for non-engineered building)
- <Collaboration with IPRED>
- INDRA (learning from vernacular construction)

**Current activities**
- Developing comprehensive guideline (for post-disaster evaluations)
- Strengthening Capacity for Assessing School (through the implementation of the VISUS methodology)

**Future activities**

In collaboration with UNESCO’s specialist Networks
**Current activity: Collaboration with IPRED**

- Together with the members of IPRED*, UNESCO published **technical and policy guidelines** to help member states to secure **the safety of non-engineered construction** and to support **science-based policy making**.

- Additionally, a system was established to dispatch experts to earthquake-stricken countries in order to carry out **post-earthquake field investigations** and draw lessons for future risk reduction.

**Policy/technical Guidelines on non-engineered buildings**

- **UNESCO publications**
  - Technical approaches for Structural Improvement of Non-Engineered Construction

**Post-earthquake field investigations**

- To date, two IPRED missions have been carried out: Van, Turkey in 2012; Bohol, Philippines in 2014.

**IPRED (International Platform for Reducing Earthquake Disaster)**

- A platform for collaborative research, training and education in the field of seismology
- Aims to reduce disasters due to earthquakes with a focus on earthquake-resistant buildings and housings.
- Supported by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) of Japan.
- Center of the Excellence: UNESCO / ISEE of Japan
- Member: Chile, Egypt, El Salvador, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Peru, Romania, Turkey
Future activity: INDRA

- UNESCO promotes a **holistic approach** towards international disaster resilient architecture **by learning from vernacular construction**.

- Contemporary construction and vernacular construction techniques can be brought together to create buildings that are **resilient, sustainable and adapted to the local environment**.

- UNESCO supports Member States in capacity building of the local construction sector through **workshops, trainings and publication of guidelines** about the important role of construction to create a disaster resilient environment.

**Impact:**
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Consideration of local culture and environment
- Business continuity
- Improve overall economy
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Build back better

Flood and earthquake proof buildings in Nias, Indonesia
UNESCO’s DRR Activities Culture

Strategy for Reducing Risks from Disasters at World Heritage Properties

- Training Workshops
- International Technical Assistance
- Emergency Response
- Awareness-raising and Education
A Comprehensive Framework for School Safety


with the following goals:

- To protect learners and education workers from physical harm in schools;
- To prevent interruption of the provision of education when faced with hazards;
- To safeguard education sector investments;
- To strengthen climate change adaptation and mitigation competencies and disaster resilience through education.

UNESCO's DRR and Education for Sustainable Development
REGIONAL SCIENCE BUREAU FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
UNESCO Office Jakarta

Science, Engineering, Technology, and Innovation for Disaster Risk Reduction
2017 - 2021
Protecting People from Marine Hazards: Tsunami

UNESCO, through the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC/UNESCO), works with the Member States to build sustainable tsunami early warning and mitigation systems.

- Tsunami risk assessment includes the evaluation of the hazard and the levels of vulnerability of coastal communities.
- Development and coordination of tsunami early warning and mitigation systems based in the Indian Ocean
  - Tsunami Evacuation Maps, Plans and Procedures based on Tsunami Modeling and Inundation Modeling
Mobile Application for Recovery

TANAH and SAI FAH are prime examples of educational gamification for disaster risk reduction. The mobile apps provide integral lessons on, and reinforces the importance of, disaster preparedness, through exploring potential situations that may occur. Offered as platform-based games with various levels, users are provided with key survival lessons for all phases of disaster in an interactive manner.

While SAI FAH disseminates information on flood preparedness and survival, TANAH teaches users how to prepare, respond to and recover from tsunamis and earthquakes. Both succeed in their underlying objectives of delivering quality, interactive, and accurate material in an organic way to a wide audience.
FLOOD TECHNOLOGY & DISASTER RISK REDUCTION
Strategic Strengthening of Flood Warning and Management Capacity in Pakistan

Following the 2010 Pakistan floods, UNESCO with the aid of the Government of Japan supported the Flood Warning and Management Capacity of Pakistan' project.

The project focused on strengthening the country’s capacity to deal with floods and watershed management in a holistic manner by developing 3 inter-related pillars; strategic augmenting of flood forecasting and hazard maps; data sharing platforms; and capacity development.

- Establishment of the technical foundation for sustainable capacity development on the flood management, forecasting, early warning and flood hazard analysis in Pakistan agencies.
- Technical studies to promote strengthening of cooperation with Indus river basin countries for transboundary flood management and transboundary data sharing.
- Capacity building and education to community on flood management for proper utilization of flood hazard information and tools