TECHNICAL SESSION

Fostering Social Inclusion through Culture
in City Reconstruction and Recovery

May 13th, 2019/ 16-17:30 /LOCATION TBC

Organizers	GFDRR/WB, UNESCO
Context	Culture, encompassing both tangible and intangible heritage, and creative industries, is not just a vulnerable asset when cities are affected by shocks or stresses, but is also a major resource for their resilience and recovery. Culture can be a powerful tool for reconciliation and a building block for social inclusion. Culture also plays a fundamental role developing risk mitigation and preparedness strategies by helping to engage and involve local communities. Moreover, culture and cultural industries provide concrete job opportunities and improve livelihoods for entire communities, thereby supporting sustainable economic development.
	With culture being critical to achieve sustainable urban development and to ensure effective post-crisis reconstruction and recovery processes, the World Bank and UNESCO decided to jointly develop a Position Paper to propose a culture-based framework for city reconstruction and recovery (CURE) that integrates both people-centered and place-based approaches, fostering social inclusion, and resilient recovery.
	The CURE Framework reflects the shared commitment of UNESCO and the World Bank to place culture at the forefront of reconstruction and recovery of cities in post-conflict, post-disaster, and urban distress situations. The scope extends to the entire urban areas and not just to the historic areas, the latter requiring specific intervention tools and techniques. The implementation of the framework reflects the need to provide rapid responses to emergency situations while at the same time allowing sufficient time for conducting the necessary consultative processes to ensure that people's priorities are well identified, and respected, and social inclusion is fostered.
Session Objectives and expected Outcomes	The session *Fostering Social Inclusion through Culture in City Reconstruction and Recovery* will bring high level representatives from the World Bank and UNESCO together with Japanese and client country experts in cultural heritage, to present and discuss the role of Culture as an engine for social inclusion in post-crisis recovery processes.
	An initial presentation of the CURE Framework will be followed by a dialogue about the opportunities to include culture in reconstruction and recovery to foster social inclusion in post-crisis situations.
	The expected outcomes of this session are: • Present options for development practitioners, national and local authorities, planners, and international organizations to integrate culture, both as an asset and as a tool, in all phases of recovery projects; • Showcase good practices in social inclusion for reconstruction and recovery; • Allow for enhanced understanding of the value of culture in strengthening resilience, ensuring social inclusion, and facilitating recovery.

Key elements for the discussion	The session will take the CURE Framework as a base and will deliberate on the following issues: • Why culture matters for cities, especially under distress, and why this has been recently getting more attention at global level; • What are the benefits in terms of social inclusion of integrating culture in reconstruction and recovery processes; • Good practices strengthening social inclusion through culture;
Speakers / Panelists	<table><tr><th>SPEAKER</th><th>Title</th><th>Representing</th></tr><tr><td>Sameh Wahba</td><td>Director of Urban and Territorial Development, DRM and Resilience</td><td>World Bank</td></tr><tr><td>Lazare Eloundou Assomo</td><td>Director for Culture and Emergencies</td><td>UNESCO</td></tr><tr><td>Setsuko Saya</td><td>Director for International Cooperation</td><td>Disaster Management Bureau, Cabinet Office, Japan</td></tr><tr><td>Tecson John Lim</td><td>Director of Rehabilitation and Recovery Management Services</td><td>Office of Civil Defense Philippines</td></tr></table> Moderator: **Joe Leitmann**, Lead Disaster Risk Management Specialist, GFDRR
Discussion agenda and structure	Introduction by Joe Leitmann (5 min.) Presentations: - Sameh Wahba (WB): The CURE Framework (10 min) - Lazare Eloundou (UNESCO): Culture in Post-Crisis Recovery (10 min) - Setsuko Saya (Japan): Reconstruction of Kumamoto Castle (10 min) - Tecson John Lim (Philippines): The case of Philippines (10 min) Moderated Discussion: (25 min.) Q&A with audience (15 min.) Concluding remarks (5 min.)
Expected number of participants	100
Technical Equipment Required	AV system (Video projector, screen, sound, computer, lapel microphones), Panel set-up

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Introduction:

Key points:

- The world is urbanizing at a speed and scale that is unprecedented in human history. Today, nearly 55 percent of the world's population lives in cities, and this is expected to expand to more than two-thirds of the world's population by 2050.

- Compounding this, we are seeing a rapid increase in the frequency and intensity of disasters caused by natural hazards – the impacts of which are disproportionately affecting urban areas. Each year, more than 200 million people are affected by storms, floods, cyclones, and earthquakes – a situation that is being exacerbated by climate change

- At the same time, armed conflicts are increasingly causing widespread destruction in cities.

- As a result of such crises and rapid urbanization, cities find themselves faced with the need to reconcile communities, to ensure social inclusion, to promote economic development, and to manage complex social, spatial, and economic transformations. In many instances, cities have seen people's collective memories and symbols of their cultural identities damaged or destroyed.

- Cities are not just a collection of buildings, but are about people and communities, their stories, and how they interact with each other through their cultural identity and sense of place.

- Culture is key to successfully integrating all elements involved in "building cities back better" after disasters or conflicts. Culture is the foundation upon which cities are built.

Presentations:

- Sameh Wahba (WB): *The CURE Framework*

- Lazare Eloundou (UNESCO): *Culture in Post-Crisis Recovery*

- Setsuko Saya (Japan): *Reconstruction of Kumamoto Castle*

- Tecson John Lim (Philippines): *The case of Philippines*

Discussion:

***To Sameh*:**
- As a WB Director, what do you want to see in the next generation of cultural heritage and sustainable tourism operations to address DRM and social inclusion?
- How is the WB operationalizing the CURE framework across its offices and engagements around the world?

***To Lazare*:**
- France recently had a sad example of disaster in a very important heritage site. What does the fire in Notre Dame mean for the identity of French people, and for the rest of the world; and how to prevent this happening in other cultural landmarks around the world?
- How do you see the CURE framework supporting an active and effective working relationship among developing countries, UNESCO, and World Bank teams, all working to ensure that culture is a critical part of reconstruction efforts?

To Setsuko:

- Japan, a very hazard prone country, has a long history and tradition of preserving its ancient cultural heritage, and at the same time is focused in modernization and constant improvement. How do you integrate those two different aspects into the country's disaster risk management strategy?
- How the restoration and protection of cultural heritage contributes to social engagement and inclusion?

To Tecson:

- The Philippines is also very prone to different natural hazards and, like Japan, has a lot of cultural heritage monuments and sites. How do you integrate cultural heritage into the disaster risk management plans; and how this contribute to social inclusion?
- What are the practical guidance and resources that countries and development partners are seeking to integrate culture and social inclusion in recovery efforts?

Additional potential questions/references to discuss:

- *How does the CURE framework connect to Sendai and the related agendas on Recovery Frameworks and Build Back Better?*

- The Sendai Framework constitutes an unprecedented step in the recognition of culture as a key dimension of disaster risk reduction. It establishes the role of culture as a component of disaster risk management, and explicitly recognizes that inequality and poverty are direct drivers of vulnerability.
- It calls for "the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries."
- In particular, the Sendai Framework calls for:
  - (i) the integration of a cultural perspective in all policies and practices,
  - (ii) the understanding of the cultural heritage impacts, as appropriate, in the context of event-specific hazard-exposure and vulnerability information;
  - (iii) the protection of cultural institutions and other sites of historical, cultural heritage and religious interest;
  - (iv) the use of traditional, indigenous and local knowledge and practices to complement scientific knowledge in disaster risk assessment.

- *Build Back Better principle presents more challenges when applied to cultural heritage*.

  - Coupled with resource constraints, political and societal pressures to accelerate the rebuilding process to return to normality might limit meaningful community participation and adequate planning and may favor location/construction decisions that are influenced by cost-consciousness rather than what is needed to "build back better" and produce resilient infrastructure and assets.
  - It is important to quickly identify heritage values and attributes to be preserved before demolition. A reconstruction process, or any place-based strategy for that matter, that fails to place people at its center is an important missed opportunity to ensure that outcomes (infrastructure, assets, services, etc.) are embedded in strong community ownership, reflect societal priorities, and are used, operated, and managed in a sustainable manner.
  - How BBB process in cultural heritage sites could ensure social inclusion?