

7th Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction Stakeholder Forum Parallel session 4: Disaster Governance - Engagement of Stakeholder in National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies

Moderators & Speakers Biographies



Moderator: Nina Birkeland

Senior Adviser on Disaster Displacement and Climate Change, Norwegian Refugee Council

Nina has worked on forced migration issues since the early 1990s, in academia and for NGOs. She joined the Norwegian Refugee Council in 2013 and currently is the Senior Advisor on Disaster Displacement and Climate Change. Most recently, she led the development of the new UN DRR Words into Action guidance on Disaster Displacement. From 2008-2012 she worked for NRC's

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre. First as Head of Monitoring and Advocacy and from June 2011-May 2013 as Deputy Head of IDMC and Head of the Research and Policy department. Before joining IDMC in Geneva, she was NRC's Programme director in Uganda during 2006-2008. In Norway she worked as associate professor in human geography and sustainable development from 1995-2002. Nina has wide-ranging field experience from Angola, Burundi, Georgia, Lebanon, Liberia, Kenya, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Syria and Uganda.



Speaker: Ricardo B. Jalad

Undersecretary (Vice Minister), Executive Director and Administrator, Office of Civil Defense of Philippines

As the Vice-Minister of the Office of Civil Defense of Philippines, Ricardo B. Jalad is responsible for increasing the Philippines DRR preparedness and response capacities, working closely with local governments and communities. He is the co-author of the Disaster Rehabilitation and Recovery Planning Guide Workbook (2022) that provides national rehabilitation and recovery framework, the rehabilitation planning process and plan structure, institutional arrangements for plan coordination, implementation mechanisms,

and proposed monitoring and evaluation arrangements. The guide book will support the National Government Agencies (NGAs) and Local Government Units (LGUs) in the crafting and implementation of rehabilitation and recovery programs.



Speaker: Willy Missack Climate Activist from Tanna, Vanuatu

Willy Missack currently works with the Food and Agriculture Organization as a National Project Coordinator in Vanuatu. He has years of experience in developing disaster risk reduction and climate change policies, guidelines and positions, facilitating and endorsing the development of new disaster risk reduction and climate change programs, projects, initiatives, projects, and activities. Willy has experience working together

with the Vanuatu government on national policy-making on disaster risk reduction and climate change programs, projects, initiatives, and activities by providing the civil society input to improve the national climate change and disaster risk reduction policy.



Speaker: Nicholas Bishop

Disaster Risk Reduction Programme Officer, Migration, Environment, Climate Change and Risk Reduction Division, International Organization for Migration (IOM)

A Canadian national, Nick has lived and worked internationally since 2001. From 2010-13, he worked on the provision of legal assistance and counseling to refugee and asylum seeker populations in the Middle East and Australia before joining UNHCR as a resettlement officer in China. Since joining IOM,

Nick has focused on the management of humanitarian responses including multiple system-wide emergencies- including Ukraine, Central Asia, Afghanistan, Mozambique and Sierra Leone during the Ebola epidemic. He has also worked in Libya, Lebanon, Turkey, the Balkans, and Thailand. Nick holds a law degree and a master's degree in international relations from Osaka University.



Speaker: Chris Dekki Director of Global Advocacy, SLOCAT Partnership

Christopher Dekki is the Director of Global Advocacy and Engagement at the SLOCAT Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport, where he leads the policy advocacy and outreach dimension, engaging with a wide multi-stakeholder base and shaping intergovernmental spaces. Chris is also the coordinator of SLOCAT's UNFCCC engagement and activities. Beyond SLOCAT, Chris has many years of policy experience, working for the UN system at the global and regional levels,

civil society platforms, and youth-led organizations. Chris was a stakeholder engagement consultant for the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, supporting countries undergoing their Voluntary National Reviews. As the former Policy Analysis and Advocacy Officer of the Communitas Coalition, Chris has worked closely with many stakeholders to bridge policy gaps within sustainable development processes.



Speaker: Amal Ridene Young Climate Change Negotiator, Investor Engagement Officer at AfricInvest

Amal is one of the "Tunisian Young Climate Change Negotiators" where she is leading the Climate Finance team and a Party Delegate in COP26. Her mission includes supporting the Tunisian efforts in the NDC implementation and Paris agreement alignment. She is a former board member of World Scouting, the world's largest educational youth movement where she served as a Youth Advisor between 2017 and 2021 and where she is

currently the "World Events" workstream co-lead. Amal is leading several initiatives related to non-formal education, women empowerment, peacebuilding, and climate change in her capacity as a UNICEF Generation Unlimited YPAT member, Tunisian Scout volunteer, and WEF Global Shaper.