

## 6. International Recovery Platform

As a pioneering member of the International Recovery Platform (**Annex 2**), ADRC supports its activities, including co-hosting the IRP Secretariat in Kobe, Japan. IRP activities in FY 2021 are listed below.

### 6.1 International Recovery Forum 2022

Annually, in January, IRP organizes the International Recovery Forum (Forum) to exchange experiences and facilitate discussion on challenges to resilient recovery, and opportunities for building back better. The Forum was held in a hybrid modality on 19 January 2022, on the theme, “Redesigning Systems for Resilience through Recovery: Assessing Progress and the Unfinished Agenda at the Midpoint of the Sendai Framework”. Attended by 400 participants from 65 countries, the Forum featured keynote presentations and panel discussions.

As the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 approaches its mid-term implementation, the United Nations General Assembly has mandated that a midterm review of its implementation should be conducted, with specific reference made to assessing progress toward its core provision to “build back better”. The global pandemic, climate change, and setbacks to the Sustainable Development Goals underscore the necessity of assessing progress and challenges in building back better to date, and to collectively consider adjustments and actions necessary to implement Priority 4 moving forward.

The International Recovery Forum 2022 provided reflections on the implementation of Priority 4 and the challenges that remain, while setting a forward-looking agenda for continued progress. It featured retrospective and prospective discussions between recovery policymakers and experts on focused themes in recovery for enhanced implementation of building back better so that communities can recover faster, more equitably and with greater resilience from disasters. The Forum have two panel discussions that aim to achieve these objectives:

- The first objective is assessing the Six Years of Progress and Challenges in “Build Back Better” for Implementing the Sendai Framework. Panelists discussed progress, achievements, enablers and barriers in building back better and how these have informed improvements in recovery policies, governance, programmes, and outcomes.
- The second objective is to redesigning systems for resilience through recovery: Setting the Agenda for Advancing “Build Back Better” through 2030. Panelists discussed priorities and options to advance the implementation of building back better in the context of multiple hazards and systemic risk. It identified good practices that lead to transformative and resilience actions in recovery.

Speakers at the opening session included Mr Ronald JACKSON, Chair of the IRP Steering Committee (UNDP), Mr SAITO Motohiko, Governor of Hyogo Prefecture, Mr UCHIDA Yoshinari, Deputy Director General for Disaster Management, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan, and Ms Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction, and Head of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR).

The first keynote speaker was Mr TAKEYA Kimio, Distinguished Technical Advisor on Disaster Risk Reduction, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The second keynote speaker was Ms Cynthia

SPISHAK, Associate Administrator, Office of Policy and Programme Analysis Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Members of the first panel discussions were Ms Elizabeth RILEY, Executive Director, the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA); Mr Anil POKHREL, Chief Executive, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority, Government of Nepal; Ms Litea BIUKOTO, Team Leader, Risk Reduction, The Pacific Community (SPC); and Mr Nathan NKOMO, Acting Chief Director, Department of Civil Protection, Ministry of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing, Government of Zimbabwe. Ms Cristelle PRATT, Assistant Secretary-General, Environment and Climate Action, Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) moderated this panel.

Members of the second panel discussions were Mr Ramesh SUBRAMANIAM, Director General, Southeast Asia Department, Asian Development Bank (ADB); Mr Jerry FANO, Head, Project Impact Analysis and Evaluation, Department of Public Works and Highways, Government of the Philippines; Ms Sithembiso GINA, Senior Programme Officer, Disaster Risk Reduction Unit, Southern African Development Community (SADC); and Mr José OLIVEIRA, National Director, National Directorate for Risk Prevention and Management, Government of Portugal. Ms Paola ALBRITO, Chief of Branch, Intergovernmental processes, Interagency Co-operation and Partnerships, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) moderated this panel.

Finally, the Speakers at the closing session were Ms Paola ALBRITO, Chief of Branch, Intergovernmental processes, Interagency Co-operation and Partnerships, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and Mr MURAKAMI Takeo, Director, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan, on behalf of Co-Chair of the IRP Steering Committee.

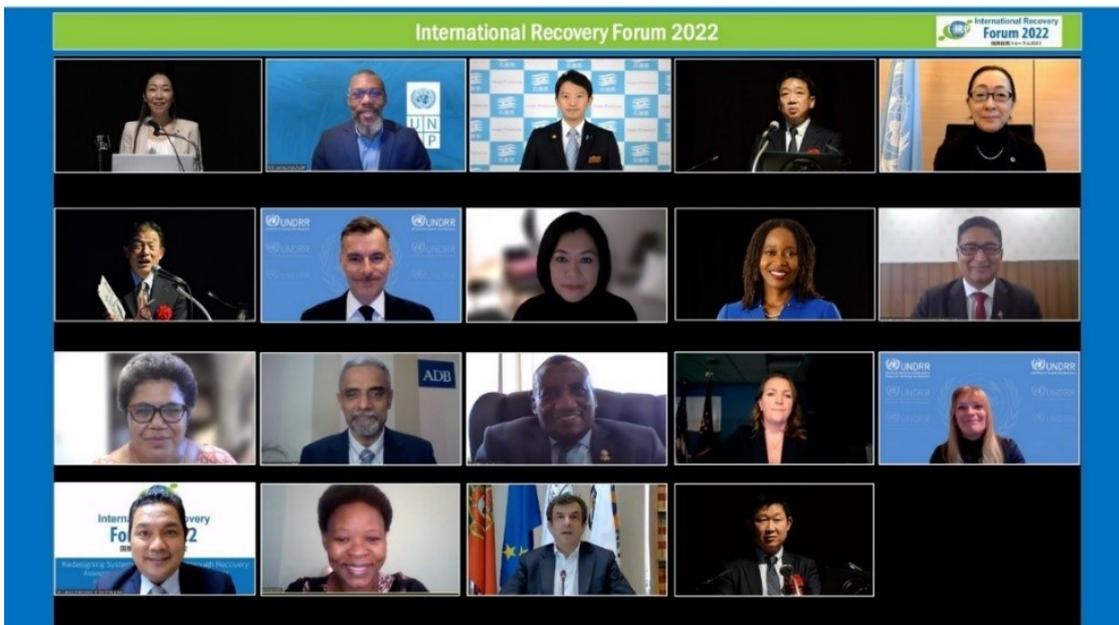


Figure 6.1 Speakers of the International Recovery Forum 2022

## 6.2 6th National Convention for the Promotion of Disaster Reduction

On 5-6 November 2021, IRP participated in the 6th National Convention for the Promotion of Disaster Reduction (Bosai Kokutai 2021) which was organized by the National Convention for the Promotion of Disaster Reduction 2021 Steering Committee led by the Cabinet Office. This event has been held since FY2016 and is now in its sixth year. The purpose of this event is to raise awareness of disaster prevention among the people and to share knowledge and experiences about

disasters in order to enhance disaster preparedness, and to serve as an opportunity to raise awareness of disaster prevention at the individual and community levels. This year, the event was held hybrid (on site and online) in order to prevent COVID-19 infection.

Through the online exhibition, IRP introduced its activities to the international community to promote "Build Back Better" through the introduction of sectoral recovery guidance notes, leaflets outlining its activities, the IRP Herald and knowledge products related to COVID-19, and side events at the Global Platform for Disaster Reduction meeting and the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Reduction.

## 6.3 Sendai Disaster Reduction and Future Forum 2022

On 5 March 2022, IRP participated in the Sendai Disaster Reduction and Future Forum 2022 held in Sendai City. The forum was held under the theme of "Linking Our Disaster Prevention and Environment to the Future of the Miyako of Mori" as an event where citizens could learn about disaster prevention and disseminate their daily activities through sessions, booths, and hands-on events in order to connect the experiences and lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake to future disaster prevention. IRP set up its own exhibition booth and distributed leaflets outlining its activities, and the IRP Herald.



Figure 6.2 Online display of IRP Guidance Notes on Recovery



Figure 6.3 IRP Display Booth at the Sendai Forum 2022

## 6.4 Sessions at the Global DRR

In FY 2021, IRP was engaged with three Regional Platforms held by UNDRR, namely: 1) the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction, 2) the Fifth Arab Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, and 3) the VII Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean.

IRP Secretariat organized a featured event “Building Back Better and Greener for Resilient Recovery from the Pandemic” with IRP SC member UNDP at the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction (EFDRR) on 24 November 2021. This event featured distinguished speakers from UNDP, the Cyprus Institute, UNDP Azerbaijan, and the Government of Ukraine. Speakers deliberated on the application of recovery needs assessment tools for greening recovery, decision support models for recovery planning and greening recovery, and the lessons that can be gleaned from recent experiences with planning and investing in resilience in the pandemic recovery. According to the organizer of the EFDRR, the event was among the most well-attended side events at the conference, with 269 live participants, and more than 100 on-demand views.

In the 5th Arab Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction: “Build Back Better Post Disaster Recovery an Opportunity to Build Resilience in the Arab Region”, on 10 November 2021 – IRP SC Co-Chair Cabinet Office of Japan and IRP Secretariat co-presented.

In the 7<sup>th</sup> Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean: IRP SC members UNDP and GFDRR co-organized “Risk-Informed Recovery in a Multi-hazard Context: Lessons Learned from Current Times” on 2 November 2021. This event was an IRP co-branded side event, with IRP supported promotion, and implementation.

## 6.5 Upgrading of IRP Website

The IRP Secretariat worked intensively with the UNDRR Communications, Advocacy, Knowledge Management and IT team throughout 2021 to design and build a new IRP website. The IRP Secretariat completed the design and development of the renewed site, and pre-launched the renewed site on 19 January 2022 during the International Recovery Forum 2022. The previous IRP website was maintained until 16 February 2022 at which point it was archived. The IRP Secretariat migrated more than 2,000 recovery-related publications and events to the new site, and has since uploaded more than 200 publications in 2021 to be disseminated through the new site and the PreventionWeb. The existing website continued its growth in web traffic, with more than 51,000 unique visitors to the site in 2021, up from 37,000 in 2020, and 32,000 in 2019.

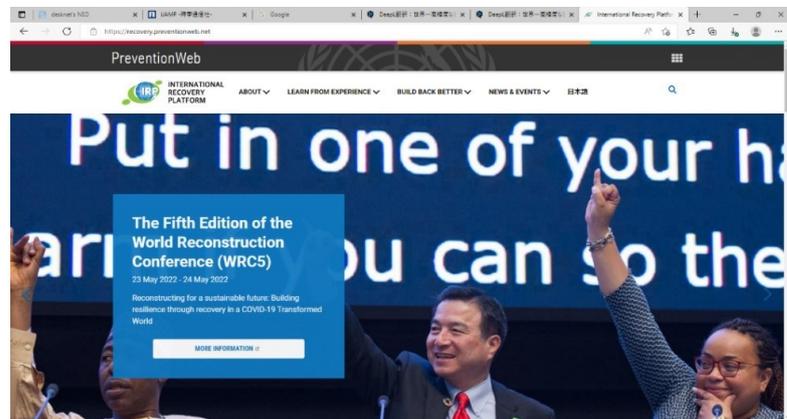


Figure 6.4 Screenshot of upgraded IRP website