

TECHNICAL SESSION

Addressing the Inequality of Risk and Promoting Women's Leadership in Recovery

14 May 2019 / 11-12:30 /Room 3

<p>Context</p>	<p>Crises around the world are multiplying and becoming more complex and protracted. In 2019, nearly 132 million people across the world will need humanitarian assistance and protection.¹ Disasters affect 350 million people on average each year and cause billions of dollars of damage, while conflicts drive 80% of all humanitarian needs, and reduce gross domestic product (GDP) growth by two percentage points per year, on average.</p> <p>Crises, including conflicts and disasters, affect different groups of society – women, girls, boys and men – differently. Due to preexisting socio-economic conditions, social norms and beliefs and traditional practices women and girls are disproportionately affected by crisis, and have different and uneven levels of resilience and capacity to recover. When disasters and conflicts strike, gender inequalities are often exacerbated, leading to increased levels of gender-based violence, reduced access to livelihood resources, and even greater levels of mortality due to the exclusion from life-saving services and decision-making processes due to discriminatory social norms. Women and girls also face increased unpaid care work.</p> <p>At the same time, crises can also be an opportunity for shifts in gender roles that lead to new responsibilities and opportunities for women and men in economic decisions and activity, political engagement and community arbitration. Yet women's actual and potential contributions, including their leadership as first responders, and their central role in community stability and resilience, continue to be largely untapped assets in crisis recovery and peacebuilding programming.</p> <p>While there is a plethora of normative commitments recognizing the importance of gender-responsive disaster risk reduction, recovery and peacebuilding, significant gaps remain in their implementation. This is, among others, exemplified by lack of funding: despite important progress, the review of the Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Gender Marker Codes in 2015 indicated that only 35 per cent of proposals considered gender issues, while over 60 per cent of the projects were either gender</p>
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¹ UN OCHA, [Global Humanitarian Overview 2019](#)

	<p>blind, or addressed weakly the distinct needs of women, girls, boys and men.</p> <p>Similarly, the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda stemming from UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction have been uneven in focus, prioritizing some areas of action, such as protecting women from sexual violence, over others. Little attention has been paid to addressing the structural inequalities that perpetuate exclusion and undermine recovery, sustainable peace and development, or to elements of these agendas that could create meaningful opportunities for women’s political, social and economic empowerment in the long term.</p> <p>In light of this context, this session will introduce recent initiatives to promote women’s leadership in disaster risk reduction, resilience and recovery and peacebuilding, and share good practices on the integration of gender dimensions in risk analysis and the design of effective disaster and conflict recovery and peacebuilding interventions. This session will also come up with practical recommendations to overcome challenges we face in fulfilling our commitments on gender-responsive disaster and conflict risk reduction, recovery and peacebuilding.</p>															
<p>Speakers / Panelists</p>	<p>Session to be facilitated by Ms. Hiba Qasas, Chief, Humanitarian Action and Crisis Response Office, UN Women, Geneva.</p> <p>Panelists as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="496 1413 1410 1760"> <thead> <tr> <th>SPEAKER</th> <th>Title</th> <th>Representing*</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mr. Hans Brattskar</td> <td>Ambassador/Permanent Representative to the UN</td> <td>Norway</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ms. Dolores Devesi</td> <td>Country Director, OXFAM</td> <td>Solomon Islands</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ms. Ferina Futboe</td> <td>Youth Activist</td> <td>Indonesia</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ms. Midori Hirano</td> <td>Chairperson of Japan National Assembly Of Disabled People’s International</td> <td>Japan</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*NB: aside from Ambassador Brattskar, all speakers are from civil society and therefore not formally representing their country of origin.</p>	SPEAKER	Title	Representing*	Mr. Hans Brattskar	Ambassador/Permanent Representative to the UN	Norway	Ms. Dolores Devesi	Country Director, OXFAM	Solomon Islands	Ms. Ferina Futboe	Youth Activist	Indonesia	Ms. Midori Hirano	Chairperson of Japan National Assembly Of Disabled People’s International	Japan
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