



7th Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction Stakeholder Forum Closing Cermony & Next Steps

Moderators & Speakers Biographies



Co-Moderator: Martha Moghbelpour National Coordinator of Desk for Social Action, Bahá'í Community of India

Martha Moghbelpour has been the national coordinator of the Desk for Social Action of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baháí's of India since 2015. She researches the range of grassroots social and economic development endeavors emerging in India, encourages universal participation at all levels, and documents what is being learnt about emerging patterns and initiatives. Her interests include participatory approaches, education for development, decentralized governance, community schools, and youth-led social action, and she helps systematize

experiences of community-led initiatives in villages and neighborhoods across 16 states of India. Ms. Moghbelpour completed her Bachelors and Masters degrees in Rural Development and Education, respectively, at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences.



Co-Moderator: Dan Perell Representative to the United Nations, Baha'i International Community

Daniel Perell joined the Baha'i International Community's United Nations Office as a Representative in 2011. His areas of work include global governance, climate change and the environment, and sustainable development. He currently co-chairs the Coalition for the UN We Need and he is formerly a

Global Organizing Partner of the NGO Major Group (HLPF) and Chair of the NGO Committee for Social Development. Mr. Perell has worked with the International Service for Human Rights in Geneva, the UN in Aceh, Indonesia and other organizations in the Marshall Islands and Chile.



Speaker: Abhilash Panda Deputy Chief, Inter-governmental, Interagency cooperation and Partnerships Branch, The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

Mr. Abhilash Panda has 17 years of experience in international development, humanitarian response, investment portfolios and sustainable development. As the Deputy Chief for Inter-agency coordination, Intergovernmental processes, Partnerships Branch he leads UNDRR's effort in the areas of financing risk prevention,

de-risking investment, and resilience of infrastructure globally. Abhilash joined the United Nations in 2003 and has served in various capacities, managing large scale multi-country teams and global initiatives to build economic and social resilience. He has also led the United Nation's largest global initiative to build resilience of more than 3000 cities.



Speaker: Nelson Tivane Project Manager and Adviser on Disaster Displacement in Mozambique and Southern Africa, Norwegian Refugee Council

Nelson Tivane is a feminist, gender-responsiveness oriented social researcher and consultant, who currently holds the position of Project Manager and Adviser on Disaster Displacement in Mozambique and Southern Africa at the Norwegian Refugee Council. In this role, he designed the concept note (project) and lead the support to the National Institute of Disaster Management

(INGD) in developing and (ongoing) implementation of the Policy and Strategy for Internal Displacement Management (PSiDM); and supports SADC countries to develop guidelines for internal displacement management. Nelson has over 8 years of experience working with international organizations and NGOs, including the UNHCR, WFP, FAO, UN-Habitat and IOM, NRC, Oxfam South Africa, Oxfam Novib, Save the Children, and CARE International.



Speaker: Violet Shivutse Chair, Huairou Commission

Violet currently Chairs Huairou Commission Governing Council and is an internationally recognized expert in community resilience and health, women's access to-and-control-over-land and housing, gender responsive local public policy and governance approaches, and rural-urban linkages to stimulate equitable-inclusive local development. Violet is the Founder and Director of Shibuye Community Health Workers, a regional watchdog group in the Shinyalu constituency, Kenya that works

with local authorities to enforce land and inheritance rights of women and orphans. For over 10-years she works building community resilience and combat climate change; nurturing the leadership of large numbers of grassroots women and negotiating with authorities for gender-responsive policy. Violet's organization is a leading practitioner of the Community Resilience Fund initiative and has represented the global network in policy fora all over the world, continuously pushing for rural and grassroots women's inclusion at higher levels of dialogue.