ADRC Online DRR Seminar Series

Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for a Resilient Society

June 15, 2021, Tuesday 18:00-19:30 (JST) GMT+9

Profile of Speakers



Dr. Jun RentschlerSenior Economist
The World Bank, Washington, D.C.

Jun Rentschler is a Senior Economist at the World Bank' Chief Economist Office for Sustainable Development, working at the intersection of climate change and sustainable resilient development. Prior, he served as an Economic Adviser at the

German Foreign Ministry, as an Economist at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and led economic research with Grameen Bank in Bangladesh and the Partners for Financial Stability Program by USAID in Poland. He is a Visiting Fellow at the Payne Institute for Public Policy, and holds a PhD in Economics from University College London (UCL), specializing in development, climate, and energy. He has published widely on these topics, including in academic journals and his books 'Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reforms: A Guide to Economic and Political Complexity' (Routledge, 2018); 'Investing in Resource Efficiency: The Economics and Politics of Financing the Resource Transition' (Springer, 2018); and Lifelines: The Resilient Infrastructure Opportunity (World Bank, 2019).



Mr. Ronald Jackson

Head, DRR and Recovery for Building Resilience Team (DRT)

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Crisis Bureau/Global Policy Network UNDP, Geneva, Switzerland

Ronald has over 20 years of experience in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management within the Caribbean Region. He was previously the Executive Director of the Caribbean Disaster and Emergency

Management Agency (CDEMA), and has served in the capacity of Director General and Deputy Director General of the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) in Jamaica. The third Iteration of the Caribbean Comprehensive Disaster Management Strategy (2014-2024) was developed under his leadership, and he has led numerous regional and national responses to tropical cyclone and extreme rainfall events, as well as other natural disasters. Ronald was awarded a Certificate of Commendation from the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) for his contribution to the rescue and recovery efforts in the aftermath of the January 2010 Haiti Earthquake. Ronald holds a Master of Science Degree in Natural Resource Management and Environmental Resource Management from the University of the West Indies, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Planning and Environmental Resource Development from the University of Technology, as well as a Master's Certificate in Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting. He has also lectured on Disaster Risk Management at the University of the West Indies.

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Prof. Satoru NISHIKAWAProfessor, Disaster Mitigation Research Center
Nagoya University, Japan

He joined Japanese Government service in 1982 and has held various positions in the Japanese Government, UN, Tokyo Metropolitan Government and International Organizations. In 1992, he took the position of Senior Disaster Relief Coordination Officer

at UN-DHA where he coordinated international assistance to numerous disaster-stricken countries. In 2001, he was appointed the Executive Director of Asian Disaster Reduction Center. After resuming Japanese government service in 2004, held senior positions in the Cabinet Office and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan. At the wake of the Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2004, he coordinated the Japanese Government technical assistance to the affected countries. He was also the on-site coordinator for the Niigata-Chuetsu Earthquake in 2004. He hosted and coordinated the 2005 UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction where HFA was adopted. He proposed the Japanese BCP guideline in 2005. He initiated the long-term regional recovery planning for Tohoku after the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011. He was a member of the Advisory Group to the UN SRSG for DRR on the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Global Platform. He was the chair of the WEF Global Agenda Council on Catastrophic Risk. From 2013 to 2015, he served as Vice-president, Japan Water Agency.



Mr. Masaaki NAKAGAWA

Executive Director

Asian Disaster Reduction Center
Kobe, Japan

Nakagawa has been engaged in disaster management administration, including many years of working at the Cabinet Office of the Japanese Government. He actively promotes

international cooperation in disaster risk reduction (DRR) such as during the preparation for the Second United Nations' World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR) in 2005, where he served as focal point for the Japanese Government. He had engaged in amending the Basic Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction and writing the White Paper on DRR in the Government. He previously worked for the: (i) United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) to coordinate international assistance for emergency response in the Asia and the Pacific region as well as coordinate assistance with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA, now CDEMA); and (ii) Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) of Japan, where he was involved in the formulation of the National Spatial Plan – aimed at addressing rapid population decrease and impending catastrophic disasters. In this regard, he pointed that building a resilient society from the view of mainstreaming DRR in development is one of the keys to addressing the challenges we faced. Nakagawa is currently the Executive Director of the Asian Disaster Reduction Center.