
DIGITAL BROCHURE

VI REGIONAL PLATFORM FOR DISASTER RISK
REDUCTION IN THE AMERICAS



Sistema Nacional de Gestión
del Riesgo de Desastres



GOBIERNO DE COLOMBIA



UNISDR

Oficina de las Naciones Unidas para la Reducción
del Riesgo de Desastres



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Acknowledgments



Message from Dr. Carlos Iván Márquez Pérez, General Director of the National Disaster Risk Management Unit – UNGRD – of the Republic of Colombia

With the slogan “A Less Vulnerable Region with More Resilient Communities”, we welcome you to the VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas which will be held between June 20 and 22 2018 in the beautiful city of Cartagena de Indias.

Colombia receives you in peace. Colombia has implemented a National Disaster Risk Management Policy, but the most important thing is that we have excellent coordination with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, which we support as much as we can. We have made a commitment to implementing a high quality event, but most importantly we seek to hold an event that is interesting and useful for everyone who makes an effort to accompany us from the public, private, academic and community sectors.

We are expecting more than 1,000 people from every country in the region. The agenda includes four plenary sessions, 18 parallel sessions, 1 special session, Official Declarations, side events, the Ministerial meeting, an Ignite Stage, a Market Place and many other spaces that we have prepared to facilitate dialogue and the exchange of experiences in relation to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Over the three days of the Platform, participants will enjoy an agenda with high-quality hosts, co-hosts, and panelists, not just at the regional level but from around the world. Once the platform has finished, participants can implement innovative ideas in their fields and take all the knowledge that they have acquired and share it with people in their own countries.

In Colombia, following the ratification of Law 1523 of 2012, which consolidates the “National Disaster Risk Management Policy”, we have focused on tirelessly working in the areas of risk knowledge, risk reduction and disaster management at local and national levels in coordination with all sectors. This has been in line with what was established in the Sendai Action Framework, the Paris Agreement, and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction will also be the setting for a Ministerial meeting with the countries attending. The goal is to monitor the agreements of the monitoring agreements from the previous regional platform held in Montreal Canada and assessing the current status of these commitments so that they can contribute to improving the region in a productive and committed way.

This is why for us in Colombia it is a source of pride to be the hosts of the MOST IMPORTANT RISK REDUCTION EVENT in the Americas, in coordination with very important partners. Again, I would like to thank you for your participation and give you a very warm welcome to Colombia.



Message from Ms. Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The Americas continues to play a vital role in advocating for disaster risk reduction, leading by example and finding new ways of promoting the idea that the prevention of disasters and reducing disaster losses need to be at the heart of government action across the region.

Last year, the region saw a record level of economic losses from disasters and the bulk of these resulted from an exceptionally active Atlantic Hurricane Season, which had a huge impact on the United States and many small island states and territories in the Caribbean. The lives of millions were affected by these events. Following on the region's recent experience of El Niño, it was a further reminder of the growing threat of extreme weather events amplified by climate change.

The deadly earthquakes in Mexico last September and in Manta, Ecuador, on April 2016, underlined again the region's high-level of exposure to seismic risk and the need to embed land use regulations and building codes in national and local strategies for disaster risk reduction. The loss of life and damage could have been much greater if it were not for the measures being taken to improve early warning systems and disaster risk management in recent decades.

Mexico is to be congratulated for its successful hosting in May 2017 of the first Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction to be held outside of Geneva. That was the last occasion when many of you had an opportunity to meet and exchange views on progress in implementing the Regional Action Plan for the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in the Americas.

This ambitious plan was adopted last year at the Regional Platform in Montreal, Canada, and will serve as a guiding document for this gathering in Colombia. Given the region's commitment to strengthening disaster risk information systems, it is particularly relevant now that the Sendai Framework Monitor has been launched in March of this year and a determined global effort is underway to report systematically on disaster losses.

Our host country Colombia stands out for its many successes in disaster risk reduction. It was the first country to align its National Development Plan with the SDGs and the Sendai Framework, explicitly integrating disaster risk reduction and action on climate change as conditions for resilient growth. Colombia will provide a voluntary review of its progress on the SDGs to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July. Given that the focus of this year's International Day for Disaster Reduction on October 13 is on economic losses – target (C) of the Sendai Framework - it is worth highlighting Colombia's pioneering role in multi-hazard risk assessments. Fiscal risk assessment is mandatory in Colombia and disaster risk has been ranked as the second most relevant risk.

Three years on from the adoption of the Sendai Framework, we are only two years away from the deadline to achieve target (e) of the Sendai Framework, which seeks a substantial increase in the number of countries with national and local strategies for disaster risk reduction.

The Americas is well-placed to achieve this target. In 2017, 14 countries from the region participated in the Sendai Framework Data Readiness Review, which was presented at the Global Platform in Cancun. Some 20 countries have updated their national disaster loss databases. In the same manner, an important number of countries have started the development of national and local plans for disaster risk reduction and reporting on progress against the 38 Sendai Framework indicators and key indicators for the SDGs including SDG 1 on poverty eradication, SDG 11 on sustainable cities and communities, and SDG 13 on climate action.

The region can also take some pride in the fact that 1,800 cities and towns are participating in the Making Cities Resilient Campaign, an excellent basis on which to ensure that local strategies for disaster risk reduction are a strong feature of Sendai Framework implementation across the Americas.

The VI Regional Platform will be an opportunity to assess the implementation of the Regional Action Plan and for Member States, local government, parliamentarians, the private sector, the scientific and academic communities, and civil society organizations to commit to further action. It will also be an invaluable moment when we reconfirm the importance of disaster risk reduction in achieving the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

On behalf of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, I would like to thank the Government of Colombia for hosting this Regional Platform. I extend a warm welcome to you all and look forward to meeting many of you over the course of these few days.

VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas Concept Note

1. Context

During the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in March 2015, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework) was adopted. This Global Framework, along with the other global agreements adopted during 2015¹, constitute the 2030 Agenda, which establishes comprehensive disaster risk management and its integration into development as fundamental for Member States.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction seeks to achieve “the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries”.

Achieving this result requires not only the commitment of political leaders at all levels; it is also necessary for all actors to actively participate in the implementation and monitoring of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and related actions.

The Global and Regional Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction constitute a dynamic multi-sectorial space that promote the exchange of knowledge among the disaster risk management actors, stimulate discussion and encourage the formulation of policies at the regional, national and local level. They also constitute a space for the launching of new initiatives, the promotion of campaigns and alliances, the presentation of the advances and the progress achieved in disaster risk reduction.

Under the auspices of the Government of Colombia as host country, in cooperation with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), the sixth session of the Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas will represent an opportunity for governments, the private sector, civil society and other actors in the Americas to exchange experiences in the implementation of the Regional Action Plan, signed on March 2017 in Montreal, Canada, as a supporting tool for the Americas in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

1. Addis Ababa Action on Financing for Development, Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

2. Results from the previous sessions of the Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas

RP09- Panama City, Panama, 2009

The first session of the Regional Platform (RP) for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas, organized by UNISDR-Americas and the Organization of American States (OAS), was held in Panama City from March 17th - 19th, 2009.

This first session sought to bridge the gap between the National Platforms and the Global Platform by establishing a mechanism for broad participation at a hemispheric level. This session also focused on defining responsibilities and priorities for progress on the hemispheric agenda over the next few years, based on trends, challenges, areas for advancement and opportunities in the region.

The results of this first session included the consolidation and institutionalization of the Regional Platform for the Americas, as well as the strengthening of working partnerships, increased knowledge of the mechanism to monitor the progress made in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 -2015, and the promotion of opportunities for cooperation and dissemination of information on disaster risk reduction throughout the region.

RP11 - Nayarit, Mexico, 2011.

The second session of the Regional Platform was held in Nayarit, Mexico from March 15th - 17th, 2011 and for the first time it received the support of the Advisory Council (see below) as a formal support mechanism.

The main results of the 2011 session were captured in the Nayarit Communiqué, and highlighted the need to prioritize disaster risk reduction at the highest possible level of action, as well as the importance of establishing a hemispheric agenda to promote DRR.

The main areas of focus of the Platform included: acknowledgement of importance and implementation of disaster risk reduction in adaptation to climate change; promotion of measurable increases in DRR investment, making cities, schools and hospitals resilient to disasters; included a mid-term review of the Hyogo Framework for Action; and the regionwide message to be transmitted during the next session of the Global Platform. RP11 also reaffirmed a commitment to the guiding principles of disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change with a series of recommendations raised during the Global Platform.

RP12 - Santiago, Chile, 2012

UNISDR was charged with the organization of the third session of the Regional Platform, which was held on the 26th - 28th of November 2012 in Santiago, Chile. During the three-day session, 400 representatives from 43 countries and overseas territories participated in six thematic sessions, a high-level roundtable and four parallel sessions aimed at identifying experiences and tracking progress, as well as defining priorities necessary to strengthen the disaster risk reduction agenda throughout the region.

Participants recognized that the Regional Platform is the best way to discuss how to promote the integration of disaster risk reduction into planning policies and processes. As reflected in the Santiago Communiqué: Investing for Resilience, this third session also served to reveal the considerable progress towards strengthening governance for disaster risk reduction in the region through new legal frameworks and the integration of risk reduction in investment policies and development planning in various countries of the continent.

RP14 - Guayaquil, Ecuador, 2014

The fourth session of the Regional Platform was held in Guayaquil, Ecuador from 27th to the 29th of May 2014. The particular importance of this session was the consolidation of considerable political contributions from the Americas from previous sessions as inputs relevant to the Third Conference World Summit on Disaster Reduction, which took place from 14th to 18th March 2015 in Sendai, Japan, and the adoption of the Sendai Framework.

This session of the Regional Platform brought together high-level political and executive authorities, along with other actors, in the dialogues and agreements to promote the agenda of disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change in the region. It also made it possible to undertake a joint assessment of progress in the area of disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change for the period 2005-2015, which served to identify gaps and inputs, and the parties agreed to a common regional agenda, reflected in the Guayaquil Communiqué, to prioritize areas and identify a series of regional strengths with a view to adopting the new international framework for disaster risk reduction, the Sendai Framework.

RP17- Montreal, Canada, 2017

The fifth Regional Platform was held in Montreal, Canada from the 7th to the 9th March 2017. Delegates from the Americas met to discuss ongoing efforts to reduce disaster risk and to agree on the Regional Action Plan (RAP), which was developed during the First Meeting of Ministers and High Level Authorities on the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in the Americas, on 8th and 9th June 2016 in Asunción, Paraguay, and was adopted during the RP17 in Montreal.

The Plan of Action and the Montreal Declaration reinforced the commitment made by ministries and authorities in the region to reduce disaster risk. The Regional Action Plan materializes the regional approach and supports countries in their efforts to build resilience at the community level as well as reduce the risk of disasters and their impacts. It plays a key role in the implementation of the Sendai Framework and its four priorities for action in identifying regional initiatives. Member States, intergovernmental organizations, representatives of civil society, the private sector, academia and the scientific and technical community, volunteers, and other relevant stakeholders seek to advance these initiatives collectively and effectively.

3. Objectives and expected results

The Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas will have three general objectives and eight specific objectives linked to the different priorities of the Sendai Framework. The three general objectives are to:

1. Present and analyse the progress achieved at the regional level regarding the implementation of the Sendai Framework
2. Identify viable approaches and mechanisms to advance the implementation of the Regional Action Plan, contributing to and supporting countries in the development and the implementation of their national and local DRR plans, as well as in the design and utilization of monitoring indicators.
3. Acknowledging that at the centre of all efforts to reduce the risk of disasters and to build resilience lays the wellbeing of individuals; we will promote an approach of shared responsibility by all society. As such, we shall recognize, highlight and strengthen the role and leadership of community networks, civil society, volunteer groups, women, people with disabilities, indigenous populations, and groups living in conditions of high vulnerability as agents of change in disaster risk reduction and in strengthening resilience throughout the Americas.

The specific objectives of the Sixth Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction are articulated to the four priorities of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. They are:

Priority 1: Understand disaster risk

1. Exchange experiences about risk knowledge including on national and local monitoring tools, on building baselines and collecting disaggregated data on damages and losses.
2. Analyze the availability of information on risk assessments as a basis to guide risk reduction and preparedness measures, including and promoting cost-benefit analyses among others.

Priority 2: Strengthen disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

3. Promote the coherence of regulatory frameworks and the articulation between disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ensuring the integration of risk in development planning tools.
4. Promote the articulation of national plans and local efforts to foster coherence, bridge the gap between the different levels of administration and strengthen capacities at local level.

Priority 3: Invest in disaster risk reduction for resilience

5. Promote the implementation of methodologies to integrate DRR in public and private investments, as well as financial mechanisms or instruments that intentionally withhold or transfer risk as measures of financial protection through the identification of successful experiences and models.

Priority 4: Enhance disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

6. Recognize, highlight and strengthen the role of the private sector and public-private initiatives for disaster risk reduction, preparedness, and resilient investments.
7. Analyze incentive mechanisms for resilient investments that could be promoted by States, as well as by multi-lateral finance institutions.
8. Share successful experiences of continuity of critical services in case of disasters and identify lessons for a better preparedness and articulation between the private and public spheres.

The sixth session of the Regional Platform represents an opportunity for Member States to share experiences, build their capacities, transfer knowledge and show successes related to disaster risk reduction at the national and local levels. Similarly, it is expected that this session will increase the degree of participation and the commitment of the parties and stakeholders interested in the implementation of the Sendai Framework as well as in the integral management of disaster risk as a key component for sustainable development.

The Regional Platform will include an intergovernmental segment, technical sessions and parallel and special activities in which participants will have the opportunity to interact and discuss about the implementation and monitoring of the Sendai Framework, as well as identify best practices and lessons learned in this area. One of the most relevant aspects will be the high-level segment, in which the high-level ministers and authorities present at the meeting will review the Disaster Risk Reduction agenda for the next two years in the Americas region.

In addition, it will include a marketplace and the ‘Ignite Stage’, where various professionals and experts in Disaster Risk Reduction will present innovative tools and initiatives in this area.

It will also provide an opportunity for regional and sub-regional intergovernmental groups to interact and strengthen working partnerships, as well as to share experiences with a view to achieving the seven global goals outlined in the Sendai Framework. And finally, the Platform also provides a space for strengthening the links between the agencies of the United Nations System and other regional organizations in order to ensure consistency between the Sendai Framework and other relevant global agreements.

Any interested party throughout the American continent can also be part of this conversation by using the #SendaiAmericas hashtag online.

The main expected outcomes of the sixth session of the Regional Platform are:

1. Chairman’s summary,
2. Communiqué from the high-level segment,
3. Presentation of the progress made and recommendations to advance the implementation of the Regional Plan of Action for the implementation of the Sendai Framework in the Americas,
4. Proceedings of the sixth session of the Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas,

4. The Advisory Council

Due to the intergovernmental and inter-sectoral nature of the sessions of the Regional Platform, there is an Advisory Council charged with defining and establishing the structure and content of the sixth session of the Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas.

The Council is composed of delegates from countries representing several intergovernmental organizations in the region, such as ACS, CAN, CDEMA, CEPREDENAC, RMAGIR, UNASUR and OAS, along with several key counterparts in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), including the World Bank, IDB, ECLAC, IFRC, OCHA, WHO/PAHO and UNDP, as well as the Government of Colombia, as the host country of the sixth session of the Regional Platform, and the Government of Canada as the host country of the previous session of the Regional Platform.

This Advisory Council also includes a representative of civil society through the Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR), a representative of the private sector, one delegate from the technical and scientific community represented by the International Council for Science (ICSU), the academic community (REDULAC) and UNISDR².

The Government of Colombia and UNISDR maintain their firm commitment to ensuring the development of inclusive and multi-sectorial consultations as part of the preparations for the Regional Platform.

2. Acronyms:

CAN, Andean Community; CDEMA, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency; Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Disasters in Central America and the Dominican Republic (CEPREDENAC, in Spanish); RMAGIR, Meeting of High-Level Ministers and Authorities of Integral Management of the Risk of Disasters in Mercosur; UNASUR, Union of South American Nations; ACS, Association of Caribbean States; OAS, Organization of American States; IDB, Inter-American Development Bank; IFRC, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; OCHA, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; WHO/PAHO, World Health Organization / Pan American Health Organization; UNDP, United Nations Development Program; ECLAC, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Guiding Principles of the VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Gender Equality

The participation of women is fundamental to effectively manage disaster risk, as well as to design, obtain resources for and put into practice public policies, plans and programs for disaster risk reduction that include a gender equality perspective. It is necessary that measures are adopted to create capacities with the goal of empowering women for disaster reduction and to develop their capacities to ensure that they can engage in alternative livelihoods in situations following disasters.

Which is why...

the Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction will promote a gender equality approach in its sessions. At the same time, the Platform will have a session that is specifically focused on the empowerment of women in risk management. The results of this session will contribute to the Regional Platform's Final Declaration. Following the event, information will be systematized to determine the percentage of women and men who have attended as participants and presenters in the Platform.

Inclusion of people with disabilities

Disaster risk reduction requires the implication and collaboration of all society. It also requires empowerment and inclusive, accessible and non-discriminatory participation, providing special attention to people who are disproportionately affected by disasters. People with disabilities are essential in helping to reduce disaster risk and build resilient societies and communities. A setting without barriers helps guarantee complete and equal participation for everyone in society regardless of their age, gender or disability.

The inclusion of the needs and voices of people with disabilities in all of the stages of the disaster management process, and especially during the planning and preparation stages, can contribute to reducing vulnerability in a significant manner for this population and increases the efficiency of government efforts in the areas of response and recovery. The participation of people with disabilities should be planned in advance, detailing how to achieve their full and effective participation in all areas of life including knowledge, health, social organizations, public and private spaces, politics, recreational spaces and others.

Which is why...

However, full and effective participation doesn't just involve being present, but it is the possibility of people with disabilities enjoying independence and autonomy that is ensured, dignified and promoted. For this reason, we propose the concept of significant participation, which is defined as actions that facilitate the independent and autonomous access of people with disabilities.

The Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction will focus on ensuring the significant participation of people with disabilities, understood as all of those actions that allow access for people with disabilities in an independent and autonomous manner. UNISDR, UNGRD and the Inclusive Disaster Risk Management and Disability Network of Latin America and the Caribbean (GIRRD-LAC Network) have united their efforts to identify challenges and take the necessary measures, not just guarantee accessibility, but to contribute to the different thematic discussions based on the experiences of people with disabilities in the different Plenary and Parallel Sessions that will take place during the Regional Platform.

Accessible facilities:

The Platform will have ramps and elevators to facilitate entry and exit to the Cartagena Convention Centre for people who use wheelchairs.

The Platform will have unisex bathrooms so that people with disabilities can be accompanied if/when this is required.

The Platform will also have volunteers who have received training in facilitating access for people with disabilities.

Accessible information:

Website: The website has an accessibility section that includes all of the information on accessibility for the VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. At the same time, the website in both [Spanish](#) and [English](#) has a section on accessibility in which participants can access all of the information about the VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. In addition, the website has an accessible Agenda and an accessible Concept Note to communicate the most important information from the Platform.

Braille: The Platform will have key documents available in braille such as the Agenda and Concept Note for people who are vision impaired.

App: The App (digital application) for the Platform will provide information to people who are vision impaired, given that it has a voice system that can read important documents such as the Agenda.

The opening, closing and plenary sessions will be available in sign language for the hearing impaired.

Remote connection: The Platform will have the possibility of remote participation through two tele-robots, facilitating remote connections through a screen that will circulate through the entire Convention Centre so that people can remotely participate in different spaces. The connection will be used by different associations of people with disabilities in the Americas region so that they can participate in the event.

Radio Tormenta: On the 20th of June at 17:30 we invite you to enjoy a theatrical play that will be performed by members of Radio Tormenta. This play will focus on the inclusion of people with disabilities in disaster risk reduction.

Sustainability

Disaster risk reduction is a profitable investment in the prevention of future losses. Effective disaster risk management contributes to sustainable development. Disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change and are increasing in frequency and intensity, significantly impede progress towards sustainable development.

Which is why...

The Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction will be a green Platform. For the Platform, all of the necessary documents will be available on the website. This will help to substantially reduce the unnecessary printing of paper. In addition, the Platform will have an App so that participants can digitally access information, including the Agenda, reminders about sessions and logistical information.

The Convention Centre will have recycling bins.

The use of plastic will be reduced during the Platform as participants will be invited to use non-disposable glasses and mugs when drinking coffee and water.

Agenda / Program

Day 1

9:00 to 10:30

Opening and welcome by high level officials - Welcome speeches, opening remarks. (Room Getsemani)

10:30 to 10:50

Coffee

11:00 to 12:30

Plenary 1: Early warning systems for different hazards: Good practices (Priority 1 of the Sendai Framework). (Room Getsemani)

12:30 to 13:50

Lunch (Claustro Las Ánimas)

14:00 to 15:30

Parallel 1: Early warning systems for different hazards: Good practices (Room Barahona)

Parallel 2: Making Cities Resilient: the joint implementation of the Framework of Sendai and the New Urban Agenda in the Americas (Room Barahona)

Parallel 3: Risk integration in private sector practices. (Room Barahona)

Side Event 1: Hurricane Mitch: the starting point for better disaster risk management in Central America (Room Pegasus)

15:40 to 17:10

Parallel 4: Sendai Framework Monitoring and alignment with SDG and CC (Room Barahona)

Parallel 5: Civil society participation in the Sendai Framework implementation and monitoring (Room Barahona)

Parallel 6: Flood risk management: River management (progress and pending challenges) (Room Barahona)

17:30 to 18:30

Radio Tormenta Artistic Show (Disability inclusion) (Room Barahona)

Side Event 2: Consultation on the first draft of the Global Capacity Development Strategy in support of the implementation of the Sendai Framework (Room Barahona)

Side Event 3: Unpacking Sendai: the protection of farm animals in the communities (Room Barahona) Official Declarations (Room Pegasus)

11:00 to 12:30

Ignite Stage: Room Getsemaní, Market Place: Getsemaní Hall

19:00

Official Reception – Video Contest Award Ceremony

Day 2

08:30 to 9:00

Debrief Day 1 - UNGRD (Room Getsemaní)

9:00 to 10:30

Plenary 2: Coherence of global agendas (CC, DRR, SD) in regional, sub-regional, national and local planning (Priority 2 of the Sendai Framework) (Room Getsemaní)

10:30 to 10:50

Coffee

11:00 to 12:30

Parallel 7: Implementation of the Sendai Framework at the National Level: national plans and regulatory frameworks (Room Barahona)

Parallel 8: National Risk Analysis (Room Barahona)

Parallel 9: The role of academia, science and technology for DRR: an agenda for the Americas (Room Barahona)

Side Event 4: Local Actors in Disaster Risk Reduction and Humanitarian Action: Latin America, a global referent (Room Pegasus)

12:30 to 14:00

Lunch (Claustro de la Animas)

14:00 to 15:30

Plenary 3: Investment and resilient infrastructure: good practices in the region and applicability in the countries (Priority 3 of the Sendai Framework) (Room Getsemaní)

15:40 to 17:10

Parallel 10: Planning instruments for Disaster Risk Management (Room Barahona)

Parallel 11: Incentives and instruments to promote resilient investments (Room Barahona)

Parallel 12: Human mobility and displacement caused by disasters of natural origin and the adverse effects of climate change (Room Barahona)

17:20 to 18:50

Parallel 13: Strengthening mechanisms of International Cooperation for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Response (Room Barahona)

Parallel 14: Public management for financial transfer of disaster risk (Room Barahona)

Special Session: From Ravage to Recovery: Re-examining the Road to Resilience through the Caribbean's 2017 hurricane experiences (Room Barahona)

9:00 to 18:50

Ignite Stage ROOM GETSEMANÍ

9:00 to 18:50

Market Place Getsemaní Hall

15:40 to 18:50

Official Declarations (Room Pegasus)

19:00

Ministerial Dinner (by invitation only)

Day 3

08:30 to 9:00

Debrief Day 2 (Room Getsemaní)

9:00 to 10:30

Plenary 4: Preparedness for response and resilient recovery. Advances and opportunities (Priority 4 Sendai Framework) (Room Getsemaní)

10:30 to 10:50

Coffee

10:15 to 12:30

MINISTERIAL MEETING (Room Barahona)

10:50 to 12:30

Parallel 15: Gender, women's empowerment and resilience (Room Barahona)

Parallel 16: Preparation and implementation of recovery: collaboration and partnerships in public-private work (Room Barahona)

Parallel 17: Plans and works to mitigate risk conditions (Room Barahona)

Side Event 5: Childhood, youth, school and community: Resilience generators for disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change (Room Pegasus)

12:30 to 13:50

Lunch (Claustro de la Ánimas)

14:00 to 15:30

MINISTERIAL MEETING (Room Barahona)

Parallel 18: Local leadership and community resilience (Room Barahona)

Side Event 6: Reduce the risk of tsunamis, reduce the economic losses of the tourism sector (Room Barahona)

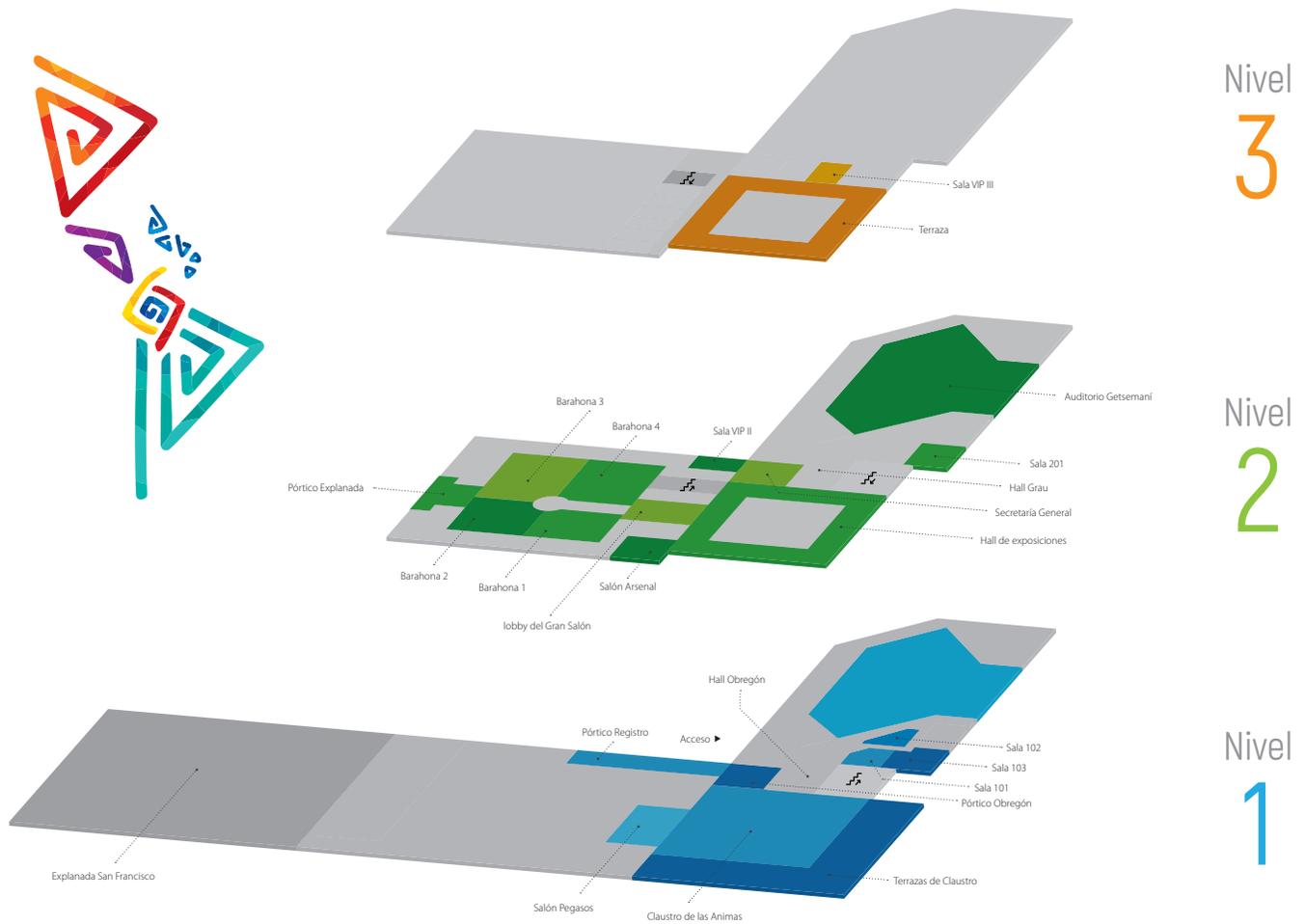
Side Event 7: Priority Investment Opportunities to strengthen Early Warning Systems in Small Island Developing States (Room Barahona)

Side Event 8: Inclusive Disaster Risk Management and Disability: From theory to practice (Room Pegasus)

9:00 to 14:45
Ignite Stage ROOM GETSEMANÍ

9:00 to 14:45
Market Place: Getsemaní Hall

15:40 to 17:00
Closing Ceremony – Presentation by the Government Colombia (Room Getsemaní)



Plenary 1.

Risk Assessment, Analysis and Monitoring: Tools and Experience

Organizers

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), in coordination with the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (UNGRD, in Spanish)

General description

The Sendai Framework sets a crucial shift from managing disasters to managing disaster risk. It provides a clear mandate for building resilience to disasters as a common denominator across the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement.

This session will explore the notable progress made in recent years at the global level as well as effective practices and policies among the subregions of the Americas. It will also provide a look toward what's to come from global and regional initiatives. In particular, participants will get an overview of the state of affairs of the countries in the region concerning the upcoming deadlines for monitoring and report on progress in implementing the Sendai Framework, as detailed in the Technical guidelines for monitoring and reporting on progress in achieving the global targets of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction developed by UNISDR as a result of the recommendations of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Indicators and Terminology Relating to Disaster Risk Reduction (OIEWG). On the one hand, the session will look at information about regional disaster loss and damage databases, as well as multi-hazard assessments. On the other hand, attention will be given to the data and information required to monitor the global targets and indicators. Participants will also be provided with an overview of available tools and good practices in the region of the Americas, which could promote and enhance comprehensive disaster risk assessments, analyses, evaluations, and monitoring.

The following questions will be addressed in the session: What are some good examples of risk analysis and monitoring applied to decision-making for DRR? What are the challenges in terms of risk assessment and its use in policy decision-making for DRR? What should the Americas region prioritize to overcome those challenges? How can systematized online reporting and monitoring, with nationally defined indicators, loss and damage databases and a gender-sensitive and inclusive (all-of-society) approach contribute to the holistic and risk-sensitive development and DRR planning?

Goal

Promote tools and good practices to enhance comprehensive disaster risk assessments, analyses, evaluations and monitoring for informed decision-making.

Moderator and panelists



Carlos Iván Márquez Pérez, Moderator

Director General of the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management in Colombia. He has devoted a large part of his professional life to engender a less vulnerable Colombia with more resilient communities. As a business manager and specialist in financial management, Carlos Ivan is also an Expert in Risk Management, International Humanitarian Law, Aid and Disasters, as well as in logistics operations and emergency attention. He has served as Director General of Humanitarian Relief for the Colombian Red Cross, National Chief of Emergency Support for the National Directorate of Disaster Prevention and Attention, and Executive Director of the Red Cross Section in the North of Santander. Márquez Pérez has also served as Professor at the Jorge Tadeo Lozano University, Technological University of Pereira and University of Cúcuta. Former President of the Steering Group of INSARAG, he has as well acted as Coordinator of a strategic line within the Action Plan for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance of the Pan American Health Organization-PAHO for the Americas.



Ricardo Mena, Keynote Speaker

Chief, Support and Monitoring of Sendai Framework Implementation Branch, UN Disaster Risk Reduction Office (UNISDR). Prior to his current position in Geneva, Mena was the Head of the Americas Regional Office of UNISDR based in Panama. Ricardo has served the UN System since 1993, occupying various positions in the United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs (UNDHA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and the Department of Management and from 2009 on with UNISDR. Throughout his career in Disaster Risk Reduction, Mena has written publications and articles on topics related to disaster risk reduction; he is a founding member of the Network of Social Studies in Disaster Prevention for Latin America, LA RED. Mr. Mena holds a Masters Degree in Risk Crisis and Disaster Management from the University of Leicester, United Kingdom.



Dr. Daniel Kaniewski

Deputy Administrator, FEMA, US Department of Homeland Security.

Daniel Kaniewski, PhD was unanimously confirmed by the Senate as a Deputy Administrator on September 14, 2017. He is currently FEMA's second ranking official. Previously, Dr. Kaniewski was Vice President for Global Resilience at AIR Worldwide, a catastrophe risk modeling and consulting services firm. He was also a Senior Fellow at the Center for Cyber & Homeland Security and served as Mission Area Director for Resilience and Emergency Preparedness/Response at a research center supporting the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. In the George W. Bush Administration, he served as Special Assistant to the President for Homeland Security. Dr. Kaniewski holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Emergency Medical Services from George Washington University, a Master of Arts degree in National Security Studies from the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, and a Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration from George Washington University.



Osvaldo Luiz Leal de Moraes

Director of the National Centre for Monitoring and Early Warning of Natural Disasters (CEMADEN) in Brazil and Associate Professor at the Federal University of Santa Maria. Previously, he was the Director of the Secretary for Research and Development Policy and Programs (SEPED) of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of Brazil and Scientific Director of the Brazilian Society of Meteorology. Likewise, he was the General Coordinator at Brazil's Centre for Weather Forecasts and Climate Studies (2011-2013), as well as the Scientific Director of the Research Support Foundation of the State of Rio Grande do Sul (2009-2011). He coordinated the Post-Graduate Program in Meteorology and Physics at the Federal University of Santa Maria, and he worked as an external Advisor of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul and the Federal University of São Paulo. Moraes is the coordinator of the S & T working group on Natural Disaster from the BRICS countries. Osvaldo graduated and obtained his Ph.D. at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (1989).



Onghid Arcia

Social Worker within the National Directorate of Promotion and Citizen Participation of the National Disability Secretariat (SENADIS) of Panama. Inter-institutional Liaison that is part of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, which is run by the National Civil Protection System of Panama. Arcia was part of the technical staff of the Humanitarian Aid Commission that coordinates the Emergency Operations Center in Panama, giving attention to people with disabilities who have been affected in emergencies. SENADIS seeks to promote a change of aptitude in the Panamanian population by developing a culture of prevention, specifically aimed at the most vulnerable people- such as those with disabilities in emergency situations. Additionally, she pursues strategies which help generate adequate prevention, preparation and responsive actions in a timely manner for the Risk and Disaster Management of Panama, so that people with disabilities can be treated with priority, respect and dignity.



Walter Cotte Witingan

IFRC Americas Regional Director. Walter Cotte, joined the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in January 2013, has almost 50 years of humanitarian and development experience working mainly in the operation and humanitarian actions. Previously, Mr. Cotte was the National Executive Director of the Colombian Red Cross from 2008 to 2012. His past leadership roles with the organization include Head of Operations and Disaster Management (1994-2008), and Head of Volunteers for Relief and Search and Rescue (1985-1994). His Red Cross Red Crescent experience includes a six-month secondment to the IFRC as its Head of Operations in Asia Pacific in 2003. After his service in Colombian Red Cross, he was appointed as IFRC USG for Programs and Operations at global level in Geneva from 2013-2015. He has served as consultant with the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination system and the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, was a member of the Colombian Government's National Disaster Board and of the Board of the Colombian National Fire Association. He studied Social Management and Administration and Industrial Safety. He also has high level training and specialisation in disaster management and International Humanitarian Law.

Plenary 2.

Articulation of Global Agendas (Climate Change, Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development) in regional, sub-regional, national and local planning

Organizers

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) in coordination with the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (UNGRD, in Spanish) and the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Colombia

General description

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 strives for the coherence and complementarity of international agendas and identifies the actions for their integration at all levels. Coherence in addressing the eradication of poverty, the impact of climate change and progress in achieving more resilient cities and human settlements is particularly relevant in light of the common indicators that link the objectives of the different global agreements with the Sendai Framework.

This plenary session will seek to discuss the challenges in building coherence between the Sendai framework and the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development from different perspectives and serve as a contribution to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), to be held in July 2018. The session will be an opportunity to explore the practical aspects faced by a range of stakeholders in advancing in the construction of resilience through a convergent approach of the Sendai Framework and the 2030 Agenda.

The session will seek to address the following questions: How have countries of the Americas region made progress in articulating CC, DRR and SDG global agendas in their development policy frameworks? What conceptual, institutional and normative constraints have they found in the process? What recommendations can they share about this process of harmonization of global agendas in the national policy agenda?

Goals

1. Identification of problems or limitations faced by different countries to jointly consider global agendas and coordination of issues according to the institutional framework of each country.
2. Identification of good practices (actions/processes) that involve innovative approaches to comprehensively address global agendas, promote synergies, avoid duplication of efforts through recognition of existing processes.
3. Identification of particular (country) and common (regional-America) challenges to articulate and implement the guidelines of the agendas in the different planning instruments.
4. Promotion of agreements at the regional level for the harmonization of global agendas in planning instruments, their financing and implementation.

Moderator and panelist



Ms. Mami Mizutori, Moderator

Ms. Mami Mizutori was appointed Assistant Secretary-General and Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction on 1 March 2018. She brings to the position a combination of management and leadership expertise as well as more than twenty-five years of experience in international affairs and security. Ms. Mizutori served for twenty-seven years in the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in various capacities, including as Budget Director, Director of the Japan Information and Culture Center (JICC) at the Embassy of Japan in London, Director of the National Security Policy Division, Director of the United Nations Policy Division, Director of the Status of US Forces Agreement Division, and Deputy Director of the Personnel Division. Prior to joining UNISDR she was Executive Director of the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures, University of East Anglia, UK. Mizutori graduated in law from Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo and obtained a Diploma in International Studies from the Diplomatic School of Spain. Mizutori is a Japanese national.



Ambassador Patricia Llobart Cussac

Ambassador of the European Union in Colombia. Llobart Cussac has a Jurist background and Europeanism conviction. From Valencia, Spain, She holds Masters Degrees in International Trade and European Studies. Ambassador Llobart Cussac has more than 20 years of experience within the institutions of the European Union, always in the areas of international relations and foreign policy. She worked particularly in the directorates for Latin America and the Middle East and took care of countries such as Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, and Paraguay. Ambassador Llobart Cussac was also part of the Cabinet of the European Commissioners responsible for external relations. She was previously, Director of Infrastructure, Budget, and Security at the headquarters of the European External Action Service (EEAS) just before being appointed Ambassador in Colombia. She began her official mission in Colombia on Monday, February 5.



Luis Gilberto Murillo

Mining Engineer with a masters degree on the subject with broad experience on the public sector, as Governor of the Department of Chocó and as Director of the Regional Autonomous Corporation for Sustainable Development (Codedchocó). He has been a consultant for USAID, UNDP and the IDB. More recently he managed the Presidency's Plan for the Pacific Region.



América Santos Riveras

Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment, since 2001. Current President of the National Accreditation Body of the Republic of Cuba (ONARC, in Spanish). Titular Professor at the University of Havana; founding member of the Cuban Society of Scientific and Technical Information (SOCICT), which she chaired for 8 years; She is also founder of Cuba's Renewable Energy Front. Santos Rivera served as a member of the Advisory Council of the Academy of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). Likewise, she was the Director of the Cuban Office of Industrial Property. She has given lectures on the Studies of danger, risk, vulnerability and climate change. The Deputy Minister has received different distinctions due to her contributions to the scientific-technical activity and for her performance in the various responsibilities she has undertaken in Cuba. Her training includes a Bachelor degree in Scientific and Technical Information and Library Science, and a Masters Degree in Intellectual Property Management from the University of Havana.



Martín Santiago Herrero

Resident Coordinator of the UN in Colombia. Martín Santiago Herrero is a Spanish national. Prior to his appointment, he was the Resident Coordinator and Resident Representative of the UNDP in Panama. Santiago has held positions as Director of Human Resources and Deputy Regional Director of the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean of UNDP in New York. He has served as Resident Coordinator and Resident Representative of UNDP in Argentina, Peru, and Uruguay, as Deputy Resident Representative of UNDP in Colombia and Cuba, and as Head of Policy Development and Management of the Regional Office for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States among other responsibilities. Before joining the United Nations service, Mr. Santiago worked as a Medium and Long-Term Export Financing Officer, as a Foreign Trade Analyst and as an Associate Professor. Graduated at the Complutense University of Madrid, Mr. Santiago holds a Diploma of Honor in Political Sciences and a Master's Degree in International Relations, a Postgraduate Diploma in Foreign Trade from the Polytechnic University and a Diploma in Climate Change from Harvard University.



Sr. José Luis Samaniego

Director of the Division of Sustainable Development and Human Settlements of ECLAC. Sr. Jose Luis Samaniego is an economist from the Autonomous Metropolitan University with a Master's Degree in International Political Economy. He is former Director of Sustainable Transportation Center of Mexico City, a program established for the introduction of the Metrobus and more friendly ways of mobility in Mexico City. He was also the Coordinator of International Affairs of the then newly created Secretariat of Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries during the period from 1994 to 2000, a time in which the tri-national environmental parallel agreement was launched. Mexico made its access to the OECD and established the institutional architecture of the main modern environmental conventions. He is a co-author of the book *Climate of Trust*, published by the World Resources Institute in the exploration of the future climate regime in developing countries. He coordinated the diploma in Economics and Environmental Management of the Economic Research Institute of UNAM and is a fellow of the international LEAD program.

Plenary 3.

Resilient Infrastructure and Investment: Best Practices and Applicability in the Region

Organizers

The Pan-American Health Organization and the World Health Organization (OPS/OMS) in coordination with the Ministry of Transportation, as well as the National Institute of Roads and the National Infrastructure Agency of Colombia

General description

The capacity of many countries to make economic and social investments could be severely affected considering the growing exposure to hazards, rapid urbanization, inequality and the excessive consumption of energy and resources. All these increase the potential for loss of human life.

Aspects related to investment and financial protection in disaster risk reduction, as well as the continuity of essential services to strengthen the resilience of countries will be discussed through an interactive discussion platform. In particular, this Session aims to address the following questions: What elements should infrastructure projects include to achieve resilient territories and reduce the impact of disasters on the local communities? What type of innovations in the design of infrastructure projects can be replicated in the region based on these experiences? How do risk transfer instruments contribute to increasing the resilience of countries?

In this context, both public and private investments in disaster risk reduction are essential to build the resilience of society. Furthermore, it is essential to protect these investments through mechanisms that do not represent a greater economic burden on countries.

Goals

1. Recognize the main progress milestones, challenges and identify recommendations regarding disaster risk reduction, investments and financial protection strategies for resilient infrastructure and the continuity of essential services.
2. Identify the best practices and lessons learned that contribute to reducing deaths, and the impact of the damage caused by disasters on vital infrastructure for replication in other countries of the region, and the strengthening of their resilience.
3. Share financial mechanisms and/or tools that contribute to protecting investment, and reduce direct economic losses derived from the damage or destruction attributed to disasters and enable recovery.

Moderator and panelists



Gina Watson, OPS/OMS, Moderator

Representative of the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization in Colombia. A citizen of Nicaragua, Dr. Watson is a Medical Surgeon and holds a Master's Degree in Public Health from the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua (UNAN-León) and a Master's Degree in Mental Health, Human and Social Sciences from the University of León (Spain). Dr. Watson has served over 15 years in several positions in Nicaragua's Ministry of Health. She has worked during 27 years in PAHO, as Advisor for the Development of Health Services in Panama and as Advisor on health promotion in Trinidad and Tobago. In September 2006, Dr. Watson oversaw the opening of the Eastern Caribbean Coordination Office (PWR-ECC) in Barbados, and served as its Representative. From 2010 to 2013, she served as PAHO/WHO Representative in Honduras, before assuming her current post in Colombia.



Maria Alexandra Ocles Padilla

Minister of Risk Management, appointed in 2017 by the Constitutional President of the Republic of Ecuador, Lenin Moreno. Alexandra Ocles Padilla is an Afro-descendant activist against racism and discrimination, and works for the rights of Afro-descendant women in Ecuador and throughout Latin America. She served as a member of the National Assembly and as Minister of the Peoples' social movements and citizen participation Secretariat. She is an activist in social movements and citizen participation activities and chairs the Transition Commission for the Council on Women and Gender Equality, among other honors. She holds a degree in Education Sciences and a Master's Degree in Social Sciences from FLACSO. Currently, she is in charge of the Recovery of the 2016 earthquake and strengthening the National Decentralized Risk Management System.



César Augusto Peñaloza Pabón

Vice Minister of Infrastructure of the Ministry of Transportation of Colombia. With a civil engineering degree from Santo Tomás University and a specialty degree in transportation engineering from the National University, Mr. Peñaloza Pabón studied Economic Analysis at the Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona. He has more than 10 years of experience in infrastructure-related transportation issues. He served as Assistant Director of Transportation and Director of Infrastructure and Energy at the National Department of Planning, as Manager of the Productive Transformation Program at the Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Tourism, as Manager of Planning at the National Infrastructure Agency, and as Head of Planning at the Ministry of Transportation.



Carlos Valdés

Director General of the National Center for Disaster Prevention of Mexico (CENAPRED, in Spanish). Valdés was appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, since February 1, 2014. During his career, he has worked as Chief of the National Seismological Service (2005-2014). He is a Geophysical Engineer from the Faculty of Engineering of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. He holds a Master and PHD in Geophysics, University of Wisconsin-Madison (USA). Dr. Carlos Valdés was born in Mexico City.



Sharleen DaBreo

Executive Director of the Department of Disaster Management of the British Virgin Islands since 1998.

Ms. DaBreo holds a Degree in Emergency Management and Administration from Arkansas Tech University, an Executive Diploma in Management from the Chartered Management Institute, and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Manchester Metropolitan University. She also has Master's certifications in Programs and Project Implementation Monitoring; Evaluation of Development Policies, Programs, and Projects; and Information Systems for Monitoring and Evaluation, from Idea International/University of Laval (Canada).

Ms. DaBreo is a member of several regional response teams, including CDEMA and the United Nations and PAHO/WHO Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team, whose members deploy in major emergencies or disasters that affect the Region and other parts of the world. She is also a member of the PAHO Disaster Mitigation Advisory Group (DiMAG) and is one of the key experts in the PAHO Smart Hospitals Project.

Plenary 4.

Preparedness for Response and Recovery, Progress and Opportunity

Organizers

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in coordination with the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (UNGRD, in Spanish).

General description

Recent events such as those that have occurred in Mexico, Colombia, Peru and the Caribbean underscore the threat of natural hazards and call for improved preparedness, including response and recovery planning. Adequate planning instruments and information management systems should be part of the toolkit to facilitate decision-making and financing mechanisms that support rapid response, recovery and the road to resilience.

In regard to preparedness for response, the session will focus on how risk and capacity analysis inform response planning and lead to improved interventions. In regard to preparedness for recovery, the focus will be on the importance of planning for a recovery that reduces risk in the early and long-term recovery periods. The session will highlight examples and best practices of regional, national and local actors from the four sub regions of the Americas.

In this session, the following questions are to be addressed: What factors allow for advances in preparedness for response and recovery? Prior to a disaster, what information and analysis are necessary to improve preparedness for response and recovery? How have regional, national and global cooperation favoured this preparedness? What areas require greater focus and attention? What challenges remain to be addressed in preparedness for response and recovery?

Goals

1. Highlight, through specific examples, the best practices in preparedness for response and recovery in the region.
2. Identify at least two challenges that limit preparedness for response and recovery.

Moderator & panelist



Jeannette Fernandez Castro, Moderator

Jeannette holds a degree in Civil Engineering, with specialized training on Seismology and Earthquake Engineering in Japan. In year 2002 she was awarded a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. For the last four years, Jeannette has been working as Recovery Specialist for the UNDP's Bureau for Programme and Policy Support, and its Climate and Disaster Team, based in New York. Her main task has been the implementation of the Post Disaster Needs Assessment, PDNA, roll-out project, funded by the EU and UNDP, and carried out in coordination with the UN Agencies and the WB/GFDRR. This engagement has allowed her to be part of the PDNA global expert team, and get engaged in the formulation of Post Disaster Recovery Frameworks to support recovery planning and implementation. Jeannette has led the formulation of actual PDNAs in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.



Carlos Iván Márquez Pérez

Director General of the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management. He has devoted a large part of his professional life to engender a less vulnerable Colombia with more resilient communities. A business manager and specialist in financial management, Carlos Ivan is also an Expert in Risk Management, International Humanitarian Law, Relief and Disasters, as well as in logistic operations and emergency attention. He has served as Director General of Humanitarian Relief for the Colombian Red Cross, National Chief of Emergency Support for the National Directorate of Disaster Prevention and Attention, and Executive Director of the Red Cross Section in the North of Santander. Márquez Pérez has also served as Professor at the Jorge Tadeo Lozano University, Technological University of Pereira and University of Cúcuta. Former President of the Steering Group of INSARAG, he has also acted as Coordinator of a strategic line within the Action Plan for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance of the Pan American Health Organization- PAHO for the Americas.



Alexis Cruz

Dr. Cruz holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Surrey, England, in addition to a Master's Degree in Financial Economics from the University of Santiago de Chile (USACH) and a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the Technological Institute of Santo Domingo (INTEC). He currently serves as Director of the Economic and Social Analysis Advisory Unit of the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development (Dominican Republic). Previously, he has served as Director of the Office of Planning and Development for the Superintendent of Banks, as a Tax Specialist of the Technical Secretariat of the Presidency, as a Counselor in the Dominican Republic Embassy in the United Kingdom, and as an economist of the State Bank of Chile, among other positions. He has taught at the Mother and Teacher Pontifical Catholic University, the Catholic University of Santo Domingo, FLACSO, the University of Surrey, and the University of Santiago de Chile, among others. His academic works have been published in specialized journals with international circulation.



Jocelyn Lance

Resilience and Rapid Response Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), DG European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations – (ECHO) Mr. Jocelyn Lance has over 30 years of professional experience. He worked for five years for the private sector (BIGH/BRGM) in West Africa, then for five years with NGO/IOs - mainly ACF. He has been with DG ECHO for 20 years, working in the LAC region, having started in Honduras after the impact of Hurricane Mitch. Since then, he has been involved in the implementation of EU humanitarian contributions to emergency response and Disaster Risk Reduction in Central America, South America, and the Caribbean region. In June 2015, he was appointed as Resilience and Rapid Response Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean by the Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Union (DG-ECHO). Mr. Lance holds a Master's Degree in Applied Geology-Geophysics, and a post-graduate Diploma in Applied Geology (D.E.S.S.). He wrote his thesis on Hydrogeology at the University of Science and Technology, Besançon, France.

Civil Society Representative (TBD)

Parallel Session 1.

Early Warning Systems for Different Types of Threats: Best Practices

Organizers

National Civil Defense and Protection Secretariat of Brazil (SEDEC, in Portuguese), in coordination with the Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies (IDEAM, in Spanish), Colombia.

General description

Target G of the Sendai Framework aims to “substantially increase the availability of access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030”.

The purpose of the session is to share experiences and knowledge regarding the implementation of early warning systems, as well as to promote thematic and technological developments for hydro-meteorological monitoring. Likewise, the session will consider lessons learned and identify mechanisms to safeguard lives and reduce adverse socioeconomic impacts before the occurrence of a hydro-meteorological event, as well as the most effective mechanisms to share information with decision-makers and the population in a timely, efficient and effective manner.

The importance of the integrated approach, which should be promoted for the implementation of the early warning systems, will be highlighted, taking into account the determination and analysis of risk, hydro-climatic characterization, identification of thresholds (regional or local), and the processes for modeling and monitoring threats using different information sources (satellite images, radars, hydro-meteorological stations, electric discharges, etc.). This also includes the dissemination of alerts through various mechanisms that guarantee timely access to information.

The following questions will be addressed during the session: How do the early warning systems contribute to territorial decision-making and planning processes? What tools are available for disaster risk analysis in regional and sub-regional bases in the Americas? What are the regional integration initiatives for hydrometeorology and geology services with a view to monitoring and providing alerts regarding natural disaster risks?

Goals

1. Disseminate the integrated vision of institutions regarding the early warning systems and how this vision contributes to disaster risk management.
2. Promote thematic and technological developments for the hydro-meteorological monitoring and follow-up systems as part of the early warning systems.
3. Share lessons learnt in terms of capacity building for prevention with countries in the Americas within the framework of early warning systems as a fundamental tool for disaster risk management.

4. Generate recommendations for the Americas region that facilitate the use and exchange of information and technologies that contributes to the strengthening of early warning systems at the regional level.

Moderator and Panelists

Representative of the Ministerial and High Level Meeting on Disaster Risk Management (RMAGIR, in Spanish), Moderator



Omar Franco Torres

Director of the Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies (IDEAM). Forestry Engineer, specialized in Environmental Law and Public Management, as a public servant he has served as director of Integrated Management of Water Resources and was in charge of the direction of Forests, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development.



Tiago Molina Schnorr

Head of the Monitoring Team of the National Center for Risk and Disaster Management (CENAD), linked to the National Secretariat for Civil Protection and Defense of Brazil. He holds a bachelor's degree in meteorology and several courses of improvement in the area of risk and disaster management, having lectured and written technical articles on the subject. Within CENAD, he acts as a liaison with government agencies that monitor and alert the various types of hazards in the country, elaborating integrated protocols and procedures for joint and coordinated action among the governing bodies. Molina Works with several governing groups that cater for risk and disaster management, and is the representative of the Ministry of National Integration within the National Commission for Meteorological activities of climatologic and hydrologic nature.



Lixion Avila

Senior hurricane specialist at NOAA's (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida. Dr. Avila received his Bachelor of Science degree in Meteorology from the University of Havana (1973) and his Master of Science and Doctorate degrees in Atmospheric Science from the University of Miami (1983, 1993). Dr. Avila began his career in 1973 as a meteorologist with the Cuban Weather Service. He joined the National Hurricane Center as a meteorologist in 1987, and became a hurricane specialist in 1989. Dr. Avila was awarded the National Hurricane Conference Outstanding Achievement Award (1999), the NOAA Administrator's Award for Public Education (2000), the Bronze Medal Unit Award for Superior Federal Service (2000), and the National Weather Service Isaac M. Cline National Award for Outreach (2005). Dr. Avila has been nominated twice for an Emmy Award and he is a Fellow with the American Meteorological Society. Dr. Avila represents the National Hurricane Center in the World Meteorological Organization.



Elizabeth Riley

Deputy Executive Director at the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA). Ms. Riley has over 18 years experience in the area of disaster management and environmental management. At CDEMA she has overall responsibility for technical programming and provides strategic guidance in this area. She has written, presented and published technical papers in disaster management and environmental management whilst attached to CDEMA and prior to that, during her tenure at the University of the West Indies and the Ministry of Physical Development and Environment in Barbados. Ms. Riley has also lectured in Disaster Management at the University of the West Indies, Mona. She holds a M.A (Econ) in Environment and Development from University of Manchester, United Kingdom, BSc. (Hons) in Geography from the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica and a Masters Certificate in Results Based Monitoring and Evaluation and Information Systems from the University of Laval, Quebec.

Parallel Session 2.

Developing Resilient Cities: The Joint Implementation of the Sendai Framework and the New Urban Agenda in the Americas

Organizers

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ, in German) in coordination with United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR).

General description

The Americas region has a variety of urban contexts and conditions that at the same time face diverse challenges, experiences and opportunities related to strengthening disaster resilience at the local level.

This session promotes the exchange of knowledge between different actors on the topic of urban resilience towards the joint implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the New Urban Agenda. For this purpose, the session will propose a space for conversations regarding three thematic areas related to disaster risk management at the local level: governance, implementation strategies and funding. Each thematic area is going to be developed in the framework of discussions that are to take place in three different working groups, which will address specific questions.

Target E seeks to “substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020”. This is the only target set for 2020. Thus, this session has been designed to support local governments in the achievement of Target E, which relates to Priorities 1 and 2 established in the Sendai Framework (Understanding disaster risk and Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk), which are also included in the Regional Action Plan. Also, this session will highlight the importance of urban resilience in the context of other international development agendas, such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda, emphasizing the strengthening of urban resilience and sustainable urban development.

Goals

1. Promote dialogue between different actors about the importance of disaster risk management at a local level and its relation to sustainable urban development.
2. Foster knowledge exchange regarding the progress, experiences and challenges in order to promote horizontal learning as well as the replication of best practices related to the strengthening resilience at the local level.
3. Promote collaboration and cooperation among diverse actors from the public and private sectors as well as from the academia and civil society in order to establish and develop strategic alliances.
4. Strengthen the understanding of resilience as a key approach for sustainable development.

5. Share experiences that have promoted the access to funding for projects that support the joint implementation of the Sendai Framework and the Urban Agenda.



Allan Lavell, Keynote speaker

Dr. Lavell is the coordinator of the disaster risk research program of the General Secretariat of the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences, Costa Rica. He is a specialist in urban and regional development with 20 years of experience related to disaster risk management. He is currently the coordinator for IUCN's project on local management of climate change risk and adaptation, a member of the IC-SU's International committee for research on disaster risk reduction, and of the International Science council and the International Social Science Council – ISSC- at both a global level and for Latin America and the Caribbean. Dr. Lavell was a founding member of the Social Studies Network of Disaster Prevention in Latin America and Vice-president of the Disaster Research Committee of the International Association of Sociology. He has been a researcher/ professor at various universities including the University of London and Middlesex polytechnic, and a consultant for numerous international organizations. He received his Ph.D in Economic Geography from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Parallel Session 3.

Integration of Risk Management in Private Sector Practices

Organizers

The Colombian Safety Council (CCS, in Spanish) and the Colombian National Association of Entrepreneurs (ANDI, in Spanish) in collaboration with ARISE, the UNISDR Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies

General description

The integration of disaster risk management in the processes and practices of the private sector is fundamental to reduce risk and support business planning in an appropriate manner over time. This is because these environments can produce different disaster risk scenarios; the most recurrent being those of natural origin that have a significant impact on infrastructure. Now and in the future, the most significant consequences are reflected in the economic and social implications that these events can generate.

Raising awareness among different actors about the coordination options for disaster risk management aims to encourage investments in structural and non-structural measures that will increase the economic, social, cultural, environmental and physical resilience of people and communities. In turn, this will promote innovation, growth and employment, in line with the third priority of the regional action plan.

The questions to be addressed in the framework of the session include: What benefits have businesses identified when including disaster risk management in their processes? What are the main incentives for the inclusion of risk variables in private sector investments? How are disaster risk management variables included in business risk analysis? What are the main challenges faced by the private sector when including risk management in its businesses?

Goals

1. Presentation of methodologies, successful experiences and best practices related to the inclusion of risk management in business decision-making processes and strategic business investments.
2. Evidence the benefits of business investment that include disaster risk criteria.
3. Promote the inclusion of risk management variables to develop resilient businesses.
4. Promote the crosscutting integration of organizational risk analysis derived from natural events.

Moderator and panelists



Chloe Demrovsky, Moderator

President and CEO of Disaster Recovery Institute International (DRI). She has led DRI to a record number of certified professionals, overseen the creation of a new digital strategy, and managed the most substantive revision of DRI's core training program in its history. Demrovsky designed DRI's international market development strategy operating in over 50 countries. During her tenure, DRI's conference reached a record level of attendance and the organization launched a series of diversity committees including Women in Business Continuity, Young Leaders in Resilience, and the Veterans' Outreach Program. She has appeared on Bloomberg TV, MSNBC and Fox and served as an expert source for The Wall Street Journal, USA Today, The New York Times, and more. She has presented at dozens of events on four continents, conducted on-site briefings for government bodies, and built the relationship with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. She is on the board of the DRI Foundation, the adjunct faculty at New York University, is a Rockefeller 100 Resilient Cities Subject Matter Advisor, and holds a Master's in International Business from NYU and a Bachelor's from Bard College at Simon's Rock.



José A. Acosta

President of Public Affairs, UPS Americas Region. Jose oversees the design and implementation of UPS's governmental relations strategy throughout Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean. He ensures that policy and regulatory trends in the Americas allows UPS to operate efficiently and with flexibility in order to enable trade and meet customers' needs. Mr. Acosta serves on the Board of Directors of CLAD-DEC (Latin America Express Association) and is actively involved with the Express Association of America (EAA), the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) and the U.S. Department of State (DOS). He works closely with government leaders on reducing trade barriers, simplifying processes, and improving supply chain security issues. With more than 35 years of UPS experience, he has also been involved with business planning/strategy, employee relations, and health & safety. His Background includes a Bachelor's degree in Marketing and International Finance, as well as a Master's degree in Finance from the University of Miami. He resides in Coral Gables, FL.



Jeremy Collymore

Adviser, Disaster Resilience, Office of the Vice-Chancellor, University of the West Indies (UWI). A geographer with training in Environmental Design and Planning, he served as the Executive Director of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) from 1991 until 2013. He has enjoyed over 35 years of service in the field of Disaster Risk Management functioning in various capacities that involved research; teaching; programme design, implementation and review, policy development and advocacy. He was an architect of the Regional Strategy for Comprehensive Disaster Management which champions resilient development. He has also served on a diversity of national, regional and international working groups and task forces focusing on resilience, climate change, and disaster risk management. In his current capacity, he is coordinating the efforts of the UWI to become a resilient institution and in championing resilience in the Caribbean.

Lida Janeth González Rojas

Currently, González Rojas coordinates a program to integrate the private sector in disaster risk management, working with more than 2000 entrepreneurs from Fenalco Antioquia to strengthen the supply chain and make them resilient in the event of emergency situations or disasters. Lida is a project leader in disaster risk management at the Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana. For 10 years, Lida has led projects in vulnerable communities guiding the work of the professionals associated with the projects and the preparation for the attention of emergencies.

Lida is currently pursuing Ph.D. studies in health sciences at the University of Oviedo in Spain. Her research thesis encompasses important elements of public health, disaster risk management and its impact on communities. She started as a volunteer rescuer training in various rescue specialties in Medellín.



Ricardo Lozano

Director of the National Water Center of the National Association of Businessmen of Colombia (ANDI). He is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Fundación Natura-Colombia, Professor of the Master's Degree in Environmental Management of the Universidad de Los Andes, Professor of Specialization in New Technologies, Innovation and Management and Masters Degree in State Law with Emphasis in the Law of Natural Resources of the Externado University of Colombia. As an international expert in Climate Change and Sustainable Development, Mr. Lozano represented developing countries at the Global Fund for Adaptation to Climate Change in Bonn Germany AF. He served as alternate Vice President of the IAI - Inter-American Institute for Climate Change Research, Brazil and Washington. He was Director of the Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies -IDEAM-, as well as negotiator for Colombia at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Lozano is a geologist and journalist.



Pablo Rojas

Environmental Director of the Business Alliance for Development (AED, in Spanish) In Costa Rica he leads the incorporation of environmental topics in the definition of business strategies in companies, promotion of public policies and public-private partnerships. He co-chairs the Steering Committee of LEDS LAC, a regional platform with more than 1.400 members that promotes resilient and low emission development strategies. Mr. Rojas has more than 10 years of experience managing projects in Latin America, where he has worked with agencies such as UNDP, UNEP, ECLAC, GIZ, and the European Union. His experience focuses on sustainability, climate change, innovation, and renewable energy. Mr. Rojas is a member of the Board of Directors of the Center for Urban Sustainability (CPSU), a Costa Rican NGO that seeks to improve the quality of life in cities and communities based on sustainable, resilient and inclusive models. He is a Biotechnology Engineer with a Master's Degree in Industrial Engineering and has international diplomas on climate change and innovation management.

Parallel Session 4.

Sendai Framework Monitoring and Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Paris Agreement on Climate Change (CC)

Organizers

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), in coordination with the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (UNGRD, in Spanish) and the National Planning Department (DNP, in Spanish) of Colombia

General description

The achievement of articulation and coherence between Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Adaptation to Climate Change (ACC) and the Sustainable Development Agenda (Agenda 2030), remains a challenge for all the countries, as reflected in the Global Targets established in the Sendai Framework. Overcoming this challenge requires surpassing sectorial and institutional silos to ensure multi-sectorial and inter-institutional dialogue across sectors and levels of intervention, bringing together the communities and stakeholders involved in the development, implementation, evaluation and follow-up of adaptation plans, development plans and DRR plans. Such articulation requires appropriate and context-specific nationally defined indicators that respond to this challenge within national and local development plans, disaster risk reduction and adaptation plans.

This session will present good practices and innovative monitoring tools and mechanisms for promoting the articulation and coherence for DRR, ACC and SDGs, as well as for enhancing synergies to support this agenda across the Americas.

The following questions will be addressed: What are some opportunities, options and good practices for ensuring the integration of DRR within National Adaptation Plans and National Development Plans, and for integrating climate change adaptation with the monitoring systems of Sustainable Development Goals and the Sendai Framework? How can sectorial planning and national statistics offices contribute to the comprehensive implementation, evaluation, reporting and monitoring of the Sendai Framework as well as the Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals?

Goals

1. Provide an overview of the Sendai Framework Monitoring and its global targets and indicators with participating representatives from the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Indicators and Terminology relating to Disaster Risk Reduction (OIEWG) and other relevant sectors.
2. Identify the reporting mechanisms on the Sendai Framework Indicators and its linkages with the SDG reporting.
3. Identify challenges, complementarities and current efforts among national institutions in the reporting efforts.

Moderators and panelists



Juan Carlos Villalonga, Moderator

National Deputy for CABA for Cambiemos in Argentina. Founder and co-spokesman of the political environmental organization Los Verdes, former President of the Protection Agency of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires (APrA) and former Political Director of Greenpeace Argentina (1994-2011). During his sixteen years with Greenpeace as Political and Campaign Director, Villalonga promoted the country's most important environmental laws, such as Law 1854 on Zero Waste of the City of Buenos Aires (2005), Law 26,331 on Protection of Native Forests (2007), Law 26,639 on Glacier Protection (2010), among others. Villalonga has been actively participating in the environmental movement since 1984. In 1985 he founded the Ecologist Workshop in the city of Rosario, one of the main environmental organizations in the region and of which he was part of its overall coordination until 1994. In October 2016, he was elected as president of GLOBE Argentina and in March 2018 he was re-elected for this same position.



Joaquín Daniel Roa Burgos

Minister of the National Emergency Secretariat of Paraguay. His achievements include the promotion of the First National Policy on Risk Management as well as the approval of the Sendai Framework by Presidential Decree, which positioned Paraguay as the first country in the world to adopt the Sendai Framework. Also, in 2016 Paraguay hosted the first Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities in the Americas (Post Sendai), in the framework of which the Asuncion Declaration was unanimously approved. The Declaration provides for the guidelines towards a regional action plan on the implementation of the Sendai Framework in the Americas. President Pro Tempore of Mercosur on the topic of disaster risk management during 2015, he raised a Specialized Meeting to a Ministerial level. Thus, the Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities for the Integral Management of Risks of the Mercosur (RMAGIR, in Spanish) was established. He received a Medal of Honor for Merit based on services rendered by Paraguay's President, Horacio Cartes, in 2016. He was nominated for the Sasakawa Award in 2015 and 2017.



Andria Grosvenor

Planning and Business Development Manager, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA). Andria is a humanitarian with a passion for helping people manage disaster risks, to which she has devoted herself for more than twenty years. Over the last five years, her endeavours have been more strategic than operational, as her areas of responsibility focus on strategic and corporate planning, resource mobilization, monitoring and evaluation. Through this portfolio, Ms. Grosvenor is the focal point for reporting on the regional achievement of results within the Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) Strategy, which contributes to the Sendai Disaster Risk Reduction Framework. Andria possesses a B.A. in Geography, a Masters in Business Administration (MBA), a Certificate in Business Continuity Planning and a Masters Certificate in Monitoring and Evaluation. She has researched, written and contributed to several publications, documents and policy papers as well as presented in various disaster risk management fora.



Julio Serje

UNISDR Senior Program Manager and software engineer with over 20 years of experience in disaster and risk information systems, in both the public and private sectors, and is supported by a long-standing experience within the UN System. During the past years, Julio has focused on the development and application of information technology to disaster and risk management, climate change, environment and related areas. Most recently he has led the development of the Sendai Framework Monitoring System and UNISDR Loss and Risk data tools. He has been working closely with governments in the implementation and usage of these systems in practical risk reduction processes and in its policy applications.



Pauline Leonard

Associate Statistician with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) Environmental Statistics team in Santiago, Chile since 2017. Previously, she worked for over ten years in the United Nations' Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) in New York and in the International Labour Organization (ILO) in various countries of Latin America and Africa. She holds a Master's Degree in Political Science and International Relations from the University of Bordeaux (France) and Granada (Spain). She is originally from the Caribbean (Martinique, France).

Parallel Session 5

Participation of the civil society in the implementation and monitoring of the Sendai Framework

Organizers

Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR) in collaboration with the Colombian Red Cross

General description

International frameworks and governmental policies are relevant for promoting and strengthening disaster prevention. Nevertheless, generating local change continues to be a significant challenge, and it is critical to speed-up the progress. Thus, taking advantage of the strengths that key actors have is an opportunity to foster action at every level, as provided in the Sendai Framework. In this regard, the local knowledge and alliances that civil society organizations (CSOs) have are fundamental resources to ensure impact at the local level.

This session will invite CSO representatives to commit to specific and measurable actions to implement the Sendai Framework at the territorial level and across thematic fields. The session will also seek to strengthen mechanisms for joint work between civil society and governments through concrete proposals. Funding opportunities for coordinated initiatives that address the interrelation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change, as well as the Humanitarian and Urban Agenda will also be examined.

Following an interactive methodology, participants will split into groups that will rotate around three working stations. A local leader will share experiences concerning the role of civil society in the strengthening of local resilience and the monitoring of the progress of implementation of the Sendai Framework in each station.

The session will seek to respond the following questions: Which are the strategic roles that CSOs could play to foster the impact of the Sendai Framework at the local level? What substantive and sustainable opportunities for participation could be provided by the governments of the region to capitalize on the expertise of CSOs and local communities to have a more significant impact on building local resilience? What opportunities can donors offer for monitoring and action-learning initiatives that facilitate the exchange of information between the communities that are exposed to risk?

Goals

Promote the Participatory Monitoring of the Sendai Framework through proposals and mechanisms to develop feasible and sustainable resilience at the local level.

Moderators and panelists



Fabián Arellano Peña, Moderator - opening remarks

Director General of Disaster Risk Management, Colombian Red Cross. Arellano Peña has more than 30 years of professional experience in mitigation, assistance, rehabilitation, and reconstruction in countries affected by disasters. He has coordinated humanitarian interventions and programs in Latin America and Africa, in collaboration with representatives of governmental authorities and diverse non-governmental actors from affected countries. Arellano Peña has carried out damage assessments and needs analysis, and coordinated several relief operations for the relevant emergencies and disasters that have occurred in Latin America since 1992. He acted as Delegate of the IFRC in Disaster Preparedness for Latin America and Mozambique. Between 2003 and 2017, he was part of the Regional Program of Assistance for Disasters - RDAP, a USAID/ OFDA/ LAC initiative. First, he worked as a Consultant for Colombia and Ecuador, based in Bogotá. Then, he collaborated as Technical Manager for Latin America and the Caribbean, based in San José - Costa Rica. Last but not least, he worked as Subregional Manager for the Andean countries, based in Colombia.



Graciela Salaberri Vacani, Moderator-closing remarks

President of the Uruguayan Network of Environmental NGOs, which brings together more than 45 organizations. Graciela is an active GNDR participant, representing South America in the Government Council and acting as its Vice President. She studied Disaster Risk Management at the Polytechnic University of Cataluña (2005) as well as Local Development Management (2009) at the International Training Center ILO, DELNET, Turin, Italy. A meteorologist with 30 years of experience in the public service in Uruguay, she was responsible for the Forecasts Directorate as well as a trainer in early detection of severe weather and climate. Salaberri developed the initiative "Weather Warning for the Public" (July 2000) incorporating the "Early Warning" concept for the first time. Thus, promoting access to information and the timely dissemination of preventive meteorological information through the media. In 2003, she established the NGO "Amigos del Viento", together with other meteorologists.



Jorge Pablo Torrealba

Technical Assistant for South America, General Directorate of Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection of the European Commission (ECHO). Previously, he worked in forest management and protected areas in Central America (Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras and Guatemala). After Hurricane Mitch, he worked on prevention and planning for risk management at CEPREDENAC. He holds agronomy studies in Bordeaux, France. He is a specialist in early warning (2005 - 2012). First, in the Indian Ocean (EWS Tsunamis in Thailand, India, Indonesia, Maldives, and Sri Lanka). Then, in Ecuador (EWS - Tungurahua and Cotopaxi volcanoes). Torrealba has worked as a Consultant in Latin America and the Caribbean (assessments, evaluations, project monitoring).



Sidney Velado

Regional Advisor, U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance in Latin America and the Caribbean, based in Costa Rica. He leads the Regional Disaster Assistance Program (RDAP) implemented in 28 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. He has participated in deployments as part of the Rapid Response Teams of the US Government: in the Pakistan earthquake (2005); floods of the Zambezi River in Mozambique, floods and droughts in Angola (2007 and 2008), and Hurricane Felix in Nicaragua (2007). Velado was the Rapid Response Team Leader in the 8.8 earthquake in Chile in 2010. He also participated in the Ebola response in Sierra Leone (2015) and responded to the armed conflict in Syria (2016). He is a founding member of the Latin America and the Caribbean Network of Universities for Disaster Risk Reduction (REDU-LAC, in Spanish). He holds a Masters in International Development in Agriculture from the University of California at Davis and a BSc from the Polytechnic University of the State of California at Pomona in International Agriculture.



Santa Sandoval Lajara

Community Leader, Sabana Grande - Boyá, Dominican Republic. Santa's community is part of the Monte Plata región which has high levels of poverty as well as social vulnerabilities. Santa belongs to the mitigation and response prevention Committee of her community. She is also a member of the Civil Defense, initiative in which she has participated in the development of contingency plans. She has received numerous awards from different institutions, as well as from the public and private spheres for her courage, dedication, and integrity as a social worker and tireless fighter. She currently works for the Social Service of Dominican Churches- SSID as a community development technician, where she has embarked on the challenge of training and preparing the inhabitants of the poorest and most vulnerable communities in Monte Plata, to build more resilient communities against the impacts of natural phenomena in the Dominican Republic.



Zoila Marina Lima Barrios de Marroquín

Recognized leader and advisory authority of the Monte San Pabloneighborhood in the metropolitan area of Guatemala. She became a trainer of trainers in matters that include First Aid, Psychosocial Care, water, sanitation and hygiene, and livelihoods for emergency assistance. Thus, Zoila has had an outstanding participation in processes of humanitarian advocacy and human rights as well as culture of peace and reconciliation. For the last 20 years, Zoila led the Local Coordinator for Disaster Reduction (COLRED, in Spanish) which is part of the Community Development Council of Cerro Gordo (COCODE, in Spanish). She is also a part of the response teams of the Citizen Convergence for Risk Management (COCIGER). She has lead brigades to face community problems, and she has also participated in assistance against floods and landslides in his community and surrounding territories. She participated in the monitoring reports Views from the Frontline (GNDR monitoring DRR survey) and is actively involved in the reform of the law that provides for the National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction (CONRED).

Parallel Session 6

River Flood Risk Management: Progress and Challenges

Organizers

The Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies (IDEAM, in Spanish) of Colombia, in coordination with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

General description

The purpose of the session is to open a space to discuss the weaknesses, capacities and strengths in flood management in the region, as well as to identify areas for improvement. The baseline of the discussion will be the challenges faced and the experience gained in past events in different countries of the region. The relevance of the differentiated approach of the integrated flood management will be highlighted and recommendations to strengthen its governance strategies will be proposed.

The session seeks to respond to the following questions: Why do the high social and economic costs resulting from floods seem to increase despite the fact that risk management has been a priority, existing regulations have been enforced in many countries, and important technological and scientific improvements in hydrological modelling, monitoring, forecasting and early warning systems have been achieved? What are the factors that constrain the reduction of negative impacts of floods in countries of the Americas? What are the critical elements that have made a difference in the countries of the region, and what is the evidence of progress in flood management and the reduction of impacts to the population? Has the differentiated approach been considered in the initiatives associated with integrated flood management projects in the countries of the Americas?

Goals

1. Foster debate in relation to the necessary actions for an integrated flood management in the region, identify weaknesses evidenced during past events, the challenges faced and the opportunities for improvement.
2. Identify good practices in the Americas related to local flood risk management and suggest recommendations to promote their scalability.

Moderator and panelists



Rodney Martínez Guingla, Moderator

CIIFEN International Director (2015 to present). Former Navy Officer, Oceanographer, BMA in Development Projects Management. Head of Marine Sciences Department at INOCAR (1997-2003). Regional Coordinator of ODINCAR-SA-IOCUNESCO (2001-2009). CIIFEN Scientific Coordinator (2004-2015), CIIFEN Acting Director (2010- 2012). Coordinator of several regional projects and activities related with Climate Risk management, early warning, information and data management, climate applications and adaptation. Main Research area: ENSO regional impacts in the Eastern Pacific and climate user interface development. Coordinator of 30 regional training courses, participation as author or coauthor in 49 publications and lecturer on more than 70 international conferences. Member of CLIVAR Pacific Panel- World Climate Research Programme (2005-2012). Co-Chair of the Open Program Area of Climate Experts on Climate Information for Risk Management and Adaptation from the Commission of Climatology-World Meteorological Organization (2010 to present). Member of the Joint Scientific Committee of the World Climate Research Programme (2013 to present). Member of the Steering Committee of the Global Climate Observing System (2015).



Nelson Omar Vargas

Deputy Director of Hydrology of the Colombian Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies (IDEAM, in Spanish), since 2011. Geologist - Universidad Nacional de Colombia (1985). MSc. Hydraulic Resources - Universidad Nacional de Colombia (2000). Vice President of the Latin American Association of Hydrogeology (ALSHUD Colombia). Member of the Colombian Association of Hydrologists. Colombian delegate for the International Hydrological Programme - UNESCO and ISARM Americas (OAS). Technical coordinator and co-author of publications, including the 2010 National Water Study, Groundwater in Colombia, 2014 National Water Study as well as the Conceptual and Methodological Guidelines for Regional Water Assessments, and the Hydrographic and Hydrogeological Zoning of Colombia. Professor for nearly 15 years at the Universidad Central, Universidad Antonio Nariño, Universidad Santo Tomás and the Escuela Colombiana de Carreras Industriales (ECCI, in Spanish).

Yuri Rafael Della Giustina

Coordinator of the Scientific and Technological Development Fund and the Telecommunications Technological Development Fund of the Ministry of Science and Technology of Brazil. He is a Senior Infrastructure Specialist of the Federal Government, since 2008. Former Chief of Staff of the National Secretariat of Environmental Sanitation, Director of Accessibility and Urban Planning and Director of Risk Management of the Ministry of Cities. He participated in the National Council of persons with disability and the elderly. Professor of the Health Law course of the FIOCRUZ and the National School of Administration. His public speeches concern Risk Prevention, Urban Planning and Sanitation in Brazil and abroad. He worked in the Environmental Sanitation Company of the Federal District as Superintendent of Planning and in the National Water Agency. He graduated in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Brasilia and has a Specialization in Treatment and Final Destination of Solid and Liquid Residues from the Federal University of Goiás. Also, holds a Master degree in Environmental Planning and Management from the Catholic University of Brasilia (2004).



Berta Olmedo Vernaza

Executive Secretary, Regional Committee on Hydraulic Resources (CRRH). Olmedo Vernaza is a Professor at the School of Meteorology of the University of Panama (1996 to date). She teaches General Meteorology, Climatology and Biostatistics. Former Supervisor of variability and climate change in the Hydrometeorology Management of ETESA (2005-2014). Her experience includes her role as Consultant for OIRSA (2016), Climatology Manager during (2015) and Permanent Representative of Panama to the World Meteorological Organization-WMO- (2010-2012). Olmedo Vernaza is a Meteorologist/WMO Class II, National Institute of Meteorology of Spain. In addition, she holds a Bachelor degree in Statistics from the University of Panama and she is a Specialist in Applied Meteorology, University of Costa Rica.



Hitoshi BABA

Senior Adviser for the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), since 2010. Dr. Baba is based in Tokyo, and he has been implementing innovative projects and providing technical assistance as a specialist in flood control, hydrological modeling and disaster management. Dr. Hitoshi Baba has more than 30 years of experience in technical and administrative disaster risk management at a national and international level, as well as in the area of water resources in the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MLIT) of the Government of Japan. He has also worked in technical cooperation with developing countries to strengthen national disaster risk reduction, emergency response and reconstruction capacities. Dr. Baba has an academic background in hydrology and river engineering. He has a Ph.D. in Environment and Resource Engineering and a MSc. in Forest Sciences. He speaks Japanese and English and is from Japan.

María E. Koutsovitis

Acting Secretary of the Department of Hydraulics, Faculty of Engineering University of Buenos Aires (UBA). ENOHSA External Consultant. Coordinator of the Climate Change Working Group and Member of the Board of Directors of the Argentinian Association of Sanitary Engineering (AIDIS). Member of the Lomas de Zamora Water Forum; Research Professor at the Faculty of Engineering of the UBA. Koutsovitis is a Civil Engineer.



Víctor López Sevilla

Executive Director of the National Association of Disabled Persons and President of the National Federation of Organizations of People with Disabilities of Honduras (FENOPDIH, in Spanish). Graduated in Business Administrator, Mr. Lopez Sevilla has more than eighteen years of experience working with the disability sector in Honduras. He has participated as a facilitator in the National Accessibility Plan, and in different initiatives and projects on physical accessibility in the country. He has also participated in various advocacy processes in the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, both nationally and internationally. He is currently involved with FENOPDIH in two projects on inclusive risk management: a bi-national disaster preparedness project against floods with an inclusion component, and a regional project to promote inclusive risk management at the Central American level.

Parallel Session 7

Implementation of the Sendai Framework at the National Level: National Plans and Legislative Frameworks

Organizers

Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Disasters in Central America and the Dominican Republic (CEPREDENAC, in Spanish) in collaboration with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR).

General description

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) should be integrated within development planning at all levels of government. It should also be organized through broad community participation, to ensure sustainability, territorial security, and improve the quality of life of populations.

During this session, government delegates and representatives of intergovernmental organizations will present initiatives that focus on harmonizing National Risk Management Plans and Policies with the Sendai Framework. Also, best practices concerning the implementation of the priorities established in the Sendai Framework will be shared.

The panel will seek to answer the following questions: what are the lessons available from regional experiences around harmonization of national frameworks with the Sendai Framework? Which are the main innovations and changes that have taken place as part of those harmonization processes? Which recommendations could be shared about the harmonization processes that regard the strengthening of political instruments to reinforce the multi-sectorial work, guarantee coherence and foster shared responsibility, as provided in the Sendai Framework? Which are the needs and recommendations for action to ensure that efforts to strengthen governance instruments for disaster risk management translate into positive changes and support for the different sectors and the population in general?

Goals

1. Communicate and analyze the progress made by countries of the Americas region in the update, harmonization and implementation of their National Policies and/or Plans for Disaster Risk Management concerning the Sendai Framework for DRR.
2. Encourage dialogue and propose lines of action and instruments that can facilitate the effective implementation of public policy instruments and their linkages with different sectors and the general public.

Moderator and panelists



Jessica Solano, Moderator

Technical Manager, Executive Secretariat, Coordination Center for the Prevention of Disasters in Central America and the Dominican Republic (CEPREDENAC). Expert in International Relations specialized in Disaster Risk Management, Human Rights, Migration and International Cooperation. Previously, she worked as technical leader of the harmonization team of the Central American Policy on Integral Risk Management of Disasters (PCGIR), with the Sendai Framework for DRR. At present, Solano leads the technical process of updating the Regional Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction (PRRD), as a mechanism for implementing said Regional Policy. She has contributed to the incorporation of Disaster Risk Management in Policies, Strategies and Regional Programs of the Central American Integration System (SICA), in gender equality and equity issues, housing, land use planning, protocols, procedures and assistance mechanisms of international humanitarian disaster. Her work experience includes 23 years of service with governmental, intergovernmental, civil society, academic and international cooperation organizations, coordinating the implementation of development programs and projects with the support of International Organizations such as the Spain-SICA Fund, COSUDE, USAID- OFDA, JICA, China (Taiwan).



Velda Joseph

Director of the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) in Saint Lucia, since 2014. Previously, she worked in the Ministry of Social Transformation, Local Government and Community Empowerment in August 2014. Joseph has been involved in the areas of Disaster Management and Social Development for over two decades. Prior to her official transfer to NEMO, Mrs. Joseph benefitted from several direct engagements in the field of disaster management both locally and abroad. In addition, she worked with the National Disaster Management Agency in Grenada for one year and for 3 years with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA). Mrs. Joseph holds an MSc. in Water and Environmental Resource Management from the Institute of Infrastructural, Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering (IHE) in the Netherlands as well as an MBA from the Cave Hill School of Business, University of the West Indies. Also, she holds a BSc. in Physical Planning and Environmental Resource Development from the University of Technology (UTECH), Jamaica.



Carlos Valdés

Director General of the National Center for Disaster Prevention of Mexico (CENAPRED, in Spanish). Valdés was appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, since February 1, 2014. During his career, he has worked as Chief of the National Seismological Service (2005-2014). He is a Geophysical Engineer from the Faculty of Engineering of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. He holds a Master and PHD in Geophysics, University of Wisconsin-Madison (USA). Dr. Carlos Valdés was born in Mexico City.



Iván Hernando Caicedo Rubiano

Deputy Director of Disaster Risk Reduction, National Unit for Disaster Risk Management of Colombia (UNGRD, in Spanish). He leads the Technical Assistance Program for the implementation of the National Policy on Disaster Risk Management in territories and sectors. His experience includes Technical Assistance positions at the UNGRD as well as Coordinator of the risk group of the former Ministry of Environment, Housing and Territorial Development of Colombia. Also, Caicedo Rubiano has worked as Consultant and Advisor on Disaster Risk Management and Land Management in several municipalities of Colombia. Caicedo is an Architect graduated in the Universidad América – Bogotá. He holds a Master's degree in Environment from the European School of Management and Business in Spain. Caicedo is an expert in Prevention, Attention, and Disaster Reduction at the Catholic University of Manizales.



Sergio Roberto García Cabañas

Executive Secretary, National Coordinator for Disaster Risk Reduction –in Guatemala (CONRED, in Spanish). Garcia Cabañas Graduated in Integrated Risk Management from the San Pablo University in Guatemala. He has been Chief of Volunteer Rescuer and Deputy Director of the Office of Relief and Disasters and Member of the Board of Directors of the Guatemalan Red Cross. Director of the Paramedic Program and Senior Officer of the Ad Honorem Guard for Municipal Firemen. Vice President of the National Accident Prevention Council of the Ministry of Labor and Social Security. Chief of Operations in the Directorate of Road Safety and Protection of the Ministry of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing. Head of the Training and Operations Department in the National Committee of Emergencies. Director of the Incident Command System -ICS. He has been President and Vice President of the United Nations International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG), where he continues to be the focal point.



Otto Mazariegos

Treasurer of the Board of Directors and responsible of the Board of Directors for the subjects of inclusive risk management, Latin American Network of People with Disabilities and their Families (RIADIS, in Spanish). As an individual with a visual disability, Mazariegos holds a Bachelor of Science in Communication. He currently works in the municipality of Guatemala. Otto has an extensive know-how in the organizational movement of people with disabilities. His professional experience includes President of the National Council for the Attention of Persons with Disabilities (CONADI, in Spanish), President of the National Association of the Blind of Guatemala (ANCG, in Spanish). Recently, he was a speaker at the session regarding inclusive focus on DRR at the IV Regional Forum of the Central American Policy on Integral Risk Management (Panama, August 2017) and at the Second International Conference on Disability and Disaster Risk Management (Dhaka, Bangladesh, May 2018).

Parallel Session 8

Risk Analysis at the National Level

Organizers

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), in coordination with the National Geological Service (SGC, in Spanish) of Colombia.

General description

The session addresses issues related to the Priority 1 of the Sendai Framework: Understanding disaster risk. Its purpose is to promote the exchange of experiences on how risk knowledge is incorporated (or informed) in the design and implementation of strategies, programs, plans and/or projects, for the achievement of development objectives established at the national level.

The session will seek to respond to the following questions: What challenges should we address to improve and/or consolidate progress in the generation of disaster risk information that effectively and efficiently contribute to the achievement of national development objectives, in the framework of the Agenda 2030? What achievements and experiences could be pointed out regarding the efficient and effective use of information for risk analysis to support the design and implementation of programs and actions focused on reaching national development goals?

Goals

1. Illustrate the progress and achievements of the Americas region in the use of disaster risk information to support decision-making processes in the implementation of the development agenda at the national level.
2. Identify the challenges that hinder the effective and efficient integration of risk analysis in decision-making processes to implement the development agenda at the national level.
3. Establish recommendations to strengthen the integration of disaster risk information in decision-making processes, in order to implement the 2030 Development Agenda.

Moderator and panelists



Emily Wilkinson, Moderator

Senior Research Fellow in the Overseas Development Institute (ODI), Risk and Resilience Programme, leading research on risk and uncertainty in development and disaster recovery. Her current research focuses on disaster and climate risk management, state responsibility, anticipatory action and effectiveness and accountability in public policy. For the last 15 years, Emily has worked with governments, non-government organisations and scientific agencies in Latin America and the Caribbean, East Africa, South Asia and the Pacific to identify critical entry points and opportunities for overcoming hazardous geographies and managing risk in line with development priorities.



Lieutenant Colonel Kester Romero Craig, MPA, CIPM

Director - General for the Civil Defense Commission. Disaster risk management (DRM) practitioner, with twenty (20) years of military service and more than twelve (12) years' experience working with community groups, government agencies, national, regional, and international non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the local government, health, security, and environmental sectors. He possesses strong technical skills complemented by managerial experience, including programme planning and execution, operations management, and staff supervision. Colonel Craig demonstrated experience by providing training at the community, regional and national levels. He is also a team player with strong leadership abilities, excellent interpersonal communication, and superb presentation skills. Previous positions include Deputy Director General and Operations and Training Officer at the Civil Defence Commission (CDC); Avionics Supervisor at Air Corps; Air Corps Aid and an Infantry Commander / Platoon Commander for the Guyana Defence Force.



Alexandra Alvarado

Director of the Geophysical Institute of the National Polytechnic School of Ecuador. Dr. Alvarado is a Geologist. She holds a Master's Degree in Geodynamics and Earth Physics, Université Paris XI UFR Scientifique d'Orsay France. She also holds a Ph.D. from the School of Land, Universe and Environment from the University Grenoble Alpes France, ISTERRE Laboratory. Throughout her career, she has worked as Head of the National Seismograph Network, Head of the Seismology Area, as well as Head of the Seismic and Volcanic Monitoring and Information Center (TERRAS) and is a full professor at the National Polytechnic School where he has taught some subjects in the Geology career.



Carlos Valdés

Director General of the National Center for Disaster Prevention of Mexico (CENAPRED, in Spanish). Valdés was appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, since February 1, 2014. During his career, he has worked as Chief of the National Seismological Service (2005-2014). He is a Geophysical Engineer from the Faculty of Engineering of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. He holds a Master and PHD in Geophysics, University of Wisconsin-Madison (USA). Dr. Carlos Valdés was born in Mexico City.



Oscar Zepeda Ramos

Director of Risk Analysis and Management at the National Center for Disaster Prevention (CENAPRED) in Mexico, since 2014. He is in charge of the development and update of the National Risk Atlas as well as the Coordination, Evaluation and Design of Public Policies for the Disaster Prevention. Also, he leads the analysis and investigation of phenomena of anthropic origin. Zepeda Ramos joined the National Center for Disaster Prevention in 1994. He coordinates regional projects related to the disaster risk management in Mesoamerica and the Caribbean. He is interested in the generation and design of information through low-level sensor cost, as well as implementation of disaster risk assessment and analysis systems. He is a civil engineer graduated from the Faculty of Engineering of the National University of Mexico (UNAM, in Spanish). Also, he has a specialization on Spatial Data Infrastructure from the Polytechnic University of Madrid.



Luis Estuardo Ovando Lavagnino

Under-Secretary of Planning and Territorial Planning, Secretariat of Planning and Programming of the Presidency in Guatemala (SEGEPLAN, in Spanish). Also, Ovando Lavagnino is a member of the technical management team for the formulation of the National Development Plan K'atun Our Guatemala 2032 as well as Director of Risk Management in the Secretariat of Planning and Programming of the Presidency, since June 2009. His experience includes his role as Coordinator of the Training and Advisory Unit in Territorial Strategic Planning of SEGEPLAN (2004 - 2005). He was also the National Coordinator of the Program for the Sustainable Development of Border Populations Guatemala - Mexico, in the Secretariat of Planning and Programming of the Presidency (2001-2003).



Marta Lucia Calvache-Velasco

Deputy-Director of the Colombian Geological Service, Technical-Scientific Institute of the National Disaster Risk Management System in Colombia. Calvache-Velasco is responsible for the plan to strengthen the monitoring of seismic and volcanic events. She is also in charge of three volcanological and seismological Observatories (Manizales, Popayán and Pasto). Her experience includes the direction of research groups which outputs have improved the scientific knowledge of the Colombian geology in relation to several volcanoes. Thus resulting in the strengthening of the monitoring, evaluation and zoning of the volcanic hazards in Colombia. She is motivated in working with authorities and communities to foster appropriation of knowledge in favor of risk reduction. Martha is a Geologist from the National University of Colombia. She holds a Master's degree in Geology from the Louisiana State University and a PhD at the Arizona State University.

Parallel Session 9

The role of the Academia, Science and Technology in DRR

Organizers

The Latin American and Caribbean Network of Universities for Disaster Risk Reduction (REDULAC/RRD, in Spanish) in coordination with Florida International University.

General description

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 recognizes the importance of adopting a scientific approach towards disaster risk reduction in order to support the interface between policy and science for decision-making. Also, the Sendai Framework highlights the relevant role of the scientific-technological community to focus on the disaster risk factors and scenarios and increasing scientific research at the regional, national and local level. The Sendai Framework also invites to enhance the scientific and technical work on disaster risk reduction and its mobilization through the coordination of existing networks and scientific research institutions with the support of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Scientific and Technical Advisory Group (UNISDR-STAG).

The session will present the role, challenges, opportunities and experiences faced by the academia as well as the scientific and technological community in relation to the implementation of the Sendai Framework and the Regional Action Plan. Also presented will be the results of the processes for the creation of a Regional Science & Technology Advisory Group for the implementation of the Sendai Framework in the Americas, and the definition of a roadmap to develop the Regional Plan on Science and Technology.

The questions that will be addressed in the session include: What priorities should the Regional Scientific and Technical Advisory Group to UNISDR in the Americas region have? How to strengthen the collaboration among the academia, scientific and technological networks for the implementation of the Regional Action Plan of the Americas with a systematic approach? How could different scientific and technical institutions contribute to the implementation of the Regional Action Plan from different levels?

Goals

1. Discuss the role and action plan of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Scientific and Technical Advisory Group in the Americas region for the implementation of the Sendai Framework as well as the Regional Action Plan in the Americas.
2. Raise awareness about the relevance of regional research initiatives and the use of technology in disaster risk reduction as inputs for decision-making processes in the implementation of the priorities set in the Sendai Framework and the Regional Action Plan.
3. Share experiences about the development of prioritized research topics in the area of disaster risk reduction.

Moderator and panelist



Silvia Quiroga, Moderator

Ms. Silvia Quiroga studied at the National University of Cuyo (UNCuyo), Mendoza, Argentina. She is a Professor. Quiroga holds a Bachelor Degree as well as a Ph.D. in Geography. Specialist in issues of Environmental Management, Land Management and Disaster Risk Management, she currently teaches in the Programme for Professional Geographer at UNCuyo. Quiroga also participates in research projects and consultancies related to Territorial Planning and DRR, nationally and internationally. Silvia is also a Professor of Master and Ph.D. studies on DRR related matters. The programs are lead by four Argentine universities and two foreign universities. As a researcher, Silvia has worked on projects and publications related to territorial risk. She has also promoted university transfer projects on DRR and vulnerable communities. She is currently a Thesis Adviser of Master and Ph.D. students in 4 Argentine universities. Since 2013, Silvia coordinates the Chapter of REDULAC / RRD in Argentina.



Osvaldo Luiz Leal de Moraes

Director of the National Centre for Monitoring and Early Warning of Natural Disasters (CEMADEN) in Brazil. Moraes is also an Associate Professor at the Federal University of Santa Maria. Previously, he was the Director of the Secretary for Research and Development Policy and Programs (SEPED) of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of Brazil and Scientific Director of the Brazilian Society of Meteorology. Likewise, he was the General Coordinator at Brazil's Centre for Weather Forecasts and Climate Studies (2011-2013), as well as the Scientific Director of the Research Support Foundation of the State of Rio Grande do Sul (2009-2011). He coordinated the Post-Graduate Program in Meteorology and Physics at the Federal University of Santa Maria, and he worked as an external Advisor of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul and the Federal University of São Paulo. Moraes is the coordinator of the S & T working group on Natural Disaster from the BRICS countries. Osvaldo graduated and obtained his PhD at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (1989).



Lina Dorado González

Deputy Director for Risk Knowledge in the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management of Colombia, since 2017. Professional in Disaster Risk Management, with more than 15 years of experience working inter-sectorally in technical and social aspects with the National System for Disaster Risk Management in Colombia. Since 2001, she has worked in the Governorate of Nariño supporting the Disaster Prevention Office. She also coordinated the Departmental Council for Disaster Risk Management of the department of Nariño (2004-2014). Geological Engineering of the Pedagogical and Technological University of Colombia. She is also a Specialist in Regional Development of the University of Nariño, and holds a Master Degree in Sustainable Development with a major on Prevention and Disaster Attention of the Universidad del Valle. Dorado González also holds a Master degree in Risk Management and Emergencies from the Scuola University Superiore IUSS of Pavia, Italy.



David Green

Program Manager for DISASTERS risk reduction and resilience in the NASA's Applied Sciences Program. Dr. Green is responsible for promoting the use of Earth observations to improve prediction of, preparation for, response to, and recovery from natural and technological disasters. Dr. Green is also the Program Scientist for NASA's LANCE; Program Application Scientist for the NISAR, CYGNSS and TROPICS satellite missions; Vice-Chair of the Committee on Earth Observations Working Group on Disasters; and the Group on Earth Observations Task Lead for Global Flood Risk Modeling. Dr. Green graduated from the University of Toronto with a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry and earned a Masters of International Science & Technology Management from the University of Maryland. He was a member of the Research Faculty of Stanford University and the University of Maryland. With the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and National Weather Service (NWS), his experience includes the establishment of the Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation Program and the Ecological Forecasting Program.



Juan Pablo Sarmiento P.

Research Professor and Associate Director of Research at the Extreme Events Institute of Florida International University. He is also the Director of the Disaster Resilience in the Americas Program, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA). Dr. Sarmiento is a Surgeon (Universidad del Rosario, Colombia). He has an MSc. in Public Health, specializing in Health Promotion and Social Development (Université de Bordeaux, France and Public University of Navarra, Spain), and a M.A. in Project Management (UCI, Costa Rica). He has a Specialization in Medical Education (Universidad de la Sabana, Colombia). Dr. Sarmiento also has postgraduate studies in Disaster Management (Oxford, Great Britain); High Level Public Administration (Colombian Higher School of Public Administration) and a residency in Nutrition (Tufts University, United States). Recent publications: <https://works.bepress.com/juan-sarmiento/>.



Victor Manuel García Lemus

Founding member of the University Network of Latin America and the Caribbean for Disaster Risk Reduction (REDU-LAC, in Spanish) in 2006 and acted as its President (2015-2018). Member and Vice President of the UNISDR Science and Technology Advisory Group (STAG). Founder of the Center for Studies on Safe Development and Disasters, University of San Carlos de Guatemala (2008) and Director (2014 - 2016). Participated in the World Disaster Summit in Kobe (2005) and Sendai (2015). Graduated as Doctor and Surgeon in 1986. Specialization in Incorporation of disaster risk management in development processes (2009). García Lemus holds a Master's Degree in Public Health, with specialization in Social Management (2014). Professor in a plural number of universities in Latin America. International Consultant.

Parallel Session 10

Planning Instruments for Disaster Risk Management

Organizers

National Unit for Disaster Risk Management - Colombia (UNGRD, in Spanish) in coordination with the National Department of Planning (DNP) of Colombia

General description

The integration of disaster risk reduction considerations in development policies and planning is a fundamental crosscutting action to make progress in the four priorities established by the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. Due to this reason, the development and implementation of planning instruments that promote the integration of disaster risk management in the regional, national and local processes are essential to achieving what has been recommended in the Sendai Framework.

In the Americas region, several countries have implemented instruments that have made it possible to advance in the reduction of disaster risk conditions and strengthen risk governance based on knowledge of the current risk. Similarly, strategies have been defined to incorporate risk management of disasters in development plans at the national, municipal and regional levels.

The session intends to address the following questions: What have been the major developments and innovations concerning integrating risk management into policy frameworks and planning instruments? What recommendations could be shared and considered by other nations or organizations in relation to the processes of harmonization and strengthening of policies?

Goal

Encourage the exchange of experiences among countries and regions that have integrated risk reduction actions in planning instruments, to identify common points and/or innovative actions that might serve as inspiration for other countries and/or sub-regions.

Moderator and panelists



Omar D. Bello, Moderator

Coordinator, Sustainable Development & Disaster Unit, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)-Caribbean. Bello holds a Master degree in Economics from the University of California, Los Angeles as well as a Master and Ph.D. degree in Economics from the University of Colorado Boulder. He served as Technical Coordinator at the Central Bank of Venezuela and later at ECLAC, where he is the focal point on disaster related matters. He led the new edition of the Manual for Disaster Assessment. Also, he coordinated the development of courses on the application of such methodology for civil servants and UN officials. Since 2008, he has participated in various disaster assessments, including those led by ECLAC of the hurricanes, floods and earthquakes that took place in Anguilla, Argentina, Bahamas, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Ecuador, Sint Maarten, and Turks and Caicos Islands.



Gisela Paredes Leguizamón

Coordinator of the Technical Secretariat, Commission of Territorial Order, National Department of Planning of Colombia. Paredes Leguizamón is an Officer of Colombian National Parks since 1996. She has worked as a specialized professional in the Directorates of Amazonía, Orinoquía and Caribe. Also, she coordinated the Environmental Assessment Project Group as well as the Group of the National System of Protected Areas. Since 2012, she is responsible for the national level of territorial ordering. Gisela is a Member of the World Commission on Protected Areas, and the Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group associated with the International Union of Conservation of Nature. She holds a Degree on Zootechny from the National University of Colombia as well as a Masters Degree in Rural Development of the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana and a Master of Science in Sustainability to Manage Global Change from the International University of Andalusia. Gisela is an environmental auditor SGS and facilitator of “action reflection learning” processes.



Juan Francisco Pacheco

Official, Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). Pacheco's areas of work are related to public functional systems, particularly investment and planning systems, as well as project formulation and assessment methodologies. He is the author of a substantial number of publications that include: Conceptual elements and applications of microeconomics for the evaluation of projects as well as Sectoral methodologies for the government of Costa Rica and Meta-evaluation in national systems of public investment. Also, he has published a Methodological manual of multicriteria evaluation for programs and projects, Methodology of the logical framework for the planning, monitoring, and evaluation of projects and programs, and a General Methodology of identification, preparation and evaluation of public investment projects. Pacheco is a Naval Construction Engineer of the Austral University of Chile, and he holds a Master Degree in Government and Public Management of the University of Chile.

Representative of the Andean Committee for Disaster Reduction and Response (CAPRADE, in Spanish), TBC

Parallel Session 11

Incentives and Instruments to Promote Resilient Investments

Organizers

Development Bank of Latin America (CAF, in Spanish) in coordination with the Ministry of Housing, City and Land of Colombia

General Description

Global frameworks for disaster management point out that disaster prevention can be less costly than disaster response, thus avoiding new and reducing existing disaster risks by implementing different integral and inclusive measures.

The session will highlight how important it is for Governments to have public instruments and policies that facilitate the identification of disaster risk scenarios and can help prioritize the risks that are willing to cover. This is to facilitate the creation of incentives that promote more disaster-resilient public investments and infrastructures, as well as the selection of risk transfer instruments.

The need for governmental investment in capacity building for disaster risk management and adaptation to climate change will be emphasized. Experiences regarding the development of instruments for capacity building (PIFIN, in Spanish) and the implementation of strategies for the financial management of disaster risk (GFDR, in Spanish) will be shared. In the second part of the session, representatives from financial development banks and the private insurance market will point out the challenges faced by countries in the selection and implementation of risk transfer instruments.

The questions to be addressed during the session include: What aspects should be strengthened in the region to develop incentives for disaster risk reduction? What sectors could be identified as priorities for further action? What is the perspective of the private sector in relation to the estimated gap of damage protection in the region and its related impacts? What activities should governments develop in order to access financial instruments at a reasonable cost?

Goals

1. Share good experiences in the development of incentives for the promotion and implementation of disaster-resilient public investments.
2. Identify the main barriers and requirements to develop incentives and financial instruments for disaster-resilient public investments and infrastructure by exploring the requirements and instruments that contribute to improving the management of public assets.
3. Promote the establishment of a mechanism for future dialogue to identify the required technical and financial resources for the development of a regional strategy to promote disaster-resilient public investments and infrastructure.

Moderators and panelists



Jesús Suniaga Marcano, Moderator of the first segment

Senior Executive, Infrastructure Vice-presidency, The Development Bank of Latin America (CAF, in Spanish). He joined CAF in 2005, to develop an information system to monitor the portfolio of projects for the Integration of the South American Regional Infrastructure Initiative (IIRSA, in Spanish). In 2007, he participated in the implementation of the GEOSUR program to disseminate geospatial data and develop the spatial data infrastructures for Latin America and the Caribbean. He has been coordinating the GeoPOLIS program, since 2015. Jesús holds a degree in Architecture from the Central University of Venezuela (1999) and has a postgraduate qualification in Geographic Information Systems from the District University of Bogota in agreement with the Geographic Institute Agustín Codazzi of Colombia (2004). He has studied city and territorial administrative organization (2014) and rehabilitating the urban fabric (2015) in the Open University of Catalonia. Suniaga Marcano also holds a degree in Latin American Studies from the Metropolitan University of Caracas (2010).



Francisco Tula Martínez

Director of Investment, Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy, MIDEPLAN, Costa Rica, and President of the Network of National Public Investment Systems (RED SNIP). Francisco's experience includes advising on Public Investment, Evaluation of Public Policies and Projects and implementation of disaster risk management and climate change adaptation instruments in Public Investment and Organizational Development. As a Professor, his experience includes teachings on the formulation, execution and evaluation of social projects as well as result-oriented monitoring and evaluation techniques. Tula is an Economist and Public Administrator, and he holds a degree in the Evaluation of Development Programs and Projects.

Carolina Diaz Giraldo

Deputy Director of Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change at the National Planning Department of Colombia. Carolina holds a Bachelor degree in Environmental Administration as well as a Masters in Development and the Environment from the National University of Colombia. She has more than ten years of experience in disaster risk management, climate change adaptation, and environmental management. Carolina's experience includes her work with the World Bank and the European Union, as well as with local, regional and national governmental entities in Colombia and other Latin American and Caribbean countries.



Gilberto Romero Zeballos

Professor Gilberto Romero Zeballos is a specialist in Disaster Risk Management and Adaptation to Climate Change. He graduated in Sociology from the National University of San Augustine of Arequipa and has a Masters in Social Sciences from the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, where he is currently a professor in the Social Management Masters program and the Risk Analysis in Development and Disaster Administration courses. He is a co-founder and current president of the Center for Disaster Research and Prevention (PREDES) founded in 1983, which is a Peruvian non-governmental organization that carries out scientific research and conducts studies on risks and disasters associated with natural events, as well as delivering education and cultural promotion related to disaster risk management. His publications include the books “Seismic Vulnerability in Metropolitan Lima”, and “The Lesson of El Niño, Volume V Peru. Memories of the El Niño phenomenon 1997-1998”, produced and edited by CAF. He is a Consultant in disaster risk management for the Andean Development Corporation (CAF) in the framework of the Geópolis Program.



Alberto Undurraga Vicuña, Moderator of the second segment

Alberto Undurraga Vicuña is a Chilean politician. Undurraga was the Minister of Public Works for four consecutive years during the Government of President Michelle Bachelet. Thus, he became the first minister to hold the position for such an extended period since Carlos Hurtado, who worked during the Government of President Patricio Aylwin. During his tenure, he had to face the reconstruction of Iquique, Coquimbo and Chiloé after three earthquakes. He did so after the alluvial catastrophes in Atacama (2015 and 2017) alongside the eruption of the volcanoes Villarrica and Calbuco among 17 emergencies that Chile faced in four years. Between 1987 and 1992, he studied Business Engineering at the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile. During his studies, he was a leader and President of the Student Federation of the Catholic University of Chile (FEUC) between 1991 and 1992. Alberto holds a Masters Degree in Applied Economics of Michigan University of the United States.



Ligia Castro de Doens

Corporate Director of Climate Change and the Environment, The Development Bank of Latin America (CAF, in Spanish), since July 2011. Ligia is a Panamanian who has had a distinguished career in public and private institutions. She has held senior posts including Minister of State for Environmental Conservation, General Administrator of the National Environmental Management Authority (ANAM) from 2005 to 2009, President of the Board of Directors of the RAMSAR Center, President of the Board of Trustees of Coiba National Park, Director of the Center for Studies on Health, Environment and Society, General Director of the National Institute for Renewable Natural Resources of Panamá and General Manager of Land Eco Services. She has a degree in Geography from the University of Havana, a Masters in Biological Sciences from the Autonomous National University of Mexico (UNAM) and has completed post-graduate studies in Senior Management at the ADEN Business School.



Rubem Hofliger

Rubem Hofliger is the head of the Global Partnerships team of Swiss Re-Latin America. He is responsible for strengthening relationships with the region's local and national governments through supporting the implementation of a suitable risk management strategy. Rubem joined Swiss Re in 2013 as a Senior Risk Management Officer. Previously, he worked as Senior Consultant of the World Bank, responsible for the development of public policy on matters related to the financial management of disaster risk and insurance mechanisms for member countries. Also, Rubem hold positions within the Mexican Government for more than 14 years, mainly working for the Ministries of Finance and Government. He was Director-General of the Fund of Natural Disasters (FONDEN, in Spanish), from 2007 to 2012. Rubem has a Law degree from the University of Guadalajara, a Master's Degree in Public Policy, as well as a Postgraduate Degree in Taxation from the Universidad Iberoamericana.



José Ángel Villalobos

José Ángel Villalobos is a specialist for the World Bank in the areas of finances, competitiveness, innovation practices, disaster risk financing and insurance programs. Mr. Villalobos is Costa Rican and an affiliate member of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (United Kingdom), associate member (actuary) of the Professional School in Economic Sciences (Costa Rica), associate member of the Chartered Insurance Institute (United Kingdom) and an authorized General Insurance practitioner - CPCU - (EEUUA). He has an MBA and Masters Degree in Actuarial Science MSc (Actl) from the Heriot-Watt University of Scotland. Mr. Villalobos has more than 36 years of experience in the life and non-life insurance and reinsurance sectors. Over the last six years he has worked with the World Bank, focusing on Latin American, South Asian and Southeast Asian countries.

Parallel Session 12

Human Mobility and Displacement Caused by Natural Disasters and the Adverse Effects of Climate Change

Organizers

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the United Nations System in Colombia, the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD, in Spanish) in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia.

General description

The links between disaster risk reduction and displacement were part of the discussions at the XVII Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction held in 2017 in Cancun, Mexico. In fact, paragraph 48 of the Chairman's Summary of the Global Platform 2017 indicates that "the development of disaster risk reduction strategies should consider regional and cross-border perspectives and include provisions that aim to prevent displacement attributed to disasters and reduce displacement risk, address the protection needs of displaced people and promote durable solutions to displacement".

The understanding and adequate management of human mobility in the context of regional, national and local policies will enable the prevention of new risks and foster resilience.

This session will seek to answer the following questions: What recent successful experiences can be highlighted in the region in terms of responding to cross-border human mobility caused by exceptional situations resulting from natural threats and the adverse effects of climate change? How have countries in the area and regional agencies adopted relevant practices, standards and policies for integrated risk management that are consistent with domestic, regional and global instruments for migration and displacement induced by disasters? How have countries in the Americas and regional agencies promoted the use of mechanisms to reduce disaster risk for the implementation of regional approaches and mechanisms that address cross-border movement?

Goals

1. Identify challenges and opportunities for implementing disaster risk reduction strategies that integrate prevention and reduce the risk of displacement and the resulting increase in protection needs.
2. Exchange experiences about the inclusion of migrants in integrated risk management plans, response planning and emergency assistance in contexts of disasters requiring consular protection.
3. Examine practical cases about the response to cross-border movement in the Americas region induced by natural hazards and the adverse effects of climate change.

Moderators and panelists

Ambassador Luz Stella Jara Portilla, Moderator

Director of Migrant, Consular and Citizen Service Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs since October 2017. Luz Stella is a member Colombia's diplomatic and consular corps. She has a Law Degree from the Externado University of Colombia, has a postgraduate qualification in Administrative Law and studied a Masters Degree in the Analysis of Contemporary Political, Economic and International issues. As a staff member of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Luz Stella Jara has held different positions in the Colombian Embassies of Guatemala and the Arab Republic of Egypt, as Consul General in Brussels, Ambassador to Nicaragua, Representative of Colombia before the General Secretariat of the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) and other positions within the same ministry.

Christopher Gascon

Representative of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Mexico. Gascon has experience in program management as well as disaster preparedness and emergency response. His experience includes his role as Regional Emergency Coordinator for the Americas as well as various IOM's representations around the world, including East Timor, Serbia, Montenegro, and Sri Lanka. Among other responsibilities, his participation in the process for the reconciliation and demobilization in conflict zones in Guatemala excels.

Fernanda de Salles Cavedon-Capdeville

Member/researcher at the South-American Network for Environmental Migrations (RESA-MA). Ph.D. in Environmental Law from the University of Alicante (Spain) and post-doctorate from the University of Limoges (France). Currently, she is a researcher in the Post-Doctorate Program at the Federal University of Santa Catalina (Brazil). She is a member of the Association of Environmental Law Professors of Brazil and the International Center of Environmental Comparative Law (France). She is a legal expert in the areas of disasters, climate change and environmental migration, as well as issues related to human rights and the environment. She has different publications in books and specialized journals.

Juan Carlos Méndez

Regional Advisor for the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD, in Spanish). Juan Carlos has worked as an Advisor in international and humanitarian affairs in the National Emergencies Commission in the Government of Costa Rica, and as an advisor in other agencies and Ministries of Costa Rica. He holds a degree in International Relations, and he has completed post-graduate studies in Human Rights and Education for Peace. He is a Professor of human rights and international humanitarian law at the National University of Costa Rica.

Parallel Session 13

Strengthening International Cooperation Mechanisms for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Response

Organizers

The White Helmets Commission of Argentina and the Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Disasters in Central America and the Dominican Republic (CEPREDENAC, in Spanish).

General description

The session will put an emphasis on Priorities 2 and 4 of the Sendai Framework and the indicators from Target F on international cooperation. It aims to contribute to the implementation of the Regional Action Plan developed in Asunción-Paraguay during the First Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities on the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030, which was adopted during RP17 in Montreal (Canada). Through an open dialogue the role and importance of the cooperation mechanisms existing in the region will be explored, as well as the different perspectives for the strengthening and articulation of those mechanisms.

The questions that the session will seek to answer include the perspective of the Meeting of Ministers and High Level Authorities of Integral Disaster Risk Management of MERCOSUR (RMAGIR, in Spanish) on what are the main obstacles and strengths of the sub-regions for the implementation of the Sendai Framework. Also, CDEMA will share its view on what cooperation actions or activities could encourage better coordination between sub-regions in terms of disaster risk reduction and emergency response. On the other hand, a Colombian representative will share experiences regarding the Strategic Plan for International Cooperation in Disaster Risk Management of Colombia 2015-2018. A representative of Panama will propose alternatives to optimize the use of the region's logistical centers and will comment on how the Republic of Panama conceives the strengthening of cooperation between the different actors through its Logistics Center. In addition, a representative of the private sector will share experiences and lessons learnt on cooperation for disaster risk reduction. Finally, the World Bank will present its DRR -related policies and respective lines of financing. The session will seek to engage and interact with the public.

Goals

1. Explore different regional and sub-regional cooperation mechanisms that are linked to disaster risk reduction and emergency response.
2. Identify operational capacities, strengths, weaknesses and opportunities to support innovative cooperation modalities and strengthen sustainable partnerships that reduce disaster risk and respond to emergencies.

Moderator and panelists



Ambassador Patricia Llobart Cussac, Moderator

Ambassador of the European Union in Colombia. Llobart Cussac has a Jurist background and Europeanism conviction. From Valencia, Spain, She holds Masters degrees in International Trade and European Studies. Ambassador Llobart Cussac has more than 20 years of experience within the institutions of the European Union, always in the areas of international relations and foreign policy. She worked particularly in the directorates for Latin America and the Middle East and took care of countries such as Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, and Paraguay. Ambassador Llobart Cussac was also part of the Cabinet of the European Commissioners responsible for external relations. She was previously Director of Infrastructure, Budget, and Security at the headquarters of the European External Action Service (EEAS) just before being appointed Ambassador in Colombia. She began her official mission in Colombia on Monday, February 5.



Joaquín Daniel Roa Burgos, Paraguay, RMAGIR

Minister of the National Emergency Secretariat of Paraguay. His achievements include the promotion of the First National Policy on Risk Management as well as the approval of the Sendai Framework by Presidential Decree, which positioned Paraguay as the first country in the world to adopt the Sendai Framework. Also, in 2016 Paraguay hosted the First Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities in the Americas (Post Sendai), in the framework of which the Asuncion Declaration was unanimously approved. The Declaration provides for the guidelines towards a regional action plan on the implementation of the Sendai Framework in the Americas. President Pro Tempore of Mercosur on the topic of disaster risk management during 2015, raises a Specialized Meeting to a Ministerial level. Thus, the Meeting of Ministers and High Level Authorities for the Integral Management of Risks of the Mercosur (RMAGIR, in Spanish) was established. Medal of Honor for Merit based on services rendered by Paraguay's President, Horacio Cartes, in 2016. Nominated for the Sasakawa Award in 2015 and 2017.



Carlos Iván Márquez Pérez

Director General of the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management in Colombia. He has devoted a large part of his professional life to engender a less vulnerable Colombia with more resilient communities. A business manager, specialist in financial management, Carlos Ivan, is also an Expert in Risk Management, International Humanitarian Law, Aid and Disasters as well as in logistics operations and emergency attention. He has served as Director General of Humanitarian Relief for the Colombian Red Cross, National Chief of Emergency Support for the National Directorate of Disaster Prevention and Attention, and Executive Director of the Red Cross Section in the North of Santander. Márquez Pérez has also served as Professor at the Jorge Tadeo Lozano University, Technological University of Pereira and University of Cúcuta. As former President of the Steering Group of INSARAG, he has also acted as Coordinator of a strategic line within the Action Plan for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance of the Pan American Health Organization-PAHO for the Americas.



Alejandro Daneri

Ambassador Alejandro Daneri is a lawyer from the University of Buenos Aires and a career diplomat. He is Chair of the White Helmets Commission, the area in charge of international humanitarian assistance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Culture of the Republic of Argentina, since March 11, 2016. He was an official of the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations in New York and integrated the Cabinet of the President of the 43rd General Assembly. In Argentina, he was a member of the Cabinet of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Private Secretary of the Chancellor and General Director of Ceremonial of the Presidency of the Nation. Previously, he served as an official of the Undersecretary of Latin American Policy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Culture.



Carlos Manuel Gómez Rudy

Executive Director of the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance of Panama. Carlos Manuel Gómez Rudy has more than 24 years of experience in the maritime industry, logistics and transportation. The Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance is a new entity attached to the Ministry of Government of the Republic of Panama. Gómez Rudy was the Director and Senior Consultant at CEL Associates, Senior Researcher at the Georgia Tech Panama Logistics Innovation and Research Center, and General Manager at Sospisco Panama Shipping. Carlos Manuel is an Economist. He is also a Doctor in Economics and Business, and an expert in logistics, transport and strategy. He holds professional certifications in Logistics Operations, Supply Chain and Lean Logistics from the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech). He is a Full Professor and Lead Researcher at the University of Panama in the area of Business Analysis and Logistics, and a Professor at the undergraduate, Master's and Doctoral levels at several universities. As a consultant, he has participated in important corporate development projects for Panamanian companies and regional projects with international organizations.



Mayra Valle

MSc. Mayra Valle Torres is a professional development programs, specializing in Disaster Risk Management and Education Sciences, with post-graduate studies at the University of Kobe Japan, the Henry Dunant Foundation, with research and country missions in Japan, South Korea, Thailand, Uganda and Mexico. Since 2013, she has worked for the Executive Secretariat of the Coordination Center for Disaster Prevention in Central America and the Dominican Republic (CEPREDENAC) and is currently the Manager of Cooperation and Projects, contributing to the Central American Policy of Integral Disaster Risk Management and participating in in Regional and Global Platforms for DRR and the International Recovery Platform. Her work experience includes 12 years with regional and national government entities, international cooperation agencies and civil society organizations, in the design and implementation of programs for the benefit of the Central American population.



Ronald Jackson

Mr. Ronald Jackson assumed the post of Executive Director CDEMA on April 3, 2013.

Prior this appointment, Mr Jackson served in the capacity of Director General of the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) in Jamaica, a position he held since August 2006 until March 2013. He previously served ODPEM as Deputy Director General, Senior Director of the Preparedness and Operations Division, and as Regional Coordinator for the Southern parishes.

Mr. Jackson has been extensively involved in disaster management at the national, regional and international level in various capacities.

Mr. Jackson holds a Master of Science Degree (M.Sc.) in Natural Resource Management and Environmental Resource Management from the University of the West Indies and a Bachelor of Science Degree (B.Sc.) in Physical Planning and Environmental Resource Development from the University of Technology. He is the holder of a Masters Certificate in Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting.



Lizardo Narváes Marulanda

Specialist in Disaster Risk Management of the World Bank for the Central America Region. He has more than seventeen years of experience in the design, implementation and evaluation of programs and projects in Disaster Risk Management (DRM), Climate Change, and Urban and Rural Environmental Management. He has worked for the IDB, UNDP, GLZ and the European Commission, among other international organizations; as well as for the General Secretariat of the Andean Community and the National Planning Department of Colombia. His experiences encompass a dozen countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, especially in terms of policy reform, institutional capacity development, risk assessment, post-disaster recovery, integration of DRM into public investment projects and development plans, as well as design of composite indexes and evaluation methodologies at the national, sectorial and municipal levels. Trained in Environmental Sciences, he has a Master's Degree in International Cooperation and Development from the University of Pavia, Italy, and a Specialization in Latin American Economics from ECLAC, in Santiago de Chile.



Leonardini Rubén Pablo

Manager of the Sancor Seguros Group in Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Brazil, where he has worked for 27 years. Since 2008, he participates as representative of the private sector in the Meetings of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Argentina. He was also part of the delegation of Argentina in the Intergovernmental Open-ended Working Group of Experts on Indicators and Terminology related to Disaster Risk Reduction (OIEWG). In 2015, he was a member of the Delegation of Argentina in the III World Conference for the Disaster Risk Reduction, in the framework of which the Sendai Framework was agreed. Leonardini is Professor and Postgraduate Professor at the National Technological University of Argentina; as well as Academic Director of the Post Graduate Area of the Rafaela Regional School. Rubén Pablo is an Electromechanical and Labor Engineer, and an Environmental Safety Engineer. In addition, his training includes a Master's degree in Industrial Safety. He is an expert in Environmental Engineering.

Parallel Session 14

Public Management for Financial Transfer of Disaster Risk

Session Organizers

The Development Bank of Latin America - CAF, in coordination with the World Bank and the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit of Colombia

General description

Losses generated by disasters affect the fiscal stability of a country and hinder post-disaster recovery processes. The Region needs to better acknowledge the levels of potential losses, the identification of scenarios and the prioritization of the risks that aim to cover.

These elements are the basis for designing financial management strategies that support the early post-disaster recovery and avoid the prolongation of its effects on the population. Latin America requires a strategy to increase investment in resilient infrastructure and facilitate access to financial risk transfer instruments.

In the first part of the session, Colombia will present its experience in the institutional arrangement that gave origin to its National Strategy for Financial Management of Disaster Risk (GFRD, in Spanish). In the second part, representatives from the Ministries of Finance, Economy or Planning from four countries of the region will share their progress and challenges in the implementation of their risk management and financial transfer strategies.

The questions addressed in the session include: What are the challenges and key aspects to design a framework or strategy for the financial management of disaster risk? Is it feasible to work on a regional agenda, in consideration of the common needs of the countries? What role is envisioned for multilateral organizations in these processes?

This session will integrate the inputs and experiences shared in the Parallel Session 8: Incentives and instruments to promote resilient investments. The session will seek to foster agreements for the establishment of a regional dialogue to identify the technical and financial resources required to develop a regional strategy to promote investment in resilient infrastructure and the development of GFRD strategies.

Goals

1. Highlight the role of the Ministries of Finance and Planning in the financial management of disaster risk and the incorporation of the losses generated by disasters as contingent liabilities related to fiscal balance models.
2. Identify lessons learned from countries that have made progress in the design and implementation of financial risk management strategies.
3. Identify the technical, legal and institutional aspects of the implementation of risk transfer instruments through regional initiatives.
4. Identify the benefits and generate recommendations to advance in the design and implementation of GFRD strategies, which include risk transfer instruments through regional initiatives.

Moderator and panelists



Carolina España, Moderator

After a 22-year career in the CAF, The Development Bank of Latin America, Carolina España was named the Director Representative of Colombia in 2015. As Director of Institutional Financial Resources, Carolina was responsible for the funding provided by international institutions and other multilateral organizations. She also managed the relations with development entities and governments in order to channel resources for the region. Carolina worked on the design of the bond - issuance strategy, in terms of cost optimization and investor diversification. She was also responsible for the relations with the risk rating agencies and investors. España holds a Master degree in Finance as well as a degree in Systems Engineering from the Metropolitan University of Venezuela. She also worked as a Consultant in treasury management systems for Price Waterhouse, among others.



Mauricio Cárdenas

Minister of Finance and Public Credit in the Republic of Colombia, since September 2012. He previously worked in the Ministry for Mines and Energy during the Santos administration. Between 2008 and 2011, he was the Director of the Brookings Institute's Latin America Initiative, one of the most prestigious economic research institutes of the United States. Cárdenas has a degree in Economics and a Masters in Economics from the University of Los Andes. He also holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of California in Berkeley in the United States of America (1991), the University which invited him as the keynote speaker for the graduation ceremony in May 2000. He carried out his doctorate studies with the support of the "Lauchlin Currie" Scholarship granted by the Bank of the Republic.

Since 1992, he has taught pre and post-graduate courses in the University of Los Andes. He has been a visiting Professor and researcher in several universities, including the University of Harvard.



Ricardo Peñaherrera

Assistant-Secretary General (rank of Vice-minister) in the Secretariat of Risk Management (SGR) in Ecuador. He completed his studies in Civil Engineering (specialty in structures) in 1996 at the University of Cuenca (Cuenca, Ecuador). In 1999, he finished his Masters Degree in Seismic Engineering and Structural Dynamics at the Universidad Politécnica of Cataluña (Barcelona – España). Mr. Peñaherrera is a Professor in the Master's Degree in Disaster Risk Management at the Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar, and he has also previously collaborated with other universities in Ecuador. Mr. Peñaherrera was Metropolitan Director of Risk Management of the Municipality of Quito in the Secretariat of Security and Governance. He also worked as Technical Coordinator of the Quito Urban Risk Reduction Program, in the Municipality of the Metropolitan District of Quito (2012-2014), as well as a Program Officer for South America in ECHO, in the Regional Office for South America. Ricardo has researched, written and contributed to several publications, documents and policy papers and has presented in different national and international disaster risk management forums.



Luis Felipe Puente

National Coordinator of Civil Protection of the Ministry of the Interior, Mexico. Luis Felipe Puente was appointed by the Constitutional President of the United Mexican States, Enrique Peña Nieto. He has held various positions as a public servant: he was Transport Secretary, General Undersecretary of Government, Advisor to the Attorney General and Director General of Tourism in the State of Mexico, as well as Municipal President of Atizapán de Zaragoza during the period from 1994 to 1997. During his term, the National System of Protection has been recognized nationally and internationally, giving Mexico the opportunity to host the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2017. That year, Puente was unanimously appointed by the members of the Consultative Group as Co-Chair of the Global Fund for Reduction and Disaster Recovery of the World Bank. Luis Felipe has higher studies in Tourism.

Parallel Session 15

Gender, Women's Empowerment and Resilience

Organizers

UN Women in coordination with the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

General description

Disasters caused by natural phenomena often result in emergencies and crises that represent an additional challenge to gender equality. The lack of access to information and resources, existing deep-seated stereotypes, gender inequalities, and cultural restrictions place women in a situation of particular vulnerability in the context of disasters.

Priority 4 of the Sendai Framework emphasizes that "...Empowering women and persons with disabilities to publicly lead and promote gender equitable and universally accessible response, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction approaches is key...". Also, paragraph 56 of the Chair's Summary of the Global Platform 2017 recognizes the persistence of gender differences in disaster risk reduction, while calling for the recognition and promotion of women's leadership, empowerment, commitment and girls.

The questions this session will seek to address include:

Why is DRR required to have an inclusive approach that integrates women's empowerment, participation and leadership? What specific actions can be implemented at the regional level to achieve the gender commitments included in the Sendai Framework? What specific actions can be implemented at the regional level to ensure the protection of women against disasters and promote their role in prevention strategies? What specific actions can be implemented at the regional level to promote the inclusion of all population groups (afro-descendants, indigenous people, peasants, migrants, women in conditions of disability and others) and the leadership of women in response and early recovery processes? How is it possible to strengthen information management systems to have an overview of the situation for women (including vulnerabilities and risks to which they are exposed) in disasters and crises?

Goals

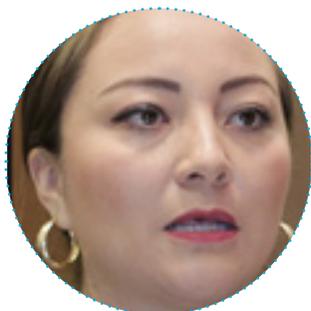
1. Highlight the commitments established in the Sendai Framework for the incorporation of gender in DRR and the identification of actions to reach these goals through an inclusive and participatory approach.
2. Emphasize the importance of women's participation and leadership in DRR and their role in resilience.
3. Reflect on protection for women in cases of disasters and their role in prevention and risk management strategies.
4. Promote the inclusion and leadership of women in the response and early recovery phase, as well as in risk management processes, in decision-making and the definition of policies.

Moderator and panelists



José Félix Rodríguez, Moderator

Social Inclusion Senior Officer, Americas Regional Office, International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). Jose Felix is a Lawyer graduated with a Master's Degree in Human Rights, Rule of Law and Democracy in Latin America, and a Specialist in Senior Management. Further studies include E-gob and Public Law. Over the past 18 years, Jose Felix has held various positions in Venezuela, notably 10 years with The Ombudsman of Venezuela, where he worked in the defence of human rights, National Public Services Defender and Juridical Consultant Director. More recently he coordinated the promotion and defence of human rights of the LGBTI community and People with HIV. He also held direction positions with the Venezuelan Ministries of Culture and Tourism. In 2014, Jose Felix commenced work with IFRC regional office in Panama to promote non-violence and social inclusion through the Red Cross Friendly Neighbourhoods Initiative and to develop and led implement the Regional Migration Strategy.



Ana Belén Marín

Congress Representative, Republic of Ecuador. Ana Belén is a member of the Commission on Sovereignty, Integration, International Relations and Integral Security; of the Occasional Specialized Commission of the Organic Law of Land Transport, Traffic and Road Safety; of the Occasional Border Security Commission and Coordinator of the Equal Hunger Parliamentary Group. Internationally, she is Vice President of the Climate Change Network in ParIAmericas and Second Vice President of the Tourism and Environment Commission in Parlatino.

Her political and technical experience is based in the fields of forestry, agriculture, livestock, mining and the environment. She has delivered a number of workshops, seminars, and presentations in Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Colombia, Panama, México, Norway, China and Ecuador on climate change, sustainable agriculture, biodiversity and others.



Mami Mizutori

Ms. Mami Mizutori was appointed Assistant Secretary-General and Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction on 1 March 2018. She brings to the position a combination of management and leadership expertise as well as more than twenty-five years of experience in international affairs and security. Ms. Mizutori served for twenty-seven years in the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in various capacities, including as Budget Director, Director of the Japan Information and Culture Center (JICC) at the Embassy of Japan in London, Director of the National Security Policy Division, Director of the United Nations Policy Division, Director of the Status of US Forces Agreement Division, and Deputy Director of the Personnel Division. Prior to joining UNISDR she was Executive Director of the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures, University of East Anglia, UK. Mizutori graduated in law from Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo and obtained a Diploma in International Studies from the Diplomatic School of Spain. Mizutori is a Japanese national.



Ambassador Carmen Moreno

Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women, since 2009. Carmen Moreno is an international expert and diplomat, and began her career focused on women's rights and gender equality as a member of the Mexican delegation to the First World Conference on Women (1975). She was the Ambassador of Mexico in Costa Rica as well as in Guatemala. Moreno was also the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the Organization of American States (OAS). In 2003, Carmen was appointed by the Secretary General of the United Nations as the Director of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN-INSTRAW, now part of UN Women).



Alma Pérez

Regional Advisor for Peace, Security and Humanitarian Action in the UN Women Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean. In her current role, Alma promotes and supports the regional implementation of the agenda for women, peace and security, including the participation of women in peace negotiations, and the establishment of peace and peacebuilding. Alma coordinates the regional response by UN Women to emergencies, as well as initiatives related to disaster risk reduction. Before joining UN Women, she was the Minister Plenipotentiary in the Colombian Mission to the United Nations in New York. She worked as a Program Advisor on Peacebuilding with Gender Capacity in UN Women Colombia in 2015 and has held positions as an advisor to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. From 2012 to 2014, she worked as the Director of the Presidential Program for Human Rights in Colombia. Alma was born in Colombia. She holds a degree in Finances and International Relations from the Universidad Externado de Colombia, and a Masters in Public Management from the University of Potsdam, with a special emphasis on post-conflict reconstruction.

Evelyn Vallejo Salcedo

Coordinator of Protection, Gender and Community Engagement for the Canadian Red Cross in the region. Evelyn is a Psychologist, specialized in Psychological Intervention in Crisis Situations. Evelyn has provided support in the development of regional and global technical guidelines for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and has participated as facilitator and speaker on issues that include psychosocial support, child protection, and violence in emergencies in Honduras, Nicaragua, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Haiti, El Salvador, Panama and Ecuador. In Colombia, she has worked with humanitarian organizations, governmental organizations and NGOs, with populations in high vulnerability, victims of armed conflict (civilians and ex-combatants), women, children, and others. She has been a volunteer of projects related to violence mitigation with Norwegian Red Cross as well as the national coordinator of a Violence Prevention Project for the Colombian Red Cross and the Violence Prevention Coordinator for the Canadian Red Cross.



Sandra (Sandy) Schilen

Strategic Director of the Huairou Commission and Global Facilitator of GROOTS International, a global network of grassroots women's organizations. An experienced community organizer, Sandy's life and work reflect the rare capacity to bridge the divide between grassroots realities and global policies, between academic and activist, and between values and practice. For over 20 years, Sandy has worked to enable grassroots women's groups to replicate and mainstream their community development approaches and governance interventions. Her work with GROOTS International and the National Congress of Neighborhood Women has supported peer-to-peer learning exchanges and local, national, regional and global advocacy for grassroots women.

Parallel Session 16

Preparation and Implementation of Recovery: Collaboration and Partnerships in Public-Private Work

Organizers

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in collaboration with the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (UNGRD, in Spanish) of Colombia.

General Description

The 2015-2030 Sendai Framework emphasizes the need to strengthen partnerships between the public and private sectors as one of the essential elements of the strategy in order to achieve the risk reduction goals that have been set for 2030. Close coordination and collaboration between the public and private sectors is essential to achieve the effective integration of risk management criteria in decision-making on development investment at the national, local and community levels. This is particularly important from the perspective of risk management processes that address capacity building to efficiently absorb and quickly recover from the impact of adverse events and / or adapt to a changing environment; essentially, building resilience.

The session is proposed as a space for reflection based on the experiences presented, on progress made and challenges in public-private dialogue in relation to the preparation and implementation of an effective recovery, in the context of risk management processes.

The questions that will be addressed during the session include: How can public and private sectors work in a joint and coordinated way to guarantee the functioning of infrastructure and critical services after an event, as well as a rapid recovery in order to reduce the impact on the well-being of communities and development processes? What have we learned in terms of public-private coordination/collaboration in the design and implementation of recovery preparation processes? What mechanisms should be strengthened to promote public-private coordination in the design of risk management strategies, in particular, preparation for recovery?

Goals

1. Highlight progress and challenges related to the experiences of coordination/collaboration between the public and private sectors in the design and implementation of preparedness actions for disaster response and recovery.
2. Propose recommendations for the strengthening of coordination/collaboration processes between the public and private sectors in the design and implementation of preparedness actions for disaster response and recovery.

Moderators and panelists



René Penco, Moderator

Programme Manager for the OAS Caribbean SBDC Project. Ms. Renée Penco is an international trade professional and is the current programme manager for the OAS Caribbean SBDC project being implemented in eight Caribbean countries – Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and The Commonwealth of the Bahamas – and will be later expanded to a further five countries in the CARICOM region. Ms. Penco was also the Team Lead of the Trade Unit at the Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers Association during which time she advocated on behalf of the Trinidad and Tobago private sector at the policy level and as a representative on several national committees. She has also represented the Trinidad and Tobago private sector at regional institutional meetings and at international trade negotiations.



Richard Vargas Hernández

Director of the District Institute of Risk Management and Climate Change of Bogotá D.C. – IDIGER. Richard holds an undergraduate degree in Civil Engineering from the Universidad Nacional of Colombia. Also, he has post-graduate qualifications in development planning, risk assessment and disaster prevention. Richard has worked as the Director of Emergency Prevention and Assistance in Bogotá D.C. – DPAE (1998–2002), the Program Coordinator for the resettlement of at-risk families for the People’s Housing Authority in Bogotá D.C., Director of the project “Design of the Metropolitan System for the Disaster Prevention, Assistance and Recovery in the Valle de Aburrá” and advisor in risk management for the design and implementation of Andean Information System for the Disaster Assistance and Prevention (SIAPAD), part of the PREDECAN Project. Richard was also the Coordinator of Technical Assistance for Risk Management at what is currently the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (UNGRD) and General Sub-director of the UNGRD (2013-2015).



Luis Alonso Martínez Avalos

Partnership and Volunteer Director CENACED (National Support Centre for Epidemiological Contingencies and Disasters A.C.). Luis Alonso has more than 15 years of experience in the development and management of programs related to sustainable development. He is the founder and director of Kunda Sustainability Consultants since 2016. He is a member of the academic cluster and postgraduate studies of the Faculty Social of Responsibility of the Anáhuac University and the Superior Studies Centre of San Ángel in Mexico City. His experience includes his role as Manager of Sustainability, Modelo Group (ABInveb) in México (2014-2017) and Corporate Volunteers Coordinator for Citi Banamex México (2007-2014). He is a founding member of the Mexican Volunteers Alliance A.C. (2009). He is currently in the last semester of Ph.D studies in Innovation and Social Responsibility in the Anáhuac University in Mexico. He is a Communicator, focuses on strategies of institutional communication, Social Responsibility, Sustainability and Reputation. He also holds a Master degree in Social Responsibility, and a Diploma in Sustainable Development, from the Universidad Anáhuac México.



Barbara Carby

Dr. Barbara E. Carby CD, ONM is the Director of the UWI's Disaster Risk Reduction Centre (DRRC). She is a Caribbean Disaster Management Expert and holds a PhD in Geology. Dr. Carby is a former Director General of Jamaica's Office of Disaster Preparedness & Emergency Management (ODPEM), a position she held for over ten years. While at the ODPEM she is credited with placing risk reduction on Jamaica's national agenda and pioneering the development of a national mitigation policy. She also expanded the hazard mapping programme and fostered the use of hazard maps by Parish Councils in their development planning. She was the first Director of Hazard Management, Cayman Islands (HMCI). During her tenure, she established a full-time national office for disaster risk management and developed a national strategic framework for disaster risk reduction which has guided national programmes in the Cayman Islands. Dr. Carby continues to work on several disaster management programmes locally, regionally and internationally. She is for example the Chair of the International Science Council's Regional Office for Latin America, on the Caribbean (ROLAC) Committee on DRR, and Chair of the CDM Education Sector Sub-committee.



Nancy Lulion Contreras

Social leader of the Til-Til Neighborhood in Chile during more than 13 years. Nancy is a Social Society Representative in the Territorial Committee for Disaster Risk Management and Local Development in the Chacabuco Province. She has a Diploma in Community and Sustainable Development (FLACSO, Chile). Nancy is the General Coordinator of the Mothers Centre in the Til-Til neighborhood. She has worked on the implementation of multiple projects at a territorial level that involve photo-voltaic energy, water tanks, the building of a kindergarten with Integra, recovery of the identity of first peoples and training to encourage citizen participation with the Environmental Assessment Service.

Parallel Session 17

Plans and Actions to Mitigate Risk Conditions

Organizers

Pan-American Health Organization and the World Health Organization (OPS/OMS) in coordination with the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (UNDGR, in Spanish) in Colombia

General description

Based on four successful experiences in the region of the Americas, and through an interactive discussion space, the session will analyze the aspects that contribute to a substantive reduction of disaster risk. It will also explore the generation of processes that involve a territorial transformation in order to improve the quality of life for the population by building community resilience. Emphasis will also be placed on the need to evaluate alternative solutions, on the basis of cost-benefit analysis as an instrument that supports decision-making.

The session will seek to respond to the following questions: Which elements should be considered to prioritize disaster risk reduction interventions, from a social and territorial perspective? What is the importance of integrating disaster risk reduction into the formulation of public investment plans? What practices could be considered to be replicated in the region?

Goals

Highlight the importance of integrating DRR into development interventions as an opportunity to ensure an effective disaster recovery.

Identify best practices and lessons learnt in the development of plans and actions for risk mitigation, which could be replicated or adapted to the context of other countries in the region.

Propose instruments for investment protection as well as for the reduction of the economic losses caused by disaster damage and the recovery efforts.

Moderators and panelists



Doctor Felipe Cruz Vega, Moderator

Head of the Special Health Projects Division at the Medical Services Directorate of the Mexican Social Security Institute. Dr. Cruz Vega is a general surgeon and a member of the Mexican Academy of Surgery and of the National Civil Defense Academy. He has a Master's degree in Disaster Medicine from the European Center for Disaster Medicine, and has been recognized by the World Health Organization, the University of Brussels (Belgium), and the University of Novara (Italy). He is a member of the Committee on Trauma of the American College of Surgeons, a founding member of the Pan American Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine, a member of the World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine, of the Disaster Mitigation Advisory Group (DiMAG) of the Pan American Health Organization, as well as a member and Technical Secretary of the National Evaluation, Diagnosis, and Certification Committee of the Safe Hospital Program, and of its Technical Advisory Group, entities of the Government of Mexico.



Luis Fernando Correa Serna

Vice Minister of Public Health and Delivery of Services at Colombia's Ministry of Public Health and Delivery of Services. Dr. Correa Serna is a surgeon trained at the University of Antioquia, and also holds a Master's degree in public health from that university. He has served as Head of the Office of Territorial Management and as Advisor to the Vice Ministries of Social Protection and Health and Welfare at the Ministry of Health and Social Protection. He headed the Office of Territorial Emergency and Disaster Management at the Ministry of Health and Social Protection (2011-2016); the Advisory Office of the Vice Minister of Social Protection (2003-2011); the Advisory Office of the Vice Minister of Health and Welfare (2003); and the Internal Working Group on Emergency and Disaster Care at the General Directorate of Health Services Delivery (2003). He has served as Technical Director at the Ministry of Health (1999-2002); Assistant Technical Director at the Ministry of Health (1998-1999); and Medical Specialist and Coordinator of the Aerial Health Program at the Sectional Health Bureau of Antioquia (1992-1993). Dr. Correa has received multiple commendations for his humanitarian work, including: the Colombian Red Cross National Award, "Hundred Year Order of the Colombian Red Cross," in the "Personal Work" category (Bogotá, 2015); and the "Recognition of Merit" from the Ministry of the Interior and Justice, awarded by the national government in recognition of his courage and heroism in helping the disabled and innocent victims of the earthquake that ravaged the Republic of Haiti (Bogotá, 2010).



John Abiud Ramírez Barrientos

Mayor of the Municipality of Girón, Colombia.

Mr. Ramírez Barrientos is an economist and business administrator at the University of Santo Tomás, Bucaramanga. He is President of the Colombian Federation of Municipalities for 2016-2018, and has broad professional experience in the public sector, including serving as Secretary of Departmental Development in the Santander government in 2013-2014. The development strategy of the municipality of Girón is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals, and each program proposed in the Development Plan, titled "We Are a Social Fabric," is related to those goals. The Development Plan cites the strategic line: "We are the social fabric for developmentally sustainable infrastructure," which incorporates risk management as an essential component for territorial growth and urban renewal.



Tony Gibbs FREGng

Tony is a civil engineer and an expert in structures. He has dedicated a large part of his career to the problems related to the structural design of hospitals in areas that are subject to hurricanes and earthquakes. Currently he is a consultant for Consulting Engineers Partnership Ltd and has received numerous recognitions and international prizes for his work and contributions to disaster risk reduction, including the Sasakawa Prize for Disaster Reduction in 2007 from UNISDR. In 2010, he was named as an Icon of the Caribbean in Science, Technology and Innovation by the National Institute of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology (Trinidad and Tobago). In 2012 Tony Gibbs became the first person in the Caribbean to be elected as a member of the Royal Academy of Engineering. Tony undertook his undergraduate studies in Queen's University, Belfast. His engineering career has included working with Norman & Dawbarn; Ove Arup & Partners in London and the Caribbean and with construction companies in Jamaica.



Alejandro Arrieta

Health Economist and teacher in the Health Policy and Management Department of Florida International University (FIU). Dr Alejandro is the Director of “Healthcare Management Americas”, an initiative led by FIU to develop capacities and research on quality, risk management and patient safety in Latin America and the Caribbean. He has worked as lead researcher and consultant for the Pan-American Health Organization, USAID, the Inter-American Development Bank and the US Medical Association. Dr Alejandro has an active research portfolio with more than 25 publications in health policy and global health. His research includes economic evaluations of programs designed to improve health or reduce risks. In recent work he has carried out different cost-benefit analyses of modernization projects to improve hospital security, an intervention involving financial incentives to change smokers’ behavior, technological devices to improve the self-control of hyper-tension and programs for the provision of medical assistance to improve control of diabetes. Before joining FIU he was a professor in the Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health at the University of Indiana, Indianapolis.



Valerie Nkamgang Bemo

Deputy Director of Emergency Response and Global Development of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Valerie Nkamgang Bemo, Deputy Director, Emergency Response, Global Development, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation where she is responsible for the emergency response portfolio. Bemo has more than 20 years of experience in development, clinical and public health worldwide. Before joining the foundation, she held various roles at the International Rescue Committee, most recently serving as senior technical adviser for health in the Democratic Republic of Congo and West Africa. She also worked with various NGOs and had extensive involvement in Indonesia (Aceh), Spain, Cote d’Ivoire, Sierra Leone, Mauritania, Kenya and Chad. She is a board member of several global health nonprofit organizations and serves on the Fetzer Advisory Council on Health Professions. She earned her medical degree at the University of Cote d’Ivoire, her epidemiology diploma at the University of Paris and her master’s degree in public health from Madrid Autonome University.

Parallel Session 18

Local Leadership and Community Resilience

Organizers

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in coordination with the Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR)

General description

This session will emphasize the needs, opportunities, strengths, experiences and good practices of different local actors in addressing disaster risks and their underlying factors.

The session will consider aspects of local leadership with a focus on gender equality and groups living in conditions of high-risk. Also, matters related to local evidence for decision-making and its articulation with policies, plans, regulatory frameworks and local leadership will be addressed to explain how these experiences could contribute to developing more effective strategies for the monitoring, follow-up and evaluation of the Sendai Framework implementation.

The questions that this session will seek to address include: What elements are necessary to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of risk reduction management at the community level? How is the people-centered approach promoted in decision-making processes for implementation of the Sendai Framework? What are the challenges for the inclusion of local leadership in community resilience? What are the elements that need to be incorporated in the implementation of the Sendai Framework in order to ensure community resilience? What are the opportunities in which local leadership contributes the most to the implementation of the Sendai Framework? What are the elements that would be necessary for the integration of community resilience and local leadership in national policies and frameworks for disaster risk reduction?

Goals

1. Highlight the importance of community leadership for the development of sustainable and risk-sensitive actions in communities.
2. Identify elements that determine the effectiveness and sustainability of disaster risk reduction management at the community and local level.
3. Identify actions that promote the real integration of local leadership in DRR.
4. Promote actions to integrate community resilience into comprehensive policies for disaster risk reduction.
5. Provide recommendations to integrate the participation of local and community leaders in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of progress, as well as progress in the implementation of the Sendai Framework.

Moderator and panelists



Glauco Quesada, Moderator

National President of the Costa Rican Red Cross and the General Secretary of the University for International Cooperation. Glauco is an Information Systems Engineer with a Masters in Administration of Projects, and is currently completing a Doctorate in Education Sciences and Complexity. He is a consultant and Professor on areas related to risk management, with broad experience in this area in Latin America and the Caribbean as a delegate of the International Federation of the Red Cross and German Red Cross, among others, since 1995. His areas of expertise include humanitarian assistance, early recovery, nutritional security, disaster risk reduction, adaptation to climate change and the promotion of sustainable development.



Rafael Iván Martínez Ricardo

Secretariat of Government – Municipality of Puerto Libertador, Department of Córdoba. With more than 20 years in the education sector, Rafael is a qualified primary school teacher who has taught Spanish and English. He has a postgraduate qualification in IT and Telecommunications Management and is currently studying a Masters. Rafael has been involved in politics since 2000. As part of his community work, he has led educational processes and was the Coordinator at the Germán Gómez Peláez School. In addition, he was a professor at the Área Andina University and has worked as a trainer of trainers in Puerto Libertador. He is currently the Secretary of Government for the Municipality of Puerto Libertador where he leads important processes for victims of the armed conflict, human rights, implementation of the Peace Agreement and inclusion of the rural sector. He is also responsible for partnerships between the municipal administration and private companies. “Profe Rafa” is passionate about the education sector and is a born leader who seeks to help others at all times.



David López Ordóñez

Cabinet Coordinator for People with Disabilities in Nicaragua and President of FECONORI. David is a person with a visual disability who is a Lawyer and is actively involved in the People with Disabilities Movement in Nicaragua. He has been a part of the Executive Boards of the Marisela Toledo Organization for People with Visual Disabilities in Nicaragua, FECONORI (Federation that brings together organizations for people with disabilities and their families) and RIADIS (Latin American Network of Organizations of People with Disabilities). David has participated as a speaker in important regional and international events in the last few years on inclusion. Some of his recent presentations on the topic of inclusive disaster risk management are: the 4th RIA-DIS Conference (Havana, 2017), Conference of the Central American Parliament (PARLACEN, Guatemala, 2017) and the Ibero-American Conference on Accessibility and Safety in Emergency Situations (Montevideo, 2017).



Mairobi Rosario

Community youth leader, San Cristóbal/Dominican Republic.

Mairobi has been a member of her local Risk Management Community Network since 2015. She is recognized as a natural leader by the members of her community and local authorities that operate the Municipal Risk Management Committee of her province. Through participation in the Community Network and other projects implemented in her community, Mairobi has developed skills and experience in managing groups of young people and has learned how to motivate them to become involved in activities related to disaster risk reduction. Mairobi has participated as a community multiplier in different activities such as: street theater, the painting of murals, community talks, home visits, neighborhood cleanup campaigns, collecting plastic for recycling, and addressing the issue of solid waste, among others.



José Manuel Aguilar Aguilar

Community leader from Chaullín Island, Chile

José Manuel Aguilar is a small-scale fisherman who was born on Chaullín Island in Chilean Patagonia. He has dedicated his entire life to fishing in the southern region of his country. However, at the turn of the century José Manuel and other fishermen from local communities were shocked to discover that their work had been prohibited by law. Working with his community, they decided to take action due the negative effects on their livelihoods. They integrated different organizations and demanded a role in deciding on the changes that were occurring, specifically in relation to community development. In less than 10 years, they had achieved a management system, modern equipment and security to look after their marine resources and reduce vulnerabilities. As a community leader, José Manuel has dedicated himself to share the experience on how his community has learned to overcome these challenges, generating capacities to build resilience, reducing the risk of both natural and man-made critical events.

Special Session: Caribe

From Ravage to Recovery: Re-examining the Road to Resilience through the Caribbean's 2017 Hurricane Experiences

Organizers

Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in coordination with the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management in Colombia (UNGRD, in Spanish).

General description

The devastating hurricane season of 2017 and the most recent hurricane experiences provide the backdrop for this panel discussion, which will take place at the threshold of the 2018 hurricane season. The panel will discuss the lessons learnt and the priorities for the Caribbean region to be better prepared. This session will contribute to Priorities 2, 3 and 4 of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and respective regional initiatives of the Regional Action Plan.

A key aspect of the discussion will be about the governance mechanisms in place and the challenges that exist for states to exercise their leadership during the response efforts. Barriers to recovery planning, financing and implementation will be examined and potential solutions will be identified. The session will also focus on developing more clarity on what preparedness, response, recovery, reconstruction, risk reduction and resilience looks like in the Caribbean, particularly for Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Furthermore, awareness will be raised regarding the multi-hazard nature of the region and the necessity to link discussions on resilience to the economic development pathways of these countries. The important role of the private sector and public-private partnerships will also be highlighted.

The questions that will be addressed in the session include: What does resilience look like in the Caribbean? Against the background of the ravage of the 2017 hurricane impacts, has there been a re-thinking of the sustainable development planning agenda? What should a Caribbean model of recovery planning look like in the context of their current economic status? What are the key barriers to recovery planning, financing and implementation, and possible solutions? What is the role of the private sector in disaster risk reduction in the Caribbean?

Goal

Share the lessons on impact, response, recovery, reconstruction, risk reduction and resilience that emerged from the Caribbean 2017 experience with hurricanes, including exploring issues related to recovery financing, and social protection, along with the role of the private and public sector to provide concrete actions for improving resilience in SIDS.

Moderator and panelists



Moderator: Kaymar Jordan

Executive Director, Barbados today. At age 43, Kaymar Jordan, is already a media success story. From a rookie reporter/sub-editor at the Caribbean News Agency (CANA), Kaymar has asserted herself professionally and has proved her quality and worth, moving up the ranks from radio producer at CANA to print editor, television presenter and newsroom manager at its commercial arm, the Caribbean Media Corporation. Two and a half years ago, she was invited by the founding fathers of Nation Publishing Company to serve as the newspaper's first female Editor-in-Chief, before making the switch to Barbados Today where added to her chief editor duties are those of CEO, and Managing Director. You name a summit, she has covered it – be it Commonwealth, CARICOM or the collapsed global trade talks in Cancun, Mexico. Mention a regional election, it's also likely she has been there – whether in Haiti, Jamaica, Barbados, Antigua, St. Lucia, Dominica, Grenada, Anguilla or St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Ms. Jordan holds a Master's degree with distinction in Communication Policy Studies from the City University of London.

Joseph Isaac

Minister for environment, climate resilience, disaster management, Dominica



Andria Grosvenor

Planning and Business Development Manager, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA). Andria is a humanitarian with a passion for helping people manage disaster risks, to which she has devoted herself for more than twenty years. Over the last five years, her endeavours have been more strategic than operational, as her areas of responsibility focus on strategic and corporate planning, resource mobilization, monitoring and evaluation. Through this portfolio, Ms. Grosvenor is the focal point for reporting on the regional achievement of results within the Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) Strategy which contributes to the Sendai Disaster Risk Reduction Framework. Andria possesses a B.A. Geography, a Masters in Business Administration (MBA), a Certificate in Business Continuity Planning and Masters Certificate in Monitoring and Evaluation. She has researched, written and contributed to several publications, documents and policy papers as well as presented in various disaster risk management fora.



Jeremy Collymore

Adviser, Disaster Resilience, Office of the Vice-Chancellor, University of the West Indies (UWI). A Geographer with training in Environmental Design and Planning, he served as the Executive Director of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) from 1991 until 2013. He has enjoyed over 35 years of service in the field of Disaster Risk Management, functioning in various capacities that involved research; teaching; programme design, implementation and review, policy development and advocacy. He was an architect of the Regional Strategy for Comprehensive Disaster Management which champions resilient development. He has also served on a diversity of national, regional and international working groups, and task forces focusing on resilience, climate change, and disaster risk management. In his current capacity, he is coordinating the efforts of the UWI to become a resilient institution and in championing resilience in the Caribbean.



Justin Ram

Director of Economics, Caribbean Development Bank. Ram is responsible of economic analysis, research and economic operations in the 19 borrowing member countries of the Caribbean. He has more than twenty years of professional experience. Previously, he worked with the Mayor of London and the Greater London Authority, the Department of Transportation of the Government of the United Kingdom (UK), Worley Parsons, and Jacobs Engineering, (Thomson / Reuters). Justin was also a Professor at the School of Economics and Political Science in London (LSE) as well as at the University of the West Indies. He has also worked as a consultant on projects in Central Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, with the World Bank, the United Nations and the International Labor Organization. Justin holds a PhD from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), a Masters of Economics from University College London (UCL), a BA in Economics from UWI and a Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Development from the University of California, Berkeley.



Evangeline Inniss-Springer

Dr. Evangeline Inniss-Springer has over 20 years' experience working in disaster risk management having joined the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) back in 1991. In addition to working with the regional disaster management agency during 1991-2008, Evan has also worked with PAHO's Area of Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Relief office in Barbados. She currently holds the post of Deputy Director with the Department of Disaster Management in The Virgin Islands and in her current position she is the Section lead for the CDM Sector Integration Unit. She is passionate about building capacity for volunteerism and empowering individuals and communities to be strong disaster management advocates in their homes, schools or places of work.



Josephine Shields Recass

Head of Country Cluster Support Team in Trinidad and Tobago for the IFRC. This responsibility entails wide-ranging and punctual support to Red Cross National Societies in the English Speaking Caribbean and Suriname (13 countries); and close liaison and coordination with Overseas Territories/Branches of the British, French, American and The Netherlands Red Cross Societies. Josephine has just under 25 years of experience in the academic, government and humanitarian sectors since completing her studies in Jamaica, the USA and the UK. She's also undertaken various professional courses over the years. She has worked extensively with donor governments (including DFID, JICA, USAID/OFDA, CIDA, SIDA, and DFATD), the UN system, the World Bank and other major international and regional actors. Her technical skills include capacity strengthening, HIV/STI prevention, Youth engagement and Emergency and Disaster Management. Her professional trajectory features a vast Red Cross/Red Crescent knowledge, experience and skills developed in various capacities devoted to the humanitarian cause.



Deodat Maharaj

Maharaj is an accomplished leader, with 20 years of international leadership experience and success in building enduring partnerships and resource mobilization; advancing inter-governmental processes; leading the development of cutting-edge and high-impact programmes; and expertise in managing complexity in multicultural and challenging environments. He has led pioneering programmes to build resilience in SIDS, such as the blue economy and oceans work across the Commonwealth as its Deputy Secretary General. Deodat has served with the United Nations Development Programme in Tanzania, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago; New York; the Commonwealth in London; the Caribbean Development Bank in Barbados; Government of Trinidad and Tobago; and in business. Deodat is currently serving as UNDP's Senior Advisor for the Caribbean in the Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean. He is passionate about using this seminal opportunity provided by the SDGs to advance a transformational agenda, especially for climate vulnerable states.

SIDE EVENTS

Side Event 1:

Hurricane Mitch: the starting point for better disaster risk management in Central América

Organizer:

Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Disasters in Central America and the Dominican Republic (CEPREDENAC, in Spanish)

Side Event 2:

Consultation on the first draft of the Global Capacity Development Strategy in support of the implementation of the Sendai Framework

Organizer:

UNISDR Global Education and Training Institute (UNISDR GETI)

Side Event 3:

Unpacking Sendai: the protection of farm animals in the communities

Organizer:

World Animal Protection

Side Event 4:

Local actors in Disaster Risk Reduction and Humanitarian Action: Latin America, a global referent

Organizer:

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Side Event 5:

Childhood, youth, school and community: Resilience generators for disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change

Organizer:

The Coalition for Resilience of Children and Youth in Latin America and the Caribbean (CO-RELAC, in Spanish)

Side Event 6:

Reduce the risk of tsunamis, reduce the economic losses of the tourism sector

Organizer:

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)-Las Americas.

Side Event 7:

Priority Investment Opportunities to strengthen Early Warning Systems in Small Island Developing States

Organizers

The Climate Risk Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative and the World Meteorological Organization, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

Side Event 8:

Inclusive Disaster Risk Management and Disability: From theory to practice

Organizer:

Inclusive Disaster Risk Management and Disability Network of Latin America and the Caribbean (GIRRD-LAC Network)

Communication tools

App –Towards a more resilient region.

The VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction is a paper free platform. Therefore, participants are asked to use the webpage and mobile app called “Towards a More Resilient Region” to access information about the Platform:

- Mobile app for iPhone/iPad.
- Mobile app for Android.

This mechanism will provide information about the Regional Platform’s activities, including a virtual events program with a calendar, information on speakers, maps, links to places of interest in Cartagena de Indias, and other information.

Notification about photographs and videos

You are about to attend an activity in a place where photographs and audio-visual recordings will be made. These images and videos can be disseminated, reproduced and published in online and print publications, as well as through mobile devices by Colombian government agencies through UNGRD, UNISDR, media outlets and others. These images and videos can also be used for audio-visual pieces disseminated through social networks or mobile devices. By attending this event, you are authorizing that your personal image and voice can be used in these communication products along with any other material including photographs and recordings taken by media outlets. You have been fully informed of your implicit consent by attending the Platform and you are aware of this disclaimer before entering the location where the event will take place.

Television broadcast and web streaming

There will be an official broadcast of the VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas through official webpages and the institutional television channel of the Republic of Colombia.

UNGRD: <http://portal.gestiondelriesgo.gov.co/>

Platform: <http://eird.org/pr18/index.html>

Institutional Channel: <https://www.canalinstitucional.tv/>

Day 1 - June 20th 2018			
Time	Institutional Channel	Streaming Signal 1	Streaming Signal 2
09:00 - 10:30	Opening and welcome by high level officials - Welcome speeches, opening remarks		
11:00 - 12:30	PLENARY 1: Risk assessment, analysis and monitoring: Tools and experiences (Priority 1 Sendai Framework)		
14:00 - 15:30	NA	PARALLEL 1: Early warning systems for different hazards: Good practices	PARALLEL 3: Risk integration in private sector practices.
15:40 - 17:10	NA	PARALLEL 4: Sendai Framework Monitoring and alignment with SDG and CC	PARALLEL 6: Flood risk management: River management (progress and pending challenges)
21:30 - 22:00	Newscast of VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction		
Day 2 - June 21st 2018			
Hora	Institutional Channel	Streaming Signal 1	Streaming Signal 2
9:00 - 10:30	PLENARY 2: Coherence of global agendas (CC, DRR, SD) in regional, sub-regional, national and local planning (Priority 2 Sendai Framework)		
11:00 - 12:30	NA	PARALLEL 7: Implementation of the Sendai Framework at the National Level: national plans and regulatory frameworks	PARALLEL 8: National Risk Analysis
14:00 - 15:30	PLENARY 3: Investment and resilient infrastructure: good practices in the region and applicability in the countries (Priority 3 Sendai Framework)		
15:40 - 17:10		PARALLEL 10: Planning instruments for Disaster Risk Management	PARALLEL 11: Incentives and instruments to promote resilient investments
17:20 - 18:50		PARALLEL 13: Strengthening mechanisms of International Cooperation for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Response	PARALLEL 14: Public management for financial transfer of disaster risk
21:30 - 22:00	Newscast of VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction		
Day 3 - June 22nd 2018			
Hora	Institutional Channel	Streaming Signal 1	Streaming Signal 2
9:00 - 10:30	PLENARY 4: Preparedness for response and resilient recovery. Advances and opportunities (Priority 4 Sendai Framework)		
11:00 - 12:30		PARALLEL 17: Plans and works to mitigate risk conditions	PARALLEL 16: Preparation and implementation of recovery: collaboration and partnerships in public-private work
14:00 - 15:30		PARALLEL 18: Local leadership and community resilience	Market Place Tour
15:40 - 17:00	Closing ceremony - Presentation of the Government of Colombia		
21:30 - 22:00	Newscast of VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction		

Social Media

The VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in the Americas can be followed around the world thanks to our live broadcast and through UNISDR's and UNGRD's social networks: Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Flickr.

The main #hashtags for participating in the virtual conversation about the Platform at a regional level and to monitor the events online are:

#SendaiAmericas
#RP18
#ComunidadesResilientes (Resilient communities)

At a national level, in Colombia the national government will promote the following #hashtags

#ColombiaMásResiliente (More resilient Colombia)
#ColombiaMenosVulnerable (Less vulnerable Colombia)
#AméricasMásResilientes (More resilient Americas)
#AméricasMenosVulnerables (Less vulnerable Americas)
#VIPlataformaReducción (VI Reduction Platform)

UNISDR

 Facebook:
@UnisdrLasAmericas

 Twitter:
@UNISDR_Americas

 YouTube:
UNISDRAmericas

 Flickr:
UN ISDR

UNGRD

 Facebook:
@GestionUNGRD

 Twitter:
@UNGRD

 YouTube:
UNGRD Gestión del Riesgo de Desastres

 Flickr:
UNGRD SNGRD

Ignite Stage: *a space to learn about other experiences in risk reduction*

The IGNITE Stage is a space in which the participants of the Regional Platform will have 20 minutes to present new products or initiatives in the field of disaster risk reduction. The objective of this space is to complement and expand the range of topics discussed in the Regional Platform beyond those presented in the main sessions and parallel events.

Venue:

Hall of Exhibitions and lobby Gran Salón Barahona - Cartagena de Indias Convention Center

- Wednesday 20th: 11:00-19:00
- Thursday 21st: 9:00-17:00
- Friday 22nd 09: 9:00-14:45

Market Place: *A diverse market in risk reduction*

With about 29 exhibitions, the market place becomes an ideal alternative scenario for public, private and community institutions to publicize their progress and products in disaster risk reduction.

With the special participation of the Museum of Knowledge in Disaster Risk Management, the first of its kind in Colombia and the second in the region of South America, in addition to an online consultation space, attendees of the VI Regional Platform for Reduction of Disaster Risk in the Americas may have the experience of why Colombia is a less vulnerable country, and its communities more resilient. The importance of the Americas, is also directed to this common goal.

Video contest

#Communityresilience

Recognizing that at the center of efforts to reduce disaster risk and build resilience, is the well-being of people. The video contest seeks to promote an approach of shared responsibility throughout society. Thus, it will seek to recognize, highlight and strengthen the role and leadership of community networks, volunteering, civil society, academia and the scientific community, women, people with disabilities, indigenous populations, groups living in conditions of high vulnerability as agents of change in the reduction of disaster risk, and the strengthening of resilience in the entire region of the Americas.

In this sense, this contest seeks to answer how the reduction of disaster risk can be improved at the community level. Thus, members of local communities showed how they can help reduce the impact of disasters at the local level and strengthen the resilience of their communities through videos made by themselves.

Become an agent of change to reduce the risk of disasters! Know the result of the contest during PR18.

Acknowledgments

The National Unit for Disaster Risk Management, on behalf of the Government of Colombia, and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) wish to recognize the valuable support provided by partners and counterparts for the organization of this VI Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. We wish to express our special gratitude for the financial support received from different donors and cooperation agencies, for the commitment and support of the hosts and co-hosts of the different plenary and parallel sessions, as well as to all the volunteers who worked in the organization of the event. Without your valuable contribution, this Regional Platform would not have been possible. This collaborative work is a reflection of the fact that Disaster Risk Reduction is everyone's responsibility.

Special thanks to:

- Development Bank of Latin America (CAF)
- European Union
- Government of Argentina
- The office of the US Foreign Disaster Assistance OFDA
- UPS Foundation
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

Acknowledgments to session hosts and co-hosts:

- Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)
- Coordination Center for the Prevention of Disasters in Central America and the Republic Dominican Republic (CEPREDENAC)
- Colombian Security Council (CCS)
- Colombian Red Cross
- Development Bank of Latin America - CAF
- German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GIZ)
- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- Florida International University
- Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies (IDEAM) of Colombia.
- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Government of Colombia
- Ministry of Finance and Public Credit of Colombia
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia
- Ministry of Transportation of Colombia
- Ministry of Housing, City and Territory of Colombia
- National Association of Businessmen of Colombia (ANDI)
- National Geological Service (SGC) of Colombia
- National Planning Department (DNP) of Colombia

- National Infrastructure Agency of Colombia
- National Institute of Roads of Colombia
- National Secretary of Protection and Civil Defense (SEDEC) of Brazil
- Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR)
- Pan American Health Organization / World Health Organization (PAHO / WHO)
- Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
- United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- UN Women
- United Nations System in Colombia
- University Network of Latin America and the Caribbean for Disaster Risk Reduction (RE-DULAC / DRR)
- World Bank
- White Helmets Commission of Argentina

Finally, we wish to express our gratitude to all the operative and technical entities of the National Disaster Risk Management System of Colombia (SNGRD).