UNDESA/DSPD Public Forum

Taking action toward a disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction framework and its implementation

Sunday, 15 March 2015 | 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. | Venue: Tohoku University, B200, Sendai, Japan

The Public Forum will be organized by the Secretariat for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of the Division for Social Policy and Development at the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and co-organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Japan Disability Forum, Tohoku University, UNESCAP, UN University International Institute for Global Health, World Bank Group; and co-sponsored by UNISDR, the City of Rikuzentakata, Rehabilitation International, and the Disability Caucus for the 3WCDRR.

The panel will discuss concrete recommendations toward disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction (DiDRR) as a contribution to the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.

Opening (10 -10:50 a.m.): An Overview of Disability Inclusion in Disaster Risk Reduction: Challenges and Obstacles: Speaks on the status of DiDRR in the context of the on-going work towards a post-2015 development framework; it will include an overview of DiDRR, its progress and challenges.

Session I (10:50 a.m. -12:30 p.m. ): Experience and Lessons Related to the Advancement of Disaster Risk Reduction, Resilience and Reconstruction: Sharing experiences and lessons learned on the ground to advance DiDRR, in particular, the DiDRR experience of the 2011 Great Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami.

Session II: Present and Future of DiDRR

1. DiDRR policies, programme and implementation (1:30 p.m. -3:00 p.m.): Illustrates how to successfully advance DiDRR policies and their implementation in the global, regional, national and local contexts includes good practices in removal of physical, social and cultural barriers to DiDRR as well as “emerging DiDRR issues”.

2. A Way Forward: steps toward realization of DiDRR (3:00 p.m. -4:30 p.m.): This segment will focus on the “next steps” in preparation for the implementation of the HFA II. Examines the role of governments, the UN system, organizations of persons with disabilities and other disability and civil society organizations, expert/academic communities, private foundations as well as the private sector and how they can go beyond “boundaries” to achieve the goal of disability-inclusion in disaster risk reduction, resilience and reconstruction.

Closing Session: Summary and Recommendations (4:30 p.m. -5:00 p.m.) Presentations of summaries of the preceding sessions as well as the recommendations for next steps to implement DiDRR in global, national, regional and local contexts.


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