



Fifth Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas

March 7 - 9, 2017 | Montreal, Canada | #SendaiAmericas



Virtual Brochure

Canada



UNISDR
The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

Table of Contents

Welcome Messages by Dignitaries

- 2 Minister Ralph Goodale, Public Safety Canada
- 3 Mr. Robert Glasser, Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction
- 4 Minister Martin Coiteux, Public Safety Quebec and Responsible for Montreal Area
- 5 Mayor Denis Coderre, City of Montreal

6 Regional Platform Concept Note

9 Agenda/Program

Sessions Concept Notes

- 13 Plenary 1 – Understanding the Risks in the Americas
- 15 Parallel 1 – Implementation and Measurement of the Sendai Framework and Linkage to Sustainable Development Goals
- 18 Parallel 2 – Innovations in Financial Resilience and Risk Financing
- 22 Parallel 3 – Building Resiliency: Indigenous Peoples and Disaster Risk Reduction
- 25 Plenary 2 – Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change and Sustainable Development
- 28 Parallel 4 – Empowerment of Women and Girls and Gender Equality in Disaster Risk Reduction
- 31 Parallel 5 – Intersections of Health Security and Disaster Risk Reduction
- 34 Parallel 6 – Sendai Framework Inclusion of Volunteers in Social Mobilization for Disaster Risk Reduction
- 37 Parallel 7 – Building Resilience in Cities
- 40 Parallel 8 – Engaging with the Private Sector to Understand and Reduce Risks
- 46 Parallel 9 – High Risk Populations as Agents of Change for Disaster Risk Reduction
- 48 Plenary 3 – Innovation for Disaster Risk Reduction Workshop – Sciences & Technology Solutions – World Café format
- 50 Plenary 4 – Early Warning and Public Alerting



- 54 Communications Tools**
 - Conference Application
 - Notice of Photography
 - Social Media
- 55 Travellers Checklist**
- 56 Airport Courtesy**
- 56 Security and Emergency Measures**
- 56 Youth Video Challenge**
- 57 !GNITE Stage**
- 57 Exhibition / Marketplace**
- 57 Public Forum**
- 58 United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Photos Contest Exposition**
- 58 Indigenous Presence**
- 59 Eco-Responsible Conference**
- 59 Recognitions**

The Government of Canada is pleased to offer this virtual brochure of the United Nations Fifth Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas, which is an overview of this event. We offer this brochure to help make your conference experience more enriching and rewarding.

Welcome Messages by Dignitaries

Message by Minister Ralph Goodale

As Canada's Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the delegates to the United Nations Fifth Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas. This event provides an opportunity to reaffirm our collective commitment to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and to share knowledge and tools to strengthen national and hemispheric approaches to resilience.

This year is Canada's 150th anniversary and also marks the first opportunity for governments and stakeholders in the Americas to collaborate on a Regional Action Plan to support the implementation of the Sendai Framework. Working together as a region during such gatherings allows us to continue to develop effective policies, programs, and strategies to reduce exposure and vulnerability to disasters. As the first regional session to be held since the adoption of the Sendai Framework, together we will set the stage for future forums.

This Regional Platform reinforces a whole-of-society approach to disaster management by linking all stakeholders -- the public and private sectors, non-governmental organizations, and academia. Delegates have an opportunity to showcase successes and highlight best practices thus enhancing regional capacity in the Americas.

We recognize the impacts of disasters on communities across the hemisphere and the world and I encourage you to mobilize resources to tackle those issues and challenges that go to the core of our countries and societies – safety, security and prosperity of our people and the protection and preservation of the environment.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, I would like to thank you for your continued dedication to reducing disaster risks and for working together to build more resilient communities.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Ralph Goodale

Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada
Government of Canada



Message of Mr. Robert Glasser

Disasters exact a huge and increasing toll on economic and social development in both wealthy and least developed countries. The relative impact is particularly severe for the latter, which each year can suffer losses equivalent to over 20% of their social expenditure. In some countries the figure has risen to over 60%.

It is in this context that the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 emphasizes the need to move from managing disasters to managing disaster risk is so important. Making this transition is the only way we will achieve substantial reductions in disaster mortality, numbers of people affected, economic losses and damage to critical infrastructure by the 2030 deadline set in the Sendai Framework.

The Americas Regional Platform comes at a timely moment following the adoption by the UN General Assembly of a Resolution on global indicators to measure progress on reaching the targets of the Sendai Framework.

Regional Platforms will have a critical role to play in validating biennial assessments of progress towards the achievement of all seven global targets of the Sendai Framework and relevant risk-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals.

This gathering will be an opportunity to debate the region's readiness in terms of national planning and the compilation of the necessary data which is so vital to measuring progress in implementation over the next 13 years.

The Americas is well placed to lead on this challenge given its ongoing efforts to strengthen disaster risk governance. In fact, the Americas represent a great example of collaboration at all levels.

Many countries, cities and communities across the Americas have integrated disaster risk reduction into their overall development and investment planning and there is growing understanding of the importance of a risk-sensitive approach to major infrastructure investments in both the private and public sectors.

The last Regional Platform held in Ecuador in 2014 played a pivotal role in shaping the Sendai Framework and this one will provide momentum for its implementation across the region especially with the adoption of the Regional Action Plan for Implementing the Sendai Framework in the Americas. This will be an important contribution to building a sustainable and resilient world.

On behalf of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, I would like to thank the Government of Canada for making this important gathering possible. It is an honour to welcome you all to the Fifth Regional Platform for DRR in the Americas.

Robert Glasser

Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction



Message by Minister Martin Coiteux

In the context where keeping our communities safe is essential for ensuring their prosperity and economic and social development, Quebec takes concrete steps every day to better protect people and property.

To that end, the Government of Quebec has implemented the Civil Protection Plan to coordinate government action in the four pillars of emergency management: prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

In the event of a disaster, municipalities play a key role in emergency preparedness. With this in mind, the government is working closely with them to increase their level of preparedness to deal with disasters. This collaboration, and many other actions, stems from the implementation of Quebec's 2014-2024 Emergency Management Policy, which aims to enhance our society's resilience to disasters.

I hope that the discussions Quebec will be participating in will provide food for thought with respect to meeting the targets of the Sendai Framework for DRR.

Lastly, I would like to welcome the participants to Montreal, Quebec's metropolis.

May your discussions be fruitful!



Martin Coiteux

Ministre des Affaires municipales et de l'occupation du territoire,
Ministre de la Sécurité publique et
Ministre responsable de la région de Montréal

Message by Mayor Denis Coderre

Montreal is pleased to host the Fifth Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas.

This meeting, attended by some 1000 participants from 35 countries and 20 territories in the Americas, is a key opportunity to share our expertise and build on initiatives that have been put in place by other urban centres.

DRR is a top priority for our administration. A number of mechanisms have been put in place to ensure the safety of our citizens and effectively deal with the consequences of a major disaster.

In December 2014, Montreal was the first major Canadian city to join the 100 Resilient Cities Network, helping to position our city as a leader in the area of public safety and resilience within Canada.

In the coming decades, disasters will unfortunately become more frequent and severe, and will grow more complex due to environmental, technological, socio-economic and demographic factors.

In Montreal, we can count on the Civil Security Centre and the Resilience Office to identify vulnerabilities and implement effective prevention and mitigation measures.

More than ever, it is imperative for cities to develop risk management expertise, promote prevention to the public, and encourage responsible behaviour.

I wish all participants a pleasant stay in our city and a very productive conference.

Welcome to Montreal!

The Honourable Denis Coderre

Maire de Montréal

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Regional Platform Concept Note

Member States of the United Nations (UN) have reaffirmed their continued commitment to reduce disaster risk and losses by adopting the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) 2015 – 2030 at the Third UN World Conference on DRR held in March 2015, Sendai, Japan. The Sendai Framework is a 15-year non-binding agreement, which recognizes that the State has the primary role to reduce disaster risk but that responsibility should be shared with other stakeholders including local government, the private sector and others. It aims for the following outcome:

"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".

The Regional Platforms for DRR are multi-stakeholder forums that were developed incrementally after the World Conference held in Japan, in 2005. While they have varying characteristics, they all share the same traits as dynamic forums for policy-makers, partners, experts and practitioners to announce initiatives, launch products, share information, promote campaigns, monitor progress and provide evidence about DRR.

The Fifth Regional Platform for DRR in the Americas (RP17) is the main venue that brings together key stakeholders and actors involved in DRR from throughout North, South and Central America and the Caribbean. It is a multi-sector participatory forum, which reflects the commitments and views of governments (national, subnational and local), intergovernmental organizations, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, community organizations, scientific and academic institutions, the private sector, donors and the media. Four regional platforms have been already held in the Americas.

Public Safety Canada, on behalf of the Government, is hosting the Fifth session in the Americas with the support of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), through their Regional Office of the Americas. Canada hosting the RP17 reflects its continued support to the UN International Strategy for DRR and its commitment to the priorities and targets of the Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030.

This Fifth Session is being held in Montreal, Quebec, Canada from March 7-9, 2017. Approximately 1,000 delegates are expected, including ministers, policy makers, practitioners, experts and disaster risk managers. The RP17 and the Ministers and High-Level Authorities meeting, will mark the first opportunity for governments and stakeholders in the Americas to discuss and agree on a Regional Action Plan to support the implementation of the Sendai Framework in the Americas.

The focus of RP17 is to identify how governments, ministers, civil society leaders, technical and scientific institutions, private sector, media could drive the implementation of activities

and actions to meet the expected targets of the Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030 in the Americas, while building capacity in the region.

The program for the Fifth Session encompasses a number of activities including: an intergovernmental segment, technical sessions, parallel and special events where participants will be able to interact and discuss the implementation of the Sendai Framework, and exchange best practices and lessons learned. Unique to this Regional Platform is a “Public Forum” that allows broader public participation of subjects that align with the issues discussed at the RP17. A key feature will be a one-day ministerial meeting where Ministers and other High-Level Authorities will approve the Regional Action Plan (RAP) and the Montreal Declaration. The RAP identifies the priorities of the DRR agenda for the next two years for the Americas region.

Key outcomes of the Fifth Session are:

1. Montreal Declaration;
2. Regional Action Plan (RAP) to support the implementation of the Sendai Framework in the Americas;
3. Chair Summary;
4. Proceedings of the RP17 for DRR in the Americas; and
5. Recommendations of the Americas Region for the 2017 Global Platform.

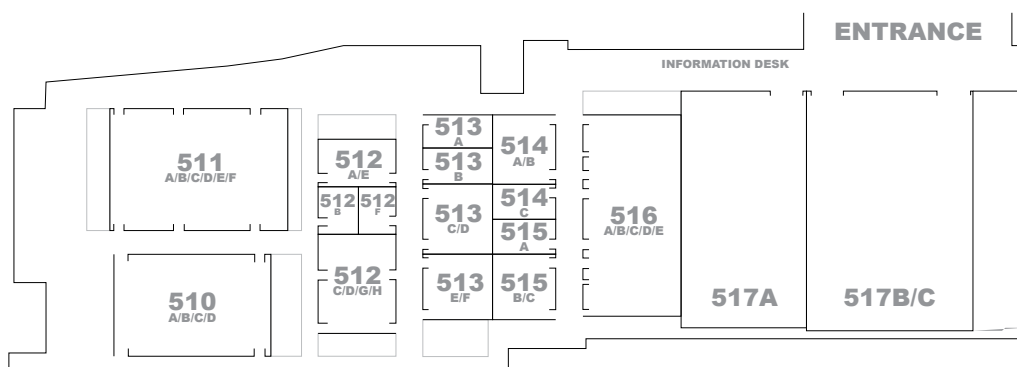
Objectives of the Fifth Session:

1. Identifying approaches and viable mechanisms for the implementation of the Regional Action Plan;
2. Further integrating DRR and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) in the context of development planning aiming towards “a risk informed sustainable development”;
3. Strengthening the role and capacity of the various members of stakeholder, including the private sector in the implementation of the Sendai Framework;
4. Integrating actively the civil society networks and community networks;
5. Taking stock of the progress made in the implementation of the Sendai Framework in the Americas Region, including stakeholders’ commitments;
6. Sharing knowledge and new tools to strengthen national and local resilience to disasters, including lessons learned in resilience building from the recovery phase;
7. Reviewing the proposed monitoring system for the Sendai Framework, specifically regarding the seven targets to be reached by all Member States;
8. Aligning linkages with other UN bodies and World organizations ensure coherence with other global processes (Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and CCA) and identifying specific areas for follow-up action to be reflected as contributions to the Global Platform and the SDGs process at the national level;
9. Recognizing and strengthening gender specific leadership in DRR throughout the Americas; and
10. Recognizing and strengthening the role of Indigenous knowledge and practice in DRR throughout the Americas.

The deliberations of the RP17 will contribute to the definition of the recommendations that the Americas region will put forward to the Global Platform that will take place in Cancun, Mexico from May 24-26, 2017, as well as provide input to the next session of the High Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development. We look forward to continued discussions and collaboration on DRR at the Global Platform and successive regional platforms for DRR in the Americas.

For additional information, please consult the complete [Concept Note](#)

Floor Plan



Agenda/Program

For details on each session, including objectives and measurable outcomes, please refer to the Sessions Concept Notes which follow the agenda.

Day 1 – March 7

- 09:00 – 11:00** **Opening and Introduction by High Level Officials:**
Room 517A
- Traditional Welcome
 - Welcome speeches
 - Opening remarks
 - Youth Video Challenge Presentation
- 11:00 – 19:00** **!GNITE Stage**
Room 516 **Marketplace / Exhibition**
- 11:00 – 11:20** **Break**
Room 517A
- 11:30 – 12:30** **Plenary 1: Understanding the Risks in the Americas**
Room 517A
Host: Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)
Co-host: University Network for Latin America and the Caribbean for Reducing Disaster Risk (REDULAC)
- 12:40 – 13:50** **Lunch**
Room 517BC
- 14:00 – 15:50** **Parallel 1: Implementation and Measurement of the Sendai Framework and Linkage to Sustainable Development Goals**
Room 517A
Host: UNISDR
Co-host: Government of Canada
- Room 510 **Parallel 2: Innovations in Financial Resilience and Risk Financing**
Host: Swiss Re
Co-host: Government of Mexico
- Room 710B **Parallel 3: Building Resiliency: Indigenous Peoples and Disaster Risk Reduction**
Host: Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC)
Co-host: Government of Mexico
- 16:00 – 19:00** **Official Statements**
Room 517A

16:00 – 17:00 Sendai Framework Follow-up Meeting

Room 517A **Host:** UNISDR

Room 710B **Building Resilient Agricultural Livelihoods**

Hosts: World Animal Protection and CARE

17:00 – 19:00 Consultation on the Regional Action Plan

Room 517A

17:00 – 18:00 Regional Strategy for Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction in the Agricultural Sector and Nutritional Security

Room 710B

Host: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

18:00 – 19:00 Breaking Silos, Building Bridges, and Integrating Actions: The Role of Civil Society in the Sendai Framework Disaster Risk Reduction

Room 710B

Host: Civil Society Stakeholder Group (Global Network)

19:00 Official Reception

Room 710A

Day 2 – March 8

08:00 – 19:00 Marketplace / Exhibition

09:00 – 19:00 !GNITE Stage

Room 516

09:00 – 09:10 Recap of Day One, including Public Forum Outcomes

Room 517A

09:10 – 10:20 Plenary 2: Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change and Sustainable Development

Room 517A

Host: Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)

Co-host: United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

10:30 – 12:30 Parallel 4: Empowerment of Women and Girls and Gender Equality in Disaster Risk Reduction

Room 517A

Host: Global Affairs Canada (GAC)

Co-host: Organization of American States (OAS) Inter-American Commission on Women

Room 510 **Parallel 5: Intersections of Health Security and Disaster Risk Reduction**

Hour 1: Understanding Health in Multi-Hazards Risk Management

Hour 2: Building Health Capacity and Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction

Host: Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)

Co-host: Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO)

Room 710B **Parallel 6:** Sendai Framework Inclusion of Volunteers in Social Mobilization for Disaster Risk Reduction
Host: International Federation of the Red-Cross and Red-Crescent Societies (IFRC)
Co-host: White Helmets Argentina

12:40 – 13:50 Lunch
Room 517BC

14:00 – 15:50 Parallel 7: Building Resilience in Cities
Room 517A **Host:** UNISDR
Co-host: City of Montreal

Room 510 **Parallel 8:** Engaging with the Private Sector to Understand and Reduce Risks
Host: Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC)
Co-host: Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies (ARISE)

Room 710B **Parallel 9:** High Risk Populations as Agents of Change for Disaster Risk Reduction
Host: IFRC
Co-host: Coalition for the Resilience of Children and Youth in Latin American and the Caribbean (CORELAC)

16:00 – 19:00 Official Statements
Room 510

16:00 – 17:00 Disaster Risk Reduction in the Education Sector in the Americas
Room 517A **Host:** Latin American and Caribbean Education Council (UNICEF, Save the Children, RET, Plan)

Room 710B **Aligning the Central American Policy of Comprehensive Risk Management to the Sendai Framework**
Host: Central American Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters (CEPRENAC)

Room 710A **A Cultural Performance in Honour of Indigenous Women**
Host: INAC

17:00 – 19:00 Consultation on the Regional Action Plan (TBC)
Room 517A

Day 3 – March 9

08:00 – 15:00 **Marketplace / Exhibition**

09:00 – 14:40 **!GNITE Stage**

Room 516

9:00 – 9:10 **Recap of Day 2, including Public Forum Outcomes**

Room 710AB

9:00 – 12:00 **Ministers and High-Level Authorities Meeting**

Room 511

Host: Public Safety Canada

Objective: Discussion on national priorities and progress towards establishment of national and local DRR strategies by 2020

Measurable Outcomes:

1. Awareness of the high level state of implementation of the Sendai Framework in the Americas
2. Approval of the Regional Action Plan and Montreal Declaration

A 30 minutes break will be provided during the session for the Ministers' Group Photo in room 512CG

Room 710AB

Plenary 3: Innovation for Disaster Risk Reduction Workshop – Sciences & Technology Solutions - World Café format

Host: Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC)

Co-host: International Council for Science (ICSU)

12:10 – 13:20 **Lunch**

Room 517BC

13:30 – 14:30 **Ministers and High-Level Authorities Meeting**

Room 511

Presentation of the results of the Public Forum

Presentation of the results of the World Café

Approval of the Regional Action Plan and Montreal Declaration

Room 517A

Plenary 4: Early Warning and Public Alerting

Host: NRCan and ECCC

Co-host: Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)

14:30 – 14:45 **Break**

14:45 – 15:00 **Presentation by Government of Mexico on the 2017 Global Platform**

Room 517A

15:00 – 15:30 **Closing Ceremony**

Room 517A

- Montreal Declaration
- Closing remarks

16:00 – 16:30 **Press Conference**

Room 512CG

Sessions Concept Notes

Plenary 1

Understanding the Risks in the Americas

Overview Panel discussion on DRR in the Americas with representatives from government (NRCan), academia (REDULAC), private sector (IBM), community/Indigenous sector (Mayor of Lampa, Chile); non-governmental organization sector (National Academies of Science). The session is moderated by a professional geo-scientist and professional communicator.

Objectives Discuss the respective and shared roles of government, academia and private sector in understanding risks in the Americas. This involves disseminating associated knowledge and expertise into communities to advance regional collaboration and integration to share risk assessment methods including access to open data and risk assessment tools.

Measurable Outcomes

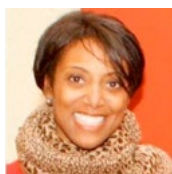
1. Using the Regional Platform APP prior to the meeting to compile a list of existing best practices, methods and tools to better understand, evaluate and estimate exposure, vulnerability and hazards in the Americas.
2. By March 2018, build on this list to include information gathered during the session and future identification of open data sources.

Speakers and facilitators Moderator: Mr. Fernando Munoz Carmona
Speakers:
Ms. Lauren Augustine, National Academies of Science
Dr. Gary Nestler, IBM
Ms. Graciela Ortuzar Novoa, Mayor, Lampa, Chile
Mr. Daniel Lebel, NRCan
Mr. Luis Carlos Martinez Medina, REDULAC

Speaker Biography



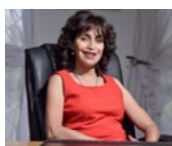
Fernando Munoz Carmona is a geo-scientist and communicator with expertise in research, administration, consulting and, project management with government and private organizations. During his tenures, he has been responsible for the implementation of geo-science information (hazards/risks/resources) management projects in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, United States and Venezuela. Mr. Carmona has also been involved with the identification and development of renewable energy/geothermal resources in South America with a particular emphasis on securing community, government, geothermal companies' engagement and land/resource access. His dual training and experience in geo-sciences and human communication has shaped his understanding of the relationship between humans and their geological surroundings. This knowledge has assisted him when articulating means and resources for effective Earth's resource management, risk reduction and positive social transformation.



Lauren Alexander Augustine is the Associate Executive Director in the Division of Earth and Life Studies and Director of the Disasters Roundtable at the National Academies. Dr. Augustine served as the Country Director in the Academies' African Science Academy Development Initiative. She came to the National Academies in 2002 as a study director for the Water Science and Technology Board in the National Research Council and directed many studies on a range of water resources topics, including Texas in stream flows, endangered species in the Klamath and Platte River Basins, and forest hydrology. Previously, Dr. Augustine did her post-doctorate at the United States Geological Survey, Water Resources Division, and worked in the Office of the Secretary of the Department of Interior. Dr. Augustine received her Bachelor of Science in applied mathematics and systems engineering and her Master's degree in environmental planning and policy from the University of Virginia; she completed her PhD from Harvard University in an interdisciplinary program that combined physical hydrology, geomorphology, and ecology.



Dr. Nestler is an accomplished executive with 28 years of business and G-level management experience in public (profit/non-profit) and private crisis and emergency management, logistic and healthcare sectors. He has developed strategic operational planning, policy design and interoperable communication guidelines specific to threat disruption and vulnerability mitigation activities and created and directed multi-million dollar entities, research, training, and exercise efforts. He is adept at initiating, maintaining and building strategic relationships in emergency management, medical, financial, academic, governmental and commercial communities. Dr. Nestler has authored numerous papers and presentations and is a frequent speaker at national educational, business and medical conferences. In addition, he is an active member of national emergency preparedness, response and recovery organizations. Previous to his employment at IBM, Dr. Nestler was a Principal partner and founding member of The Canary Group, Charleston, South Carolina/ Asheville, North Carolina, a crisis and emergency management consulting firm.



Graciela Fernanda Ortúzar Novoa has been Mayor of Lampa, Chile from 2008 to the present. She is a social worker by profession and her vocation and public service have been present in Lampa since 1985, when she headed the Community Development Directorate, which was followed by her serving as General Secretary of Lampa's Social Development Corporation. Ms. Novoa has worked in the commune for over 30 years, distinguishing herself with her leadership and innovation in social work and sustainability. The UN recognized her work by naming her a Goodwill Ambassador for generating support networks from Lampa to all of Chile following the 8.8 earthquake in 2010. On that occasion, she travelled around the country with UN Habitat, which led her to become part of the UNISDR. The UN also named her a Champion of the UNISDR Campaign "Creating Resilient Cities", an award that was given for the first time in history to a Chilean authority, and to a local government authority. Her administrative work in and commitment to Lampa and Chile has led her to become a member of the Technical Environmental Committee at the Chilean Association of Municipalities and the Resilience Committee, and to serve as chair of the Environment and Transport Committee of the Association of Rural Municipalities. In addition, due to her active work with women leaders, she succeeded in having Lampa included in the Iberoamerican Network of Municipalities for Gender Equality. This organization appointed her vice-president for promoting equality of values

and the principles of substantive equality in the municipal sphere, beginning with the voice and presence of empowered women. Today, Ms. Novoa continues to promote gender equity, sustainable development and social commitment in her capacity as Regional Councillor of the National Renewal party.



Daniel Lebel is Director General of the Geological Survey of Canada, Atlantic and Western Canada Branch of NRCan since September 2011. Before that, in April 2009, he became the Regional Director General for the Atlantic Region of Environment Canada. In this capacity, he oversaw departmental regional strategic integration of programs, services, and relationships with the Atlantic Provinces and other stakeholders through environmental cooperation partnership agreements and other such mechanisms. He has more than 20 years of experience in Canadian public service at the federal and provincial levels, including long service with the Geological Survey of Canada of NRCan and the Province of Quebec. Over the years, he has moved on from researcher to executive positions in several regions, has overseen the implementation of several science and technology programs, served on various national program boards and advisory committees and has supported the strategic development and establishment of federal initiatives to address issues related to the environment, water, renewable energy, fossil energy, mineral resources and the North while working closely with governmental and non-governmental organizations, industry and universities.



Luis Carlos Martinez Medina is a Civil engineer, with post-graduate specialization and Master's studies in topics related to disaster risk prevention and management, sustainable development and disasters. He has served as an advisor to national and international public and private institutions on matters of disaster risk management and as a professor at various higher education institutions at the undergraduate and post-graduate levels, and is currently Executive Director of REDULAC.

Parallel 1

Implementation and Measurement of the Sendai Framework and Linkage to Sustainable Goals

Overview

To review the agreed indicators to measure the progress in achieving the global targets of the Sendai Framework and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as provide an opportunity to comment on the proposed Sendai Framework Monitoring system. The session will also review the work carried out in Paraguay, a pilot country in the testing of national indicators for monitoring progress in disaster risk. It will also examine current gaps that need to be addressed, including gaps in disaster-related statistical data, national loss accounting systems as well as additional complimentary data needed to measure the internationally agreed Sendai Framework and SDGs indicators. This will include discussion of national capabilities to comprehensively gather data on the economic impact of disasters and assess disaster risk, with the view to establish effective national monitoring and ultimately, risk-informed decision-support systems. For disaster-related data to be consolidated at the national level for monitoring purposes, strong partnerships need to be developed between national disaster management

institutions, national statistical offices, other relevant line ministries, with the view to streamline data generation, collection, reporting and analysis to capitalise on existing capabilities, leverage forthcoming efforts under the SDGs and reduce the financial and administrative burden on countries. The session will propose a partnership to realise these aspirations. Finally, it will also include a discussion on linkages between the Sendai Framework, and the SDGs, and opportunities to leverage on these initiatives to strengthen DRR.

- Objectives**
1. To present recommendations of the UN Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on indicators and terminology, and the International Inter-agency Expert Group-SDGs for the measurement of the global targets of the Sendai Framework and the SDGs. A proposed Sendai Framework Monitoring System will also be presented, which will include aspects of the proposed analytical functions as well as levels of application at the national and regional levels.
 2. Review the status of data for monitoring the global targets of the Sendai Framework for DRR and for establishing national baselines (national readiness). This will include consideration of potential opportunities for regional collaboration.
 3. Discuss the linkages between development agendas, and in particular the common work to be undertaken inter alia by national statistics offices in reporting on the indicators associated with them, governance structures, and opportunities to achieve efficiencies as we work towards implementation, including the “Global Partnership for disaster-related data for sustainable development 2017-2025” which will be proposed at the upcoming 2017 Global Platform for DRR.
 4. Recognition of the need to support the application of statistical rigour and standards, and the integration of disaster-related data in official statistics by the international statistics community. As well as recognition of the need to support reporting capacity for the non-statistical data of the Sendai Framework. The recognition will be reflected in the summary of the session and included in the Chair’s summary and in the recommendations to be put forward by the Americas region to the 2017 Global Platform for DRR.

- Measurable Outcomes**
1. Receive and integrate feedback from the Regional Platform for DRR in the Americas in preparation for the 2017 Global Platform for DRR in the development of the Sendai Framework Monitoring System and the state of data readiness to report on the global targets of the Sendai Framework and the SDGs.
 2. Receive comments for consideration in the development of a “Global partnership for disaster-related data for sustainable development 2017-2025” including the establishment of a regional group that will support this planned Global partnership in the Americas.

Speakers and facilitators Moderator: Ms. Alicia Bárcena, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
Speakers:
Mr. Marc Gordon, United Nations Sendai Monitoring Unit
Ms. Stéphanie Durand, Public Safety Canada (PS)
Mr. Joaquín Roa, Minister of the National Emergency Secretariat of Paraguay
Ms. Emily Wilkinson, Overseas Development Institute (ODI) Risk and Resilience Programme
Mr. Carlos Picado, Comisión Nacional de Emergencias (CNE)

Speaker Biography



Ms. Bárcena is currently the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). She has previously served as the Under-Secretary-General for Management at United Nations Headquarters in New York, as well as Chef de Cabinet and Deputy Chef de Cabinet to the former Secretary-General, Mr. Kofi Annan. Alicia Bárcena has also held the post of Deputy Executive Secretary and Director of ECLAC's Environment and Human Settlements Division and also served as Co-ordinator of the Latin American and Caribbean Sustainable Development Programme of the UNDP. Ms. Bárcena holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology, and holds a Master degree in Public Administration from Harvard University. On September 2, 2014 she was awarded a *honoris causa* doctorate by the University of Oslo, Norway.



Mr. Marc Gordon leads UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction's Sendai Monitoring Unit, which leads the monitoring of the implementation of the Sendai Framework for DRR through its seven global targets. Previously, Mr. Gordon coordinated the biennial Hyogo Framework for Action Review, while also coordinating relations with the Organization for Economic Development, the G20, G8 and G7. From 2006 to 2012, he established and led the UNISDR Donor and Business Partnerships Unit. Prior to this, he was the Manager of the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Programme - South East Asia of the European Commission, operating out of Bangkok. He has served in various capacities addressing a variety of disaster-related issues in conflict, complex emergencies, political and chronic crises.



Ms. Stéphanie Durand is the Director General, Emergency Management Policy and Outreach at PS since 2013. She is responsible for leading the development of emergency management policies and programs for the Government of Canada on files such as disaster mitigation, communications interoperability, public alerting, as well as other initiatives related to DRR, community resilience, response, preparedness and recovery mechanisms. From September 2008 to May 2013, Ms. Durand was the Director General of Communications at PS. She was responsible for heading the communications function for the department, including providing strategic communications advice, managing advertising and marketing programs, overseeing public affairs and media relations, as well as leading whole-of-government crisis communications efforts for the Government of Canada. Ms. Durand has led the public affairs coordinated response for G8-G20 on security and public safety issues, the 2010 Vancouver Olympics safety and security public affairs coordination efforts, as well as the Government of Canada communications response on high profile national security cases.



Mr. Joaquín Roa Burgos is the Minister of the National Emergency Secretariat of Paraguay. Previously, he held the position of Specialist Advisor for Management and Risk Reduction for UNDP and the Office of the Resident Coordinator of the UN System in Paraguay, having provided support and technical assistance to previous ministers on disaster risk management. Also, he headed Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs/United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (OCHA/UNDAC) mission in Bolivia (2007). He is an expert in humanitarian affairs and risk management, having received training in the UN Emergency Team (UNET) and also UNDAC. President of the First Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities

on the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030 in the Americas, held in Asuncion, Paraguay, on 8 and 9 of June 2016. He has been nominated twice for the prestigious Sasakawa Award first in 2015 and again in 2017.



Dr. Emily Wilkinson is a Senior Research Fellow in the Overseas Development Institute Risk and Resilience Programme. She has been working for the last 15 years as a researcher and lecturer in the field of disaster and climate risk management, with an interest in governance, institutional change and social learning in response to risk. Dr. Wilkinson is Head of Research for the Department for International Development-funded Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters Programme (BRACED), which leads research on Disaster Risk Management for the Climate and Development Knowledge Network and its Principal Investigator on a Global Challenges Research Fund project on the Root Drivers of Risk in Small-Island Developing States. She is a Coordinating Lead Author of the European Commission report Science for Disaster Risk Management 2017 and has published over 30 articles, reports and book chapters on societal responses to disasters and climate change.



Mr. Carlos Picado has been working for CNE for the last 25 years leading various programmes and currently is Head of Strategic Development of the National System for Risk Management. He was responsible for the development of the national policy for Risk and the National Risk Management Plan and has been organizing the annual National Forums on Risk since 2009. He is also a Professor at the University of Costa Rica, Professor and Member of the Academic Council of the Risk Management Master's course of the Central University. Professor of the Risk Management Master's course of the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences. Professor of the Public Management Master's course of the Central American Institute of Public Administration. Mr. Picado has a degree in Sociology from the University of Costa Rica, a Masters in Managing Development Projects from the Central American Institute of Public Administration and a PhD in Philosophy from the University of Costa Rica.

Parallel 2

Innovations in Financial Resilience and Risk Financing

Overview

Since 2000, natural disasters have claimed 253,000 lives and over USD 920 billion of economic loss across the Western Hemisphere. In addition to the tragic loss of life, only 50 percent of this economic loss is insured leaving the remainder to be absorbed by governments and their citizens. These economic damages can have lasting impacts on a country's ability to grow and thrive, often laying ruin to best laid plans for development. Governments across the globe are recognizing this challenge and implementing innovative ways to finance these inevitable losses in conjunction with their risk reduction efforts. Countries, sub-sovereigns and consortiums of countries are engaging the private market to transfer their disaster risk away from government balance sheets into the global markets. In this session, participants will learn from the pioneers in this space, how these engagements have provided certainty in disaster scenarios, how their programs came about and how they are evolving with the risks they face.

- Objectives**
1. To understand how governments across the region are developing programs to reduce the economic impacts of disasters, support communities and engage the private sector in this endeavor.
 2. To understand the challenges of implementation and share best practices in encouraging better risk management strategies from national governments to sub-sovereign governments and communities.
 3. To learn how international development organizations are transforming their approach to humanitarian aid through the implementation of risk transfer protocols and programs to reduce the lag time in recovery funding post-event.

- Measurable Outcomes**
1. Identify different risk financing mechanisms that could be considered by countries.
 2. Identify challenges governments face in funding recovery efforts and the inflection points for developing holistic financial management systems to address these challenges.

Speakers and facilitators Moderator: Mr. Paul Kovacs, Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction at Western University
 Speakers:
 Mr. Roy Wright, United States Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
 Ms. Kathy Baughman McLeod, Oceans for the Nature Conservancy
 Mr. Ruben Hofliker, Swiss Re
 Mr. Jonathan Serrano Venancio, Mexican Ministry of the Interior
 Mr. Andres Quevedo, Ministry of Finance of Colombia
 Mr. Luis Alton, World Bank

Speaker Biography



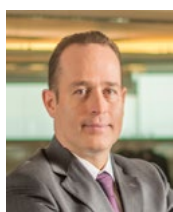
Paul Kovacs is founder and Executive Director of the Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction at Western University, and CEO of Property, Economics and Casualty Insurance Compensation Corporation. Since 1996, Mr. Kovacs has been a contributing author to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the world's leading forum for the study of climate issues. The Panel won the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize "for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change". He is Canada's leading authority on insurance and climate change and has been a contributing author to numerous international and Canadian reports on reducing the risk of loss from earthquakes, flood and severe wind. For more than 35 years, he has been a popular commentator on insurance, disaster safety and economic policy. He has written more than 200 publications and articles and he is a passionate champion for insurance, disaster resilience and adaptation to climate extremes. Paul has worked in private industry, the public sector and academia. He is Co-Chair of the Infrastructure and Housing Working Group of Canada's Adaptation Platform. He is Co-Chair of the Science and Technology Working Group of Canada's Platform on DRR. Mr. Kovacs is also a member of a number of Boards and Advisory Panels. He is a proud husband and father, with a growing collection of bow ties.



Roy Wright serves as the United States of America's FEMA Deputy Associate Administrator for Insurance and Mitigation. He leads FEMA's Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration that delivers the agency's risk management, risk reduction, and flood insurance programs. Under Mr. Wright's leadership, these programs act as a catalyst to drive increased understanding and proactive actions to help people in communities reduce their losses from natural hazards. He also directs a number of FEMA programs such as the National Flood Insurance Program, the Mitigation and Resilience Programs the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, and the National Dam Safety Program. FEMA's programs promote a risk-conscious culture, enable faster recovery from flood disasters, and address long-term vulnerabilities to life, property, and well-being in communities across the Nation. He chairs the inter-agency Mitigation Framework Leadership Group that coordinates mitigation and resilience efforts across the Federal Government in consultation with state, local, Tribal, and territorial governments as well as the private sector. Mr. Wright is also responsible for the delivery of environmental and historic preservation technical assistance and compliance across all FEMA programs. Mr. Wright was appointed to the Federal Senior Executive Service in 2013. He holds a Master of Public Administration from the George Washington University and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Azusa Pacific University. In prior capacities, Mr. Wright served as a strategy consultant, as the program executive for FEMA's Risk MAP program, and as policy advisor to the Secretary of the Interior focused on land conservation measures. A native of California, Roy and his family live in northern Virginia.



Kathy Baughman McLeod is the Managing Director of Coastal Risk and Investment, Oceans for the Nature Conservancy. She leads a global team of professionals advancing the ability of natural infrastructure, including reefs and wetlands, to protect people and property along coastlines, sequester carbon, improve fisheries and more. Through science, policy and finance, with engagement in the insurance, engineering and investment sectors, The Nature Conservancy seeks to make investing in nature a standard practice for healthier, more resilient communities and economies in the face of climate change. Project and program work is focused on the United States, Mexico, the Caribbean Region, Australia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea.



Rubem Hofliger is Senior Vice President for Latin America in the Americas Global Partnerships, Swiss Re team, responsible for enhancing the relationship with national and sub-national governments in the region by supporting them to build a strong risk management strategy. He joined Swiss Re in April 2013 as a Senior Risk Officer. Previously, he was a Senior Policy Advisor for the World Bank, responsible of developing policy notes about post-disaster budget execution and insurance mechanisms for country clients. Mr. Hofliger worked for nine years in the Natural Disasters Fund (FONDEN) of Government of Mexico, including serving as Managing Director of FONDEN from 2007 to 2012. During that time Rubem played a key role on FONDEN'S evolution to a more sophisticated hedging program including the implementation of the Multicat Mexico as well as the establishment of the FONDEN excess of loss coverage. He holds a law degree from the University of Guadalajara, a Postgraduate in Taxes and a Master's Degree in Public Policies from the Ibero-American University of Mexico City. In 2008, he was appointed member of the Central Emergency Response Fund Advisory Group of the

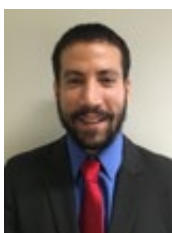
United Nations and in 2010 designated member of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development High Level Advisory Board on the Financial Management of Large-Scale Catastrophes. He co-authored the book "FONDEN: Mexico's Natural Disaster Fund- A Review" (2012), financed by the World Bank; was the author of Chapter "FONDEN: strengths, weaknesses, challenges and perspectives", from the book "Climate Change, Natural Hazards and Health in Mexico" (El Colegio de México 2011), and author of Chapter XIV "Mexican Experience" from the book "Natural Catastrophes Insurance Cover", (Insurance Compensation Consortium from Spain 2008). Rubem was born in Brazil and holds the Mexican and Brazilian nationalities, being fluent in Spanish, Portuguese and English.



Jonathan Serrano Venancio is Deputy Director General for Coordination, Analysis and Legal Framework for Risk Management of the Mexican Ministry of the Interior (SEGOB). Among its main functions are the coordination of the financial instruments operation of risk management in the General Directorate for Risk Management in SEGOB, specifically on issues related to disaster risk management and resilience; the implementation of training programs for the access of such financial instruments. He holds a bachelor's degree in Public Administration and Political Science and a Master's degree in Geography. He has several certifications in Leadership and Social Management, also in Public Administration, Government and Public Policies, as well as in legal Negotiation and resolution of conflicts.



Mr. Andres Quevedo is an economist with a Master's degree in Economics and over 17 years of experience in risk management and Finance. Leading financial and economic projects for a number of companies in the private and public sector. He is an adjunct associate professor in risk, valuation and economics and head of risk for the Ministry of Finance of Colombia with responsibilities in financial risk, medium term Debt Strategy and Contingent Liabilities among others. He is also responsible for disaster risk financing and protection management strategy for Colombia.



Mr. Luis Alton is a disaster risk finance specialist at the World Bank's Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance Program where his work focuses on integrating disaster related fiscal risk into public finance frameworks and on improving post disaster expenditure efficiency. Mr. Alton has seven years of hands-on public financial management experience. His areas of expertise include public expenditure analysis and reform; fiscal transparency; and the formulation and design of disaster risk finance policy reforms. Mr. Alton is an Austrian national and holds a BSc from the London School of Economics and an MSc from University College London (both in Economics).

PARALLEL 3

Building Resiliency: Indigenous Peoples and Disaster Risk Reduction

Overview The Sendai Framework calls for governments to engage directly with Indigenous peoples in the design and implementation of policies, plans and standards, and to use traditional, Indigenous and local knowledge and practices to complement scientific knowledge in the field of DRR. In Canada, the importance of establishing renewed relations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples based on mutual respect and partnership has come to the forefront. A keynote address and ensuing discussions will highlight how the Canadian approach to reconciliation can build resiliency and inform approaches to engagement amongst Indigenous populations. Moreover, this panel will stimulate discussion about DRR among Indigenous peoples and their non-Indigenous colleagues and community leaders throughout the Americas. Participants will learn about efforts underway in Indigenous communities to reduce risk and plan resilience strategies. The panel will inform the broader risk reduction community on culturally appropriate ways, strategies and best practices that respect existing knowledge amongst Indigenous peoples.

- Objectives**
1. To identify culturally appropriate best practices for Indigenous peoples to engage in the design and implementation of policies, plans and standards related to DRR that align with Sendai Framework.
 2. To facilitate awareness and discussion on DRR strategies, challenges, and best practices amongst Indigenous experts and the larger DRR community.
 3. To provide a platform to raise the issues which will inform discussions related to Indigenous peoples at the 2017 Global Platform for DRR.

Measurable Outcomes Collect input into the creation of an international Indigenous Disaster Information Network that will further work on Indigenous DRR and ensure that Indigenous experts have a mechanism to share knowledge and best practices.

Speakers and facilitators Moderator: Mr. Todd Kuiack, INAC
Speakers:
Ms. Nuvia Mayorga Delgado, National Commission for the Development of Indigenous Peoples, Government of Mexico
Senator Murray Sinclair, Canadian Senator
Mr. John C. Scott, United Nations
Dr. Evan Adams, First Nations Health Authority
Ms. Madeline Redfern, Mayor of the City of Iqaluit
Mr. Sergio Cabañas, Incident Command Centre, Guatemala
Ms. María Diocelinda Iza Quinatoa, Movimiento de Mujeres de Sectores Populares Luna Creciente, Ecuador
Ms. Kim Tallbear, University of Alberta
Mr. Moyses Hernández, Group Con aroma de café-X, San Pedro Pochutla, Oaxaca, Mexico

Speaker Biography



Todd Kuiack is currently the Director of Emergency Management for INAC. Prior to joining INAC, Mr. Kuiack held a number of senior positions in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. His postings overseas include Mexico, Chile, Cuba, and most recently as the Ambassador to the Dominican Republic from 2009 to 2012. While in the Dominican Republic, the earthquake in Haiti next door saw him lead the evacuation of over 100 Canadians, as well as work with local authorities on emergency management issues following the earthquake. He has been an active member of the Indigenous Resiliency Working Group and has led several workshops and round tables on "Building Trust and Increasing Resiliency in Indigenous Communities" at the Canadian National Platform for DRR.



Nuvia Mayorga Delgado is the Director General of the National Commission for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of the Government of Mexico. In the State of Hidalgo, she was Coordinator of Administration and Finance of the State Secretariat of Public Education; Director General of Expenditures of the Ministry of Finance of the Government of the State of Hidalgo; Undersecretary and later Secretary of Finance of the Government of the State of Hidalgo, where she was Coordinator of the Permanent Commission of Fiscal Officials of Mexico and President of the Fiscal Coordination Board of the National System of Fiscal Coordination of Mexico. She later joined the Chamber of Deputies in the LXII Legislature as Federal Deputy, as President of the Committee of Budget and Public Account. Nuvia Mayorga Delgado has been a lecturer in Different Seminars and Forums on economic and Indigenous issues, as well as being a weekly columnist at El Sol De Mexico. In January 2013, she was appointed Director General of the National Commission for the Development of Indigenous Peoples.



Senator Murray Sinclair was appointed Chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, which looks at those affected by the Indian Residential School system, in June 2009. He was Manitoba's first Aboriginal Judge and the second Aboriginal judge in Canada. He was appointed Associate Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of Manitoba in March of 1988 and to the Court of Queen's Bench of Manitoba in January 2001, and Co-Commissioner, along with Court of Queen's Bench Associate Chief Justice A. C. Hamilton, of Manitoba's Aboriginal Justice Inquiry. In 2000, Justice Sinclair completed the Report of the Pediatric Cardiac Surgery Inquest, into the deaths of 12 children in the pediatric cardiac surgery program of Winnipeg's Health Sciences Centre in 1994. He was awarded a National Aboriginal Achievement award in addition to many other community service awards, as well as eight Honourary Degrees for his work in the field of Aboriginal justice.



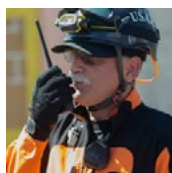
John C. Scott coordinates several initiatives to engage Indigenous peoples in DRR on behalf of several United Nations agencies. He organized and chaired the Indigenous session at the UNISDR Global Platform, Geneva, May 2013, and co-authored a white paper on same issue for the 2013 session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. He organized and chaired the PAHO's Hemispheric Consultation on DRR 2013, and was principal author of the UN Commission on Human Right on the promotion and protection of the rights of Indigenous peoples in DRR, prevention and preparedness initiatives. Mr. Scott is an enrolled member of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.



Dr. Evan Adams is a member of the Tla'amin (Sliammon) First Nation, near Powell River, British Columbia. He is the Chief Medical Officer of the First Nations Health Authority. Prior to this appointment, he served as Deputy Provincial Health Officer for British Columbia. In 2007, he was appointed as the first-ever Aboriginal Health Physician Advisor for the province. He was involved in the Hemispheric Consultation on Indigenous Peoples and has spoken broadly on health issues related to DRR among Indigenous peoples. Dr. Evan Adams is also known as an award-winning Canadian actor.



Ms. Madeleine Redfern was born in Iqaluit, Nunavut. She is currently the Mayor of the City of Iqaluit for her second term. Ms. Redfern has a strong commitment to her community, and she strives to be accessible, responsive and accountable. She has more than 25 years of experience working on issues related to housing, education, employment and training, justice, community services, preschool child care, health care, business and economic development, and governance. She is a graduate of the Akitsiraq law school with a law degree from the University of Victoria. After graduating, she worked at the Supreme Court of Canada for Madam Justice Charron, and then as a legal researcher with Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., Executive Director of the Qikiqtani Truth Commission and is the Chair of Nunavut's Legal Services Board. In these capacities she has done extensive work in the areas of governance, law, legislation and policy. Madeleine's expertise is grounded in partnership-building and developing local capacity towards fulfilling the goal of self-government and good governance. She has a record of working with industry, governments, aboriginal organizations and communities, helping to assess and identify strategies and approaches for better outcomes. Ms. Redfern is also President of the Ajungi Group, Ajungi Tourism, Northern Robotics, and Arctic Decontamination.



Sergio Roberto García Cabañas has a degree in Integral Risk Management graduated from the University Of San Pablo Of Guatemala. He is a specialist in disasters at national and international level. His most recent appointment is as Executive Secretary of CONRED, as Director of the Incident Command System. A position he assumed in the Institution in 2008. He has received various honorary mentions at the national and international level as Ad Honorem Advisor, Monja Blanca in Second Degree and the Cross for Distinguished Services by the Guatemalan Army, Flagman of the Meritorious Municipal Firemen Corps and the Guatemalan Red Cross, Medal of Valor as a member of the Municipal Fire Department, Medal for Excellence in Orlando Florida by the National Institute of Civil and Military Agencies, honorary mention of the Vice Presidency of the Republic for assistance in the Haiti earthquake. His support has been given in different events like national delegate, among them: earthquakes, floods, air accidents and hurricanes in Guatemala and different countries of the world.



María Diocelinda Iza Quinatoa (Movimiento de Mujeres de Sectores Populares Luna Creciente, Ecuador) is a renowned national leader within the Indigenous movement in Ecuador. She is the founder of OMISCSE (Organización de Mujeres Indígenas y Campesinas Sembrando Esperanza) coalition of more than 25 Indigenous and women farmers' organizations in her province of Cotopaxi, for which she acted as president for many years since its founding in 1998. The women's groups in her local network, Sembrando Esperanza (Cultivating Hope) are working to

reduce their vulnerability to floods, droughts, wind, snow damage and erosion. Ms. Quinatoa has a depth of experience in conservation, sustainable agriculture, political participation and analysis of policies around markets and free trade. She has recently received her degree as Master in Inter-cultural Communication, with a focus on gender, from the Central University of Nicaragua.



Kim Tallbear is a tribal citizen of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate in South Dakota, United States, and is also descended from the Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma. She is a Canadian Research Chair in Indigenous people, Techno science and Environment and is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Native Studies, University of Alberta. She studies the racial politics of “gene talk” in science and popular culture. She has published research, policy, review, and opinion articles on a variety of issues related to science, technology, environment, and culture.

Plenary 2

Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change and Sustainable Development

Overview Weather and climate-related hazards represent a significant threat to sustainable development. For communities to be resilient and sustainable, their design and operation must be informed by the risks they face and must be adapted to minimize the potential impacts of those risks. Optimizing risk reduction relies upon the effective integration of our understanding of climate variability and climate change, of disaster resilience and of sustainable development across multiple sectors and multiple jurisdictions. Though specific examples and lessons learned, this session will explore how the integration of social and poverty reduction policies and programs with the sustainable management of natural resources, risk prevention and climate change strategies can contribute to more targeted and efficient inter-institutional policies, providing better prospects for genuine sustainable development and for building resilience. These story elements will be examined through the lens of three questions: How can integration be effectively achieved? Are there systemic barriers? Are there unrealized opportunities?

Objectives Identify opportunities to enhance integration across DRR, CCA and sustainable development domains in the Americas.

Measurable Outcomes Produce a list of best practices and/or tools that are used or could be used to better integrate and streamline DRR and sustainable development in relation to climate variability and change.

Speakers and facilitators Moderator: Mr. David Grimes, ECCC
Speakers:
Mr. Ronald Jackson, Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Management Agency
Ms. Matilde Mordt, UNDP
Mr. Roy Barboza, Coordination Center for the prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPRENAC)
Mr. Rodney Guillermo Martínez Güingla, Marine Sciences Department at Instituto Oceanográfico de la Armada (INOCAR)-Ecuador

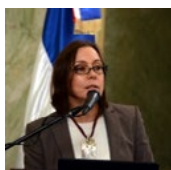
Speaker Biography



David Grimes, a Brock University graduate, has been Assistant Deputy Minister and head of Environment and Climate Change Canada's Meteorological Service (MSC) since July 2006. Mr. Grimes has many accomplishments from his 40 year career with the MSC in weather forecast operations, the Canadian Climate Centre and science-policy development. He is recognized for his strategic and innovative thinking, effective problem solving and engaging leadership style. Mr. Grimes is Canada's Permanent Representative with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) as well as Canada's Principal Representative to the Group on Earth Observations. In 2015, he was re-elected President of the WMO for a second four-year term. During his presidency he has successfully led the development and adoption of the Global Framework for Climate Services' implementation plan. Mr. Grimes has served as one of Canada's negotiators for the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, participated in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (and was co-head of Canada's Delegation to the Third UN World Conference on DRR, which led to the adoption of the Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030.



Ronald Jackson has over 16 years of experience in disaster risk management within the Caribbean Region. He is currently the Executive Director of the CDEMA and has served in the capacity of Director General and Deputy Director General of the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) in Jamaica. He has lent his expertise to the coordination of the national responses to the impact of Hurricanes Charlie, Ivan (2004); Dennis and Emily (2005); Tropical Depression 16 and subsequently Tropical Storm Nicole (2010) and most recently Hurricane Sandy (2012). He has been instrumental in the development of the Guidelines for Child-Friendly Disaster Management and Response, Re-instatement of the ODPEM Dedicated Communication Network and Revision of the Emergency Welfare Plan. In 2010, Mr. Jackson received a Certificate of Commendation from the Caribbean Community for his contribution to the rescue and recovery efforts in the aftermath of the January 2010 Haiti Earthquake. He also served as President of the IDB Caribbean Policy Dialogue Forum, the co-chair for the Inter American Network for Disaster Management and represented the CDEMA Member States on the Hyogo Framework for Action Mid-Term Review Committee and Post-2015 Hyogo Framework for Action Committee and the Consultations for the World Humanitarian Summit 2016.



Matilde Mordt leads the Sustainable Development and Resilience Team at UNDP Regional Hub in Panama that provides technical assistance and policy advice in Latin America and Caribbean on Agenda 2030 and poverty reduction, environment and climate change, and disaster risk management. She has 25 years of experience in Latin America and the Caribbean, working with the UN, regional development banks, and bilateral development agencies and as an independent consultant. Before this position, she served as Practice Manager of the Environment and Energy Group of the Bureau for Policy Development in New York, overseeing a global portfolio on environment, climate change and energy. Ms. Mordt's areas of expertise are climate change, sustainable natural resource management, environmental management, and rural development. She has combined development work with research and teaching at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden, and several research centers in Central America. Among others,

Ms. Mordt has participated in the elaboration of several UNDP National and Regional Human Development Reports and is co-author of the 2016 Caribbean Human Development Report on "Multidimensional Progress - Human Resilience Beyond Income".



Roy Barboza is a Civil Engineer, with specialization in environmental engineering. His work experience exceeds 25 years of activities in the fields of environmental engineering, sanitation, comprehensive risk to disaster management, teaching and formulation of environmental, economic and health-related projects. He has worked with national and international institutions, as executive officer of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE by its acronym in Spanish) in environmental topics, as Vice Minister of Housing and Human Settlements of Costa Rica, and has served in other important posts within the Central American Integration System (SICA, by its acronym in Spanish). He currently occupies the post of Executive Secretary of the Coordination Center for the prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPREDENAC) since January 1st of 2014. His last job posts in public administration are: Vice Minister of Housing and Human Settlements within the Ministry of Housing and Human Settlements of Costa Rica 2010-2013; Executive Secretary of the Regional Water Resources Committee until 2010.



Rodney Guillermo Martínez Güingla is a former Navy Officer, Oceanographer, BMA in Development Projects Management. Head of Marine Sciences Department at INOCAR-Ecuador and Secretary of the Ecuadorian Antarctic Programme (1997-2003). Centro Internacional para la Investigación del Fenómeno de El Niño (CIIFEN) Scientific Coordinator (2004-2015). CIIFEN International Director (2015 to date). Author/coauthor of 45 scientific publications, lecturer in 70 international conferences. Coordinator of several regional projects and capacity building activities related with climate services, risk management and adaptation in Latin America. Main Research areas: El Niño Southern Oscillation regional impacts and climate user interface development. Member of Climate and Ocean Variability, Predictability, and Change Pacific Panel, World Meteorological Organization Commission of Climatology Management Group, World Climate Research Programme Joint Scientific Committee and the Global Climate Observing System Steering Committee.

Parallel 4

Empowerment of Women and Girls and Gender Equality in Disaster Risk Reduction

Overview Discussion of practical means to empower women in all phases of disaster risk management, from planning and decision-making in disaster prevention and mitigation to disaster response and relief, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction with an inclusive gender equality and rights-based approach. Following an introductory testimonial by someone who has lived/worked through a recent disaster (e.g.: hurricane Mathew in Haiti) our expert moderator will guide the panel discussion in a format designed and based on the “objectives” provided below. Panelists will respond to questions from the moderator based on their experiences and perspectives, in turn addressing the four phases of DRR (mitigation/prevention, preparation, response, recovery). A main theme of the session will be to provide practical policy guidance and best practices based on the first-hand or “front-line” accounts of women and girls during these phases.

- Objectives**
1. Promote women’s empowerment and gender equality in all phases of DRR and management (DRM) by sharing knowledge and providing stakeholders with tools and best practices to reinforce and build capacity in the Americas.
 2. Identify some existing gaps and line of actions, particularly in the planning and design phases of DRM.
 3. Propose practical options to bridge these gaps, and develop clear recommendations for actions to advance the empowerment of women and gender perspective in DRM and DRR.
 4. Recommend areas to consider further action, discussion or study on this theme.

Measurable Outcomes Develop a list of existing platforms and tools, best practices and policy recommendations that support the empowerment of women and gender equality in all areas of DRR that will be shared with organizations at all levels across the Americas.

Speakers and facilitators Moderator: Ms. Melanie Goodchild, Waterloo Institute for Social Innovation and Resilience
Speakers:
Ms. Carmen Moreno, Inter-American Commission of Women
Ms. Dinaska Yadira Perez Garcia, Honduras Standing Committee on Emergencies
Dr. Virginia Clervaux, Turks and Caicos Department of Disaster Management and Emergencies
Ms. Relinda Sosa, Plataforma Comunitaria Comité y Redes de Honduras “Wagucha”
Ms. Jacinda Fairholm, UNDP
Ms. Esmé Lanktree, Canadian Red Cross (CRC)

Speaker Biography



Melanie Goodchild, Senior Indigenous Research Fellow and Ambassador, Suncor Fellow The Waterloo Institute for Social Innovation and Resilience (WISIR). She is Anishinaabe, moose clan, a member of the Biigtigong Nishnawbeg in northwestern Ontario. Melanie has a Master of Arts Degree in Sociology and is currently completing her PhD in Social and Ecological Sustainability at the University of Waterloo. She is a Research Fellow and Indigenous Ambassador with the WISIR. She is Senior Counsel, Indigenous Relations at National Office for the CRC. Ms. Goodchild was selected as one of 35 women from around the world to participate

in the International Women's Forum Leadership Foundation's 2015-2016 Fellows Program that includes Harvard Executive Education Training at Harvard Business School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and the Women Leading Global Change program at INSEAD in Fontainebleau, France. She was also one of 28 Canadians selected by the Peter Lougheed Leadership Institute to participate in the first ever Getting to Maybe: A Social Innovation Residency for 28 days at the Banff Centre, in Alberta, in June 2015 and returned to Banff in 2016 as an Alumni Mentor. Melanie sits on the national boards of the Canadian Risks and Hazards Network (and Rhizome Institute for the Future of Food. Ms. Goodchild is an Advisor for the Nourish: The Future of Food in Healthcare program of the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation. She is also a member of the Iron Butt Association, riding her Harley-Davidson 1000 miles in 24 hours earning her the badge of "one of the world's toughest riders".



Carmen Moreno, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission on Women. She is an internationalist and diplomat, began her work on women's rights and gender equality as a member of the Mexican Delegation to the first UN Conference on Women (1975). She has since served as the Mexican Ambassador to Costa Rica and Guatemala, as well as the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the OAS. In 2003, Carmen Moreno was appointed by the Secretary-General of the UN as Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women. In July 2009, she was appointed as Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission on Women (CIM) of the OAS, and continues to serve in that position. Established in 1928, the CIM is the only hemispheric policy forum on women's rights and gender equality in the Americas. CIM is made up of 34 delegates, one for each OAS Member State, and has become the principal forum for debating and formulating policy on women's rights and gender equality in the Americas.



Dinaska Yadira Perez Garcia, Director of Social Projects and Management Unit Comité Permanente de Contingencias (COPECO). Honduras Civil engineer with a Master's in Project Management, graduate thesis entitled "Sistema de Información y Documentación en Gestión de Riesgo de Desastres de Honduras" [Information and Documentation System for Disaster Risk Management in Honduras], currently a Master's candidate in Urban Planning and Design,. Since 2014, she has headed the Modernization and Projects Unit of the Standing Committee on Emergencies (COPECO). Her work experience is in project development, monitoring and follow-up at the national and regional level (Central America) in the areas of disaster risk management in development processes and establishing relations with cooperating parties and institutions in the Central American Integration System. She has a close working relationship with the Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America with respect to national implementation of the Central American Policy on Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management. Ms. Garcia has participated as an institutional focal point of the National Executive Committee in the development of the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development. In 2016 and 2017, she has been delegated to monitor Honduras' National Plan for Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management in terms of the Sendai Framework. She is currently the technical counterpart of the national advisor to UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and UN Women in monitoring the work of including gender issues in the actions, guidelines and indicators of Honduras' National Plan for Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management. The

Modernization and Projects Unit, which reports to the International Cooperation Directorate, is part of the technical unit of the National Commissioner's Office, provides input to the highest authority to facilitate decision-making. She has also worked with the UN System since 2011 on the Climate Change Adaptation Fund project, in the design of rainwater harvesting projects for at-risk neighborhoods in Tegucigalpa.



Dr. Virginia Clervaux, Director of the Department of Disaster Management and Emergencies (DDME), Turks and Caicos (TCI), is the only expert person within the CDEMA participating states who hold a PhD specifically in Disaster Management and has received eight academic awards and recognitions for outstanding achievements and contributions to society. She holds a PhD in Disaster Management from Gumma University in Japan, a Master's degree in Geography and a Bachelor of Honours in Geography and Public Administration from the University of the West Indies and a Certificate in Business Continuity Management. She is a trained teacher with demonstrated effectiveness in presentation and communication. Dr. has authored numerous conference/scientific papers, technical reports and peer reviewed journal articles and co-authored several books chapters. She holds membership in the TCI Red Cross, and the International Tsunami Society. She has accumulated extensive applied experience in the field of Disaster Management nationally, regionally and extra-regionally and has previously not only served the TCI Government as Deputy Director of DDME, but has also worked as the Disaster Manager for the British Red Cross-TCI following the passage of Hurricane Ike in 2009 and at the regional level, was appointed to the post of Senior Program Officer at the CDEMA Coordinating Unit of Caribbean Community and Common Market headquartered in Barbados, prior to her appointment as Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Government Support Services and then later Border Control and Labour.



Relinda Sosa, Director, Plataforma Comunitaria Comité y Redes de Honduras "Wagucha" (Huairou Partner), Peru, is a grassroots leader and organizer in Peru. Since 2005 when CONAMOVIDI was created and Ms. Sosa was elected president, they decided to work to strengthen the citizenship of women in rural and urban areas, protecting them from violation of their rights, using the example of their status as users of social programs, we then began an organizational process of more than 10,000 women from community kitchens, artisans, farmers, promoting social organizations from 65 provinces and in 16 departments. CONAMOVIDI joined GROOTS Peru, a national network of grassroots women's organizations working to promote resilient development and the leadership of grassroots women living in disaster-prone areas on Integral Disaster Risk Management and policy. Within the work of GROOTS Peru, they have implemented community mapping processes to identify areas of vulnerability and risk, submitting these to the authorities in influences them to place these issues on their future investment plan. In GROOTS Peru, Ms. Sosa and her colleagues have trained more than 120 grassroots women and men as Resilience Facilitators, and have been able to expand their work to 6 regions in the country. GROOTS Peru is a member of the Huairou Commission, and through this partnership. Ms. Sosa has been a global advocate for grassroots women in various processes of global and regional policy. She has spoken in numerous conferences and panels, including the Third UN World Conference on DRR in Sendai, Habitat III and different Civil Society Organization consultations on the Sustainable Development Goals.



Jacinda Fairholm is Regional Advisor, DRR, Sustainable Development and Resilience Team, UNDP Regional Hub, Panama, and has worked for UNDP since 2007. She managed the Canadian cooperation portfolio for the Local Human Development Program in the UNDP Cuba CO prior to taking on a regional position with the Caribbean Risk Management Initiative, (CRMI) 2008 – 2010. Following a position on the United Nations Volunteers knowledge management and learning team, Jacinda returned to manage CRMI Phase II, and went on to become the Regional DRR Advisor at the UNDP Regional Hub in Panama, the office that provides technical assistance and policy advice in Latin America and the Caribbean on poverty reduction, environment and climate change and disaster risk management. In these roles, Jacinda has contributed to efforts to improve risk reduction for slow-onset events (El Niño); coordinated a six-country local risk governance project; developed publications and workshops in gender integration in DRM; conducted post-disaster needs assessment training; and supported recovery activities in Cuba, Haiti and Ecuador, among other activities. Prior to her work with UNDP, Jacinda was a delegate for the Red Cross with missions to Colombia and Pakistan. Jacinda holds a Graduate Diploma in Disaster and Emergency Management, a Masters in Environmental Studies, and a Bachelors in International Relations.

Parallel 5

Intersections of Health Security and Disaster Risk Reduction

Hour 1 – Understanding Health in Multi-Hazards Risk Management

Hour 2 – Building Health Capacity and Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction

Overview

Both developed and developing health systems are being continuously stress tested by the emergence and re-emergence of deadly infectious diseases such as ZIKA and Ebola. Add to this the pressures of increasing hazard exposure, rapid urbanization, inequality, and the overconsumption of energy and resources – and the result is a system operating at dangerous and unpredictable threat levels with an increased potential for losses in human life.

While disaster risk management in the health sector has been notably strengthened in the Americas, it is necessary to further deepen cooperation to ensure unity and dialogue between the health and security sectors, DRR specialists, response professionals and the development and environmental sectors which all contribute to system-wide reductions to risk or increased social and health resiliency.

The Sendai Framework specifically notes this need for the health sector to play a greater role in DRR and two-way collaboration. In fact, four of the seven global targets of Sendai are health related, making health a key player in these discussions.

In this context, PHAC and PAHO are hosting an interactive parallel session at the Fifth Regional Platform on DRR – including two one-hour interactive sessions to explore The Intersections of Health and DRR.

Hour 1: focus on “Understanding Health in Multi-Hazards Risk Management”. This includes interactive presentations from experts in the Americas on priorities such as multi-hazard risk assessment in health, how biological risks can contribute to or follow a disaster, and how the International Health Regulations (serve as a framework for health sector efforts in DRR, the challenges and opportunities this may pose, and linkages to other sectors such as development, security, emergency management and environment.

Hour 2: focus on “Building Health Capacity and Investing in DRR” and include interactive presentations from experts in the Americas on ensuring health services are operational during and following emergencies and disasters, adaptation measures to climate change, and the challenge of delivering health interventions in violence prone areas.

Through interactive discussions and engagement from expert practitioners in these fields, this parallel session aims to foster multi-sectoral dialogue and networks to build a critical mass, enlighten and engage observers and participants through open two-way dialogue and, ultimately, identify opportunities for knowledge sharing and collaborative action.

Objectives To advance health action under the Regional Platform’s Regional Action Plan on DRR.

Measurable Outcomes Identify two health actions in the Regional Platform’s for DRR in the Americas Regional Action Plan.

Speakers and facilitators Moderators :
 Ms. Elaine Chatigny, PHAC
 Dr. Ciro Ugarte, Director of the Department of Health Emergencies of the PAHO/World Health Organization (WHO)
 Speakers:
 Hour 1: Understanding Health in Multi-Hazards Risk Management
 Dr. Jose Luis Cruz Raposo, Dominican Republic Ministry of Public Health (MPH)
 Dr. Celso Bambaren, National University of San Marcos
 Dr. Sylvain Aldighieri, PAHO
 Hour 2: Building Health Capacity and Investing in DRR
 Lcda Josefina Arellano, Executive Secretary of the Technical Advisory Group of the National Committee for Evaluation, Diagnosis and Certification of the Safe Hospital Program, Mexico
 Ms. Sharleen DaBreo, Director of the Department of Disaster Management, British Virgin Islands
 Dra Jenny Hernández, Honduras Secretariat of Health

Speaker Biography



Ms. Chatigny is the Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) of the Health Security Infrastructure Branch of the PHAC (the Agency). In this capacity, she leads key initiatives and programs related to health emergency preparedness and response; biosecurity; and enhancing public health workforce, surveillance and other infrastructure capacities. Prior to this position, Ms. Chatigny was on assignment with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador’s Department of Health and Community Services, as ADM of Population Health. In this role, she

was responsible for provincial policies and programs in the areas of infectious disease, chronic disease and mental health. Previously, Ms. Chatigny served as the Agency's Acting ADM of Strategic Policy, Planning and International Affairs. In that role, she oversaw the Agency's strategic policy function, including Parliamentary and Cabinet affairs, and International and Federal, Provincial and Territorial relations. Ms. Chatigny brings extensive Communications experience to the Agency, having served as Director General of Communications for several years, and Director of Public Affairs at Health Canada.



Dr. Ciro Ugarte is the Director of the Department of Health Emergencies of the PAHO/WHO. He previously served as Deputy Director General at the National Institute of Occupational Health, and Director General of the Office of National Defense of the Ministry of Health of Peru, a position he held from 1988 until 1999. During that period, he also held positions as: President of the Peruvian Society of Emergency Medicine, Official Representative of the Peruvian Government to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Member of the National Committee of the Peruvian Red Cross Society, consultant of the Office of United States. Foreign Disaster Assistance and member of the UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination Team. He coordinated the UN Inter-Agency Disaster Team in Honduras prior to joining PAHO/WHO in the year 2000 as Sub-regional Advisor for South America. He later served as Regional Advisor on Emergency Preparedness, and Director of the Department of Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Relief in Washington, D.C. Dr. Ugarte has extensive experience in DRR, emergency preparedness and disaster response. He coordinated the implementation of public health measures and health care at national and international levels in case of earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, severe floods, El Niño phenomenon, landslides, hazardous materials incidents, armed conflicts, terrorist attacks, taking of hostages, chemical emergencies, mass gatherings, meetings of Head of States, epidemics of cholera, yellow fever, dengue, malaria, hepatitis, pandemic influenza H1N1, among others.



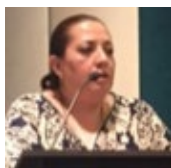
Dr. Jose Luis Cruz Raposo, has been, since February 2016, the Director of Risk Reduction Management and Disaster Attention of Dominican Republic's MPH. He was involved in the preparation and response to tackle the Chikungunya and Ebola viruses. He was also involved in identifying cases of other viruses at an international level.



Dr. Celso Bambaren is a Physician, National University of San Marcos with a specialist in health management. Cayetano Heredia University. He has a postgraduate in business continuity management, postgraduate in planning of health care facilities. University of Oberta Catalunya, postgraduate in designing of health care facilities. University of Oberta Catalunya and a Master's degree in Economy and Health. Management, National University of San Marcos. Master in Environmental management and audits. Universidad de Piura. Dr. Ph., National University of San Marcos. Research Interests: Emergencies and disasters, Injuries by traffic accidents, Health economics.



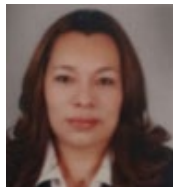
Dr. Sylvain Aldighieri is the Deputy Director, Health Emergencies Department, PAHO. During the last 25 years he has been posted in various locations in Africa and the Americas as a Medical Officer for the French Government and for the PAHO and the World Health Organization.



Ms. Josefina Dolores Arellano is a psychologist with a specialty in criminology. She has a robust career spanning more than 20 years in various areas of the Secretariat (Ministry) of Health of Mexico. Ms. Arellano has specialized in developing innovative programs for training human resources in health and assessing the quality of health care. She is currently the Executive Secretary of the Technical Advisory Group of the National Committee for Evaluation, Diagnosis and Certification of the Safe Hospital Program. In this capacity Ms. Arellano coordinates and oversees capacity building programs including administering Mexico's Safe Hospital program, a leading program in the Americas for DRR.



Ms. Sharleen DaBreo is the Director of the Department of Disaster Management, British Virgin Islands, since 1994 and had held the position of Director since 1998. Ms. DaBreo is a member of the various regional response teams established through CDEMA, UNDAC and PAHO, which are deployed in the event of any major emergency or disaster affecting this region or any other location in the world. She is also a member of the PAHO Disaster Management Advisory Group and a Champion for the PAHO SMART Hospitals Project.



Dr. Jenny Hernandez is a Doctor in medicine graduated from the National Autonomous University of Honduras. She has postgrads in Risk Management and Public Administration with many years of experience on emergency and risk management. Coordinator of Risk Management in emergencies and disasters at the Secretariat of Health in Honduras.

Parallel 6

Sendai Framework Inclusion of Volunteers in Social Mobilization for Disaster Risk Reduction

Overview

The Sendai Framework specifically references the role of volunteers and voluntary organizations in its principles and priority actions: as stakeholders, in its principles, towards understanding risk as well as to increasing collaborative efforts, ensuring prepared, well trained volunteers are critical to locally and at regional and global levels.

This session will demonstrate how volunteers already contribute towards achieving the intent and priorities of Sendai Framework. An open dialogue between voluntary organizations, volunteers and policy makers will advance understanding of inclusion of voluntary actions in DRR and disaster management.

Session panelists will emphasize:

- Promoting volunteering as a preventive measure in a whole of society DRR approach;
- Understanding the social as well as economic value of the labour of volunteers in the communities;
- Promoting volunteer service and recognise the labour of volunteers; and
- Promoting international organizations that work through and prioritize the importance of volunteer contributions to DRR.

The session will refer to each of the Sendai Framework references and consider from the group experience and technical expertise:

- How to increase the collaboration with volunteers, voluntary organization and citizens in the planning processes and policies for DRR; and
- How to increase volunteer contributions towards risk management.

Objectives

1. Showcase volunteers as drivers of change in DRR.
2. Engage in peer-to-peer (at institutional level) learning and experiences through group discussion.
3. Identify actions that encourage volunteerism and strengthen their role in community disaster risk reduction.

Measurable Outcomes

1. Identify and share a list of concrete activities to increase active participation of volunteers, and the civilian population in DRR actions and specific Sendai Framework Priorities for Action.
2. Draft and share key messages that advocate governments (national and local) to integrate community volunteers into national DRR plans, policies and structures.

Speakers and facilitators

Chairman: Mr. Walter Cotte, Colombian Red Cross
Co-host: Ambassador Alejandro Daneri, Argentina White Helmets
Moderator: Mr. Jean Pierre Taschereau, Canadian Red Cross
Speakers:
Ms. Debora Hendrickson, Aviva Canada
Mr. Roger Zambrano, Ecuadorian Red Cross

Speaker Biography



Walter Cotte, since 1970, began his work with the Colombian Red Cross as volunteer of Red Cross School Brigades in Colombia, occupying different positions as Services Coordinator and Field Services Instructor, Head of Search and Rescue Team, Member of the Regional Board of Directors of the Colombian Red Cross, Operations and Relief National Director and finally for the last six years Executive Officer, in the Colombian Red Cross. He was member of the Colombia Calamity Board and of the National Board of Firemen. In 2013, he was appointed Under Secretary General for the Program Services Division in Geneva. In the last two and a half years in this position, he was responsible for managing humanitarian response and risk reduction at a global level as well as leading projects and programs in health, logistics, security, cross-cutting programs, including migration, nuclear preparation. He has also held responsibility and leadership positions in support to the Disaster Management Policy, with special attention to the

review of the Principles and Standards for Humanitarian Assistance of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, Strengthening of the Movement coordination and the Resilient Community Coalition, in conjunction with National Societies. Over the past 10 years, he has been deeply involved in the formulation of policies, processes, programs and national and international projects for disaster risk management, climate change, water and sanitation, livelihoods and settlements, shelters and incomes generation and led over 50 international missions as an expert in the global disasters management.



Jean-Pierre Taschereau is Director, Emergency Operations, CRC. He has been a part of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement since 1991. He has been engaged in various disaster response operations in Canada and overseas, including the Louisiana floods in 1995, hurricane George in Puerto Rico in 1997, the Quebec ice storm in 1998, hurricane Mitch in Guatemala and Nicaragua in 1999. Between 1999 and 2004, Mr. Taschereau worked with the ICRC in Mexico, Indonesia, Colombia and Sudan. He was a relief coordinator for the IFRC in Indonesia and the CRC's Senior Manager for Field Operations from 2005 to 2006. From 2007 to 2009, he was deployed as a Disaster Management delegate then Operations Coordinator with the Pan-American Disaster Response Unit in Panama, and led the Red Cross Movement's response to the Haiti earthquake in January 2010. From 2012 to the end of 2014, he was one of the IFRC's three Head of Emergency Operations, and led the development of the IFRC's response to the influx of Syrian refugees in Jordan, the food security crisis in the Sahel and the early response to the Ebola outbreaks in Sierra Leone and Guinea. Since January 2015, Mr. Taschereau has returned to the CRC as Director of Emergency Operations and led the organization's response to the Fort McMurray wildfire evacuation.



Debora Hendrickson is Senior Vice President, Customer and Marketing for Aviva Canada, which is one of the leading property and casualty insurance groups in the country that brings over 300 years of good thinking and insurance solutions to Canadians from coast to coast. Aviva's Corporate responsibility strategy focuses on protecting the people and things you love, supporting the causes you care about most and strengthening your local community. Ms. Hendrickson is responsible for Customer Service Operations, Marketing and Corporate Affairs. Her mandate is to drive the execution of our customer experience strategy from brand awareness through customer advocacy, distinct customer propositions, digital marketing capabilities and operational excellence. She is also responsible for Aviva's corporate responsibility strategy and delivery of our programs. She brings her passion for the customer and her significant operational knowledge to advance core business capabilities leveraging systems thinking, performance metrics and the contact centre infrastructure across the enterprise. Working in the financial services industry for most of her career, Ms. Hendrickson has been with Aviva Canada for more than 25 years working across the business in Underwriting, Marketing, Executive Office, Claims and Customer Service, Operations and Technology, Customer & Marketing all in increasingly senior positions.



Roger Zambrano has been part of the Ecuadorian Red Cross volunteer for more than 20 years. He has gained a lot of experience in the humanitarian field, which has allowed him to mature objectively about the work done by the volunteers and recognize that we are only to support the most vulnerable, respect their dignity and strengthen their capacities. As Ecuadorian Red Cross National Risk Management Coordinator, he continued to work on community preparedness and response to respond to emergencies and disasters at the community level, following the earthquake of April 16, 2016. His academic training is Engineering in Disaster Management and Risk Management from the Bolivar State University, complementing the years of experience.

Ambassador Alejandro Daneri is an Attorney at Law graduated from the University of Buenos Aires and career Diplomat. He has been the President of the White Helmets Commission, the humanitarian assistance department of the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, since March 11th 2016. He is also the focal point for refugees within the scope of the Argentine Foreign Ministry. He served as an Officer at the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations in New York (Committee on Social and Humanitarian Affairs) and joined the staff of the 43rd. United Nations General Assembly President's Cabinet. In Argentina, he was Chief Officer at the Cabinet, as well as Private Secretary of the Foreign Affairs Minister. He also served as General Director of Ceremonial Affairs in the Executive Branch. Until his appointment as President of the White Helmets Commission, he was working as an Officer the Undersecretary of Latin American and Caribbean Affairs.

Parallel 7

Building Resilience in Cities

Overview

The Sendai Framework target E "Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local DRR strategies by 2020" is the only target to be achieved by 2020, thus it requires specific support at national and local levels to increase the number of DRR plans or strategies. Cities have been developing successful resilience strategies and plans at city level to reduce disaster risk but more guidance on good practices and on developing further steps is needed. Cities which are at the forefront of managing and reducing risks must become transformative in their approaches in order to reduce the increasingly complex risks of today. Local governments have to constantly assess and revise their plans, actions and investments in line with the pace of social and economic development. The only common target across the four frameworks of the 2030 development agenda is to increase the number of cities with integrated strategies and plans in line with the Sendai Framework .

As per Sendai Framework, these local strategies and plans need to avoid the creation of new risk by promoting compliance with risk sensitive urban development, building codes, proper land use, environmental protection and poverty reduction. This session will present a number of city case studies from different Americas' sub-regions in order to identify steps and challenges in the development of local DRR plans, and will suggest actions needed to address this challenges.

This discussion will increase capacity in the region to develop and implement DRR plans and to achieve the Sendai Framework target E at local level. A session in local engagement is being developed for the 2017 Global Platform (GP). This session will also provide input for the GP session.

Objectives Identify challenges, lessons learned and next steps through case studies taken from the Americas region for the development of local DRR plans to support achievement of the Sendai Framework at local level.

Measurable Outcomes Development of four best practices and actions to be included in the UN International Strategy on DRR Local Strategy Methodological Guide, which provides information on drafting resilient plans.

Speakers and facilitators Moderator: Mr. Michel C. Doré, Université du Québec à Montréal.
Speakers:
Mr. Robert Glasser, UNISDR
Mr. Clark Somerville, Halton Hills Mayor
Mr. José Manuel Corral, Coalition Frente Progresista Cívico y Social of Santa Fe, Argentina
Ms. Anie Samson, City of Montreal Vice- Chair
Ms. Jacinta Mercedes Estévez, Santo Domingo Vice Mayor

Speaker Biography



Michel Doré is a professor in the major risk management graduate studies program at the Université du Québec à Montréal. A paramedic and nurse, for 30 years he has worked in disaster and crisis management. He has been involved in managing a number of major incidents including the Montreal flood (1987), the PBC fire in Saint-Basile-le-Grand (1988), the ice storm (1998), the government's response to the H1N1 pandemic, and the Lebanon (2007) and Haiti (2010) refugee operations. He was Assistant Deputy Minister, Regions and Programs, at Health Canada and Associate Deputy Minister, Civil Protection and Fire Safety, with the Quebec Department of Public Security. In 2016, the Minister of Public Security of Quebec presented him with the civil protection award for his commitment and achievements in the field.



Dr. Robert Glasser is the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction and the head of the UNISDR, the UN Office for DRR. Key former positions held by Dr. Glasser include the Secretary General of CARE International, Chief Executive of CARE Australia, and Assistant Director General at the Australian Agency for International Development. Dr. Glasser is a member of the board of the Global Call for Climate Action, and serves as Chairman of the Board of the CHS International Alliance. He has also worked on international energy and environmental policy for the US Department of Energy and on peace and conflict at various institutions, including the Cornell University and the University of California. He was also a Principals Steering Group member of the UN Transformative Agenda for Humanitarian Action.



Clark Somerville is a Local/Regional Councillor for the Town of Halton Hills and Halton Region, Ontario. He has served on council for more than 18 years. His wards encompass urban and rural areas, and as a result Councillor Somerville has continuously advocated for protecting countryside and the Niagara Escarpment from being designated for future highway corridors and growth areas. The councillor has served as a member of the Halton Regional Police Services Board, Chair of Halton's Health and Social Services Committee, Vice President of the Halton Community Housing Corporation and a variety of other committees. Councillor Somerville has been a member of Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Board of Directors and Ontario Caucus for five years. He has vice-chaired the Rural Forum and chaired the Housing Subcommittee, and has vice-chaired the Standing Committee on Social Economic Development.



José Manuel Corral is a lawyer, a political activist of the Unión Cívica Radical party, and a member of the Coalition Frente Progresista Cívico y Social of Santa Fe. He was the President of the Municipal Council of the City of Santa Fe de la Vera Cruz (2010–2011). During his term of office, some lines proposed in his Development Plan for Santa Fe 2020, received international recognition. This is the case of the Mayor award of the World Champion Campaign 2010–2015 "Making Cities Resilient", awarded by the Office of the United Nations DRR. Santa Fe was the first city in Argentina to join this campaign. This same institution chose Santa Fe as an example of Model City. Furthermore, Santa Fe is included in the 100 Resilient Cities initiative of The Rockefeller Foundation. Also, Santa Fe City – during Corral's government – obtained the Second Mention Award in Municipal Policies, awarded by the CIPPEC (Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas para la Equidad y el Crecimiento) in the context of Innovation in Public Management for quality and growth.



Anie Samson, elected as city councillor in 1994, become Mayor of the Villeray-Saint-Michel-Parc-Extension borough in January 2006. In 2013, she also became Vice-Chair of the City of Montreal Executive Committee, responsible for public safety and citizen services. As an expert in urban safety, Ms. Samson gives lectures in this field at both the national and international level. She serves on a number of boards, including Urgences-Santé Québec; the Conseil sur les services policiers du Québec; the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime; the Union des Municipalités du Québec (UMQ); the Comité de gouvernance de l'UMQ, and the FCM's Working Group on Rail Safety.



Jacinta Mercedes Estévez is the founding President of the "Educación para la Salud y el Crecimiento" Foundation (EDUCRE), which operates in the Maquiteria sector in Santo Domingo Este. EDUCRE carries out technical and vocational courses for young people from the marginalized sectors to provide them with an occupation that helps them to enter the labor market. She is the first woman who was part of the political team of the honorable Mayor Juan de los Santos, and for more than 10 years she has been part of the team of political assistants of Senator Cristina Lizardo. Social sensitivity, loyalty, vocation to service, solidarity, hardworking and committed to the best interests of the community are the main human and political qualities that characterize Ms. Jacinta Mercedes Estévez, next Vice Mayor to accompany the Mayor Alfredo Martínez in the management of Municipality Santo Domingo 2016-2020.

Parallel 8

Engaging with the Private Sector to Understand and Reduce Risks

Overview Trillions of dollars of new private investment across all sectors are expected to pour into hazard prone areas by 2030 dramatically increasing the global value of assets at risk. How disaster risk is factored into and managed in capital investments, supply chains and operations in general will therefore have a decisive influence on whether risk levels can be reduced and the targets of the Sendai Framework can be achieved. At the same time, whether disaster risk is correctly factored into the value chain of business is influenced by how it is priced and valued by analysts, providers of business intelligence, regulators, insurers, educators and others. The Sendai Framework explicitly recognizes an important role for the private sector. The Framework highlighted the lack of regulation and incentives for private DRR investment as an underlying risk driver and called for business to integrate disaster risk into their management practices. Similarly, it stated that addressing the underlying disaster risk factors through disaster risk-informed public and private investments are more cost-effective than primary reliance on post-disaster response and recovery, and contribute to sustainable development. Such measures are cost-effective and instrumental to save lives, prevent and reduce losses and ensure effective recovery and rehabilitation. By highlighting leading private-sector risk assessment and risk mitigation initiatives underway across the Americas, this session will present participants with concrete examples of how governments can leverage resources and expertise in the private sector to enhance resiliency at the individual, community and national levels.

- Objectives**
1. To promote the implementation of the Sendai Framework through knowledge and understanding of disaster risk within the private sector.
 2. To discuss the key role, achievements and perspective of the private sector in the implementation of the Sendai Framework in the Americas.
 3. To discuss initiatives and good practices that take into account a risk sensitive approach as well as investments in DRR and resilience.
 4. To showcase practical examples of how the public, private and not-for-profit sector can work together to improve knowledge concerning flood risk and deliver tangible risk assessment and risk mitigation initiatives.

- Measurable Outcomes**
1. Develop guidelines and recommendations for the establishment of national chapters of ARISE and other private sector initiatives in support of the implementation of the Sendai Framework in the Americas.
 2. Make available to participants case studies comprised of leading private-sector-led initiatives and models that can be applied to risk reduction and risk mitigation efforts across other jurisdictions and all tiers of government.

Speakers and facilitators

Moderators:

Ms. Kiki Lawal, UNISDR for Private Sector

Mr. Craig Stewart, IBC

Speakers:

Mr. Dale Sands, CH2M

Mr. Bruce McArthur, Tesera Systems Inc.

Mr. Juan Pablo Sarmiento, Florida International University (FIU) Extreme Events Institute

Mr. Jair Torres, Unit for DRR and Resilience of UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Paris

Mr. Robert Turnbull, R and J Turnbull Ltd

Mr. Estaban Proaño Salvador, LMI International Corp.

Ms. Angela Gómez, National Association of Business Owners of Colombia (ANDI)

Mr. David Greenall, PwC's Sustainable Solutions Practice

Mr. David Young, Boston Consulting Group (BCG)

Mr. Gonzalo Diaz de Valdes Olavarrieta, Transbank

Speaker Biography



Kiki Rebecca Lawal is the UNISDR focal point for Private Sector, including ARISE, which is a UNISDR-led network of private sector entities, whose members voluntarily commit to align with the Sendai Framework. Its members have the opportunity to network globally to share cutting edge DRR information with other members and the communities they work in. ARISE members have the opportunities to contribute to DRR in a visible and impactful way that also can benefit the disaster resilience of their own businesses. The overall goal of the initiative is to create disaster resilient societies and to achieve the outcomes and goals as set by the Sendai Framework. ARISE facilitates exchange of experience and knowledge on how to implement tangible DRR projects through seven work streams: disaster risk management strategies, investment metrics, benchmarking and standards, education and training, legal and regulatory, urban risk reduction and resilience, and insurance. With over 12 years of working with the public and private sector, Ms. Lawal has extensive experience in promoting and developing public-private partnerships for disaster risk reduction; leveraging sectoral private sector expertise and strengths to advance DRR and mitigation activities; and environmental, social and governance factors in risk analyses.



Craig Stewart leads national work on disaster resilience at IBC which is the industry association representing the property and casualty insurance industry in Canada. IBC's members employ over 122,000 Canadians and paid out CAD 9.8 billion in property claims in 2016, primarily due to severe weather and wildfire. Previous to his work with IBC, he has held numerous senior positions within the federal government, directed the Ottawa Bureau and Arctic program for World Wildlife Fund Canada, handled pandemic liaison, trade liaison and humanitarian donations for GlaxoSmithKline (Canada) Ltd. and founded the Miistakis Institute at the University of Calgary.



Dale Sands is Senior Vice President and Global Practice Director for CH2M's Private Client Sector business. He provides overall leadership for engineering and environmental services including industrial water, advanced facility design, infrastructure services, site planning and permitting, site remediation and revitalization, environmental health & safety, process engineering and sustainability/climate adaptation. CH2M's private sector serves major corporations in oil and gas, power, chemical, industrial, manufacturing, life sciences, electronics and advanced facilities sectors. Mr. Sands has lived and traveled internationally and has experience in 65 countries. Previously Mr. Sands was Global Practice Director for Climate Adaptation (2014-2016), Managing Director, Environment Business Europe, Middle East and Africa (2012-2014) for AECOM's leading environmental business. During his directorship he established and led a global knowledge technical network that ensured the best technical expertise and practices were advanced for client projects. Mr. Sands has served as Vice Chair, UN's Private Sector Advisory Group for UNISDR (2013 – 2015), and was a Board member (2011 – 2013). While Vice Chair, UNISDR Private Sector membership grew to 100 companies from 42 countries. Working with IBM, he developed the first Disaster Resilience Scorecard based upon the UN's Ten Essential for DRR in 2014; the Scorecard is an innovative tool to assess preparedness of communities to respond to, and recovery from, natural disasters. The Disaster Resilience Scorecard received international acclaim, was recognized as a best practice by the UN International Strategy for DRR and received the Notre Dame Climate Adaptation Index 2015 Prize. He also developed a private business resilience survey tool that was applied to over 200 businesses in New Orleans in 2016.

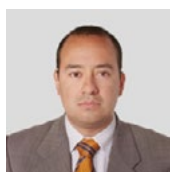


Bruce MacArthur is President and Chief Executive Officer of Tesera Systems Inc. whose corporate vision is to realize the potential of people, data and technology by improving business and environmental outcomes. Bruce has more than 30 years of experience helping organizations understand and manage the opportunities and risks associated with our changing environment (climate, natural resources) and business markets. He brings a proven track record working with a diversity of sectors and partnerships, including industry (insurance, energy, water, forestry, agriculture, and mining), all levels of government and First Nations, academia and Non-Governmental Organizations. His collaborative approach allows clients and interdisciplinary teams to identify, explore, analyze and manage strategic and operational risk in a goal-oriented and accountable context. Mr. MacArthur has led the design and development of corporate visions, strategies and solutions that have enabled organizations to better manage risk, improve project outcomes, while providing them with greater confidence and certainty in the future. He is an active supporter of open source approaches and collaborative-based initiatives that are helping to make it easier for organizations and communities of interest to find, use, share, learn, adapt and enhance data, research and knowledge.

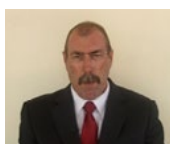


Juan Pablo Sarmiento is a Research Professor and Associate Director for Research at the FIU Extreme Events Institute. He is also the Director of the Disaster Risk and Climate Adaptation Program, funded by the United States Agency for International Development's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA). Dr. Sarmiento is a Medical Doctor and Surgeon (Universidad del Rosario, Colombia) with a M.Sc. in Public Health, Specialty in Health Promotion and Social

Development (Université de Bordeaux, France & Universidad Pública de Navarra, Spain); a M.A. in Project Management (UCI, Costa Rica). He has a Specialization Degree in Medical Education (Universidad de la Sabana, Colombia). Dr. Sarmiento has also post-graduate studies in Disaster Management (Oxford, Great Britain); High Level Public Administration (Colombian Superior School of Public Administration), a residence in Nutrition (Tufts University, U.S.). He has more than three decades of professional experience in health, health education, and risk and disaster management at the national (Colombia), and international level as a consultant for the PAHO, member of UNDAC teams, and for more than ten years as Technical Manager of the regional risk management program, that the International Resources Group implemented in Latin American and the Caribbean for the USAID/OFDA. In the last three years Dr. Sarmiento has been involved in risk and health advisory work in Asia (Nepal), and the South Pacific region.



Jair Torres works in the Unit for DRR and Resilience of UNESCO in Paris. He is a PhD candidate at the understanding and Managing Extremes Graduate School of the Institute for Advanced Study of Pavia (IUSS). He acquired his master's degree on Development Economy at the University of Paris III, Sorbonne Nouvelle and his bachelor diploma in Finances and International Relations at the Externado University of Colombia. Mr. Torres has been deeply involved in DRR and Resilience activities in the UNESCO since September 2006. He has been working in the International Hydrological Programme (UNESCO-IHP), the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC) and in the Unit for DRR and Resilience. He advises and support the Unit in the international activities related to the scientific, educational and policy aspects of natural hazards leading to disaster including earthquakes, floods, tsunamis, landslides, volcanoes and droughts. He has been involved in activities concerning school safety, early warning systems, and promotion of scientific cooperation and capacity building for disaster reduction. Among others, he is responsible of the International Platform for Earthquake Early Warning Systems, the UNESCO's methodology for assessing school facilities and the UNESCO programme for measuring resilience. He has playing an active role in the design and implementation of the International Platform for Reducing Earthquake Disaster and in the UNESCO-USGS programme for Reducing Earthquake Losses.

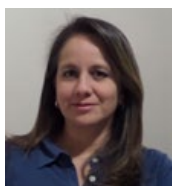


Robert Turnbull is a Barbadian Consultant, working around the world and specializing in Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery and currently operates mostly in the Caribbean. His background is grounded in IT having worked for the British government, BL&P and Fujitsu ICL. He has a long background in the payments arena, having worked with Canadian Company Oasis Technology Ltd (now Fidelity), a leading provider of payment switches and infrastructure for 10 years. Bob has worked in many countries with Oasis, in Africa, Asia, Middle East, India, Europe, South/Central America and Scandinavia, successfully selling and implementing complex payment infrastructures to both financial institutions and processors, both large and small. Notable successes having been in Finland where he was responsible for the sales and management of a payment switch and credit card application to the national interbank processor, Luottokunta, as well as in Qatar, Turkey, India, Belgium (MasterCard Europe), Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Dominican Republic and various Caribbean Countries. It was during his time with Fujitsu ICL that he first came across Business Continuity which at that time was

in its infancy. Having now decided to start his own consulting company, He set up R and J Turnbull Ltd to provide consulting services and specialized in Business Continuity/DR and has concluded the provision of Business Continuity Management programs to Building Societies, Finance Companies, Manufacturing, Retail/distribution, Fund Managers, Hospitality, University Information Technology Departments., Insurance Brokers and Credit Unions.



Esteban Proaño Salvador is an Ecuadorian Executive with more than 20 years of experience working with high technology applied in the Security and Defense domains throughout South America. He has been directly involved in developing and implementing solutions in various technology centers. Built to train multiagency staff members of multiple levels and ranks, in joint efforts and operations associated to the national security, where modern concepts can be conceived and validated. In April of 2015, he became a founding member of 5 to Poder, an active and independent political organization that seeks democratic participation based on three simple principles: active promotion of the universal declaration of Human Rights, active promotion of true plural democratic participation, and the defense against any totalitarian regime.



Angela Gómez Rodríguez is currently Director of Environmental Regulation at the National Association of Business Owners of Colombia (ANDI), a business association that encompasses over 1,200 medium- and large-sized businesses in Colombia. She has over 22 years of experience in business management in the area of environment and industrial and technological risks. In addition to corporate environmental management, her duties include the management of industrial and technological risks, which in turn includes joint coordination with other entities of the Colombian Chapter of ARISE; as well as joint coordination of the private-sector volunteer initiative "Responsabilidad Integral Colombia" [Comprehensive Responsibility-Colombia] (a Colombian program of the international program "Responsible Care"), and of the APELL Programs in Barranquilla and Cartagena, which are promoted in Colombia by ANDI. She is a member of Colombia's National Advisory Commission on Industrial and Technological Risks, and a member of the working group for the UNISDR Public-Private Partnerships for DRR in the Americas.



David Greenall is a Director with PwC's Sustainable Solutions Practice and the ARISE Canada focal point. He has over 20 years of experience in advising public and private sector clients on the financial, operating and strategic risks and opportunities of the clean energy and low-carbon transition and changing climatic conditions. Mr. Greenall works with clients to make climate risk-informed decisions that integrate multiple domains including water management, land use planning, disaster risk management and natural resources management. He sits on/ has participated in numerous climate change advisory boards and committees, is the former Director of the Leaders' Round Table on Climate Change Adaptation, and was the founder and original Country Director - Carbon Disclosure Project (Canada).



David Young is a Senior Partner and Managing Director at the BCG. He works closely with the leaders of the Social Impact practice to assist clients with efforts at the intersection of social impact, the firm's Public Sector practice, and the private sector. He also engages with BCG's Grow Africa team, tapping the vast experience he gained in that region during his time away from BCG and his exposure to Africa since 1976. Prior to rejoining BCG in 2016, Mr. Young served at World Vision International as chief operating officer, leading a comprehensive transformation effort and overseeing the organization global field operations, emergency response, technical support teams, microfinance, and strategic support functions. The organization involved 41,000 employees across more than 70 nations and annual funding of more than USD 2 billion in field spending and USD 600 million in microfinance loans. It made meaningful contributions to the well-being of more than USD 150 million of the world's most vulnerable children. World Vision is now widely regarded as one of the most effective global non-governmental organizations. He also served on the board of directors of Vision Fund International, one of the world's largest microfinance operations bringing financial services to the poor, and on the board of directors of J.M. Huber, one of America's oldest family held global corporations. During his time at BCG, from 1988 to 2005, Mr. Young's many roles included serving on BCG's Executive Committee, leading the Industrial Goods practice, and serving as managing director of the firm's Seoul and Boston offices. He was also an active member of the Organization and Corporate Development practices, and worked on the teams that launched what are today the Social Impact and Global Advantage practices. Prior to joining BCG initially, Mr. Young worked at The Timken Company from 1980 to 1988 in research and development, manufacturing operations, and corporate strategy.



Gonzalo Diaz de Valdes Olavarrieta is an executive professional who has performed in the last 20 years in the national and regional private sector (Transbank, BankBoston, Cargill Inc.), business continuity strategies and crisis management, Information, Risk Management, Production, Operations and Projects. He holds a PhD from the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, an MBA from Loyola University Baltimore and a Bachelor of Information Systems and Management Control from the Faculty of Economics and Administration at the University of Chile. He has developed and implemented business continuity plans for more than ten countries in different business units; has implemented international standards such as ISO 22301, ISO 27001, and internationally recognized good practices. Support in Certification of payment standards PCI, Certifications CMMi, Guest to panel of ABECS (Asociación de Bancos of Brazil) of means of payment in Latin America. He has participated in several national workshops, and Transbank with ITIL co-author Brian Johnson.

PARALLEL 9

High Risk Population as Agents of Change for Disaster Risk Reduction

Overview The Sendai Framework recognizes the high impact of disasters on vulnerable persons and encourages contributions from High Risk Populations (HRP) as stakeholders. Working sessions at the 2015 Third World Conference for DRR, called for more inclusion of HRP in policy and planning. In follow-up, this session will explore the HRP contribution towards the achievement of Sendai Framework Priorities.

This session will showcase the vision of representative populations on DRR actions that acknowledges they are not “beneficiaries” but active in risk reduction efforts by:

- Discussing the context and role of HRP in the Sendai Framework Implementation;
- Presenting organizational or individual perspective on the active engagement of HRP in DRR; and
- Present from workgroups concrete recommendations for the Sendai Framework Priorities for Action.

This session will solicit recommendations and key messages from participants, taking into account regional contexts including violence and migration considerations for HRP.

Participants will discuss each of the Sendai Priorities in working groups by:

- Identifying the challenges for the inclusion of HRP as agent of change;
- Documenting opportunities where HRP have added value and capacities for the implementation of the Sendai Framework; and
- Drafting key advocacy message that call for incorporation of HRP contributions into national and local policies and frameworks for DRR.

- Objectives**
1. Discuss the regional contexts where risk reduction actions need to be adapted to include HRP contributions.
 2. Promote the integration of differentiated needs of HRP into comprehensive policies for DRR.

- Measurable Outcomes**
1. Document and recommend tangible actions for the active participation of HRP as change agents at all levels – local, national, regional and global – toward each of the Sendai Framework Priorities
 2. Draft and share key advocacy messages for Governments (national and local) that integrate HRP contexts and capacities into national and local DRR plans, policies and structures

Speakers and facilitators Moderator: Ms. Susana Urbano, RET International
Speakers:
Mr. Carlos Kaiser, Inclusiva non-governmental organization
Mr. Saul Zenteno, Manatee Foundation
Ms. Andria Grosvenor, CDEMA
Ms. Tracey O'Sullivan, University of Ottawa

Speaker Biography

Susana Urbano is a woman, mother, friend, and currently DRR Regional Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean in RET International. She is an architect and has a Master in Environmental Management with specializations in: human rights, sustainable development and public disaster prevention policies in Latin America and the Caribbean and International Refugee Law. She has 20 years of experience in disaster risk management working with local and national governments, civil society organizations and the United Nations system in Venezuela, Panama, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Peru, Colombia, Paraguay and others.



Carlos Kaiser is a person with disabilities experienced and dynamic as a high level speaker who can present concrete examples with great experience in inclusive emergency management. Kaiser has experience in inclusive build back better in Chile after two great earthquakes and tsunamis, wild fires, landslides and other disasters. Executive Director of Inclusiva Non-governmental organization (NGO). In his management Inclusiva NGO won the Risk Award 2014 and was nominated for the Sasakawa 2015 award. Mr. Kaiser represented people with disabilities in High-Level Partnership Dialogue on "Inclusive Disaster Risk Management: Governments, Communities and Groups Acting Together" in Sendai 2015. He has been invited as a speaker and/ or as a trainer in inclusive emergency management to Japan, Latvia, Argentina, Uruguay, Bangladesh, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Honduras, Ecuador, Switzerland, Peru, Chile and Thailand. He is the Chair Person of the Inclusive management of Disaster Risk and Disabilities Reduction of Latin America and the Caribe Network Kaiser, representing Inclusiva NGO, is a member of the Sendai Framework Indicators and Terminology team and Special Session 2 Organizing Team member is part of the team that worked on the Dhaka declaration and lead a team about disabilities in the Chile-Japan earthquake tsunami drill.



Saul Zenteno works in citizenship-building initiatives and human rights defense of migrant's people in transit, in the context of the Central America humanitarian crisis. He also worked as a consultant for the creation of more than 100 youth-led organizations, facilitated educational programs for internally displaced people by the armed conflict in Colombia, and directed national disaster response plans in Mexico. Today, he presides the Manatee Foundation and is a Regional Focal Point in Latin America and the Caribbean for the United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth DRR working group. He is actively involved in intergovernmental processes related to sustainable development such as Agenda 2030, the World Humanitarian Summit, Financing for Development, Habitat III, UN Conference on Trade and Development XIV and the Sendai Framework for DRR.



Andria Grosvenor has been working in the field of disaster management for twenty years. Currently working with the CDEMA, Ms. Grosvenor has been appointed to manage the business side of the Agency's programming – with a focus on strategic planning, resource mobilization and monitoring and evaluation. Through this portfolio, Ms. Grosvenor is the focal point for the reporting on the regional efforts towards the achievement of the CDM Strategy goal which is sustainable development, and contributes to the Sendai Framework. Ms. Grosvenor's portfolio over the years has been diverse, working in the functional areas of disaster preparedness,

response, mitigation and recovery; managing projects, guiding the development of the Agency's DRR and climate change adaptation products, overseeing country support activities in the 18 CDEMA participating states and coordinating the regional response during times of emergency, in the context of the Regional Response Mechanism.



Dr. Tracey O'Sullivan is the Associate Vice-Dean, Academics, in the Faculty of Health Sciences, at the University of Ottawa. She obtained her Masters from the University of Victoria and her PhD from Queen's University. Her research program focuses on community resilience and upstream strategies to support populations at high-risk during disasters, using an asset-based approach. Dr. O'Sullivan holds an Early Researcher Award from the Ontario Ministry of Research and Innovation, and she is the chair of The EnRiCH International Collaboration, a multidisciplinary network of academic and community partners focused on community engagement, health promotion and disaster risk reduction.

Plenary 3

Innovation for Disaster Risk Reduction Workshop

Science & Technology Solutions

World Café Format

- Overview** A World café is a conversational process which links and builds on each other as people move between groups, cross-pollinate ideas, and discover new insights. This format facilitates:
- Convening diverse perspectives and skill-sets to create a holistic understanding of DRR;
 - Providing a creative and stimulating environment, encouraging out of the box thinking and innovative solutions;
 - Reducing hierarchy and empowering newcomers, creating opportunities for disruptive thinking;
 - Breaking through constraining factors (e.g., risk intolerance, silos, and resource flows); and
 - Creating user-centred solutions through co-creation.

Objectives Share information on science and technology gaps for the four Sendai Framework priorities.

- Measurable Outcomes**
1. Create and distribute through the disaster risk reduction Tools and Best Practices APP – of a list of science and technology (S&T) tools to reduce gaps and to build regional capacity.
 2. Development of a network of S&T collaborators across regions and establish a standing working group on S&T.

Speakers and facilitators Facilitator: Dr. Anthony Masys, Defence Research and Development Canada
Speakers:
Dr. Mark Williamson, Defence Research and Development Canada
Ms. Barbara Carby, University of West Indies
Douglas Cardinal, Visionary and World Master of Contemporary Architecture

Speaker Biography



Dr. Anthony Masys is a Senior Defence Scientist for the Department of National Defence, Defence Research and Development Canada, Centre for Security Science. His research interests focus on safety and security, risk, crisis and disaster management, humanitarian aid, development and disasters, scenario planning, human security, intelligence (alternative analysis), counter-terrorism, complex socio-technical system analysis, modeling and simulation, systems thinking, knowledge management and operational analysis. Dr. Masys is an internationally recognized author, speaker and facilitator and has held workshops in Europe, North and South America, West Africa and Asia/Pacific region including at the 2015 UN World Conference on DRR in Sendai, Japan. He has published extensively in the domains of physics and the social sciences. His books include: "Opening the Black Box of Human Error" which presents insights into understanding accidents involving complex socio-technical systems and argues that human error is not an explanation but is something to be explained. "Networks and Network Analysis for Defence and Security, Disaster Management- Enabling Resilience, Applications of Systems Thinking and Soft Operations Research for managing complexity, Exploring the Security Landscape- non-traditional security challenges, and Disaster Forensics: understanding root cause and complexity causality."



Dr. Mark A. Williamson is Director General of Defence Research and Development Canada's Centre for Security Science (DRDC-CSS), Department of National Defence, which operates in partnership with Public Safety Canada. DRDC-CSS is responsible for leading the Canadian Safety and Security Program on behalf of the Government of Canada, a program whose mission is to strengthen Canada's ability to anticipate, prevent/mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural disasters, serious accidents, crime and terrorism through the convergence of science and technology (S&T) with policy, operations and intelligence. Dr. Williamson has performed and managed S&T activities across the academic, industry and government sectors for over 20 years. In 2006, he was appointed Director of Chemical, Biological, Radiological-Nuclear and Explosives Research and Technology Initiative at DRDC-CSS where he was responsible for making strategic investments in CBRNE related S&T. This involved efforts to harness existing intellectual capacity across Canada's federal science based departments and in creating linkages with industry and academia. Subsequently, he assumed the role of Director General for DRDC-CSS with responsibility for the Canadian Safety and Security Program. This program is designed to develop and sustain frameworks for collaboration as a basis for investments in S&T innovations. The goal is to enhance Canada's preparedness and response and recovery capabilities from both natural and terror related events as well as for the provision of credible and timely advice to safety and security decision makers.



Barbara Carby is the Director of the DRR Centre, University of the West Indies. She has extensive experience in multi-level disaster risk management policy, program and plan development and implementation. She is a former disaster risk management (DRM) practitioner, having been the Director of National DRM offices in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands during which she pioneered many DRR programs. Her research interests include disaster risk management governance and integration of knowledge bases for DRR. She is a strong advocate of interdisciplinary research and integration of science in DRM policy and practice. Ms. Carby

has provided technical expertise in a voluntary capacity to many organizations including the UN and the Association of Caribbean States. She currently chairs committees on DRR on behalf of the CDEMA and the International Council for Science Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean.



Douglas Cardinal was born in 1934 in Calgary, Alberta. His architectural studies at The University of British Columbia took him to Austin, Texas, where he achieved his architectural degree and found a life experience in human rights initiatives. Douglas then became a forerunner of philosophies of sustainability, green buildings and ecologically designed community planning. His architecture springs from his observation of Nature and its understanding that everything works seamlessly together. In recognition of such work, Douglas Cardinal has received many national and international awards including: 19 Honorary Doctorates, Gold Medals of Architecture in Canada and Russia, and an award from UNESCO for best sustainable village. He was also titled an Officer of the Order of Canada, one of the most prestigious awards given to a Canadian, and he was awarded the declaration of being "World Master of Contemporary Architecture" by the International Association of Architects. Douglas Cardinal is one of the visionaries of a new world; a world where beauty, balance and harmony thrive, where client, architect, and stakeholder build together with a common vision.

Plenary 4

Public Alerting and Early Warning Systems

Overview Governments continue to encourage broadcasters, cable and satellite companies to deliver relevant emergency alerts to their subscribers. As the early warning system expands to include the participation of cell phone companies, social media web sites and other internet and multimedia distributors, even more citizens will be alerted to emergencies that could affect their safety, for transborder and regional alerting.

For example: The National Public Alerting System (NPAS) is a multi-channel Federal-Provincial-Territorial (FPT) all-hazards system that provides emergency management organizations throughout Canada with a standard alerting capability to warn the public of imminent or unfolding hazards to life through such means as radio, cable television, satellite television, email and SMS text services. The NPAS complements existing public alerting systems and tools in a number of FPT jurisdictions.

This session will primarily aim to advance regional collaboration and integration to share public alerting methods including and in particular early warning systems.

Technology demonstrations for public alerting and early warning system will be done.

Objectives Discuss the rapidly developing field of hazard early warning and public alert dissemination.

Measurable Outcomes

1. Define the need to have an authoritative source for issuance of public alerts for public safety purposes.
2. Agreement by the panel on the need to use common standards and protocols for trans-border and regional data-gathering and alerting.

Speakers and facilitators

Moderator: Dr. Kathryn Moran, Oceans Canada

Speakers:

Mr. Sergio Barrientos, University of Chile Seismological Service

Ms. Shelly Bradshaw, Trinidad and Tobago Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management

Ms. Julia Chasco, Meteorology and Society Department of Argentina's National Meteorological Service

Mr. Guillermo Gonzalez, Minister-Director of the National Prevention, Mitigation and Disaster Relief System (SINAPRED, acronym in Spanish), Nicaragua

Mr. Tim Trytten, Alberta Emergency Management Agency

Speaker Biography



Dr. Kathryn (Kate) Moran joined the University of Victoria in September 2011 as a Professor in the Faculty of Science and Director of NEPTUNE Canada. In July 2012, she was promoted to the position of President & CEO, Ocean Networks Canada. Her previous appointment was Professor at the University of Rhode Island with a joint appointment in the graduate School of Oceanography and the Department of Ocean Engineering. She also served as the Graduate School of Oceanography's Associate Dean, Research and Administration. From 2009 to 2011, Moran was seconded to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy where she served as an Assistant Director and focused on Arctic, polar, ocean, the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and climate policy issues. During the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, Moran was selected to be a member of Secretary of Energy Chu's Eight Member Advisory Team. She co-led the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program's Arctic Coring Expedition, which was the first deep water drilling operation in the Arctic Ocean. This expedition successfully recovered the first paleoclimate record from the Arctic Ocean. She also led one of the first offshore expeditions to investigate the seafloor following the devastating 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami. Previously, Moran was a research engineer at Canada's Bedford Institute of Oceanography where her major research focus areas were the Arctic Ocean and assessing offshore constraints to resource development on the east coast. She also served as the Director of the international Ocean Drilling Program in Washington DC; managed mission-specific drilling platform operations in the North Atlantic and Arctic; designed and developed oceanographic tools; participated in more than 35 offshore expeditions; and has served as Chair and member of national and international science and engineering advisory committees and panels.



Sergio Barrientos obtained his Master of Science degree at University of Chile and his PhD. in Earth Sciences at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He carried out post-doctoral research at Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (University of Colorado) and Southern California Earthquake Center (USC). He joined the Faculty at the Department of Geophysics of the University of Chile in Santiago and later, for a period of nine years (1997-2006), he held the position of Seismic Section Chief of the International Monitoring

System of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, seated in Vienna, Austria. Dr. Barrientos currently serves as the Scientific Director of the Seismological Service of the University of Chile. His main interests and contributions are in the field of crustal deformation associated with the earthquake cycle and source processes.



Shelly Bradshaw has amassed over 21 years of diverse working experience in both public and private sector organizations. Currently, she holds the portfolio of GIS Specialist and Team Lead in the Mitigation Planning and Research Unit at the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM) Trinidad and Tobago. As a Disaster Management Professional and GIS Practitioner with the ODPM for the last seven years, Ms. Bradshaw has actively focused her attention on disaster risk management strategy formulation, DRR policy and program development. This experience is also complemented with over 11 years of actively applying GIS technology in diverse areas of Disaster Management and Public Safety, Information Technology Land Use Planning and Land Management. Ms. Bradshaw is often described as a motivated self-starter with an aptitude and passion for learning new skills and effectively managing many different responsibilities concurrently. She is committed to making a positive and sustainable impact on organizations in the face of tight budgets, a fluctuating economy and high competitive pressures. Ms. Bradshaw is a mother of one, and lives in San Fernando, Trinidad.



Julia Chasco is a sociologist with post-graduate studies in risk management, climate change and sustainable development. She heads the Meteorology and Society Department of Argentina's National Meteorological Service. Her role focuses on risk management work in the face of hydro meteorological events and institutional coordination between the Meteorological Service and emergency agencies with respect to high-impact weather events throughout the Argentine territory. She also works as a WMO focal point for risk management in Argentina, and is part of Working Group No. 5, headed by Beth Ebert, of the High-Impact Weather Project of the WMO World Weather Research Program.



Dr. Guillermo Gonzalez is the Minister-Director of the National System for Prevention, Mitigation and Disaster Relief, SINAPRED in Nicaragua since November 2016. In January this year, he was appointed as President pro tempore for 2017 of CEPREDENAC. Before his appointment as Minister-Director, he fulfilled the following functions in SINAPRED, Co-Director General from May 2015 to November 2016, Executive Secretary and advisor to the President for SINAPRED from 2011 to 2014. In 2015, he served as advisor for the President at Minister level covering themes like Health, Education, Risk Management, Training and Communication related to Disasters. He was Minister of Health from 2007 to 2010. In addition to his various functions, he was always active as technical advisor at national and international level. Before he became Minister, he was also teaching as professor for example on public health and undertaking research mainly related to health issues.



Tim Trytten is the Government of Alberta lead for the Alberta Emergency Alert program. As a key member of the Alberta Emergency Management Agency, he has steered the longest-running provincial emergency alerting system – Alberta Emergency Alert. Alberta Emergency Alert encompasses all of Alberta and uses television, radio, a smartphone app, Facebook, Twitter and other alert distribution channels to provide emergency information to the public. Mr. Trytten is a graduate of the University of Alberta and has worked in both the Alberta and British Columbia governments in Justice (corrections and policing) and emergency management. In addition to the responsibilities associated with the Alberta Emergency Alert system, he is the Chair of the national Common Look and Feel Committee and Alberta's representative on the Common Alerting Protocol – Canadian Profile (CAP-CP) Specifications Committee. Mr. Trytten is also the recipient of the National Award of Excellent in Public Safety Interoperability -- awarded by the Canadian Chiefs of Fire, Emergency Medical Services and Police and Canadian Interoperability Technology Interest Group.

Communications Tools

Conference Application

To enable the connection of delegates through technology, an application (APP) has been created as a communication tool for the delegates. The APP will provide information the Regional Platform activities including, a virtual program of events with a schedule, speakers, maps, weather, links to restaurants, survey and chat capability. This tool will help us achieve our goal to reduce the use of paper and waste.

Notice of Photography

By attending the Regional Platform, you are entering an area where photography, video, and audio recording may occur. Images and audio captured during this event, may be broadcasted, reproduced and/or made available in print publications, online or on mobile devices by the Government of Canada, UNISDR, media and others, and may form part of one or more audio-visual productions intended for promotion via the internet, intranet and on home or mobile devices. By attending this event, you are consenting to the use of your appearance (in whole or in part), image and voice in the production and in any promotion or use of the production in any media. You have been fully informed of your consent, waiver of liability, and release before entering the event.

Social Media

We invite you to join the conversation on social media (Twitter and Facebook) by using the following hashtags:

#SendaiAmericas

Tweeting about RP17, or about the Sendai Framework and its objectives, please include #SendaiAmericas in your tweets. This will help you be part of the conversation and it will build momentum and increase engagement toward the RP17.

#BeaDRRChangeAgent

Tweeting about youth engagement around DRR, please include #BeaDRRChangeAgent. This will help raise awareness on DRR in the Americas and will encourage youth participation in DRR efforts.

#ResilienceForAll

Tweeting about DRR and the societal approach, please include #ResilienceForAll. This will help raise awareness that DRR is an approach that requires an all-of-society engagement and partnership and that by working together we can build community resilience to mitigate the impacts of natural disasters and other emergencies before they happen.

Also, important social media pages for RP17 include:

RP17 Co-leads:



flickr: [Fifth Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas](#)

Travellers Check List Get Prepared!

- ☐ Contact your mobile service provider to pre-arrange coverage in Canada
- ☐ Obtain travel health insurance before travelling (fees apply for health services to visitors)
- ☐ Dress in layers (undershirt, shirt, sweater, coat) to adjust for the weather when outside
- ☐ Boots are best for outdoors, but sneakers or low heel shoes will do
- ☐ Pack important items in your carry-on, including:
 - Passport and travel documents
 - A pen (to complete your arrival declaration on the plane)
 - Your warmest coat (if possible: water-proof & closed with a zipper)
 - A hat that covers your ears
 - A warm scarf to keep the wind off your neck and face
 - Gloves or mittens to keep your hands warm
 - When in doubt, warmer is better
- ☐ Pack business attire for the conference
- ☐ Pack a voltage converter (Canada's standard is 120 volts, 60 Hertz)
- ☐ Credit cards (VISA, MasterCard, etc.) or Canadian dollars will be required in Canada
- ☐ Currency exchange at the Montreal airport is open from 6 a.m. until 1 a.m.
- ☐ Note the name of your hotel to provide to your taxi or driver

Canada looks forward to welcoming you!

Airport Courtesy

Request for airport courtesy clearance must be sent to the Coordinator, National Airport Courtesy Program in order to apply for this service. For more information please consult the Regional Platform website.

Security and Emergency Measures

The safety and security of all participants is paramount.

The Palais des congrès premises and their surroundings will be constantly monitored through security patrols, surveillance cameras, and an automated access control system linked to the building's Security Operations Centre. A public address system will also be used to provide direction in case of emergency. All emergency exits are clearly identified. All participants are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the closest exit to their session.

Security guards for the RP17 will be clearly identified with red badges. You can address any security question to these individuals. All participants are requested to wear their badge, visibly, at all times and should be aware that their bags may be searched for security reasons.

First-Aid

Dedicated personnel from Ambulance Saint-Jean are trained in first aid and certified to use cardiac defibrillators in the event of an emergency. The first-aid room is located at Room 338.

Youth Video Challenge

Youth between the ages of 18-34 who live in the Americas were asked to participate in the UNISDR Youth Video Challenge by submitting a 30-60 seconds video responding to the following question: How would you improve DRR in your community?

Youth can be agents of change in reducing the impacts of disasters!

Youth are a vital part of our communities. If that's you, keep on reading!

Young people offer a fresh perspective as they understand and recognize that the actions of individuals and communities can help reduce the impact of disasters and improve resilience.

They want to participate fully and effectively in their communities, and to be included in important policy decisions.

Be a DRR Change Agent!

See the result of the contest during RP17.

For more information about youth activities, visit [the website](#).

!GNITE Stage

The !GNITE Stage is a space where RP17 delegates will have up to 20 minutes to present projects and/or initiatives on DRR related subjects. The objective of the !GNITE Stage is to complement and expand the range of topics discussed at the RP17 beyond those presented in the plenary and parallel sessions and side events. The !GNITE Stage program will be available on-site during the RP17 and on the [Regional Platform website](#), and will be held during the following hours:

Tuesday, March 7: 11:00 - 19:00

Wednesday, March 8: 9:00 - 17:00

Thursday, March 9: 9:00 - 14:40

Exhibition/Marketplace

The Regional Platform has an exhibition space called the "Marketplace". The Marketplace provides an opportunity for organizations/stakeholders to showcase their work related to DRR. The Marketplace will be held from March 7 to March 9, 2017 during the hours:

Tuesday, March 7: 11:00 - 19:00

Wednesday, March 8: 08:00 - 19:00

Thursday, March 9: 08:00 - 15:00

For more information regarding the Marketplace, [visit the website](#).

Public Forum

To complement the Regional Platform, a unique side event called the Public Forum is being held at various sites across Canada and North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. The Public Forum provides a selection of targeted results oriented workshops that are open to everyone, including the public. These sessions allow individuals to participate in meaningful dialogue on DRR at the global and hemispheric level, which will be reflected as part of the results of the Regional Platform.

The themes for the Public Forum include: climate change impacts, health and DRR; Indigenous community and DRR; gender equality, human rights and DRR; DRR and resilience; community based DRR; role of civil society; sustainable development, financial costs and DRR; private and public collaboration; and science and technology solutions.

Members of the public are invited to attend session in their region to participate in meaningful dialogue on DRR that will be reflected as part of the result of the Regional Platform.

For more information on the Public Forum, [visit the website](#).

UNISDR Photos Contest Exposition

During 2016 and with the support of the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), a DRR photo contest was launched across the Americas. The selected photos will be posted on the UNISDR and DIPECHO LAC websites, and shown in an exposition format during the Regional Platform.

The author of the winning photo will be invited to the RP17 in order to present their photo and its related story. Come meet the winner during the RP17.

Indigenous Presence

Indigenous Room - Exhibition of Indigenous Art and Culture

'Indigenous peoples' is a collective name for the original peoples of North America and their descendants. Often, 'Aboriginal peoples' is also used. The Canadian Constitution recognizes three groups of Aboriginal (or Indigenous) peoples: First Nations, Inuit and Métis. They have unique histories, languages, cultural practices and spiritual beliefs.

The island of Montreal was considered to be an important meeting point for First Nations of the regions as it was on the route to the Great Lakes, close to where the Ottawa, the Richelieu and the St. Lawrence rivers meet. First Nations once called the area Tiohtiake, which means "the place where the nations and the rivers come together and divide." The area on which the city of Montreal now sits is the territory of both the Algonquin and Mohawk First Nations and has long been considered a site of meeting and exchange among Indigenous peoples.

The Government of Canada is partnering with Ashukan Cultural space to present A Walk through the Territories, an art exhibit with a mix of traditional and contemporary art from all three Indigenous groups. Art is available for purchase and artists will be on site along with story boards detailing the history and importance of Indigenous art. Drums and other cultural artifacts including a collection of Inuit games will also be on display. Elders from the three Indigenous groups in Canada will also be present to talk with attendees about Canada's Indigenous peoples, share their teachings, and discuss issues related to disaster risk reduction from their unique points of view. The Indigenous cultural room is in rooms 514AB across from the Marketplace and the !GNITE stage.

Indigenous Craft Vendors

The Regional Platform will have an Indigenous marketplace of craft vendors where jewelry, clothing and other arts and crafts will be on sale. There will also be a display of best practices on disaster risk reduction in Indigenous communities.

Indigenous Cultural Performance

March 8, 2017 is International Women's Day, a time to celebrate the talents and achievements of women around the world. In honour of this day, there will be an event celebrating Indigenous women artists showcasing a variety of traditional dances and music from 16:00 to 17:30 in room 710A.

Eco-Responsible Conference

The Regional Platform will be an eco-responsible, paperless and recycling event.

Recognitions

Public Safety Canada, on behalf of the Government of Canada, and the UNISDR would like to recognize the support provided by key stakeholders, including the hosts and co-hosts of the plenary and parallel sessions. Without their valuable contributions this event would not have been possible. Each and every one of you is benefitting from their generosity.

- CARE
- Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)
- Central American Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters (CEPRENAC)
- Coalition for the Resilience of Children and Youth in Latin American and the Caribbean (CORELAC)
- City of Montreal
- Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC)
- Global Affairs Canada (GAC)
- Global Network of Civil Society Organisation for Disaster Reduction (GNDR)
- Government of Mexico
- Earthquake Engineering Research Institute ((EERI)
- Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
- European Commission Directorate-General for Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)
- European Commission Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC)
- Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC)
- International Council for Science (ICSU)
- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- Latin American and Caribbean Education Council (UNICEF, Save the Children, RET, Plan)
- Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)
- United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance - U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID/OFDA)

- Organization of American States (OAS) Inter-American Commission of Women
- Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO)
- Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies (ARISE)
- Province of Quebec, especially Public Safety Quebec
- Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)
- RP17, UNISDR Advisory Council
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)
- South America Union of Nations (UNASUR)
- Swiss Re
- United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
- University Network for Latin America and the Caribbean for reducing disaster risk (REDULAC)
- Universities: Brandon, Concordia, Laurentian, Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, University Foundation of Popayán-Colombia, UQAM, York
- White Helmets Argentina
- World Animal Protection