

REPORT ON INDIVIDUAL EVENT

Date of event: June 15th **Your name:** Jennifer Guralnick, Margarita Villalobos, Julio Garcia

Event type (tick the box):

- Pre-session
- High-level panel
- Round Table
- Informal Plenary
- Special Event
- Other

Event name (write the name below):

Latin America and the Caribbean Meeting

Number of participants -

Total: 40
(National
representatives,
IGO;s, NGO's)

1) Key questions or issues raised, main challenges or constraints identified:

1. There is a recognized need to consider vulnerability reduction and adaptation to CC as an explicit objective of the development agenda. Furthermore, a clear need for strengthening support to countries on how to better mainstream DRR within national development agendas and development planning processes, including public-private investment and mechanisms for increased dialogue, sharing of experiences, lessons learned and good practices within the region and with other regions.
2. Not to build a new institutional framework but rather reinforce existing national resources (technical, financial and institutional) based on current processes and institutions involving different development actors and stakeholders, including communities, NGO's, the educational community and private sector.
3. Need for enhancing the empowerment of local capacities while strengthening the links with national and intergovernmental DRR and CC adaptation Agendas. There was a strong focus on local and community level involvement as well of gender issues in DRR, mainly empowerment and the roles of women.
4. Bridge intersectoral, intergovernmental and transboundary efforts for sustainable development and DRR practices, including better information for the decision-making process, involvement of academic and scientific knowledge and spatial information systems.
5. Despite similar approaches to DRR and a focus on more holistic and comprehensive multiple hazards throughout all sectors, there remains a gap between efforts of Latin America and the Caribbean.

2) Principal proposed solutions, messages or recommendations:

1. Need for greater coordination among UNISDR, IGOs (technical subregional DRR organizations), NGOs, national governments, public-private partnerships and other partners at all levels and across all sectors according to respective mandates and areas of focus.
2. Greater support and guidance for mainstreaming DRR within development agendas at local, national and regional levels and increased involvement of other relevant actors inter alia Ministries of Environment, Finances, private sector, local communities.

3. Facilitate a thematic platform on geographical and spatial technologies information systems (UN-SPIDER)
4. Enhance South-South cooperation mechanisms both within and beyond the region
5. Reach local and subnational levels, considering empowerment of communities while enhancing gender issues in DRR processes and women's role at the forefront of DRR and emergency response as intrinsic to local development.

3) Conclusions by the Chair of the event:

Consensus on DRR as part of the development process, recognizing the lack of mechanisms and capacities for mainstreaming DRR within National Development Agendas and the need for support and guidance. Furthermore, there is a need to identify and implement local, national and interregional mechanisms for the exchange and sharing of knowledge and experiences.

Although DRR and CC adaptation are compatible issues and intrinsically linked, practitioners from these communities need to come together to identify common areas for practical action at the sectoral, regional, national and subnational levels.

4) Your additional thoughts on the event:

This meeting provided for an open and enriching exchange of opinions and thoughts on current advances at the national level from throughout the region of the Americas.