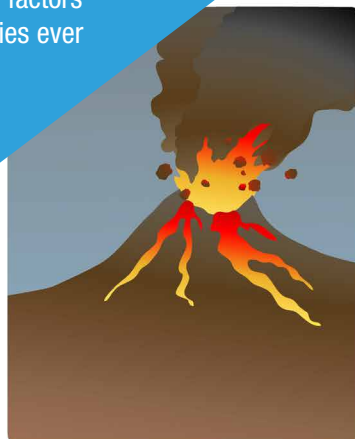
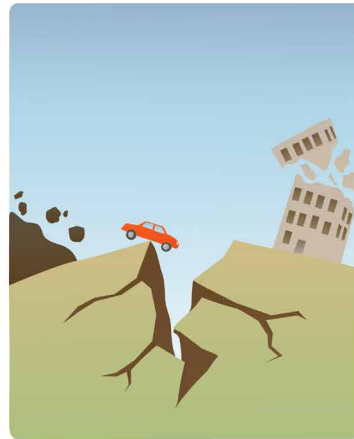


# DISASTER RISK REDUCTION



“Disaster risk is increasing with every passing day. Poverty, rapid urbanisation, climate change – these and other factors are leaving people and communities ever more exposed.”

UN Secretary General  
Ban Ki-moon

**phn**  
NORTHERN QUEENSLAND

An Australian Government Initiative



**UNISDR**

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

Office for Northeast Asia and Global Education and Training Institute (UNISDR ONEA-GETI)

## Background and Introduction

Extreme weather-related disasters are becoming increasingly frequent, due largely to a sustained rise in intensity, severity and frequency of cyclones, floods and storms. For example, globally flooding accounted for 47% of all weather-related disasters from 1995 to 2015, affecting 2.3 billion people, with storms (less frequent) having the highest mortality.<sup>1</sup> In Australia, cyclones, floods and storms accounted for 75% of disasters and 80% of disaster-related economic costs.<sup>2</sup> During this period the exposure of the population and infrastructure to weather-related disasters in Australia and across the world increased faster than vulnerability decreased.<sup>3,4</sup> This highlights the need to focus disaster risk reduction strategies and resources on the most vulnerable.

Traditionally, the health response activities post disaster have focused on immediate trauma and communicable diseases.<sup>5</sup> This focus remains despite the actual risk of post-disaster communicable disease outbreaks being low, particularly in developed countries.<sup>5</sup> For people with chronic diseases and other ongoing medical problems this is a risk because the immediate interventions after a disaster can have a significant influence on the health consequences in the longer term.<sup>6</sup> For example, one year after Hurricane Katrina (2005), there was a 47% increase in mortality and morbidity.<sup>7</sup> The people at greatest risk after a disaster, particularly in developed countries, are those with: underlying cardiovascular and respiratory diseases; undergoing going cancer treatment; unstable diabetes; and renal diseases.<sup>8</sup>

To help address this challenge, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) Global Education and Training Institute and the Northern Queensland Primary Health Network are partnering to deliver a series of workshops from 7-10 November 2016 in Cairns, Mackay and Townsville, Australia. The workshops are tailored for the primary health care sector and other stakeholders involved is disaster management. The aim is to provide the information, tools and resources required to maximise primary health care services before, during and after a disaster.

## Workshop Delivery for Primary Health Care - November 7-10, 2016

Workshops have been developed to support primary health care providers in disaster risk reduction activities. Further details can be found via the NQPHN website and newsletter. To subscribe please visit <http://www.primaryhealth.com.au/latest-newsletters/>

- Register for Cairns 7 November 2016- <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7XZBFVY>
- Register for Townsville 9 November 2016- <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7N2TR8D>
- Register for Mackay 10 November 2016- <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7X9LW8H>

## Organisers

Northern Queensland Primary Health Network, Australia (<http://www.primaryhealth.com.au>)

UNISDR Office for Northeast Asia and Global Education and Training Institute (UNISDR ONEA/GETI) (<http://www.unisdr.org/incheon>)

## Targeted Audience

General practitioners; practice managers; pharmacists; allied health practitioners; representatives from local and district level government and non-government organisations; academic and disaster risk reduction training institutions; and other stakeholders involved in disaster management.

## Workshop Objectives and Expected Outcomes

### Objectives:

- Increased awareness of global trends and what disaster resilient organisations are doing elsewhere in the world.
- Stronger understanding of what your organisation is doing well and what can be improved.
- Identify strategies for maintaining services before, during and after a disaster.
- Provide the opportunity for improved local partnerships.
- Provide the tools required to develop a disaster plan.

### Expected Outcomes

- Understanding your organisations disaster risk.
- Reflect on the past and look at current and future risk, compare your organisations experience with those elsewhere and begin to look to future action.
- Address your organisations disaster risk.
- Enhance your organisations ability to provide services before, during and after a disaster.

### Facilitators

#### Sanjaya Bhatia, Head, Office of Northeast Asia and Global Education and Training Institute, UNISDR

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction's mandate is to support the implementation of disaster risk reduction activities amongst member states. Sanjaya Bhatia is the Head of the Office of UNISDR Office for Northeast Asia (ONEA) and Global Education and Training Institute (GETI) for Disaster Risk Reduction in Incheon, Republic of Korea, where over the past years he has guided the training of over 3000 government officials. Before taking this position Mr Bhatia worked as the head of the International Recovery Platform (IRP) - Secretariat at Kobe, Japan where he led the development of and supervised a capacity building program for national and local governments. He trained over 850 government officials in that period. Earlier as the Focal Point Disaster Resilient Schools and Hospitals with the World Bank he was instrumental in development of guidance for safer school and health facilities construction and on financing of projects on safe schools and hospitals. He has worked with the Government of India, the World Bank, and the United Nations in the field of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation for over 26 years.



He has managed projects for mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction, CCA and post recovery in India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Haiti, Iran, Turkey, Lao PDR, Cambodia, China, Serbia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Pakistan, Honduras, Panama, El Salvador, Belarus, Ukraine, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, Somalia, Georgia, Armenia, Mongolia and the Philippines. He was instrumental in the construction of 6,500 seismically safe primary school buildings. He holds a degree in law and a Masters Degree in Public Administration from New York University. He has authored a number of publications. He is a certified trainer for the Incident Command System (Emergency Management) and functioned as a trainer and resource person for the Government of India and the United Nations.

## Benjamin Ryan, Senior Advisor Disaster Risk Reduction, Northern Queensland Primary Health Network; Trainer, Global Education and Training Institute, UNISDR



Benjamin is Senior Advisor Disaster Risk Reduction, Northern Queensland Primary Health Network, Australia; Trainer for the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction; and PhD candidate at James Cook University, Australia. Benjamin's professional interests and research are focused on mitigating the impact of disasters and climate change on public health, particularly people with chronic diseases.

He has worked during responses to natural disasters and disease outbreaks (including Ebola and Dengue), managed public health projects in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, facilitated delivery of health services to asylum seekers and worked in public health at all levels of government in Australia. He has also led public health and disaster risk reduction workshops, training, lectures and operational activities in Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Solomon Islands and the United States of America. Benjamin is passionate about the role primary health interventions should have in reducing the impact of disasters on the health and well-being of individuals and communities.

### Provisional Program

Welcome and introductions – Sanjaya Bhatia, Head, Global Education and Training, UNISDR

Session 1:  
Understanding Disaster Risk and the Sendai Framework – Benjamin Ryan, Trainer, UNISDR

Session 2:  
Current and future risk for your business – Mr Bhatia  
Mapping threats and opportunities.

Session 3:  
Impact of Disasters and Climate risk in your businesses and primary health – Mr Ryan

Session 4:  
Business Continuity and Your enterprise – Mr Bhatia  
What has your business been doing to reduce the impact of natural hazards; what has worked and what have you struggled with; a look at the 'Disaster Risk Management Framework' and other practical tools

Session 5:  
Resilient Business/Primary Health Care in Action – Mr Ryan  
A look at good advice and practice from around the world as well as a 'walk through' case studies of how business has met the challenge of disaster and climate risk

Session 6:  
Monitoring and Evaluation of your Business Resilience Action Plan – Mr Ryan  
A Risk Reduction and Climate Risk Strategy for your Business

Conclusion: The Business Case for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Primary Health Network – Mr Bhatia

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5. Ryan BJ, Franklin RC, Burkle FM, Watt K, Aitken P, Smith EC, et al. Analyzing the impact of severe tropical Cyclone Yasi on public health infrastructure and the management of noncommunicable diseases. Prehospital and disaster medicine 2015;1-10.
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