Peer Learning Round Tables

Cluster 3: Planet

Pathways to a sustainable COVID-19 recovery for climate and the environment

Session 3-3

Building back better through Climate-Resilient Recovery

Monday, 15 March 2021, 10:00 – 12:00

Guiding questions for round table

Question 1
How can countries of Europe and Central Asia benefit from climate resilient recovery and build back better efforts, and what are the challenges in this respect?

Question 2
Addressing an increasingly complex risk landscape, and the cascading impacts of multiple systemic risk, how should countries approach risk governance at both national and local levels? How are disaster risk reduction and resilience strategies being developed and adapting to this increasingly complex reality?

Question 3
Looking at the experiences of the hydromet sector, how are data and evidence-based approaches critical to support climate resilient recovery efforts? To what extent is the transposition of international agreements into national legislation a critical step in strengthening our knowledge of climate risk?

Question 4
How can the international community support countries in promotion of climate resilient and build back better COVID-19 recovery efforts? How can coordination mechanisms provide integrated and complex assistance?

Policy actions for discussion (forthcoming)
**Moderator**

Vlatko Jovanovski  
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**Background**

The world is being hit hard by two unprecedented crises – the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change. The only way to manage these mutually reinforcing emergencies with limited time and resources is to make sure that we use every opportunity in the COVID-19 recovery to “build forward better” towards “greener” and more resilient economies. As countries are shifting their focus from COVID crisis response to long-term recovery, they are presented with an unprecedented opportunity to accelerate the transition to sustainable and resilient economies while also advancing towards more equitable and inclusive societies.

Building back better and more resilient systems will rely on robust risk knowledge and risk governance at both national and local levels. NDCs and other related disaster risk reduction and climate change plans (e.g. National Adaptation Plans, National DRR Strategies and Long-Term Strategies) can, through a multi-hazard and people-centred approach, serve as important lighthouses to guide countries in recovery efforts and economic stimulus plans.

Informing resilient and green recovery relies on evidenced and risk informed approaches, driven by a need for data, projections and the testing of future more resilient systems. Early Warning Systems, earth observation, as well as loss data collection and climate projections are the baseline for ensuring resilient and long-term recovery. Given the systemic impacts of the COVID crisis on countries, capacities to build evidence, collect data and attend to the future climate disasters that we know are going to happen have been challenged (e.g., air transport reductions impacting the quality of the weather forecasts). Improved sub-regional, regional and global data exchange may alleviate this. Policy measures on the national level are needed to foster this data exchange and collaborate better on EWS and DRR.

**Organizers**

Lead organizers  | UNDP, UNDRR, WMO  
Contributors  | IOM, UN Women, UNEP

**Registration**

Please register at [this link](#).