



International Recovery Forum 2020: Building Back Better through Resilient Infrastructure

28 January 2020

Hotel Okura Kobe (Kobe, Japan)

Draft Agenda
(As of 16 January 2019)

I. BACKGROUND

The International Recovery Forum, established in 2005, convenes a broad range of senior policy makers and practitioners to exchange experiences and facilitate discussion on challenges to resilient recovery, and opportunities for building back better. It is a forum designed to generate cutting edge ideas and collaborative initiatives through dialogue and debate, supported by experiences in disaster recovery and the latest evidence. The Forum is coordinated annually in Kobe, Japan, by the International Recovery Platform (IRP) Secretariat, in close consultation with the IRP Steering Committee.

The annual forum is organized around specific themes to address key prevailing priorities and gaps on recovery and building back better. The Forum's themes link with the outcomes and lessons emerging from previous IRP Forums¹, and other global events concerned with recovery², in order to advance and challenge the discourse in an event setting focused exclusively on recovery and building back better. The International Recovery Forum is among the key activities managed by IRP in support of its mandate, to share experiences and learning among countries and all relevant stakeholders, explicitly designated in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030³.

II. THEME

Infrastructure is a keystone of everyday life, supporting the systems and services that drive among other things health care, education, energy, transportation, telecommunication, water and sanitation, markets and economic activity. Infrastructure is one of the building blocks for progress in virtually all aspects of development, and has been enshrined among the 17 goals of the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030. Yet, infrastructure is increasingly under frequent threat of disruption, functional and structural failure with the rising incidence and intensity of natural and man-made hazards. The damaging effects of disasters on critical infrastructure can have significant negative impacts on the welfare of households and communities, the function of key services and the economy. Infrastructure disruptions caused by natural hazards cost low- and middle-income countries as much as US \$391 billion to US\$647 billion per year.⁴

¹ For a full list of International Recovery Forum themes to date, see Annex 1

² These include, but are not limited to, the Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction, Regional and sub-Regional Platforms on Disaster Risk Reduction, the World Reconstruction Conference, among others.

³ For full text see paragraph 34(d) in Unisdr.org. (2017). *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction - UNISDR*. [online] Available at: <http://www.unisdr.org/we/coordinate/sendai-framework>.

⁴ Lifelines: the Resilient Infrastructure Opportunity, World Bank, 2018.

Infrastructure recovery represents a lynchpin for broader recovery, with critical infrastructure services underpinning recovery efforts across virtually all other sectors. Perhaps more than any other sector, infrastructure recovery represents a window of opportunity to invest in resilience and risk reduction by building back better. The benefits of doing so are considerable, as recent evidence indicates a return of up to US \$4 in reduced repairs, disruptions, and losses for every dollar invested in resilient infrastructure.⁵ It is therefore essential that infrastructure is planned, designed, and constructed to be resilient, and that existing infrastructure is adequately maintained and improved.

Disaster-resilient infrastructure is key to the achievement of a vision for risk-informed development. The fundamental importance of investing in disaster-resilient infrastructure has come into greater focus recently. It is included as one of the seven global targets of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (Target d). It is central to the 2018 G20 Principles for Promoting Quality Infrastructure Investment, and the International Coalition for Disaster-Resilient Infrastructure, recently launched at the UN General Assembly in 2019. It was a key issue under discussion at the 2019 UN Climate Change Summit, as well as the 2019 iterations of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and the World Reconstruction Conference. Disaster resilient infrastructure was adopted as the focus of the 2019 International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction, “Built to Last”.

The theme of the International Recovery Forum 2020 focuses on “Building Back Better through Resilient Infrastructure”. It will be explored through two sub-themes. The first proposed sub-theme, “Build Better Before: Enabling Recovery Readiness with Resilient Infrastructure” will focus on preparedness for infrastructure recovery and harnessing the critical opportunity to invest in more resilient infrastructure before disaster strikes. Building infrastructure to last and preparedness to recover critical infrastructure are key determinants for a faster recovery and better recovery outcomes. Speakers in this session will address key questions, challenges, good practices and lessons learnt to support decision-making and investments in resilient infrastructure. This session will delve into a range of pre-disaster recovery issues including disaster risk financing and insurance for early infrastructure recovery, public-private partnerships, innovations and technologies for resilient infrastructure recovery, preparing for infrastructure recovery with contingency planning, and preparing infrastructure systems for recovery.

The second sub-theme, “Resilient Infrastructure Recovery and Building Back Better”, explores past and ongoing recovery initiatives to build resilient infrastructure to withstand future disasters. Speakers in this session will reflect on key lessons drawn from experiences of both success and failure, and will draw on new evidence, theory, and practice in post-disaster infrastructure recovery. The discussions will address topics such as financing critical infrastructure recovery, institutional arrangements and recovery governance, community infrastructure recovery, systems thinking for infrastructure resilience, and infrastructure recovery from small and medium scale disasters⁶.

⁵ Hallegatte, Stephane; Rozenberg, Julie; Maruyama Rentschler, Jun Erik; Nicolas, Claire Marion; Fox, Charles James Edward. 2019. *Strengthening New Infrastructure Assets : A Cost-Benefit Analysis (English)*. Policy Research working paper; no. WPS 8896. Washington, D.C. : World Bank Group.

⁶ For example: <https://www.unisdr.org/archive/68138>



IV. PROGRAMME

9:30-10:00	Registration
Opening	
10:00-10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Opening Remarks: Mr. Jared MERCADANTE, Chair of the Steering Committee of the International Recovery Platform (World Bank) <input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Remarks: Mr. KANAZAWA Kazuo, Vice Governor of Hyogo Prefecture <input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Remarks: MURATE Satoshi, Deputy Director-General for Disaster Management, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan
Keynote Session	
10:30-11:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Remarks on the 25th Memorial of Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake: Mr. MUROSAKI Yoshiteru, Dean, Graduate School of Disaster Resilience and Governance, University of Hyogo <input type="checkbox"/> Keynote Remarks: Mr. Kamal KISHORE, Member, National Disaster Management Authority, Government of India
Panel Session 1: Build Better Before: Enabling Recovery Readiness with Resilient Infrastructure	
11:30-13:10	<p><i>Moderator and Opening Presentation: Mr. Jared MERCADANTE</i>, Disaster Risk Management Specialist, Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, World Bank</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms. Camille CRAIN, Section Chief, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities, Federal Emergency Management Agency, USA 2. Mr. TAKAISHI Masaya, Counsellor, National Resilience Promotion Office, Cabinet Secretariat, Government of Japan 3. Ms. Maria Catalina E. CABRAL, Undersecretary for Planning and Public-Private Partnerships, Department of Public Works and Highways, Government of the Philippines 4. Mr. Brendan MOON, Chief Executive Officer, Queensland Reconstruction Authority, Government of Queensland, Australia 5. Mr. TADA Shinya, Director, Technology Planning Division (DRR and Nankai Trough Technology Planning), Hyogo Prefectural Government <p><i>Interactive Discussion</i> <i>Session closing remarks: Mr. Jared MERCADANTE</i></p>
13:10-13:15	Group Photo
13:15-14:30	Lunch Break
	Coffee Service
Panel Session 2: Resilient Infrastructure Recovery and Building Back Better	

14:30-16:20	<p><i>Moderator: Mr. Krishna VATSA, Recovery Advisor, Crisis Bureau, United Nations Development Programme*</i></p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms. Nadia ADRIÃO, Senior Coordinator, Post-Cyclone Reconstruction Cabinet (GREPOC), Government of the Republic of Mozambique 2. Mr. OCHI Kengo, Counsellor, Construction of Infrastructure Section, Reconstruction Agency, Government of Japan 3. Mr. Abdul Malik SADAT IDRIS, Director of Water Resources and Irrigation, National Development Planning Ministry (BAPPENAS), Government of the Republic of Indonesia * 4. Mr. Davut ŞAHIN, Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD), Government of the Republic of Turkey 5. Mr. KAWASE Nobuyuki, Managing Executive Office and General Manager, Toyo Construction Company, Ltd <p><i>Interactive Discussion</i> <i>Session closing remarks: Mr. Krishna Vatsa</i></p>
16:20-16:30	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Closing Remarks: Ms. ISHIGAKI Kazuko, Co-Chair of the Steering Committee of the International Recovery Platform (Cabinet Office, Government of Japan)</p>

*participation to be confirmed

V. OUTCOMES

1. A report of the substantive discussion as a knowledge product of IRP (outcomes of this Forum will be shared at events such as the APMCDRR 2020 and other global convenings)
2. Full video and highlights for sharing via the IRP website⁷, to ensure the Forum can be shared more broadly.

VI. Participants

About 150 participants are expected, including policymakers, representatives of the private sector, practitioners, experts, academia, media and the general public.

⁷ Videos will only be posted online with explicit consent of the speakers.



Annex 1: International Recovery Forum Themes

Number of times	Title & theme	Date	Location & venue Number of Countries/ Organizations/Participants
1st	International Seminar on Post Disaster Recovery	2005/ 5/11-13	Conference Hall, Hyogo House, Kobe 15 / ***/ 300
2nd	2nd Public Symposium on Post Disaster Recovery <i>"Lesson on Recovery Learned from Recent Major Disasters"</i>	2006/1/19	International Conference Center, Kobe 20 / ***/ 182
3rd	3rd Public Symposium on Post Disaster Recovery <i>"1st Anniversary of the International Recovery Platform"</i>	2006/5/20	Lasse Hall, Kobe ***/***/ 170
4th	International Forum on Tsunami and Earthquake <i>"Progress of the Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and Recovery from Tsunami and Earthquake"</i>	2007/ 1/15-16	International Conference Center, Kobe 34 / 20 / 300
5th	International Recovery Forum <i>"Capacity Development for Better Recovery"</i>	2008/1/24	JICA Hyogo, Kobe 28 / ***/ 130
6th	International Recovery Forum 2009 <i>"Building Back Better and Greener -Engaging Partners for Environmentally Sound Recovery- "</i>	2009/ 1/26-27	Portopia Hotel, Kobe 28 / 10 / 300
7th	International Recovery Forum 2010 <i>"From Resilient Recovery to Sustainable Development"</i>	2010/1/16	Portopia Hotel, Kobe 36 / 16 / 180
8th	International Recovery Forum 2011 <i>"Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning for Building Back Better"</i>	2011/1/12	Portopia Hotel, Kobe 26 / 10 / 159
9th	International Recovery Forum 2012 <i>"Regional Cooperation for Resilient Recovery"</i>	2012/1/20	Portopia Hotel, Kobe 16 / 10 / 141
10th	International Recovery Forum 2013 <i>"Resilient Recovery in Cities and Municipalities: Lessons on Integrating DRR into Recovery and Development Planning-Tohoku and Global Experiences and the Post 2015 Framework for DRR"</i>	2013/1/22	Portopia Hotel, Kobe 39 / 14 / 184
11th	International Recovery Forum 2014 <i>"The Role of Private Sector in Disaster Recovery"</i>	2014/1/21	Portopia Hotel, Kobe 21 / 34 / 155
12th	International Recovery Forum 2015 <i>"Sending the Message of Building Back Better from Hyogo, Japan"</i> Session1: National and Regional Engagement in Recovery Planning and Recovery Frameworks Session2: Economic Impact of Recovery Panel Discussion: "Action for Recovery" How can the lessons of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake further inform the strategies and action in implementing the recovery component of Post-2015 Framework for DRR ? Session3: Messages from Tohoku Region on the 20th Commemoration of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake	2015/1/16	Hotel Okura Kobe, Kobe 36 / 27 / 179
13th	International Recovery Forum 2016 <i>"Sending the Message of Build Back Better from Hyogo, Japan"</i> Panel Discussion: Experiences in localizing "Build Back Better in recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction" Session: Development Continuity Planning Round Table on Messages on Build Back Better from the Globe and Other IRP Partners	2016/1/26	Hotel Okura Kobe, Kobe 37 / 25 / 180
14th	International Recovery Forum 2017 <i>"Build Back Better Towards Resilient and Healthy Communities"</i> Panel Discussion 1: Build Back Better for Resilient Community Panel Discussion 2: Integrating Health in Recovery	2017/1/24	Hotel Okura Kobe, Kobe 33 / 16 / 140

15th	<p>International Recovery Forum 2018 <i>"Build Back Better in Urban Resilience"</i></p> <p>Panel Discussion 1: What does it mean by "Build Back Better" for urban resilience?</p> <p>Panel Discussion 2: Innovative approaches by learning from past experience and initiatives and How to measure success of "Build Back Better" in cities</p>	2018/1/24	Hotel Crown Palace, Kobe 23 / 19 / 119
16 th	<p>International Recovery Forum 2019 <i>"Attaining the Build Back Better Dividend"</i></p> <p>Panel Discussion 1: Strategies to Realize the Build Back Better Dividend</p> <p>Panel Discussion 2: Ensuring an Inclusive Dividend in Recovery</p>	2019/1/18	Hotel Okura Kobe, Kobe 32/17/168