



**Friday, 26 May 2017**  
**13:00 ~13:55**  
**EXPO CENTER 4**



**SIDE EVENT**

# **INNOVATIVE ACTIONS ON BUILD BACK BETTER**

*~Unpacking International and Local Cooperation Experiences~*

## **Rationale**

Experiences and lessons in disaster recovery suggest that affected societies can increase their resilience if they are prepared to build back better, putting in place effective systems for recovery decision-making prior to the onset of disaster and strengthening implementation capacities. This was agreed under Priority Four of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, emphasising the importance of preparedness for effective response, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction. Nonetheless, how build back better connects with disaster risk reduction from the view of national and local actors and international supporters is a less explored question that this panel will address. IRP and JICA jointly organize this side event that showcases the evolution of recovery experiences from several countries and international cooperation actors. Panellists representing different stakeholders will share concrete cases and actions undertaken to promote cooperation, coordination, communication, funding, and human resource development to ensure build back better in the recovery processes enhances disaster risk management.

## **Objectives**

- Sharing of country experiences and programs/initiatives on Build Back Better
- Understanding how build back better connects with disaster risk reduction from the viewpoints of national and local actors and international supporters



A Side Event jointly organized  
by  
International Recovery Platform (IRP)  
and  
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)



International Recovery Platform (IRP) functions as an international mechanism for sharing experience and lessons on build back better, in support of the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

The Steering Committee Members of the IRP are: ADB, ADRC, Cabinet Office of Japan, CEPREDENAC, Hyogo Prefecture, ILO, MOFA Italy, SDC, WB, UNCRD, UNDP, UNEP, UN-HABITAT, UNISDR, UNOPS and WHO.

# Programme

13:00-13:05

## Opening Remarks

### Mr. Yukimoto Ito

Vice Mayor, Sendai City

13:05-13:50

## Discussions

### Moderator

#### Mr. Stefan Kohler

Head of Programme, United Nations

Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

Chair, IRP Steering Committee

### Panelists

*(1) Connecting recovery with DRR after disasters: From Hurricane Mitch to Typhoon Yolanda*

*Yolanda*

#### Mr. Oscar A. Gómez

Research Fellow, JICA Research Institute

*(2) Lessons learned from major disaster recovery programmes and evolution of disaster reconstruction and recovery practice in India*

#### Mr. V. Thiruppugazh

Advisor (Policy and Planning), National Disaster Management Authority, Government of India

*(3) Lessons learned and good practices from two earthquake disasters experienced in 2008 and 2012*

#### Mr. Luis Leon Munguia

National Coordinator Authority of Disaster Risk Reduction of Guatemala (CONRED)

13:50-13:55

## Closing Remarks

### Ms. Setsuko Saya

Director, Cabinet Office of Japan

Co-Chair, IRP Steering Committee

## Speakers' Profile



### Mr. Yukimoto Ito

Vice Mayor of the City of Sendai, Japan

Mr. Yukimoto Ito became the Vice Mayor of the City of Sendai in April 2010. He has engaged in economic, environmental and international exchange policies, and the project for utilization of National Strategic Special Zones. He also served as a general director of Sendai Committee for the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Sendai March 2015. Prior to his current post, he was a general manager, Tohoku Branch, Development Bank of Japan. He has over 30 years of business experiences at the Development Bank of Japan. He served in a variety of posts, including general manager of Business Restructuring Department and Information & Telecommunications Department.



### Mr. Stefan Kohler

Principal Engineer, the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), (Chair, IRP Steering Committee)

Mr. Stefan Kohler spent eight years in KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa, working as a project manager focusing on infrastructure and housing projects for low income beneficiaries, in both green fields and informal settlement upgrading contexts. He is former CEO of a Development Trust (NGO) which brought together corporate donors and communities who lacked education facilities to deliver affordable, quality education infrastructure. In January 2012, he relocated to the UK and joined Arup International Development as an Associate Director. In this role, he managed the Long Term Agreement that UNOPS had with Arup for provision of technical services related to infrastructure delivery. Stefan is currently managing UNOPS infrastructure assessment programme.



### Mr. Oscar A. Gómez

Research Fellow, JICA Research Institute

Oscar A. Gómez is Research Fellow at Japan International Cooperation Agency Research Institute (JICA-RI). His work deals with global governance and human security, with special emphasis on the environment, health, disasters, and international cooperation. He has worked as a consultant for several UN agencies in Latin America and contributed to Human Development Reports in 2014 and 2016. He has done several studies on 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, covering issues such as international assistance, food distribution, foreign students, evacuations and community empowerment. Currently, he is wrapping-up a two-year project on humanitarian crisis and the convergence of humanitarian and development assistance, as well as conducting research on crisis management and south-south cooperation in Latin American emerging countries. He holds a PhD from Tohoku University.



### Mr. Venkatchalam Thiruppugazh

Joint Secretary, National Disaster Management Authority Government of India

Dr. V. Thiruppugazh is an officer of the Indian Administrative Service of the rank of Joint-Secretary to Government of India. After joining the Civil Service in 1991, he served in various district assignments before he was posted as Joint Chief Executive Officer of the Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority (GSDMA). In addition to his contribution in Gujarat earthquake reconstruction and disaster management initiatives in Gujarat as Joint CEO, Additional CEO and CEO of GSDMA, he also held several senior positions in Government of Gujarat. He also worked as Senior Advisor, National Reconstruction Authority Nepal on deputation. Currently he is working as Advisor, Policy and Planning in the National Disaster Management Authority, New Delhi. He received his PhD in disaster management from the Australian National University.



### Mr. Luis Leon Munguia

National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction of Guatemala (CONRED)

Mr. Luis Leon Munguia works at the National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction of Guatemala (CONRED) which was established in the year 1996. Through the Congressional Decree 109-96, CONRED was created as the national institution in charge of the prevention, mitigation, preparation and response to disaster risk as well as coordinating the recovery and participating in the reconstruction process. CONRED coordinates the disaster risk management actions with public institutions, private sector, international and national organization and civil society at different territory levels, implementing a multi-sector and comprehensive approach to contribute to the sustainable development of Guatemala.



### Ms. Setsuko Saya

Director, International Cooperation Division Disaster Management Bureau Cabinet Office, Government of Japan (Co-Chair, IRP Steering Committee)

Setsuko Saya is Director, International Cooperation Division, Disaster Management Bureau in the Cabinet Office since July 2016. She leads the Japanese delegation for the negotiation on implementation of Sendai Framework for DRR, in particular, development of indicators and terminologies. Prior to joining in the Cabinet Office, she was the Head of Division, Regional Policies for Sustainable Development, Public Governance and Territorial Development in the OECD in Paris 2012-2016, where she led the OECD programmes for economic and social analysis on sustainable development in cities. She started her professional career in the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, and worked in Housing Bureau and City Bureau.