

ASIA-PACIFIC FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2017

"Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing Asia-Pacific"

29-31 March 2017 | UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE CENTRE, BANGKOK, THAILAND

SIDE EVENT

[Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction for Poverty Eradication in Asia-Pacific]

Venue: UNCC [Meeting Room G]

Date: 31 March 2017

Time: 9:30 to 11:00

Organizers: ESCAP-IDD (Lead), UNDP, and UNISDR

Background

In line with the overall theme of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development this year, "Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing Asia-Pacific", the Thematic Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience (TWG-DR3) of the United Nations Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism¹ (RCM) holds a side event on "Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction for poverty eradication in Asia-Pacific".

Natural disasters in Asia-Pacific region have kept generations of people in poverty largely due to the nature and vulnerability of assets and livelihoods. When the poor are hit by disasters, the relative share of the wealth loss is two to three times higher than that of wealthier individuals. Natural disasters thus are partially responsible for the flow of households into poverty. As such, it is necessary to mainstream disaster risk reduction in national strategies and policies for poverty eradication (SDG1).

In Asia-Pacific, there is a spectrum of successful policies and practices highlighting the convergence of disaster risk reduction and poverty eradication. These experiences will be shared and discussed to identify gaps and to seek strategies to address them. The side event will also introduce draft guidance document of the TWG-DR3 that seeks to build the coherence of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change.

Scope

The proposed side event will target government officials from national meteorological and hydro services, national disaster management authorities and other ministries dealing with poverty eradication. The event is to be jointly organized by UN agencies of TWG-DR3. Research institutes and other international organizations will be also invited to make contributions to the event, in order to build partnerships in mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into national strategies and policies for poverty eradication.

¹ The Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) is the mechanism of the UN Agencies working in Asia-Pacific region for enhancing UN system-wide coherence, coordination and cooperation to 'deliver as one'. Thematic Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience (TWG-DR3) is a thematic grouping that undertakes regional analyses and use of knowledge, normative and advocacy products, information sharing, joint programming, and mobilization of partners to support the regional implementation of those elements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that relate to disaster risk management and resilience



ESCAP
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**HIGH-LEVEL
POLITICAL FORUM
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Key Questions

The key questions to be discussed in this side event are

- What are the UN perspectives on disaster impacts on poverty in Asia-Pacific?
- What are the key issues and challenges for UN agencies to improve the coherence of the Sendai Framework, SDGs, and the Paris Agreement?

Tentative programme

Time	Agenda
	Opening segment
09:30 – 09:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening Remarks, by <i>Ms. Tiziana Bonapace</i>, Director, ICT and DRR Division, ESCAP• Keynote address, by Hon. Dr. Min Bahadur Shrestha, Vice Chairman, National Planning Commission. Nepal
	Substantive Presentation
09:40 – 09:55	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An introduction of a draft guidance document of the TWG-DR3 on the Coherence of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Challenges, opportunities and strategies for the Asia-Pacific region, by Dr. P G Dhar Chakrabarti, former Secretary National Disaster Management Authority of India, presently Distinguished Fellow, The Energy and Resources Institute, New Delhi
	Panel Discussion
09:55 – 10:35	<p>Member States' perspectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Mohammad Hadi Daryaei, Deputy for International Affairs, Management and Planning Organisation, Office of the President, Islamic Republic of Iran• H.E. Mr. Theng Pagnathun, Director General of Planning, Ministry of Planning, Cambodia• Mr. Nilesh Prakash, Chief Economic and Planning Officer, Ministry for Economy, Fiji <p>Agencies' perspectives,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Sanjay Srivastava, Chief, Disaster Risk Reduction Section, ESCAP• Mr. Sanny Jegillos, Senior Advisor, Disaster Risk Reduction, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub• Mr. Sujit Mohanty, Programme Officer, UNISDR Regional Officer for Asia-Pacific
10:35 – 10:45	Interactive session
	Closing segment
10:45 – 11:00	RCM TWG-DR3 Wrap-up – <i>Closed session</i>

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