

**Asia Regional Meeting
Kathmandu, Nepal
24-26 September 2019**

Title of Session:

Session 8.1b: SDG Localisation: parallel sessions looking at different aspects of implementation of the 2030 Agenda; session on SDG Implementation in Fragile Contexts

Objective(s):

To raise awareness about fragile contexts in local communities and, particularly, the challenges and needs they face to implement the SDGs as well as potential solutions.

Expected Results:

- Increased understanding of risks and resilience factors (capacities to cope with risks and shocks, to adapt and to transform) at local level.
- Closer examination of the existing capacity to tackle situations that require an emergency response at local level.
- Collective learning about models of SDG localisation initiatives that can be scaled-up or replicated in areas prone to security, migratory or environmental problems.

Background:

More than 2 billion people live in countries where development is affected by fragility, armed conflict and recurrent natural disasters. And by 2030 the share of global poor living fragile and conflict-affected situations is projected to reach 46% (source: World Bank). Currently 65 million people have left their homes, seeking refuge elsewhere. Many of them die in the attempt. Fragility is not an absolute concept and the identification and systematisation of different areas of fragility is an on-going process.

This session looks at examples of how the local level has confronted challenges of fragility - by helping to build the capacity of states and societies to deal with increased risk and maintain or re-establish quickly their core functions after a shock. Panellist will look at how to incorporate the 2030 Agenda in fragile contexts, including initiatives to confront extreme weather events, adopting participatory approaches to strengthen community governance systems, combining local, traditional knowledge with scientific expertise, etc.

Methodology:

The session will feature 3 brief introductory presentations showcasing the reality of fragile contexts in South East Asia.

- A panel discussion amongst the moderator, panellists and floor
- The floor will open to the participants for further interventions
- Wrap up of the session

Key questions:

- During the last years we have witnessed the rise of challenges such as fragility, inequality, climate change and forced migration. Can development actors provide credible solutions to those challenges?
- What are the concrete results so far of your initiatives?
 - Challenges of the initiative and how they were overcome (or not)
 - SDGs you focus on
 - Role of partnerships and how that has helped or hindered the work
 - Sources of finance and how difficult or easy to access
- Were you able to report / share your initiatives to official SDG reporting and monitoring processes? If so, how? If not, why?
- What are the sustainability mechanisms / strategies in place in terms of policy support? Finance? Regulation? Own capacity to continue delivering services and results?
- Is it viable to integrate a long-term agenda (2030 Agenda) in fragile contexts?
- Do local communities have the capacity to address extreme weather events? Are there long-term measures to respond to the specific challenges brought about by the impact of climate change?