



## International Recovery Platform

5F 1-5-2 Wakinohamakaigan-dori Chuo-ku, Kobe 651-0073

Tel: +81 78 262 6041 Fax: +81 78 262 6046

E-mail: [info@recoveryplatform.org](mailto:info@recoveryplatform.org) <http://www.recoveryplatform.org>

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# Concept Note for the International Recovery Forum and The Fourth Expert Group Meeting on the Great East Japan Earthquake 21-22 January 2013, Kobe

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## Rationale

The Forum aims to link up with the 2012-2015 Making Cities Resilient: 'My City is Getting Ready!' campaign, by highlighting the opportunities during recovery and reconstruction process for city and local governments to reduce pre-existing vulnerabilities and to prepare the communities for future disasters. Cities are engines for development, prosperity, innovation and hope, and soon will be home to two thirds of the global population. However, cities are also home to many millions of people living in informal settlements and slums, often at high risk of exposure to natural hazards. Recent trends show that in the urban context, disasters occur more frequently, affect more people, and cause higher economic damages than ever before. The role of local governments in risk reduction has come to the forefront because City and local government officials are faced with the threat of disasters on a day-to-day basis and need new policies and tools to effectively deal with them, there is a continuing intensification of patterns of risk in urban environments, local governments are the closest institutional level to the citizens and to their communities and play the first role in responding to crises and emergencies and in attending to the needs of their constituencies. In addition city and local governments deliver essential services to their citizens (health, education, transport, water, land use planning, etc.), which need to be made resilient to disasters.

The Great East Japan Earthquake is another reminder of increasing disaster risks, especially in urban areas. Practitioners, experts, scholars, and other stakeholders generally agree that lessons from this mega-disaster are important to minimize the impacts of future disasters in cities with similar risks. Urban disaster risk reduction is closely linked with the aims of poverty reduction, and can bring together international efforts for enhancing DRR with efforts for sustainable and equitable development e.g. Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) and Millennium Development Goals (MDG) to achieve a better standard of living for the growing number of urban dwellers.

City governments are the closest level of government to citizens and their communities. They play the first role in responding to crises and emergencies as well as planning and implementing recovery projects. In this context, it is important to explore how planning processes that include among others land-use planning, development planning, sector investment planning, and pre- and post-disaster recovery planning influenced in making cities more resilient. Some city governments have undertaken concrete steps to integrate disaster risk reduction in pre- and post-disaster recovery planning, and it is crucial to show how these practices contribute in minimizing the impacts of future disasters. The Forum attempts to facilitate an opportunity for cities and local governments which have experienced disasters and engaged in recovery and reconstruction, to share their experiences of recovery planning and reconstruction with the global audience.

## Objectives

The back to back events are aimed at achieving the following objectives:

1. Further reflect on applying the lessons on recovery from mega-disasters, specifically from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami to inform Post-2015 Global Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction & Recovery
2. City and local governments to share knowledge and exchange experience on pre- and post-disaster recovery planning and recovery operations - emphasizing the importance of incorporating disaster risk reduction in urban planning and development through measures such as building standards, codes, land use planning as well as community preparedness for the future disasters
3. Present recent experiences on recovery operations and the emerging challenges in cities

## Expected Outputs

The back to back events are expected to produce a single outcome document that draws on recent experiences of city and local governments, including GEJE, and guides other local governments on how to integrate disaster risk reduction into pre- and post-disaster recovery planning as well as in urban planning. The outcome document will be disseminated globally through IRP partners and the community of practice and showcased at the Fourth Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction May 2013 in Geneva.

## Organizers

International Recovery Platform (IRP), including Cabinet Office of Japan (CAO), Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), JICA and more.

## Participants

These back to back events will jointly gather approximately 100 delegates including IRP community of practice, experts, professionals, national and local government officials, and academia.

## Proposed Agenda (next page)

**Day 1 January 21, 2013 (Monday) – The Fourth Expert Group Meeting EGM [09:00~16:00]**

“Lessons from Tohoku and other mega disasters for the Post-2015 Global Framework for DRR”

<b>[Note] All speakers are tentative</b>	
09:00~11:00	<p><b>Reports on Recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake</b></p> <p><i>Presenters:</i> (i) IRP Secretariat                      (ii) Mr. Shunichi Koshimura, Prof. Tohoku University                      (iii) Mr. Hiroshi Okumura, Prof. Kobe University                      (iv) Mr. Yoshimitsu Shiozaki, Prof. Ritsuekan University                      (v) Development Bank Japan - Tohoku Branch Office</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Mr. Yasuo Tanaka, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman</p>
11:00~12:00	<p><b>Recovery Framework (RF) for Post-2015 Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction</b></p> <p><i>Country Presenters:</i> (i) Country A –Experience in implementing RF                      (ii) Country B – Experience in implementing RF</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> GFDRR/WB</p>
12:00~13:00	<b>Lunch Break</b>
13:00~14:00	<p><b>Lessons on Recovery from Mega-Disasters for Post-2015 Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction</b></p> <p><i>Presenters:</i> (i) UN-HABITAT                      (ii) ILO                      (iii) The World Bank</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> tbc</p>
14:00~16:15	<p><b>Group Discussion: How can the lessons on recovery and reconstruction from disasters effectively integrate into the Post-2015 Global Framework for DRR?</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(3 groups)</p>
16:15~16:30	<b>Closing</b>

**17:30~19:30**    **12<sup>th</sup> SC meeting (by invitation only)**

**20:00 ~**        **Dinner (only for SC members)**

**Day 2 January 22, 2013 (Tuesday) International Recovery Forum 2013**

“Resilient Recovery in Cities and Municipalities: Lessons on Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction into Recovery and Development Planning – Tohoku and Global Experiences and the Post 2015 Framework for DRR”

<b>[Note] All speakers are tentative</b>	
09:00~09:30	<b>Opening</b> Governor Toshizo Ido; Chair IRP SC; & Cabinet Office
09:30~10:15	<b>Keynote Speech</b> <i>Ms. Emiko Okuyama</i> , Mayor Sendai City
10:15~11:15	<b>Lessons from Disaster Recovery in Cities &amp; Municipalities*</b> <i>Presenters</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Mr. Rico C. Rentuza</i>, Mayor St. Bernard, Southern Leyte, Philippines (tbc)</li> <li>• <i>Mr. Kimiaki Toda</i>, Mayor Ofunato City, Iwate Prefecture, Japan</li> <li>• <i>Ms. Fathmath Thasneem</i>, Deputy Minister Disaster Management, Maldives</li> </ul> <i>Moderator : tbc</i>
11:15~11:30	<b>Tea Break</b>
11:30~12:30	<b>Lessons from Disaster Recovery in Cities and Municipalities*</b> <i>Presenters</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Mr. Francisco Gaitan Agüero</i>, Mayor San Juan de Flores, Honduras</li> <li>• <i>Mr. Kazim Gokhan Elgin</i>, Istanbul, Turkey</li> <li>• <i>Director General</i>, Fukushima Prefecture, Japan</li> </ul> <i>Moderator: tbc</i>
12:30~14:00	<b>Lunch Break</b>
14:00~14:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>WHO Presentation on Urban Health Risks</i></li> <li>• <i>Dr. Victor Poyarkov</i>, Executive Director TESEC, Ukraine</li> </ul>
14:30~15:15	<b>Presentation of Outputs from EGM4 Group Discussions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group 1</li> <li>• Group 2</li> <li>• Group 3</li> </ul> <i>Moderator: tbc</i>
15:15~15:30	<b>Tea Break</b>
15:30~17:45	<b>Panel Discussion</b> (Recommendations to ensure the 2015 Global Framework for DRR explicitly promotes disaster recovery as an opportunity to build back better and safer cities?)  <i>Panelists: all presenters</i> <i>Moderator: UNDP</i>
17:45~18:00	<b>Recommendations &amp; Closing</b> Cabinet Office

\* The presentations will focus on the issues of debris management, support to municipal governments, recovery planning, infrastructure and green recovery, shelter, business continuity planning and supply chain management, health issues in urban recovery.