7th Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction Stakeholder Forum

Plenary 3: Key Messages Report Back from Parallel Sessions

Moderators & Speakers Biographies

**Co-Moderator:** Elham Youssefian

Inclusive Humanitarian Action and Disaster Risk Reduction Advisor, International Disability Alliance (IDA)

Elham Youssefian is the Inclusive Humanitarian Action and Disaster Risk Reduction Advisor in the International Disability Alliance (IDA) since 2019. Elham is responsible for leading and coordinating the implementation of IDA’s strategy to promote and support the effective enforcement of disability-inclusive DRR and climate action. Elham is representing and coordinating constituency of persons with disabilities in UNDRR Stakeholders Engagement Mechanism. She is based in the New York office of the International Disability Alliance.

**Co-Moderator:** Ms. Mareike Bentfeld

Advisor, Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management (GIDRM), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

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**Speaker:** Jekulin Lipi  
Young Scientist, Sendai Children and Youth Stakeholder Grup & SEM Focal Point  
Jekulin Lipi Saikia is a disaster management professional, engaged in DRR policy-making. She is the current Knowledge Management Officer with Children and Youth International (CYI). Previously she was a consultant for the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) on: “Youth Leading DRR and Climate Action through Multimedia Advocacy: Resilience Now and Into the Future”, and a consultant for the International Center for Disaster Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD). She holds a master’s degree in Disaster Management from Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai, Maharashtra, India.

**Speaker:** Alinne Martinez  
Focal Point, Young Scientists Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction  
Ms. Martinez is a Master’s student on Territorial Planning and is part of the Mexican School of Professionals in Civil Defense and Disaster Risk Management. In 2020, she was selected as an intern in Yonsei University on Disaster Risk Reduction. Ms Martinez has led international projects on Game Theory and Set Theory with the Honda Laboratory of the University of Tokyo to evaluate society’s behavior during emergencies. She is currently the Focal Point for Young Scientists Platform on DRR with the Children and Youth Constituency for Sustainable Communities and the Major Group for Children and Youth.

**Speaker:** Maite Rodriguez  
Regional Coordinator, Guatemala Foundation and Women and Habitat Network for Latin America and the Caribbean  
Maite Rodriguez is the Program Coordinator of Fundación Guatemala and has facilitated for 10 years the Community Platform of Resilience Practitioners and the implementation of the Community Resilience Fund, both designed by the Huairou Commission. She was a member of the first group of "Promoters and Promoters of the Resilient Cities Campaign" with the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNDRR) of the Regional Office in Panama for 8 years. She was also a member of the Huairou Commission team that participated in the Talca Earthquake Reconstruction Conference in Chile with processes for defining the "Women’s Agenda for the Reconstruction Open Council".
**Speaker:** Aashish Kullar  
Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework Consultant  
United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)

Aashish Kullar is part of the UNDRR MTR SF team, where he is the focal point for stakeholder engagement and supports other elements of the process. He has been engaged in the work of the UN ecosystem for over a decade, particularly in multilateral global governance for sustainable development, with a specific thematic focus on economic and environmental policy. His primary areas of concentration have been stakeholder engagement and policy coherence in the context of intergovernmental negotiations and inter-agency coordination. He is an alumni of the University of London (LSE), Arcadia University and an incoming Mason Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School. He is a StartingBloc fellow and a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

**Speaker:** Sophie Rigg  
Senior Climate and Resilience Adviser at ActionAid UK & European Representative on the Global Board of GNDR

Sophie Rigg is the Senior Climate and Resilience Adviser at ActionAid UK. She also sits on the Board of the Global Network for Disaster Risk Reduction and on the Steering Committee for the Climate Action Network UK. She specialises in climate change and disaster risk governance, climate justice and transformative approaches to climate change adaptation. During her career she has worked for the UN, NGOs and research institutes on climate and disaster-risk programs and policy in Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Nicaragua, among others. She has a MA in Disasters and Climate Change Adaptation and is currently completing a Master of Public Administration.
Speaker: Paola Albrito
Chief of Branch for the Intergovernmental Processes, Interagency Cooperation and Partnership
United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)

Paola Albrito is the Chief of Branch for the Intergovernmental Processes, Interagency Cooperation and Partnership at the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR). She supports Intergovernmental Processes in addressing disaster risk reduction, coordinates interagency efforts in supporting the Sendai Framework implementation and she builds on partnership efforts towards risk informed investments and actions. Paola joined UNDRR in 2004 for the Second UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction. From 2008 to 2010 she was promoted as Regional Coordinator for Europe. Following this, as Chief of Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia and UNDRR Representative to the European Institutions she directed the regional office activities and partnership development to support actions in building resilience to disasters within the region.