

SPECIAL SESSION

**Ecosystem-based Recovery: The Case of the 2018 Kerala Floods**

14 May/14:00/Room 18

Organizers	UN Environment
Context	<p>Between June and August 2018, the Indian state of Kerala was affected by a series of disasters caused by a once-in-the-century rainfall event. The flooding and landslides which resulted from the rainfall resulted in approximately 500 casualties, 19,000 homes destroyed, temporary displacement of 1.1 million persons, and 5.5 million people affected. The World Bank estimated a total economic loss of 3.4 billion USD and the UN system has estimated 3.7 billion USD in recovery costs.</p> <p>United Nations agencies supported the Government of Kerala to conduct a Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA). It is likely the first PDNA <b>which has included such substantive recommendations on environmental sustainability and gender inclusiveness as a foundation for the recovery process.</b> The Government has accepted the UN recommendations to integrate building back better and greener as its operating philosophy in its reconstruction plan “<i>New Kerala -Nava Keralam</i>”, supported by UN and the World Bank. . Hence the Government is conducting extensive consultations on the recovery plan to ensure it is inclusive for women, children, migrants and differently abled women and men.</p> <p>The 2019 World Reconstruction Conference will be an opportunity to highlight results from this unique PDNA, receive updates and inputs on <i>Nava Keralam</i> reconstruction plans especially with regards to its greening and inclusion strategies.</p>
Session Objectives and expected Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide background information on in the 2018 Kerala disaster context, the PDNA and <i>Nava Keralam</i> recovery and reconstruction plans</li> <li>2. To present the green/ecosystem aspects of the of the reconstruction strategy to ensure the concepts of building back better and greener, land use planning and integrated water resources management are included</li> <li>3. To present how women, children, differently abled, the elderly and migrants were affected by the 2018 disaster and how they are involved in the recovery process</li> <li>4. The role played by media in the disaster response and recovery</li> </ol>
Key elements for the discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are good examples of greening which can be brought to Kerala during the reconstruction process?</li> <li>2. To discuss how a changing climate is impacting the risk scenario and how the reconstruction strategy must factor climate change in the reconstruction planning</li> <li>3. To discuss other matters regarding inclusion in the recovery and reconstruction in Kerala</li> </ol>



Promoting Resilience Through Post-Crisis Recovery  
Brussels, Belgium | June 6-8, 2017

Speakers / Panelists	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>SPEAKER</th> <th>Title</th> <th>Representing</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pinarayi Vijayan</td> <td>Chief Minister of Kerala</td> <td>Kerala, India</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr Venu</td> <td>Chief Executive</td> <td>Rebuild Kerala Initiative</td> </tr> <tr> <td>T N Seema</td> <td>Chairperson, Haritha Kerala Mission</td> <td>Green Kerala Mission</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prof Myna Umairban</td> <td>Asst Professor, MES College</td> <td>Academics</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pieter-Paul van Meel</td> <td>International Strategic Advisor</td> <td>Private Sector</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sreyams Kumar</td> <td>Joint Managing Director, Mathrubhumi</td> <td>Media</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">Moderator: <b>Dr Karen Sudmeier-Rieux</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	SPEAKER	Title	Representing	Pinarayi Vijayan	Chief Minister of Kerala	Kerala, India	Dr Venu	Chief Executive	Rebuild Kerala Initiative	T N Seema	Chairperson, Haritha Kerala Mission	Green Kerala Mission	Prof Myna Umairban	Asst Professor, MES College	Academics	Pieter-Paul van Meel	International Strategic Advisor	Private Sector	Sreyams Kumar	Joint Managing Director, Mathrubhumi	Media	Moderator: <b>Dr Karen Sudmeier-Rieux</b>		
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Discussion agenda and structure	<p>Moderator/Chair: Dr Karen Sudmeier Rieux, UN Environment/Crisis Management Branch</p> <p>00:05 min Opening Remarks from the Chair</p> <p>00:05 min Video on the Kerala Disaster</p> <p>00:10 min Message on Building a New Kerala (Hon. Chief Minister)</p> <p>00:25 min Fundamentals of Rebuild Kerala Initiative (Dr Venu)</p> <p>00:35 min Greening Strategy for Kerala (Dr TN Seema)</p> <p>00:43 min Integrated Water Resources Management (Pieter-Paul van Meel)</p> <p>00.50 min Kerala Recovery: Inclusion, Differently Abled (Prof Myna Umaiban)</p> <p>00:55 min Media and Greening Disaster Response (Sreyams)</p> <p>00:60 min Questions and Answers</p> <p>00:85 min Final remarks from the chair</p> <p>00:90 min Session Ends</p>																								
Expected number of participants	200 +																								
Technical Equipment Required	OHP and Video																								