

**PANEL: *“Efficient and Effective Building Regulatory Systems to Support Resilient Cities in low and middle-Income Countries”***

**Session Lead: The World Bank Group**

**Participating countries: Jamaica, Japan, India, Egypt and USA**

**Moderator: Thomas Moullier, The World Bank**

Rapid urbanization without effective regulation has dramatically increased urban disaster risk throughout the developing world. As the World will witness a massive expansion of building stocks in the next three decades, cities, countries, the private sector and the international community need to explore new and better coordinated approaches to regulatory enforcement and compliance. Greater effort is needed to make sound building code implementation an integral part of effective disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies. DRR and climate change adaptation are significantly enhanced by the avoidance of hazardous locations and the introduction of sustainable building practices. Consideration of sustainable building and land-use practices for disaster-prone developing countries has, to date, failed to address issues of building and land-use regulatory policy and practice in low-income countries.

A joint World Bank - Japan-funded initiative, the Building Regulation for Resilience Program (BRR) was initiated in 2016 and is currently developing an international knowledge and operational platform to support successful investment into effective building regulatory capacity.