



SESSION SUMMARY

Session Title: Civil Protection for inclusive recovery

Session Type: Thematic session

Date and Time: May 13th 2019, 4:00-5:30 pm

Key Speakers and Agencies:

Moderator: Mare Lo, World Bank Group

Keynote speaker: Prof Georges Tadonki, University of Maryland, USA

Speakers:

Stephen Schwartz, Lion Ready for Action Foundation

K. Harald Drager, International Emergency Management Society

Ana Lucia Hill Mayoral, “Yo Soy Protección Civil” Initiative

Mino Ramarason, Africa Regional Coordinator Madagascar, Huairou Commission

Prof Mauro Dolce, Director General of Civil Protection, Italy

Gaetano Vivo, Team Leader for Prevention and Preparedness Programme, DG ECHO, European Commission

Dr. Kit Miyamoto, Miyamoto International Inc.

The session showcased the fact that civil protection is a multifaceted and multidimensional system with a complexity that is based on a broad range of cultural, geographical and economical enablers and barriers. The common agreed upon definition of civil protection system in a country is the coordinated framework of laws, plans, organizations, people and resources



working together to protect civilians, assets and economic activities against the negative impact of natural or man-made disasters or accidents. However the multiple speeches and interventions showed the diverse range of understanding in the implementation processes of civil protection in terms of coordinated framework for disaster risk preparedness, management, reduction and emergency response. The approaches described in the session encompass a more holistic approach including disaster response, encapsulating the practice of emergency management, disaster risk management, resilience and sustainability.

The concrete examples discussed during the session showed the importance of the involvement of all stakeholders in promoting an effective civil protection system. Private sector engagement and community involvement play a key role in disaster responses. The Haiti case showed that using local engineers and training them was more efficient in rebuilding better and quicker. Therefore, the inclusion of CSOs in the civil protection system is important. However, their involvement is not always guaranteed when the emergency passes as was the case in Mexico recently. The EU emergency response mapping is a good example of existing tools to ensure an efficient civil protection approach. Discussions showed that in many countries, there is a dichotomy around the importance of civil protection and the resources allocated to it, which is also illustrated by the dual systems existing in many countries (e.g. Niger and Togo).

This session showed that civil protection system with its new approach including more than emergency response must be supported especially in the current context of disaster-prone environments caused by climate change and other issues. However, this field is not fully understood and supported by the governments across the globe. Therefore, there is still a lot of work ahead in terms of advocacy to secure not only funding for this sector but also a higher consideration from the different stakeholders. The importance of an inclusive approach was also stated in designing the civil protection system within a country with the inclusion of civil society organisations and the communities. Lastly it was agreed to look into the system developed by the EU and how it could be replicated to ensure efficiency.



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PHOTO FROM THE EVENT:

