

TECHNICAL SESSION

**Building Back Better & Inclusive Recovery in Small Island Developing States**

May 14th, 2019/ 11:00-12:30, ROOM 18

<p><b>Organizers</b></p>	<p>Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)/The World Bank</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cindy Patricia Quijada Robles (Disaster Risk Management Specialist)</li> <li>- Naraya Carrasco (Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist)</li> <li>- Denis Jordy (Lead Disaster Risk Management Specialist)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Context</b></p>	<p><b>Small Island Developing States (SIDS) suffer disproportionately from the adverse impacts of natural hazards exacerbated by climate change.</b> They include more than two thirds of the countries with the highest relative average annual disaster losses caused by natural disasters – between 1 to 9% of their GDP, and the costs are growing. Climate change is expected to greatly increase SIDS’ exposure to natural hazards such as hurricanes, storm surges, flooding and extreme winds. The recurrence and severity of natural disasters compound existing challenges and place added burdens on the SIDS’ efforts to achieve sustainable development goals by impeding their development of social programs and infrastructure including diverting funding to disaster response.</p> <p><b>Natural disasters are also not neutral as they disproportionately affect the poorest, the vulnerable and most marginalized due to uneven access to political, economic and social resources which affects people’s capacity to cope, manage and recover from disasters.</b> Disasters affect women, girls, men and boys differently due to gender inequalities, often exacerbated by marginalization due to age, ethnicity, disability and sexual orientation as well as socio-economic status, geographic context and cultural and religious beliefs. Inclusive recovery ensures that the poorest, most vulnerable and most marginalized are reached and protected and empowered to participate and influence in disaster recovery planning and decision-making and broader resilience building.</p> <p><b>There are several approaches to achieve inclusive recovery, and one of them is to apply the principles of Building Back Better (BBB), operationalized through three dimensions: building back faster, stronger and more inclusively.</b> BBB can lay the foundation for building inclusive and resilient societies and benefit SIDS specifically due to their high vulnerability and small scale. SIDS make up 7 of the top 10 countries with highest gains from BBB. The Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)/World Bank report <i>Build Back Better</i>, shows that a faster, stronger and more inclusive recovery would lead to an average reduction in disaster-related well-being losses of 59 percent in SIDS and that such resilient and effective recovery can only take place through targeted actions before the disaster hits. It therefore important to understand what BBB means in practice and what the challenges are to its implementation - especially in SIDS where government face many challenges in managing and responding to climate and disaster risks.</p>

<b>Session Objectives and expected Outcomes</b>	<p>The session on <i>Building Back Better and Inclusive Recovery in Small Island Developing States</i> will bring together experts from SIDS to share experiences on BBB focusing specifically on inclusive recovery and how to reach, protect and empower the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in disaster recovery and reconstruction. It will specifically discuss the challenges and opportunities SIDS encounter when implementing the BBB approach including the importance of planning ahead of disasters and the role that social vulnerability assessments, adaptive social protection systems, community resilience and gender equality and women’s leadership can play in BBB to build sustainable and resilient societies in SIDS.</p> <p>The expected outcome of this session is to exchange experiences, insights and best practices developed by small island states to ensure inclusive recovery.</p>
<b>Key elements for the discussion</b>	<p>The session will deliberate on the following issues and questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The benefits and implications of BBB for SIDS, including a discussion on the particular institutional, operational and technical challenges for SIDS and solutions to overcome them</li> <li>• The role of BBB to build social resilience, including a discussion on the different approaches available to ensure inclusive recovery (sex, age and disability-dissaggregated data, adaptive social protection, community-led partnerships and gender equality and women’s empowerment measures)</li> <li>• How can we better encourage and support community-led approaches and build on best practices for inclusive recovery in SIDS?</li> <li>• How do we enhance the capacity of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups to build resilient communities in the aftermath of disasters?</li> <li>• Best practices on the development of women’s capacity to be recovery leaders</li> </ul>
<b>Speakers / Panelists</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ms. Elizabeth Riley, Deputy Executive Director, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)</li> <li>2. Mr. Omar Sweeney, Managing Director, Jamaica Social Investment Fund</li> <li>3. Ms. Mary Jack, Provincial Coordinator, Action Aid Vanuatu &amp; Leader of the Women I Tok Tok Tugetha Network</li> <li>4. Ms. Victorina Palu, Senior Engineer, Ministry of Infrastructure, Tonga</li> </ol> <p>Moderators: Naraya Carrasco and Cindy Robles (GFDRR)</p>
<b>Discussion agenda and structure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduction and agenda setting by moderators (5 min.)</li> <li>- Panel discussions (50 min. based on questions from moderators)</li> <li>- Moderated Q&amp;A (30 min.)</li> <li>- Concluding remarks (5 min.)</li> </ul>
<b>Expected number of participants</b>	<p>200</p>
<b>Technical Equipment Required</b>	<p>Panel set-up, podium, screen for PPT, sound, computer, microphones,</p>