

Session 2 – Institutional setup for disaster responsive social protection

Tuesday 22 November, 13.30 – 15.00 (1 hour 30 minutes)

Moderator: Ms. Crisanta Donato, ASEAN Confederation of Employers

Session Note:

This session will discuss the prerequisites of building disaster-responsive social protection, emphasizing the need for a sound institutional set up and coordination at national level. The first presentation, through examples from Japan, will discuss how national institutions operate and coordinate to prepare for disasters, and how the finances are utilised in case a disaster hits. The second presentation, bringing experiences from the Philippines, will cover the management of external assistance and coordination between the government and other actors.

Objectives of the Session:

- To provide contexts and examples of institutional setups that are required for more disaster-responsive social protection systems; and
- To stimulate discussion on how ASEAN member states can improve the operation and coordination of their social protection programmes and institutions to be more disaster responsive.

Presentation 1 - Japan's experience in coordinating disasters management (30 minutes)

Presenter: Ms. Shukuko Koyama, Expert on Disasters and Employment

This presentation will lay out the institutional setup of disaster management in Japan. The presentation will first describe the different agencies involved and how they coordinate in preparation for and in responding to a disaster. It covers, among others, information system, early warning system and need assessment. The presentation will then go over the financial management for disaster, describing how the country makes national funds available for disaster response and recovery, and how the funds are channelled through the different agencies. The last part of the presentation will cover how existing social protection programmes are utilised or scaled up in time of disaster. This part includes identification and registration of beneficiaries, mechanism to deliver benefits to recipients, and changes/adjustments to the regular programme procedures or benefits in emergency context.

Session 2 - Philippines' cluster approach to humanitarian action (30 minutes)

Presenter: National Disaster Risks Reduction and Management Council, Philippines

This presentation will provide an example of improving the coordination of external assistance for disaster response and reconstruction. The Philippines has since 2007 adopted the 'cluster approach' of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) that clusters organizations based on sectors of humanitarian action which are coordinated and led by one Cluster Lead Agency, under the coordination of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

Open panel: Discussing mechanisms for improved coordination and more effective response at country level (30 minutes)

Seminar on the potential of social protection to build resilience to disasters

Through an open discussion with the panellists, participants will be asked about the challenges in coordinating disaster response, both at country level and at regional level, and how they think the situation can be improved.