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- IRP at WRC4 and GP2019
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IRP Herald

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Highlights of IRP Engagements at the World Reconstruction Conference 4 and the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2019 13-17 May 2019, Geneva, Switzerland

Introduction

The sixth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GP2019) and the fourth World Reconstruction Conference (WRC4) were held in conjunction with one another in Geneva, Switzerland, the week of 13-17 May 2019. The events were organized by UNDRR (GP2019), and World Bank/GFDRR, UNDP, UNDRR and the European Commission (WRC4), with conference themes focused on the “Resilience Dividend: Towards Sustainable and Inclusive Societies” and “Inclusion for Resilient Recovery”, respectively. They offered a unique, full-week opportunity for the IRP and participants to dive deeply into progress and challenges in inclusive recovery.

The IRP Secretariat, IRP Steering Committee Members and Observers were well-represented at the conferences, contributing across the agendas and to the outcomes of these significant events, as both conveners and speakers. IRP held a successful Side Event at the Global Platform, thanks to the support of its SC Members and Observers. IRP also convened the 25th Meeting of the IRP Steering Committee.

IRP Side Event at GP2019: Securing an Inclusive Build Back Better Dividend

Disadvantaged, vulnerable people are frequently disproportionately impacted by disasters, and often with poor access to recovery resources and technical assistance. They are too often unable to benefit from efforts to build back better. The IRP-organized side event at the Global Platform, “Securing an Inclusive Build Back Better Dividend” convened an expert panel composed of

representatives of national governments, civil society, and academia to address lessons learnt from diverse recovery experiences in working to secure more equitable recovery outcomes.

Mr. Haruo Hayashi, President of the National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Resilience, opened the session by introducing the vision for building back better developed for the 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake in Japan. He focused his remarks on evidence and lessons learnt on achieving ‘life recovery’ inclusively, which can be applied to contemporary recovery efforts. **Mr. Kamal Kishore**, Member, National Disaster Management Authority, India, spoke of the need for nimble institutional arrangements that can enable more holistic, integrated approaches to recovery, and can efficiently coordinate between agencies. Mr. Kishore proposed that recovery cannot be ‘better’ if it is not inclusive, and recommended that recovery planners should consider people and communities themselves as assets and contributors to recovery planning and implementation.



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1. “Welcome Session, Room 1” by UNDRR/Antoine Tandy, available under a CC BY-NC-ND 2.0 license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.0/>) at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/isd/733977096358/in/album-72157678257551167/>

2. “Side-Event: Securing an Inclusive Build Back Better Dividend, CIG, Room13” by UNDRR/Antoine Tandy, available under a CC BY-NC-ND 2.0 license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.0/>) at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/isd/46952140485/in/album-72157680446208028/>

