



6th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

Bangkok, Thailand | 22 - 26 June, 2014

Special Session Event

URBAN RESILIENCE

24 June | Time: 16:00 - 18:00



agendas. Furthermore, the economic case for urban resilience is often not made, and needs to be factored into budgets, plans and investment decisions of the local governments.

The HFA-2012 review notes that addressing underlying risk has seen the least progress and the Local Government Self-Assessment Tool (LGSAT) of 42 cities identified that the majority of the activities are around five areas;

1. Consideration of DRR into new urban planning regulations, plans and development,
2. Establishment of Disaster Management committees,
3. Hazard resistant infrastructure, improving existing facilities,
4. Awareness and training and
5. Multi-stakeholder forums.

While a recent analysis of the LGSAT in Vietnam and Thailand shows that local government has made least progress. Moving into post-HFA, there is a need to consider how to strengthen the capacity of local governments to build resilience, especially through addressing underlying risk factors.

2015 will be a watershed year as global commitments such as MDGs, HFA and the Kyoto Protocol are being renewed. The Open Working Group (OWG) of the General Assembly, tasked to develop a proposal on the SDGs have identified Sustainable cities and human settlements (Focus area 13) among 19 priority areas. The recent IPCC Fifth Assessment Report Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability, particularly notes the impact of climate change on urban areas. The 4th Global Platform for Disaster Risk Re-

duction emphasized the need for reversing the trend of mounting economic losses caused by natural disasters and climate change. Despite the availability of impact models to assess the damages and losses in economic terms, there is an emerging need to scale up market-based instruments to promote risk awareness and mainstream disaster-proofing in economic and financial decisions. In particular, financing models to address the inter-industry losses to be promoted at regional and city level. Much further research and financial model testing at different economic platforms is needed.

Speakers

The Panel will take the form of a moderated discussion where panellists will make opening statements, after which the moderator will ask specific questions to the panellists and will take questions from the floor



Moderator: Anna Brown, Rockefeller Foundation

As a Senior Associate Director at the Rockefeller Foundation, Ms. Anna Brown manages the Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN). She is also part of a team tasked with refining the Foundation's global strategy, and serves as deputy manager of the Asia Regional Office. Prior to joining the Rockefeller Foundation, Ms. Brown served as a researcher and coordinator for the MIT-USGS Science Impact Collaborative, the Quaker United Nations Office, and UNESCO's Water Sciences Division. She has bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies from Brown University and master's in City Planning from the MIT.

1. Mr. Yukimoto Ito, Deputy Mayor of Sendai

Yukimoto Ito is vice mayor of the City of Sendai, Japan. Prior to his post at the city government, he worked for over 30 years at the Development Bank of Japan holding various posts including general manager of Business Restructuring department and general manager of Information & Telecommunications department. He graduated from School of Law, Tohoku University.



2. Dr. Richard Friend, Institute for Social and Environmental Transition Rockerfeller Foundation/ACCCRN network



Dr Richard Friend is a Senior Scientist with the Institute for Social and Environmental Transition (ISET), leading the Asia Regional Office. He is responsible for the program management and technical oversight of regional programs on urban climate resilience including the USAID-funded Mekong Building Climate Resilient Asian Cities (M-BRACE). Dr Friend has a PhD in social anthropology and development studies. He has over twenty years experience working in Southeast Asia focusing on the poverty and governance dimensions of social transformations and natural resource management, including climate change and urbanization. He has published widely including acting as lead author for the UNDP 2011 Human Development Report for Cambodia on climate change and rural livelihoods.

3. Bernardia Irawati Tjandradewi, Secretary General, United Cities and Local Governments – Asia-Pacific

Dr Bernardia Irawati Tjandradewi received her Ph.D in Urban Engineering from the University of Tokyo, Japan. She has more than fifteen years of experience in urban development. She has been appointed as the Secretary General of UCLG ASPAC, and is Vice Chair of the Global Mayors Forum Council. She was also involved in the UNISDR's Campaign on "My City is Getting Ready" as the member of the Advisory Committee.



4. Dr. Bharat Dahiya, Visiting Research Fellow, Chulalongkorn University



Bharat Dahiya is an urban and regional planner with a PhD from the University of Cambridge, UK. He has over 15 years of professional experience in initiating, leading, and managing technical assistance and operational projects on sustainable urban development in Asia and the Middle East, working for the World Bank, UN-Habitat, the Asian Development Bank, and UNDP. At UN-Habitat, Bharat was the Coordinator of the first-ever report on The State of Asian Cities 2010/11. He has held academic positions in Australia and Indonesia, and is currently a Visiting Fellow at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok.