

UNISDR - Global Platform Meeting

Geneva, June 16-18, 2009

Title: Risk financing and insurance: The World Bank Group's menu of instruments

Abstract: Governments often face a shortage of funds in the aftermath of a catastrophic event. Lack of emergency funds can lead to delays in recovery and reconstruction operations and can have substantial fiscal and developmental implications for low and middle-income countries. The World Bank Group has developed a number of instruments to help country better address resource needs in the face of natural disasters. The World Bank Group is increasingly working with member countries to structure ex-ante risk financing strategies to help countries protect their fiscal balance against natural disasters. It also advises governments on how to integrate the various dimensions of such strategies (legal, institutional, financial engineering, etc.). This session will provide participants with a general framework on how to structure risk financing strategies and provide example of ongoing risk financing programs recently.

Format: The session will include four presentations of 15 minutes each followed by half an hour for questions.

Chair: Francis Ghesquiere, Lead Disaster Risk Mgt. Specialist, The World Bank
Presentation: A general Framework for Risk Financing (15')

Panelist/Speakers:

Armando Guzman,
Disaster Risk Management Specialist, The World Bank
The Use of CAT-DDO in Costa Rica (15')

Rubem Hofliger Topete
Direccion General Para El Fondo De Desastres Naturales, Gvt. Of Mexico
Risk Financing in Mexico (15')

Cletus Springer
Director for Sustainable Development, Organization of American States
The Caribbean Emergency Legislation Project (15')

Equipment: Computer/LCD Projector and screen

Date and time: Tuesday, June 16, 13.00 - 14.30

Expected number of participants: 20