

Children Leading Change

UNISDR 2009 Global Platform on DRR | Tuesday 16th June | Room 6 | 13:15-15:00

Welcome to the *Children Leading Change* special event at the 2009 Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction. On behalf of the event's partners Plan International, Save the Children Alliance, UNICEF and, World Vision International we hope you leave the event with new information, new ideas and new inspiration for action *with children and young people* on disaster risk reduction.

The Messages:

1. Involve our Children -- it's time to listen.

Children around the world, as well as DRR practitioners overwhelmingly report that the involvement of children and young people in DRR is minimal.

2. Saving lives starts with us.

Children and young people can be more than victims of disasters. Children can effectively and creatively participate and lead DRR planning and implementation in support of resilient communities.

3. Action is more effective and imaginative when children and young people are involved.

Children and young people see things that adults do not, can effectively absorb and disseminate information, and can challenge the status quo.

4. Reducing risk must involve all levels and sectors of government.

Everyone, in all sectors, in particular the education sector, have a valuable role in DRR. Including children in local decision making is key for effective DRR. Good development *is* good risk management.

Today's event:

- Welcome
- Short video presentation
- From the frontline – Meet the young people from Philippines, Bolivia and USA
- Children on the Frontline report – Meet the authors
- Interview – The children meet an official from UNESCO
- Questions and Answers

Today's participants:Children and Young People:

Introducer: Rhee, from the Philippines

Constancio, from Bolivia

Caroline Howe, from USA working on climate change & sustainability in India

With:

Dr. Arief Rachman, UNESCO

Melisa Bodenhamer, World Vision International

Lydia Baker, Save the Children

Antony Spalton, UNICEF

Dr Nick Hall, Plan International UK

Facilitator: David Evans

Find out more:

Plan International with World Vision International, 'Children on the Frontline' 2009

Children in a Changing Climate, 'A Right to Participate' 2009

Children in a Changing Climate, 'Children as Agents of Change in Disaster Risk Reduction' Working Paper 1, 2009

Save the Children, 'In the face of Disaster' 2008

Plan International:

www.plan-uk.org/action/issues/reducingchildrensvulnerability

World Vision:

www.wvi.org/resources

Save the Children

www.savethechildren.net/alliance

UNICEF

www.unicef.org

Children in a Changing Climate

www.childreninachangingclimate.org



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