

Strengthened partnerships to support coherence of national policies and strategies for disaster risk reduction and sustainable development

Wednesday 10 April 2019 | 16:15 – 18:00 | Committee Room 1 | UN House, Beirut

Background:

Disaster risk reduction (DRR) is an integral part of social and economic development and is essential if development is to be sustainable for the future. A risk-informed and resilient 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development can only be achieved through partnering with groups, communities and the private sector. Five stakeholder groups came together for the first time in 2018 in a systematic manner and provided a 'statement of action' to contribute to Sendai Framework implementation. The groups developed their TORs and two-year action plans (2019-2020), including how to engage with their peer sustainable development groups to support governments in ensuring coherence of policies, strategies and programmes.

Session Objective:

To highlight the added value of partnerships and an all-of-society approach to ensuring policy coherence towards achieving inclusiveness, equality and empowerment and solicit the interest of additional stakeholders participating at the AFSD to contribute to and maximize these efforts.

Themes of Discussion:

1. Role of stakeholder groups in policy coherence

- Role of partnerships in shouldering the burden imposed on governments to develop and implement coherent policies and strategies for SDGs and DRR (shared responsibility).
- Since stakeholder groups represent all segments of the society, discussion would be centered on how this would ensure inclusiveness and empowerment of people at all levels of policy development and implementation.
- Barriers to strengthening science-policy interface in the Arab states.
- Exploring opportunities for other stakeholder groups to be formed to support Sendai Framework and SDGs implementation.

2. Efforts of governments in ensuring an all-of-society approach to policy coherence for sustainable development

- How governments engage with development sectors and stakeholders to achieve inclusiveness, equality and empowerment through enhanced science-policy interface.
- How governments engage with academia; what research areas are lacking to support inclusiveness, equality and empowerment.

Facilitator:

- **Mr. Sujit Mohanty**, Chief, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction - Regional Office for Arab States.

Keynote Speech:

- **Ms. Mami Mizutori**, UN SRSG for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Panel 1:

- **Ms. Nada Al-Agizy**, Director of Sustainable Development and International Cooperation, League of Arab States, Egypt.
- **Mr. Mohamed Odeh Qasrawi**, Director of National Centre for Disaster Risk Management, Palestine.
- **Ms. Hazar Belli AbdelKefi**, Deputy Director, Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment, Tunisia.

Panel 2:

- **Mr. Chadi Abdallah**, Chair, Arab Science and Technology Advisory Group for DRR, Lebanon.
- **Mr. Emad Adly**, Representative of the Arab Civil Society Organizations Group for DRR, Egypt.
- **Ms. Heba Al-Hariry**, Representative of the Arab Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Group for DRR, Egypt.

This Special Session will be live-streamed.