

FORGING KNOWLEDGE FOUNDATIONS FRAMING RESILIENT FUTURES:

FOCUS ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

**A day-long seminar on applied
disaster risk education**

International Conference Centre, Geneva

24 May, 2013

Time: 09:00 – 17:00 hrs

Registration: 08:00 – 09:00 hrs

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Overview

Every year, the Periperi U¹ Consortium meets to discuss progress in strengthening applied disaster risk scholarship in Africa. In 2013, this event has been reframed to coincide with the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, and will be convened in Geneva on 24 May.

The 2013 Periperi U Seminar will be hosted by the Technical University of Mozambique in association with UNISDR and the Periperi U secretariat. It will specifically profile practical advancements in the generation of skilled human capital and contextually relevant disaster risk research in Africa. These are both explicitly underlined as key elements of the African Plan of Action for disaster risk reduction.

The seminar acknowledges that building disaster resilient futures goes well beyond a conceptualisation of risk-averse construction confined to bricks and mortar. It underlines the crucial role played by higher education in establishing the human capital foundation for advancing disaster risk-related policy and practice. The forum aims at facilitating a conversation between institutions of higher learning committed to educational innovation in applied disaster risk scholarship and the diverse range of professional and institutional constituencies engaged in disaster risk reduction.

This session recognises that progress towards more disaster resilient futures requires close cooperation between government, private sector, civil society and higher education stakeholders. This is key to sustaining the provision of skilled human capital to support national and subnational efforts in disaster risk reduction, and central to contextually relevant disaster research to inform innovation, sustainable development and social upliftment.

Session Objectives

The session specifically seeks to open the conversation about the role of higher education institutions (HEIs) in advancing human capital in applied disaster risk reduction. This includes profiling:

- Expectations by key stake-holder groups of HEI participation in the broader disaster risk reduction enterprise.
- The accomplishments and educational innovations by African higher education institutions in introducing new applied academic programmes that address the continent's disaster risks.
- Examples of contextually relevant academic programmes and research to inform local risk reduction and innovation efforts.
- Successes in disaster risk reduction policy and practice through collaboration between HEIs and other stake-holders.
- Prospects for strengthened engagement post 2015.

¹ Periperi U stands for 'Partners enhancing resilience for people exposed to risks', with a specific focus on higher education institutions in Africa. For more information on the Periperi U partnership, go to: <http://riskreductionafrica.org/en/rra-ddr-per/rra-whatisperiperi>

Forging Knowledge Foundations – Framing Resilient Futures: Focus on higher education and disaster risk reduction

International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG)

24 May 2013

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Session I: HEIs: A call for Innovation	
09:00 – 09:15	Welcome and purpose of the meeting <i>Universidade Técnica de Moçambique (UDM)</i>
09:15 – 09:25	Opening statement from GoM
09:25 – 09:35	Higher education and disaster risk reduction: governmental perspectives <i>Dr. Casimiro Abreu - Deputy Director of INGC</i>
09:35 - 10:00	Taming disaster risk in Mozambique through Education: an MSc course in Education and Development <i>Prof. Rui Carlos da Maia, Academic Dean , and Benedita Glória Penicela Nhambiu, Project Coordinator, Periperi U, Universidade Técnica de Moçambique (UDM)</i>
10:00 - 10:15	Plenary Discussion
10:15 – 10:35	Tea/coffee
10:35 - 10:50	Mobilizing partnerships in DRR/CCA with government and International Organizations, Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia <i>Mr Tarekegn Ayalew Yehuala - Department of Disaster Risk Management & Sustainable Development, Bahir Dar University (BDU), Ethiopia.</i>
10:50 - 11:05	Masters in Public Health – Disaster Management: new programme at Makerere University <i>Assoc. Prof. Christopher Garimoi Orach, Deputy Dean and Chair, Department of Community Health and Behavioural Sciences, Makerere University School of Public Health, Uganda.</i>
11:05 – 11:20	Masters in risk reduction and management of crises in Africa: a new multidisciplinary programme in Senegal <i>Assoc. Prof. Mateugue Diack, Gaston Berger University, Senegal.</i>
11:20 - 11:35	Plenary Discussion

Session 2: Innovation in Policy and Practice	
11:35 – 11:50	Higher education and disaster risk reduction: Regional perspectives <i>Mr Julius N. Kabubi, EAC - Disaster Risk Reduction Advisor</i>
11:50 - 12:05	The transformative potential of risk research for policy and practice: Insights from Ardhi University, Tanzania. <i>Prof Gabriel Kassenga - Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Ardhi University. Tanzania.</i>
12:05 - 12:20	Right focus, weak linkages: Emerging challenges in DRR Practice for HEIs in West Africa <i>Dr. Osman Alhassan, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana.</i>
12:20 - 12:35	Disaster Risk Management Training in Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria. <i>Prof. Edwin Igusi, Director: Centre for Disaster Risk Management and Development, Ahmadu Bello University, Nigeria</i>
12:35 - 12:45	Response and Critique <i>Ben Wisner</i>
12:35 - 13:00	Plenary Discussion
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
Session 3: Innovation – Harnessing Local Research	
14:00 – 14:15	Higher education and disaster risk reduction: Continental perspectives
14:15 – 14:30	Community based research for addressing local problems <i>Dr Diana Menya, Dept. of Epidemiology and Nutrition, School of Public Health, Moi University, Kenya.</i>
14:30 – 14:45	Academic and training programs: the solution to better risk governance <i>Dr Mahefasoa Randrianalijaona, Director, Multidisciplinary Disaster and Risk Management Masters Programme, Faculty of Law and Economics, University of Antananarivo, Madagascar.</i>
14:45 - 15:00	Forensic disaster investigations (FORIN): A new multidisciplinary approach to learn lessons from disasters: Researching multiple disaster causes in Algeria <i>Prof. Djillali Benouar, Director, Built Environment Research Laboratory (LBE),</i>

	<i>University of Science and Technology Houari Boumediene (USTHB), Algeria.</i>
15:00 – 15:15	Framing risk knowledge – forging new partnerships: Researching multiple risks in southern Africa <i>Dr Ailsa Holloway - Director, Disaster Mitigation for Sustainable Livelihoods Programme, Stellenbosch University</i>
15:15 – 15:30	Plenary Discussion
15:30 – 15:50	Tea/coffee
15:50 – 16:10	Response and critique <i>Assoc. Prof. Akhilesh Surjan, Inter-Graduate School Program for Sustainable Development and Survival Societies, Kyoto University, Japan</i>
16:10 – 16:30	Discussion on way forward
16:30 – 16:45	Concluding remarks <i>UNISDR</i>
16:45 – 17:00	Concluding remarks and closure <i>UDM/GOM/INGC</i>

