



ACCELERATING EFFORTS IN BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE TO DISASTERS

Thursday 25 May 2017, 11:15-12:45, Arena A, Moon Palace Resort Hotel

BIOGRAPHIES

Co-Chairs



H.E. Dr. Win Myat Aye, Minister of Social Welfare, Myanmar

Dr. Win Myat Aye has been currently serving as Union Minister for the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar since 1st April 2016.

He received Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery Degree from the University of Medicine (1), Yangon in 1980. In 2002, he was recognized as a member of the Australian College of Tropical Medicine. He received M.Med.Sc (Paediatrics) in 1994 and Dr. Medsc (Paediatrics) in 2006 from the University of Medicine (1), Yangon. He also holds a diploma in Medical Education from the same university. In 2016, he received a status of FRCP of the Royal College of Physician from Glasgow, the United Kingdom (UK).

He served for the people of Myanmar as a civil servant for 33 years in various positions from medical doctor to Consultant Paediatrician to Professor, then from Professor to Rector. During his time as the Rector of University of Medicine, Magway from 2011 to 2014, he tried to list the University in the World Health Organization (WHO) Avicenna Directory and get the international accreditation. He also introduced democratic practices in the university environment, brought international exposure to the students, and he was the first rector to restart in-campus hostel for university students in Myanmar.

For these efforts, he received the Best University in the Region and the Best Manager Award in Oxford Summit of Leaders in the UK in 2013. He also served as the Speaker for Education Committee in Myanmar Medical Association from 2014 to 2015. He has also a strong interest in charity work, and formed the "Helping Hand Charity" for rural health and education development. He is also a member of the National League for Democracy (NLD) party and the elected representative for Amyotha Hluttaw (the House of Nationalities) in the 2015 General Election. He is married and has one son.



Mr. Elhadj As Sy, Secretary General, IFRC (Volunteers Group)

Mr. Elhadj As Sy is the Secretary General of the IFRC. He began this leadership role on 1 August, 2014 and is based at the IFRC secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland.

Mr. Sy has extensive experience in leadership roles in the humanitarian sector, having previously served at a senior level with UNICEF, UNAIDS, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and other agencies for more than 25 years.

Before joining the IFRC - the world's largest humanitarian network - Mr. Sy was UNICEF's Director of Partnerships and Resource Development in New York. He has also served as UNICEF Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa and Global Emergency Coordinator for the Horn of Africa. From 2005 to 2008, Mr. Sy was Director, HIV/AIDS Practice with the United Nations Development Programme in New York. Before that, he worked with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria as its Africa Regional Director and later as Director of Operational Partnerships and Country Support in Geneva. Mr. Sy has also held the position of UNAIDS Representative in New York and Director of the New York Liaison Office.

From 1988 to 1997, he served as Director of Health and Development Programmes with Environment and Development Action in the Third World in Dakar, Senegal.

Mr. Sy holds a Bachelor's Degree in Arts and Human Sciences from the University of Dakar. He then pursued Master's studies in Arts and Germanistik at the University of Graz, and graduated from the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna. He was also awarded a post graduate diploma in Education from the Ecole normale supérieure in Dakar . He speaks English, French and German and is a national of Senegal.

PANELLISTS



Mr. Kiyoshi Murakami, Senior Advisor to City of Rikuzentakata, Iwate Prefecture, Japan

Mr. Kiyoshi Murakami, born and raised at City of Rikuzentakata, Iwate Prefecture, Japan, has been serving as Special Advisor to President of Iwate University since 2016 as well as Visiting Professor since 2014. He is also Senior Advisor to City of Rikuzentakata.

Prior to this, Mr. Murakami has extensive experiences in human resources management at multinational financial institutions such as Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan, Merrill Lynch, and Citibank. He also served as senior official at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Geneva from 2000 to 2005.

He is a Goodwill Ambassador of City of Rikuzentakata, and Cultural Ambassador of Iwate Prefecture, and President of AidTAKATA, Non-for-Profit Organization to support the Reconstruction and Development of Rikuzentakata.

He published his first book in Japan, *Rikuzentakata kara Sekai wo Kaete Iku* (Changing world through the development of Rikuzentakata), March 2016.

Mr. Murakami received BA in Government from University of San Francisco, and MBA from Aoyama Gakuin University, Tokyo. He is an active member of the America-Japan Society, Tokyo, and the Society of Human Resources Management, USA.



Mr. Vicente Raimundo Núñez-Flores, Head of Regional Office for Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean, European Commission's Department for European Civil protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DIPECHO)

Vicente Raimundo was born in Madrid, Spain in December 1971. He graduated from the Jesuits high school in 1989, and from the San Pablo University of Madrid with a Journalism degree in 1994. He completed a one-year High Course on International Cooperation and NGO's management in 1997.

After receiving his education, he traveled to Guatemala in 1995 to teach Journalism at the Francisco Marroquín University. In 1997 he joined an Spanish charity (MPDL) and worked for them in different positions in the Balkans and the Middle East until 2002. In 2003 he joined the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Office (ECHO) where he continues to work as its Head of Regional Office for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean. His professional experience includes both conflicts (Afghanistan, Iraq, OPT, Syria, Iran, Lebanon, Central America, etc) and natural hazards (Asian Tsunami, Horn of Africa drought, Haiti earthquake, etc.).

- **Ms. Mayra Bermudes, Community Leader, Coordinador for Mesa nacional de Gestión de Riesgos, Honduras**

Ms. Maira Bermudez Banegas, is the President of the Regional Green Cross and of the regional Women for Life Forum. She is currently volunteer at the national and regional risk management roundtable. She has a diploma in risk management, Gender and Human Rights, Humanitarian leadership, Women and Local Development, Human and Professional Training.

Over the years, Ms. Bermudez has acquired strong expertise on domestic violence and management mechanisms, post-disaster recovery planning at local level, holistic communication, gender-sensitive local development and Sphere Standards. She organized and contributed to international workshops linked to the transformation of socio environmental conflicts, women economic empowerment.

- **Ms. Anna Akwango, Director of Programmes, Deniva, Uganda**

Ms. Anne Grace Akwango is the Director of Programmes at the Development Network Of Voluntary Indigenous Associations (DENIVA) in Kampala, Uganda. Ms. Akwango has been lobbying for the participation of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the development of the Disaster Risk Management Bill that will harmonize all sectoral laws on climate change and disaster risk reduction in the country, and coordinated CSOs input into the bill. In 2006

Ms. Akwango facilitated the mobilization of the civil society around the establishment of the National Disaster Risk Reduction Civil Society Platform for Uganda that was praised and supported by the Ministry of Disaster Risk Management. She coordinated the organization of the national celebrations for the world Disaster Risk Reduction Day 2016. She also organized a national policy dialogue that brought together national policy makers, MPs, commissioners, CSOs, Private Sector and local farmers to raise Indigenous Voices on the impact of the national Climate Change Policy on Agriculture and resulted in a communiqué on what should change in the policy in order to improve adaptation to climate change in agriculture. Ms. Akwango initiated a popular National Television Program : ‘The Peoples Parliament’ that gave voice to the locals to speak out their concerns to the national policy makers on pertinent issues in service delivery and resource misappropriation.

Ms. Akwango is part of the Global Network on Disaster Reduction (GNDR), contributed to the GNDR global strategy 2016 – 2020 and facilitated one GNDR Training of Trainer (TOTs) on advocacy tool review and development. She coordinated the mobilization of 74 regional DRR actors and members of GNDR to establish a coordination platform to actively engage and discuss pertinent disaster risk reduction-related issues in the region. She finally contributed to the online consultative process and platform of DRR organized by UNISDR in the lead up to the 2017 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and presented a case study at the 2013 Global platform on DRR Geneva that served as a contribution to shaping the Sendai Framework target on recognizing the impact of everyday disasters.

- **Doctor Iván Brenes Reyes, Presidente de la Comisión Nacional de Prevención de Riesgos y Atención de Emergencias de Costa Rica**

Médico con especialidad en Cirugía General graduado de la Universidad de Costa Rica. Miembro de Costa Rica ante el Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de los Desastres Naturales en América Central CEPREDENAC.

Cuenta con amplia experiencia profesional en la atención de servicios de emergencias de aparato estatal costarricense.

Su gestión, como Presidente de la CNE, se ha centrado en la participación comunal y el empoderamiento de las poblaciones más vulnerables ante condiciones de riesgo. Así también, en el reconocimiento de los derechos humanos fundamentales de la sociedad costarricense que ha sido impactada por eventos de origen natural u antrópico, según sus necesidades específicas derivadas de su condición.

DISCUSSANT



Ms. Elisabeth Longva, Director, Department for Analysis and National Preparedness, Directorate for Civil Protection, Government of Norway

Ms. Elisabeth Longva holds an MSc degree in Social Science from the University of Oslo. Previous professional experience includes research and work in the transportation sector. Ms. Longva has been employed at the Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB) since 2008, where she is the director of the department for Analysis and national preparedness. The department supports the Ministry of Justice and Public security and emergency planning efforts in Norway. The department's task is to facilitate local, regional and national resilience through regulations, guidelines, drills and assessments, while maintaining a specific focus on the prevention of undesirable incidents.