

Asia Leadership Forum for Business Resilience



18-19 December 2017

Swissôtel Le Concorde, Bangkok

FORUM OVERVIEW

The **Asia Leadership Forum for Business Resilience** was hosted in Bangkok on 18-19 December 2017. Organized by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), the forum was supported by the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), and the Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management (GIDRM) managed by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ).

The two-day leadership forum aimed to increase understanding and knowledge of business resilience among executive leadership from both the public and private sectors while fostering dialogue and partnerships for future actions.

The forum was attended by over 70 participants from private sector, governments and development partners from ASEAN countries, South Asia and beyond. Senior executive leaders from ASEAN and SAARC regions discussed challenges that the private sector and governments face due to changing climate and disaster risk and possible approaches and tools to increase business resilience. They explored how to support business resilience by involving public and the private sectors and enhancing multi-stakeholder partnerships. Participants included representatives from Asian Preparedness Partnership (APP)¹ focus countries of Cambodia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, and Sri Lanka. Representatives from Brunei, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Singapore and Thailand also attended the forum. The full participant list is available in Annex 1 of this report.

The first day of the event focused on Executive Leadership Seminars for Business Resilience with Government and Private Sector attending parallel sessions to enhance their knowledge and appreciation of topics relevant to engaging the private sector in building resilience to disasters. Representatives from the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF), SCG (Thailand) Co. Ltd. together with colleagues from the iPrepare Business facility² at ADPC provided guidance and insights on topics including key policy frameworks and strengthening enabling environments for Business Resilience as well as Business Continuity Management (BCM) and Supply Chain Resilience.

The second day was comprised of an Asia Policy Dialogue for Business Resilience. This featured a panel discussion on leadership visions for enhancing business resilience informed by perspectives of senior representatives from government, business and development sector partners from ASEAN, South Asia and Africa. The following technical sessions featured case study examples demonstrating the value of multi-stakeholder partnerships for Business Resilience focusing on Area Business Continuity Management initiatives in Thailand and Public-Private working MSME Resilience working groups in the Philippines.

Furthermore, participants discussed various Business Resilience topics during breakout sessions on Enabling Environments and Government Roles in Business Resilience, Integrating DRR into Corporate Sustainability Programs, Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Resilience, Risk Financing and Insurance and South-South Learning, Knowledge Management & Regional Cooperation.

Following the event, and in line with the forum objectives, it is expected that the participants would be better informed to play a leading role in building business resilience in their respective institutions, countries, and regions.

¹ **Asian Preparedness Partnership, (APP)** was launched in 2017 as a joint initiative of governments, the private sector and civil society networks from six countries namely, Cambodia, Myanmar, Philippines, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Pakistan, while ADPC serves as the secretariat. The APP supports the regional, national and local partnerships to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters by strengthening the leadership capacity of the governments, the private sector and civil society organizations while promoting south-south learning, knowledge exchange and partnerships across and beyond the regions.

² **The iPrepare Business facility** at the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) has been supported by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) through the Integrated Disaster Risk Management (IDRM) Fund and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH within the framework of the Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management (GIDRM) late 2014 for engaging the private sector in Disaster Risk Management (DRM). The facility has focused on building disaster-resilient businesses in the region through partnerships to strengthen the resilience of the private sector, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs); providing technical assistance to businesses in strengthening resilience on a demand-driven basis; supporting governments in strengthening the enabling environment that promotes risk sensitive and informed investments by the private sector; and facilitating knowledge sharing at the regional and national levels.

FORUM BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Business resilience is the ability an organization has to quickly adapt to disruptions while maintaining continuous business operations and safeguarding people, assets, and overall brand equity. Business resilience goes a step beyond disaster recovery by offering post-disaster strategies to avoid costly downtime, shore up vulnerabilities and maintain business operations in the face of additional, unexpected breaches³. Since the business sector is the primary source of employment, job creator, purveyor of products and services and collectively constitutes the largest investors in society, business resilience is more and more crucial to build overall resilient communities and society. This includes Private Sector, together with other partners, working towards addressing shared risks by taking a leading role and responsibility for more effective disaster preparedness and risk reduction.

Southeast Asia and South Asia are two of the most disaster-prone regions in the world. In particular, a rise of the adverse impacts of climate change, the regions are more exposed to hydrological hazards and their potential impacts. According to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), there were a total of 425,000 deaths with an economic loss of US\$ 122 billion due to the disasters from 1975 to 2015⁴. Likewise, South Asia region consistently registers the greatest numbers of lives and assets lost when disasters occur. In 2015, South Asia accounted for 64 percent of total global fatalities that included 52 disasters and the loss of 14,647 lives (over 60% of total mortality), with an economic damage of US\$ 5.2 billion in a single event – the 7.6 magnitude earthquake that devastated Nepal in April, 2015⁵.

The business sector is significantly affected by increased exposure to disaster risks and at the same time frequently bear the brunt of catastrophic events in terms of damage and losses as evidenced in recent mega disasters in the regions, including the 2011 floods in Thailand, the 2013 Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines and the 2015 Nepal earthquake⁶. Risk projections indicate there is a substantial increase in economic losses due to floods, in many regions including South and South-East Asia⁷.

Under international and regional frameworks and agreements including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ASEAN Agreement of Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) and SAARC Comprehensive Framework on Disaster Management, the private sector has been increasingly acknowledged as a key stakeholder. The AADMER work programme 2016-2020 stresses the importance of systematically reaching out to the business sector, particularly through Priority Program 4 PROTECT: Protecting Economic & Social Gains of ASEAN Community Integration through Risk Transfer and Social Protection.

In line with these blueprints and guidance, various initiatives by the business sector themselves as well as cooperation and collaboration between the public and private sectors have been undertaken in the two regions to integrate business resilience consideration into business decision making and practice; however, the degree of such efforts and partnerships varies among the individual companies and countries depending on the capacities and priorities of those who are involved in the process.

In order to continue to address disaster risk and foster risk-informed decision and investment in the private sector, there is a need for engaging senior executive leaders from governments and the private sector in sharing and taking stock of initiatives and approaches for business resilience. At the same time, it is necessary to set vision on building effective leadership and institutionalization of mechanisms for supporting business resilience, as well as maintaining and advancing partnerships as part of overall resilience-building efforts. In

³ Margaret Rouse (2014). Business Resilience. <http://searchcio.techtarget.com/definition/business-resilience>

⁴ EM-DAT (2017). The International Disaster Database: Country Profile. http://emdat.be/emdat_db/

⁵ Duryog Nivaran Secretariat (2016). South Asia Disaster Report. http://www.duryognivaran.org/images/Reports/sadr/SADR%202016_v6.pdf

⁶ EM-DAT(2017). The International Disaster Database: Country Profile. http://emdat.be/emdat_db/

⁷ ESCAP (2017) Asia-Pacific Disaster Report 2017: Disaster Resilience for Sustainable Development.

this context, the iPrepare business facility at ADPC and APP in collaboration with partner agencies from ASEAN and SAARC regions, with technical support from Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and GIDRM/GIZ, is organizing the Asia Leadership Forum for Business Resilience to be held from 18-19 December 2017.

Recognizing the pertinent challenges in a changing climate faced by the private sector and governments as described above, the two-day leadership forum aimed to increase understanding and knowledge of business resilience among executive leadership from both the public and private sectors while fostering dialogue and partnerships for future actions. Following the event, it is expected that the participants will be better informed to play a leading role in building business resilience in their institution, country, and region. The objectives of the forum were:

- To promote strategic leadership for public and private sectors engagement for proactively integrating business resilience as part of their core organizational or corporate strategies.
- To develop participant knowledge on principles for business resilience both from government and private sector perspectives
- To discuss the application of specific tools and approaches including business continuity management (BCM) and business resilience in supply chains.
- To enhance dialogue and partnerships between public and private sectors on strategic direction/policy recommendations for promoting business resilience in the respective countries.

The first day of the event focused on Executive Leadership Seminars for Business Resilience with Government and Private Sector attending parallel sessions to enhance their knowledge and appreciation of topics relevant to engaging the private sector in building resilience to disasters. The second day was comprised of an Asia Policy Dialogue for Business Resilience for which development partners joined the government and private sector representatives.

Overall, the forum was attended by over 70 participants from the private sector, governments and development partners from ASEAN countries, South Asia and beyond. Participants included representatives from Asian Preparedness Partnership (APP) focus countries of Cambodia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, and Sri Lanka. Representatives from Brunei, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Singapore and Thailand also attended the forum.

DAY ONE: EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP SEMINARS FOR BUSINESS RESILIENCE

18 DECEMBER 2017

Mr. Aslam Perwaiz, Deputy Executive Director of ADPC, delivered the welcoming remarks of the forum. He highlighted the need for private sector engagement in disaster preparedness both for protecting their own operations as well as contributing to societal resilience as Governments cannot achieve this alone. Mr. Perwaiz informed that ADPC has recognized the private sector as a crucial partner in its Strategy 2020 in line with Global, Regional and National frameworks on disaster and climate resilience. He extended thanks to the Government of Norway through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs for supporting ADPC for over 10 years ,as well as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) for support to the Asian Preparedness Partnership (APP).



Mr. Aslam Perwaiz (left) and Dr. Valerie Bemo (right) delivered the Welcoming Remarks

He also acknowledged the support given to ADPC under the iPrepare Business facility from Asian Development Bank (ADB) through the Integrated Disaster Risk Management (IDRM) Fund and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH within the framework of the Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management (GIDRM). In closing, he underlined the need for businesses to take a proactive role, citing the competitive metaphor, "Are you at the table or on the menu?"

Dr. Valerie Bemo, Director for Emergency Response, BMGF added to the opening remarks highlighting the important role of the private sector in contributing to disaster preparedness alongside other key stakeholders such as government and civil society as promoted under the APP approach.



Following the welcoming remarks day one participants gathered for a group photo

Participants from the Private Sector and Government each attended separate, parallel Executive Leadership Seminars for Business Resilience. These were designed to enhance the knowledge and appreciation of participants on topics relevant to engaging the private sector in building resilience to disasters.

The Private Sector seminar session entitled "Embedding Climate and Disaster Risk Management in Your Business" provided real examples of implementing BCM by Mr. Kritpon Sudsawang, Business Continuity Manager, SCG and the iPrepare Business facility's experience in delivering BCM training to ISUZU's suppliers in Thailand. The participants increased their understanding of how business resilience might be addressed. The seminar was participatory and practical by including a case study exercise and group work, which allowed the participants to reflect on their own business operation and discuss on how to operationalize business resilience in their respective organizations. The seminar ended with brainstorming on how each organization can adopt business resilience concepts and apply the business resilience tools learned during the seminar.



Participants from the private sector engaging in tailored seminars on the topic of Business Resilience

Meanwhile, the seminars delivered to Government participants focused on "Enabling Environments for Business Resilience". The representatives learned about the concept of Business Resilience, gained insights on the subject by drawing on experiences and case studies delivered in a session by PDRF and were encouraged to think about how they might apply these concepts by embedding them in policies and program in their own country contexts in sessions facilitated by ADPC colleagues.



Government Representatives provided inputs and feedback throughout the interactive sessions

Following the seminars, and in line with the objectives, it is expected that the participants would be better informed to play a leading role in building business resilience in their respective institutions, countries, and regions. Furthermore, the content of the seminars were designed to equip the participants with the relevant background knowledge and understanding of the issues which would enable them to fully engage and appreciate the content and discussions on day two of the forum.

DAY TWO: ASIA POLICY DIALOGUE FOR BUSINESS RESILIENCE

19 DECEMBER 2017

Mr. Hans Guttman, Executive Director of ADPC delivered the Welcoming and Keynote Remarks of the Asia Policy Dialogue for Business Resilience in which he emphasized the key themes of the forum: leadership and Business Resilience. Mr. Guttman highlighted the challenges faced by the Business sector which frequently bears the brunt of catastrophic events in terms of damage and losses as evidenced in recent mega disasters in the regions, including the floods in Thailand, Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines and the Nepal earthquake. He noted that risk projections indicate a substantial increase in economic losses, in risk prone regions such as South and South-East Asia. Furthermore, while sharing the key process of "transformational leadership" model, he contended that to realize effective Business Resilience will require effective and strong leadership, champions from both the private sector and from governments and leaders from various sectors working together towards more resilient societies.



Mr. Hans Guttman, ADPC and Dr. Valerie Bemo provided opening remarks for the Policy Dialogue

Dr. Valerie Bemo, Director for Emergency Response, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) highlighted the opportunity presented by the forum in bringing together government and private sector from both the ASEAN and South Asian regions and beyond. She stressed it was a valuable platform by which to identify and discuss current opportunities and challenges in enhancing disaster resilience by engaging the private sector more effectively and systematically.



Dr. Jingjai Hanchanlash delivered Keynote Remarks

Speaking from the private sector perspective, Dr. Jingjai Hanchanlash, Vice Chairman of Board of Trade, Thailand, Chairman of Rutnin- Gimbel LASIK Center, and Director and Treasurer, ADPC Board of Foundation noted that collaboration between the private sector, government and development partners is crucial to enhance the capacities of the private sector in building business resilience. He commended the high level of participation from the private sector at the forum and stated that the engagement of Private Sector in Disaster and Climate Risk Management should be considered "not as an option but as a necessity".

Policy Dialogue: Setting Leadership Vision for Enhancing Business Resilience in the Asia Region

The policy dialogue moderated by ADPC's Executive Director Mr. Han's Guttman sought to identify current initiatives, challenges, and future visions for Business Resilience from leading government, private sector and development partners from ASEAN, South Asia and Africa.

The panelists were as follows:

- H.E. Mr. Mitiku Kassa Gutile, Commissioner, National Disaster Risk Management Commission, Ethiopia
- Mr. Mohammed Ayub, Executive Member (Additional Secretary), Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority, Bangladesh
- Mr. Oudet Souvannavong, Vice President, Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Lao PDR
- Mr. Chandrarathne Vithanage, Senior Assistant Secretary-General, Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, Sri Lanka
- Mr. Kritpon Sudsawang, Business Continuity Manager, SCG Chemicals Co., Ltd., Thailand
- Mr. Rene "Butch" Meily, President, Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF), Philippines
- Dr. Valerie Bemo, Deputy Director, and Head of Emergency Response, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation



Panelists of the discussion on 'Setting Leadership Vision for Enhancing Business Resilience in the Asia Region'

Prompted by questions from Mr. Guttman, each of the participants was able to provide unique insights on the subject of Business Resilience drawing on their varying positions of responsibilities from different sectoral standpoints and national contexts. H.E. Mr. Mitiku Kassa Gutile provided valuable insight from the perspective of a National Disaster Management Office on how to engage/integrate private sector in policies and programs. Meanwhile, Mr. Ayub commented on the Government approach to integrating DRM into his organization's policies and program in order to promote disaster-risk informed investment in special economic zones in Bangladesh.

Mr. Souvannavong, described how in the Lao PDR context the Chamber has engaged and contributed to disaster preparedness and response for society's resilience. Similarly, Mr. Chandrarathne Vithanag, noted how the Chamber in Sri Lanka has contributed to disaster response and recovery for society. Next, Mr. Sudsawang, gave his perspective on how a large corporation has been able to implement business resilience tools i.e. holistic BCM at the country and/or regional level to boost maturity of businesses while contributing society's resilience.

Subsequently, Mr. Rene Meily, described PDRF's experience as private sector network for coordinating disaster management catering to the needs of SMEs as part of supply chain risk management and business continuity. Finally, Dr. Valerie Bemo, speaking from the viewpoint of a development partner, noted how BMGF has contributed to business resilience efforts.

Multi-stakeholder Partnership Approaches for Business Resilience

This session, introduced and moderated by Mr. Aslam Perwaiz, Deputy Executive Director, ADPC focused on two distinct case study examples of Multi-stakeholder Partnership Approaches for Business Resilience drawn from Thailand and the Philippines. Both examples highlighted challenges, lessons learned and suggestions for such multi-stakeholder engagement towards building resilience to disasters.

Ms. Amornthip Paksuchon, Human Resources Officer of the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), Ministry of Interior, Thailand presented the case study of Area Business Continuity Management (Area BCM) in Bangkadi Industrial Park. She described, from Government perspective, the process of facilitating the project aimed at developing comprehensive and tailored strategies to tackle disaster risks in Bangkadi Industrial Park (BIP), Pathumthani Province in Thailand, which is situated in a flood prone location⁸.

This is the first pilot project in Southeast Asia to complete every step of the Area BCM cycle: (1) Understanding the Area, (2) Determining Area BCM Strategy, (3) Developing Area BCP, (4) Implementing and Reviewing Area BCM, and (5) Improving Area BCM. At the workshop, the Area BCP strategy was reviewed by identifying priority measures for risk reduction against floods and its action plan, including the ownership of the BCP and timeline for repeating the Area BCM cycle going forward.



Ms. Amornthip Paksuchon described the role of government in facilitating the multi-stakeholder Area BCM project in Thailand

By drawing on lessons learned from the project, Ms. Paksuchon noted the importance of government providing incentives for private companies to engage in DRR activities or promoting the value of business resilience e.g. implementing BCM/BCP. Furthermore, it was noted that Government support is necessary to provide appropriate institutional or legal frameworks for businesses to contribute to resilience building.

⁸ The initiative was undertaken together with the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB) as part of the project on "Promotion of Area Business Continuity Management (Area BCM) and Formulation of Area Business Continuity Plan (Area BCP)" with financial and technical support from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and technical assistance from ADPC.

Ms. Rhiza Nery of the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF) provided insights into the case of the Micro, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises Resiliency Core Group (MSME-RCG)⁹ as a multi-agency public private partnership aimed at a more resilient business sector in the Philippines.



Ms. Rhiza Nery presented on behalf of the Philippine MSME-RCG

Ms. Nery described how the group has assigned different organizations to be responsible for leading implementation of activities under a Roadmap for SME resilience in different regions across the Philippines. Particular organizations are responsible for the respective Roadmap themes of 'Enhancing MSME General and Disaster Risk Data; Disaster Risk and Business Continuity awareness and training; Tailored disaster risk financing for MSMEs; and MSME inclusion in DRRM and CCA policy, planning and local institutions. The benefit of this approach is that it allows the diverse areas of expertise, capacity and knowledge of the members drawn from both the public and private sectors to be utilized for enhancing the resilience of SMEs in the country.



Ms. Winnie Goh of DHL provided perspectives from private sector on resilience building

Ms. Winnie Koh of DHL Customer Solutions & Innovation, Singapore also gave a short presentation from the private sector perspective on "DHL Resilience360", a cloud-based, real-time supply chain risk management platform that helps companies visualize and track various risks in order to protect their business operations. She explained how the platform helps companies to better ensure business continuity, building risk profiles based on over 30 risk databases, and identifying critical hotspots using heat-maps to mitigate risks thereby "turning potential disruptions into a competitive advantage".

⁹ The MSME Resiliency Core Group (MSME-RCG) is comprised of organizations who first joined under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) agreed at the National Business Forum in Makati, Philippines under the ongoing "Strengthening Disaster Resilience of SMEs in Asia project" in July 2016. The primary working group is made up of the Bureau of Small and Medium Enterprise Development Department of Trade and Industry (DTI-BSMED); Office of Civil Defense (OCD); Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI); Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF); Philippine Exporters Confederation (PHILEXPORT); Asia-Pacific Alliance for Disaster Management Philippines (A-PAD); Employers Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP); the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG); Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) and GIZ-Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management (GIDRM).

Thematic Policy Dialogue - Breakout sessions

Participants were given an opportunity to discuss various topics relevant to Business Resilience during thematic breakout sessions on: Enabling Environments and Government Roles in Business Resilience, Integrating DRR into Corporate Sustainability Programs, Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Resilience, Risk Financing and Insurance and South-South Learning, Knowledge Management & Regional Cooperation.

The breakout session **Theme 1 on Enabling Environment and Government Role in Business Resilience** was facilitated by Mr. Asif Ibrahim, Chairman, UNESCAP Sustainable Business Network Task Force on Disaster Risk Reduction / Vice Chairman, Newage Group of Industries, Bangladesh. Resource person Mr. Shazali Sulaiman (Chairman, Brunei Darussalam International Chamber of Commerce and Industry) gave updates on the status of interventions towards Business Resilience in Brunei. Country representatives from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Myanmar as well as the Private sector representatives provided inputs explaining their experiences and practices in relation to the government role in Business Resilience.

Ms. Yu Wai Maung, Head of CSR, KBZ Bank, Myanmar facilitated **Theme 2: Integrating DRR into CSR/Corporate Sustainability Programs**, exploring the ways in which companies can contribute to Disaster resilience via their CSR activities and the Myanmar experience on this area. Mr. Amir Thapa, Partnership and Network Manager, Chaudhary Foundation, Nepal and Mr. Sanjeev Ranjan, Head of Operations, Adani Foundation, resource persons for this session, shared the respective experiences of their organizations' CSR approaches in disaster response and recovery and how this linked to disaster preparedness. The group participants highlighted the need for private sector CSR focus to shift from reactive assistance following disaster events towards ex-ante disaster preparedness and addressing the underlying causes of disasters.

For **Theme 3: Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Resilience**, Mr Oliver Cam, VP External Affairs, Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry Tacloban-Leyte, Philippines acted as facilitator. Mr. Derek Thitsanuthit, Director, Thailand Association of Small and Medium Enterprises was an additional resource person for this session. A key discussion point from the session was how business resilience tools utilized by large enterprises and government can be tailored and made applicable for smaller and even micro enterprises. Mr. Cam, drawing on his experience in the Philippines, suggested strategic areas for operationalization of SME resilience including: Educational campaign/workshops for SMEs and Advocacy for institutional/regulatory support to provide fiscal (e.g. dis annual tax) and non-fiscal incentives from government to small businesses as well as institutional incentives to local government (e.g. BCM uptake as part of National competitive index). The group was in agreement on the need for advocacy for promoting SME resilience within government e.g. from relevant agencies such as the national disaster management office and private sector development departments through training and awareness to identify champions and leaders for this area of concern, as well as for improvement in data collection of SME sector.

The **Theme 4** breakout session on **Risk Financing for Business Resilience** was facilitated by Mr. Amornsak Mala, Senior Economist, Fiscal Policy Office, Ministry of Finance, Thailand with support from resource person Mr. Gregory Vincent O. Ferrer, IC Division Manager, Insurance Commission, Government of the Philippines. The objective is to examine issues and gather recommendations on risk financing and insurance from businesses and government agencies. In general, the group agreed that microinsurance is quite a useful tool in many countries, including Philippines and Indonesia. However, the penetration rate has to be higher than the one in current situation in order for the insurance premium to stay low in the long run. Furthermore, the session participants were in agreement that in many countries in Asia, it seems awareness in Risk financing usually increases only after there is a disaster. Therefore, a recommendation was that governments should aim to raise awareness and increase knowledge of the benefits from having insurance and being financially prepared for disaster which should be in place before a disaster happens.

Mr. Carlos Mejia, Senior Program Officer, BMGF led the **Theme 5: South-South Learning, Knowledge Management & Regional Cooperation in Business Resilience** as facilitator. The session centered on clarifying the value of building South-South Learning space for Business Resilience and identifying the ways of strengthening the South-South Learning space to make it more effective, relevant and practical. A key

outcome from participant discussion was a recognition that all countries are at different levels in private sector engagement in DRR and BCM and sharing of success or failures from other countries will enhance the knowledge at the national and regional level.

Next, participants reconvened into a single plenary discussion session facilitated by Dr. Buddhi Weerasinghe of ADPC, whereby nominated reporters from each of the thematic groups were given an opportunity to summarize the discussions and key takeaway points from the respective thematic breakout sessions.

Closing Remarks: Future Prospects for Business Resilience

Mr. Sisira Madurapperuma, Director, Preparedness for Response and Recovery delivered the closing remarks of the forum. He acknowledged the progress that had been made in recent years for engaging the private sector in contributing to efforts to create safer and more secure societies, especially in view of acknowledging businesses as a key stakeholder in the implementation of key policy frameworks for disaster and climate resilience. He stated his optimism that following the event, and in line with the forum objectives, that the participants would be better informed to play a leading role in building business resilience in their respective institutions, countries, and regions.



Mr. Sisira Madurapperuma delivered the closing remarks of the forum

Nonetheless, he stressed the importance of continuing to include Business Resilience in the agenda of national policies and programs and policy framework agenda both in terms of strengthening the disaster preparedness of enterprises themselves, as well as mechanisms to scale up the involvement of private sector as a stakeholder for resilience building in the communities and countries in which they exist. As such, he highlighted the need for more platforms (at regional, national and local levels) whereby leaders from the private sector, government as well as civil society would have opportunities to engage with one another and identify integrated approaches towards strengthening societal resilience to disasters.

Annex 1 - Participant List Asia Leadership Forum for Business Resilience

Private Sector Participants			
Brunei	Mr. Shazali Sulaiman	Chairman	Brunei Darussalam International Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Bangladesh	Mr. Asif Ibrahim	Vice Chairman and Chairman	Newage Group of Industries / ESNB Disaster and Climate Risk Reduction task force
India	Mr Hemant Seth	Director	Federation of Indian chambers of commerce and industry (FICCI)
India	Mr Sanjeev Ranjan	Head Operations	Adani Foundation
Indonesia	Mr. Heddy Agus Pritasa	Deputy Director	PT. Reasuransi MAIPARK Indonesia
Indonesia	Mr. Michael Rampangilei	Head of Indonesia Young Entrepreneur Association Foundation	HIPMI PEDULI (Indonesia Young Entrepreneur Association Foundation)
Lao PDR	Mr. Oudet Souvannavong	Vice President	Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LNCCI)
Myanmar	Ms. Yu Wai Maung	Head of CSR	KBZ Bank / representing Myanmar Private Sector Disaster Management (MPD) Network
Myanmar	Mr. Tin Lin Htike	Deputy Program Coordinator	MPD-Network, UMFCCL
Nepal	Mr. Suresh Man Shrestha	Secretary General	Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI)
Nepal	Mr. Amir Thapa	Partnership and Network Manager	Chaudhary Foundation
Pakistan	Mr. Mian Shaukat Masud	Vice President	FPCCI
Pakistan	Mr. Naseer Memon	General Manager, CSR, Public Affairs & Communications	Engro Powergen Limited
Philippines	Mr. Oliver Cam	EVP	PCCI-Tacloban
Philippines	Mr. Rene Meily ("Butch")	President	Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF)
Philippines	Ms. Rhiza Nery	Business Continuity Program Manager	Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF)
Singapore	Dr. Goh Moh Heng	President	BCM Institute
Singapore	Ms. Koh Yuet Lyn (Winnie Koh)	Manager Business Development, Asia Pacific	DHL Resilience360 DHL Customer Solutions & Innovation
Sri Lanka	Mr. Chandrarathne Vithanage	Senior Assistant Secretary General	Ceylon Chamber of Commerce
Thailand	Dr. Jingjai Hanchanlash	Vice Chairman of Board of Trade / Chairman / Director and Treasurer	Board of Trade, Thailand / Rutnin- Gimbel LASIK Center / ADPC Board of Foundation
Thailand	Ms. Juthatip Tanyaphituck	Senior Client Manager	Swiss Reinsurance Company Ltd
Thailand	Mr. Derek Thitsanuthit	Director	Thailand Association of Small and Medium Enterprises
Thailand	Mr. Kritpon Sudsawang	BC Manager	SCG Chemicals Co., Ltd.

Government Participants

Cambodia	H.E. Prak Kim Hong	Head of Emergency Coordination Center and ASEAN Affairs	National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM)
Cambodia	Mr. Seng Samban	Assistant to the Senior Minister	National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM)
Bangladesh	Mr. Mohammed Ayub	Executive Member (Additional Secretary)	Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA)
Lao PDR	Mr. Prasong Vongkhamchanh	Director General, Department of Social Welfare	Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
Myanmar	Mr. Myint Soe	Magwe Region Head, Relief and Resettlement Department (RRD)	Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement (RRD)
Nepal	Mr. Narayan Prasad Sharma Duwadeeb	Joint Secretary	Ministry of Home Affairs
Pakistan	Mr. Muhammad Amjad Iqbal	Deputy Director	National Disaster Management Authority
Philippines	Mr. Gregory Vincent O. Ferrer	IC Division Manager	Insurance Commission, Government of the Philippines
Sri Lanka	Mr. Nuwan Madawan Arachchi	Assistant Director, Preparedness Planning Division	Disaster Management Center
Thailand	Ms. Armonthip Paksucho	Human Resources Officer, Senior Professional Level	Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Ministry of Interior
Thailand	Ms. Lalita Panoonttikorn		Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Ministry of Interior
Thailand	Mr. Armornsak Mala	Senior Economist	Fiscal Policy Office, Ministry of Finance
Ethiopia	H.E. Mr. Mitiku Kassa Gutile	Commissioner	National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC), Ethiopia
Ethiopia	Mr. Tadesse Bekele Fanta	Senior Disaster Risk Management Advisor	National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC), Ethiopia
Ethiopia	Mr. Abera Kassa Merech	Director	Disaster Risk Reduction Directorate, National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC), Ethiopia
Ethiopia	Ms. Rahel Asfaw Belachew	Director	Disaster Risk Reduction Directorate, National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC), Ethiopia
Ethiopia	Ms. Almaz Demesse Woldetsadik	Director	Early Warning and Emergency Response Directorate, National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC), Ethiopia

Development Partner Participants

USA	Dr. Valerie Bemo	Deputy Director, and Head of Emergency Response	Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)
USA	Mr. Carlos Mejia	Senior Program Officer	Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)
Ethiopia	Ms. Amsale Mengistu	Senior Program Officer	Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)
Thailand	Ms. Yuberk Napaporn	Senior Program Specialist	Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management (GIDRM), GIZ
Thailand	Ms. Mareike Bentfeld	Junior Expert	Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management (GIDRM), GIZ
Thailand	Mr. Timothy Wilcox	Programme Manager	UNISDR
Thailand	Mr. Tam Hoang	Partners Advisor	UN-Habitat
Thailand	Mr. Hans Guttman	Executive Director	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)
Thailand	Mr. Aslam Perwaiz	Deputy Executive Director	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)
Thailand	Mr. Sisira Madurapperuma	Director, Preparedness and Resilient Recovery	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)
Cambodia	Mr. Sok Phoeuk	Program Manager	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)
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