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| **Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation****in High Mountain Ecosystems / Side event on Rio+20** |
| **Wednesday 20 June, 11 – 12:45**[**Mountain Pavilion**](http://pavilion.minam.gob.pe/en) **at the** [**Athletes’ Park**](http://g.co/maps/df546) **Río + 20****Moderated by Ms.** [**Margareta Wahlström**](http://www.unisdr.org/who-we-are/srsg-drr)Special Representative of the UN Secretary-general for Disaster Risk Reduction |
| **Why attend this panel*****While glacial retreat is occurring at an alarming*** *rate,**research indicates catastrophic declines in glacier volumes which are likely to result in substantial impacts on water flows to downstream valleys, whose livelihoods and cultural practices depends from glacier water resources.****Heavily populated, high-elevation areas in the*** *tropics,**such as the tropical Andes, are now experiencing particularly dramatic changes in climate and are likely to continue to do so in the future.****The changing hydrological conditions can affect*** *water costs and ultimately may impair the ability of these communities to maintain vibrant local economies***Given this context, the panel will explore how to** increase public awareness to the complexities and challenges surrounding local sustainable development in high mountain ecosystems; identify good practices in the articulation of disaster risk reduction, environmental sustainability and climate change adaptation with emphasis in local risk governance, vulnerability reduction and resilience building while stimulate discussion among panel members and the audience focusing on how to foster local initiatives on disaster risk reduction. |  | **The UN General Assembly has agreed to include disaster risk reduction as a main pillar of sustainable development.** [**UNISDR**](http://www.unisdr.org/) **stands ready to support Member States in accomplishing this agreement.****Objectives**Increase public awareness to the complexities and challenges surrounding local sustainable development in high mountain ecosystems, highlighting that the main drivers of risk are the lack of governance, environmental degradation and inadequate occupation and use of the territory, furthermore in fragile ecosystems such as high mountain ones.Identify good practices in the articulation of disaster risk reduction, environmental sustainability and climate change adaptation with emphasis in local risk governance, vulnerability reduction and resilience building.Reflections on the need for strengthen institutional capacity to allow regional governments and civil society to play an active and influential role for CCA and DRR for local sustainable development.[*Click here for details of this event*](http://pavilion.minam.gob.pe/profile-event_profile/254)[*Download flyer*](http://www.eird.org/newsroom/index.html)[*UNISDR - The Americas Press Room*](http://www.eird.org/newsroom/index.html)[*Articles of Disaster Reduction Risk*](http://www.eird.org/newsroom/Articulos-Reduccion-de-Riesgo-de-Desastres.doc) |
| **Programme** |  |  |
| 11:00-11:15 | **Opening remarks by Moderator****Introduction of panelists**From **Peru**, Mrs. **Ana Iju**, Coordinator of the  Andean Glacier Retreat Project From **Switzerland**, Mr. **Andreas Gotz**,  Deputy Director of the Federal Office for the Environment**Brief Introduction of subject** |  | **Information and press contact:**Humberto Jaime - Communication & information Manager[The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction](http://www.unisdr.org/)[Regional Office - The Americas](http://www.eird.org/index-esp.html)507-6541-3228 507-317-1120Skype hjaimedr01BB 2143E8E8 |
| 11:15-11:40 | **Presentation by panelist** |  | **The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction,Regional Office – The Americas**# 142 Arnoldo Cano Ave. Ciudad del Saber, Ancón, Panamá.P.O. Box 0843-03441. Panamá, Panamá. [www.eird.org](http://www.eird.org)Tel.: (507) 317-1120 E-mail: eird@eird.org |
| 11:40-12:30 | **Q & A session** |  |
| 12:30-12:45 | **Closing Remarks by Moderator** |  |
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