SRSG
Mami Mizutori
Missions to Panama and Canada
24-31 March 2022
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In her meeting with Cristian Munduate, SRSG recognized the leadership of the RC conducting the strategic work of the UN in Panama. She also confirmed the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction’s (UNDRR) commitment to provide technical assistance and strategic guidance to the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework’s (UNSDCF) areas of action.

Maria Noel Vaeza, Regional Director of UN Women for Latin America and the Caribbean

In her meeting with UN Women, SRSG pointed out that gender equality and women’s empowerment is a priority for UNDRR; as they are key elements of the 2022–2025 strategic framework and work plan, and shared the joint initiatives at a global level, and the projects between UNDRR and UN Women in the region. María Noel Vaeza, Regional Director of UN Women for Latin America and the Caribbean attended the meeting online, while Ms. Barbara Ortiz, Programme Specialist and Ernesto Treviño, Coordination Specialist were present. From UNDRR, Raúl Salazar and Jennifer Guralnick attended.

Ms. Mizutori also expressed her satisfaction with the creation of the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Women for DRR as an initiative of UN Women, UNDRR and the Global Network for Disaster Reduction (GNDR) in the region.
In her meeting with UNCT Panama, she recognized the fundamental role that DRR has in the UNDSCF and invited UNCT members to support the Government of Panama in the development of the national DRR strategy and plan, as well as in the work of the DRR cabinet.

Among the participants were Cristian Munduate, United Nation Resident Coordinator, Ericka Pinto, Assistant representative of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Panama; Jeannette Fernandez Castro, United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Regional Advisor DRR and Recovery for Latin America and Caribbean (LAC); Dayanara Salazar Medina, Gender and Human Rights expert in UN Women; Roberto Desogus, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR); and UNDRR participants: Mami Mizutori, Raúl Salazar and Saskia Carusi.
In her meeting with Roberto Valent, Mami Mizutori discussed the key priorities and strategies for accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) from the perspective of DCOs in the Americas and the Caribbean. She also encouraged the exploration of the possibilities of continuing to strengthen inter-institutional collaborative work on resilience from UNDRR.

She emphasized the need for a comprehensive and consistent understanding of risk and its cascading effects, the reason why it is necessary that UN agencies come together to think about these challenges and find coordinated and comprehensive solutions.

Rodney Martínez, WMO Representative for North America, Central America and the Caribbean

In conversation with Rodney Martínez, Mizutori highlighted UNDRR’s interest in continuing to collaborate around greater availability, better use of data and information on climate risk and extreme weather events in order to contribute to stronger and evidence-based risk governance.

Mami Mizutori emphasized the three primary pillars of the new Center of Excellence (joint initiative of UNDRR and WMO): 1) Information and awareness, 2) Governance, and 3) Early Warning Early Action Systems. This requires regional coordination, and the Americas and the Caribbean is a good example of such coordination.
Mami Mizutori, in her meeting with the Interagency Based Coalition on Climate Change and Resilience, recognized the cooperation and commitment of its members and their role in advancing climate action, disaster risk reduction and resilience in the region.

Additionally, she thanked the members for their active contribution to the Regional Platform for DRR and highlighted how “they were key actors in the event’s success by participating in different sessions and discussions.”

Claudia Herrera, CEPREDENAC Executive Secretary

Mizutori recognized the active role of CEPREDENAC in elevating the importance of DRR at national, regional and global level and confirmed the support of UNDRR to this effort.

She recognized the high-level participation in the current Regional Action Plan (RAP) of Central America and the Dominican Republic that contributed to the opinions and priorities being included in the results of VII Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean.
MEETINGS WITH PANAMA GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

Janaina Tewaney Mencomo, Panama Government Minister and the DRR Ministerial cabinet.

Mami Mizutori in a meeting with Janaina Tewaney Mencomo, Cristina Munduate and representatives from Ministry of Housing and Territorial Planning of Panama (MIVIOT), Ministry of Education of Panama (MEDUCA), Ministry of Health of Panama (MINSA), Ministry of Development of Panama (MIDES), and Ministry of Environment Panama (MIAMBIENTE).

In her encounter with the members of the Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management cabinet of Panama, Mizutori affirmed that the development of the national risk management strategy is the opportunity for all sectors to bet on the planning of specific risk management actions and, even more importantly, to link the decisions of the plan to specific investment and financing measures.

Additionally, she observed how the presence of the DRR cabinet confirms the commitment of the Panamanian state to advance in disaster risk reduction from a multisectoral approach and is closely linked to the country's sustainable development.
In her speech at Panama's national workshop towards the development of the National Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Policy and Strategic Plan, Mami Mizutori congratulated the participants, who were part of the 3 working groups of the executive level of the Cabinet, which is laying the foundations for the country's agenda in the comprehensive management of disaster risk, a key aspect to ensure sustainable development informed by risk.
The visit focused on good governance, disaster preparedness (such as routine drills and daily measures to anticipate climate change risks) and resilient infrastructure; as the Panama Canal is a prime example of all three. An additional example of good governance were the climate databases that the Panama Canal has had since the 19th century, which allows for more detailed analysis in order to make climate forecasts, and therefore increase preparedness capacity.

“The Panama Canal is undoubtedly one of the great wonders of engineering worldwide. Since its construction at the beginning of the last century, until its expansion in 2016, the Canal has shown us how a synergy can be developed between the hand of man and nature, between development and sustainability.”
Las Margaritas de Chepo

Las Margaritas de Chepo is a community that implemented the pilot plan of the Capacity Development Project for Disaster Risk Management in Central America “Bosai” Phase 2, financed by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), focused on Water Resources and Waste Management Disasters. The community has been working for years on this project in order to increase good governance, resilience and preparedness. They have been able to carry out a variety of evacuation drills to evaluate the organizational capacity of the community, as the project seeks to ensure that the population can fulfill its own role in saving the lives of their family and neighbors, while the rescue forces and support arrive.

In her visit, accompanied by both Claudia Herrera, CEPREDEMNAC Executive Secretary and Carlos Rumbo, SINAPROC director, Mami Mizutori called for coordination with local governments at the national level and the implementation of disaster risk reduction activities.
MEDIA

Associated Press, AFP

Associated Press is a US news agency, AFP is a French news agency, and Reuters is a UK news agency.
Mami Mizutori: "Hay que incluir a las mujeres como líderes de la agenda climática global"
Mami Mizutori: Las Américas y el Caribe avanzan a paso firme hacia la resiliencia

La región va por buen camino. Así lo expresó durante su visita a Paramá Mami Mizutori, Representante Especial del Secretario General de Naciones Unidas para la Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres y Jefa de la Oficina de Naciones Unidas para la Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres (UNDRR).

"Las Américas y el Caribe son una de las regiones más afectadas por los desastres. El 53% de las pérdidas económicas globales ocurren aquí. Sin embargo, en los últimos años se han reducido la cantidad de pérdidas de vida y se están implementando planes y estrategias para reducir el impacto en las economías", aseguró Mizutori durante su misión a Panamá que tuvo lugar del 24 al 28 de marzo.

La jefa de UNDRR también destacó que si bien la pandemia es uno de los desastres más devastadores de las últimas décadas, también ha mostrado la complejidad de los riesgos y sus efectos en cascada, por lo que es una oportunidad para implementar políticas y enfoques integrales y multisectoriales como parte de su recuperación. "Se ha avanzado mucho en la gobernanza del riesgo, pero es necesario continuar reduciendo los riesgos para cumplir con las metas del Marco de Sendai para la Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres 2015-2030 para construir sociedades más resilientes", añadió Mizutori, quien aprovechó para invitar a seguir participando del proceso de Revisión de Mitad de Período sobre la Implementación del Marco de Sendai.
La Prensa (OP-ED)

El futuro que nos merecemos

Marri Mizutori
12 abr 2022 - 11:00PM

La Prensa forma parte de

UN Panama

Panamá, construyendo su ruta hacia la resiliencia

13 abril 2022

La quebradilla pacífica. Apenas un estrecho canal a un costado de las Margaritas de Chepo, quería, chocolatosa, silenciosa, inofensiva.

Desde las casas de bloques y zinc, en medio del sopor del mediodía, los vecinos de la comunidad miran con indiferencia aquel hilo de agua durante la temporada seca. En época lluviosa, sin embargo, la historia es otra. La quebrada crece, sube, se sale de su cama, invade las casas y causan daños en toda la comunidad.

Panamá impulsa la resiliencia comunitaria y una gobernanza sólida ante los riesgos de desastres

14 abril 2022

Desde las casas de bloques y zinc, en medio del sopor del mediodía, los vecinos de la comunidad miran con indiferencia aquel hilo de agua durante la temporada seca. En época lluviosa, sin embargo, la historia es otra. La quebrada crece, sube, se sale de su cama, invade las casas y causan daños en toda la comunidad. En la última década, este regalo natural solo ha sido notado por las grandes inundaciones que han dejado atrás a los habitantes de la zona, principalmente por los desorrientados del arroyo Bovino y del río Mamoni.
Gabinete de Gestión integral de Riesgo a Desastres recibe reconocimiento internacional - Government Ministry, Panamá Republic.

Explican Avances de Proyecto de Manejo Integral del Riesgo de Desastres - SINAPROC
MEDIA IMPACT

Head of UNDRR reviews policies against disasters in Panama

Sejarah Diplomasi Kebencanaan Indonesia: Dulu Peserta, Kini Tuan Rumah Konferensi GPDRR 2022

SOCIAL MEDIA REACH

Facebook
- 450 average reach
- Total reach: 4,000
- 2 average shares
- 8 average likes

Twitter
- 668 average impressions
- Total impressions: 18,000
- 4 average Retweets
- 8 average likes
Rob Wesseling, President and CEO of the Co-operators Group Limited

In her meeting with Rob Wessling, Mami Mizutori reaffirmed UNDRR’s willingness to continue working with The Co-operators, a Canadian insurance co-operative, to bring real life examples and solutions to the policy arena for stronger advocacy and enhanced public and private commitment, as it is time for more action towards a resilient and sustainable world. Also, she thanked Wesseling’s leadership and support for driving the prevention and disaster risk reduction forward.
Carole Saab, CEO of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities

SRSG thanked the Federation for recognizing their work with local governments, not only in raising awareness and promoting disaster risk reduction, but also providing tools and financing resources to turn theory into practice.

Ministerial Roundtable focused on Canada's National Adaptation Strategy

In the Ministerial Roundtable focused on Canada's National Adaptation Strategy, Mami Mizutori addressed the attending:

“We know that risk reduction is ineffective without climate information and climate change adaptation will not succeed without risk reduction. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, adopted in the same year as the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda, gives us a unique opportunity for coherent implementation. Governments need to consider both risk reduction and climate change adaptation as integral to planning for sustainable development.”