

CLOSING PLENARY SESSION

Inclusion as a Right for All

May 14th, 2019/ 16:00-17:00, ROOM 2 (Projections in Rooms 3 & 4)

Context	<p>The 4th edition of the World Reconstruction Conference addressed the theme of “Inclusion for Resilient Recovery” and shared experiences on different dimensions of social inclusion, with a view to advance the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. The latter promotes an inclusive approach that leads to social cohesion and builds resilience of communities exposed to disaster and supports the achievement of more equitable outcomes in recovery.</p> <p>Disasters compound social exclusion and existing vulnerabilities, disproportionately impacting the poor, women, children, the elderly, disabled, minority groups, and those marginalized in other ways. Reconstruction and recovery interventions can increase, reinforce, or reduce existing inequalities. The unevenness of these impacts is often highlighted but the recovery process is potentially more uneven, and is more insidious and dangerous as it tends to be less visible while having both chronic and devastating effects. If reconstruction and recovery programs are to achieve the goal of making communities more resilient to future hazards and climate change, three things are required: (i) a clear understanding of the pre-existing social, political, environmental and economic factors that contribute to the vulnerability of the poor and marginalized before a disaster hits; (ii) recognition and understanding of how relief, recovery, and reconstruction interventions can reduce, reinforce or increase those vulnerabilities; (iii) and investment in actions to ensure these groups are effectively reached, protected, empowered and included in their own recovery. The most effective approach on a global scale would be to enforce a rights-based paradigm to ensure protection from all forms of vulnerability and foster accountability among governments, development partners and other stakeholders.</p> <p>Understanding the disproportionate impact of disasters on the most vulnerable, necessitates not only a risk-informed and rights-based approach but also the identification of priorities to lessen the impact of disasters such as expanding financial inclusion, disaster risk and health insurance, social protection and adaptive safety nets, contingent finance and reserve funds, and universal access to early warning systems.</p> <p>The session will bring together development partners and high level representation from government and academia, to recommend concrete steps that need to be taken to take both the dialogue and implementation of a rights-based framework forward.</p>
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Speakers/ Panelists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexandra Ocles, Minister of Disaster Risk Management, Ecuador • Governor of Hyogo Prefecture Japan, Mr. Toshizo Ido • Asif Saleh, Senior Director, BRAC International, Dhaka, Bangladesh • Prof. Fatou Sow Sarr, Director of the Gender and Scientific Research Laboratory, University of Dakar, Senegal