

International Recovery Forum 2014

The Role of Private Sector in Disaster Recovery
21 January 2014, Kobe, Japan

Highlighting the important role of private sector in disaster recovery and reconstruction, the Forum showcased the lessons shared by policymakers, experts, and practitioners.

With over 155 participants from the national governments, international organizations, and universities around the world, the keynote speakers from IBM Japan/KEIDANREN, Federal Management Agency (FEMA) of the United States of America, and Department of National Defense (DND) of the Philippines imparted the important message of engaging private sector in disaster risk reduction and recovery to further avoid greater economic losses.

In addition, the speakers from International Organization of Employers (IOE), Development Bank of Japan, South Asia Association of Regional Cooperation Disaster Management Center (SDMC), El Colegio de Mexico, the World Bank, Tohoku University, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and JICA presented specific initiatives that promote collaboration between private sector and public sector.

The lessons from these initiatives are crucial in further accelerating the learning by conscious application to areas with similar situations.



The panel discussion, which dwelt on the role of private sector in the implementation of the recovery component of HFA2 (post-2015 global framework for DRR), proactively facilitated the exchange of new ideas and strategies to ensure that recovery is adequately reflected in the next global framework following the HFA.



The panelists, comprising experts from FEMA, DND, IOE, Tohoku University, and JICA recommended specific actions to effectively engage private sector in DRR and recovery, including strengthening the platforms for sharing information, legal frameworks for coordination, and business continuity planning. The outcomes of the discussions will inform the recovery component of HFA2 which will be presented at the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, 14-18 March 2015 in Sendai City, Japan.

The key dignitaries who also delivered relevant message on recovery and reconstruction included Mr. Katsuju Sasaki (Deputy Director-General of the Cabinet Office of Japan), Mr. Toshizo Ido (Govern Hyogo Prefecture), and Mr. Yukimoto Ito (Vice Mayor Sendai City). The Forum 2014 was jointly organized by the IRP Secretariat, Cabinet Office of Japan, Hyogo Prefecture Government, Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), and the World Bank. Additionally, the following institutions cooperated in this event: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA), Disaster Reduction Alliance (DRA), NHK, JICA Kansai, and Sendai City.

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Workshop on Disaster Recovery Planning for Lebanon

23-25 October 2013, Beirut, Lebanon

The Government of Lebanon has recently adopted a National Response Framework (NRF) for Disaster. In view of this, the Government had requested IRP to expand the Framework to include disaster recovery. In view of this, IRP in collaboration with the Prime Minister's Office and UNDP Lebanon, facilitated a workshop on disaster recovery planning held at Grand Serail in Beirut Lebanon on 23-25 October 2013. The organization of the workshop was supported under the EC-funded project "Strengthening Region-based Capacities in Disaster Recovery Planning", which is being implemented by UNISDR through IRP.



About 25 high-level officials from different ministries of the Government of Lebanon participated in the workshop to explore options of recovery from disasters and conflicts. Additionally, representatives of international organizations, specifically WHO and UNDP also participated to make sure that the workshop encapsulates local knowledge and regional experience. At the opening, several dignitaries delivered relevant messages.

These included Gen. Mohamed Kheir, Secretary General of High Council of Defense of the Government of Lebanon; Mr. Shombi Sharp, Deputy Country Director of UNDP in Lebanon; and Ms. Luna Abu Sweireh, Program Manager of UNISDR Office in Bonn, Germany. Various aspects of recovery planning were discussed in this workshop. In particular, strategies and actions to "build back better" after disaster and conflict were explored using local and global cases as reference.

The lessons on recovery, as compiled by IRP from different experiences around the globe provided additional input to build on the existing government initiatives. The key output of the workshops is the consolidated strategic recommendations for recovery framework for disaster and conflict.

As way forward, all participants will be included in the Roster of Experts maintained by IRP. Trained experts will continually receive information and update on recovery. Moreover, trained experts are expected to share knowledge gained from the workshops to other officials from different government ministries.



http://www.recoveryplatform.org/resources/recovery_cases_and_reports

Reports Released:

Workshops on Disaster Recovery Planning

IRP, on the basis of its mandate, seeks to contribute to the enhancement of post-disaster recovery operations by developing essential capacities through training, experience sharing, and technical exchanges. It addresses the demands of governments, local officials, and leaders who are entrusted with the responsibilities for planning, managing, and executing resilient disaster reduction and recovery activities.



Activities of IRP Member Organizations

ILO Forum, 18 February 2014

ILO Symposium on 'Working Out of Disasters: Job-led Recovery After Natural Disasters' was held in Tokyo, Japan.



The symposium discussed findings on lessons learned and good practices for job-led recovery after the Great east Japan earthquake. Followed that, typhoon Haiyan response and ongoing issues were presented by the Philippine government representative and ILO staffs in Philippines. There were over 100 participants attended the symposium.

WHO Forum, 5 March 2014

WHO Kobe center (WKC) Forum on 'Innovation for Healthy Ageing



UN Announcement on DRR:

Proposed Elements for Consideration in the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

By

The UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction

IRP Upcoming Events

- October 2014
Workshop on Disaster Recovery Planning, Panama
- January 2015
International Recovery Forum 2015
- March 2015
The 3rd World Conference for DRR, Sendai, Japan