

New Technology vs Disaster Risk Reduction: Opportunities and Emerging Risks

Agenda

Moderator: Qunli Han, Executive Director, IRDR

Time (UTC)	Item
8:00-8:10	<p>Brief Opening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qunli Han, Executive Director, IRDR • Jenty Kirsch-Wood, Head of Global Risk Management and Reporting, UNDRR
8:10-9:00	<p>Reports of Panelists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>UNESCO's humanistic approach to information ethics: why it matters and how to bridge AI divides</i>, reported by Hu Xianhong, Programme Specialist, UNESCO • <i>Cross-Domain Data Interoperability Framework for Disaster and Climate Risk Reduction</i>, reported by Bapon Fakhruddin, IRDR SC member, co-chair of IRDR Working Group on Data • <i>Existential Risk and Rapid Technological Change: Advancing Risk-informed Development</i>, reported by Maxime Stauffer, Simon Institute for Longterm Governance • <i>Advancing open science infrastructures for disaster mitigation</i>, reported by Li Jianhui, Vice President, CODATA • <i>An Open Cocktail of Engineering, AI, DRR...</i>, reported by Li Pan, Executive Director, AI & Big Data Working Group of WFEO-CEIT
9:00-9:10	<p>Intervention of Discussants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Xu Shiling, Lecturer, International Academy of Red Cross & Red Crescent, Soochow University • Pradip Khatiwada, Executive Director, Youth Innovation Lab
9:10-9:25	<p>Q&A and discussion from the audience</p>
9:25-9:30	<p>Summary by Moderator</p>

Registration Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYucOGqzgpE90y0c-jvA4TPhvgDjiMWC-G>

Making the online meeting run smoothly

- Enter the meeting room 15 minutes earlier to test the Internet connection, camera, microphone and speaker;
- Mute the microphone when the meeting starts;
- Participants turn on the microphone when allowed by Moderator;
- Turn off the camera when the Internet connection is poor;
- Stay present.

Concept Note of IRDR Online Workshop

New Technology vs Disaster Risk Reduction: Opportunities and Emerging Risks

Rationale and Objectives:

[*A Framework for Global Science in support of Risk Informed Sustainable Development and Planetary Health*](#) (ISC-UNDRR-IRDR, 2021, hereafter as the Research Framework) identified nine research priorities for cooperation. To advance the implementation of the Research Framework, IRDR will organize a series of workshops in 2023 to further discuss the implications of priority setting and the lines of actions for DRR community. This workshop will focus on Priority 5 “Harness technologies, data and knowledge for risk reduction”. As stated in the Research Framework, rapid technological advances in the areas of artificial intelligence, digitalization and analytical capacity and the very widespread adoption of mobile devices and social media are driving major changes in our lives and have the potential to contribute to risk reduction and the development of Open Science. Successful cases can be found in DRR efforts such as the development of multi-hazard early warning systems, assessment of climate change impacts, and access to DRR information services. Recently, the launch of ChatGPT and its service has raised intensive discussion on its potentials, applications and impacts on the development of society. There is a growing concern that new risks, systemic vulnerabilities and new forms of inequalities can also be created from the misuse or unintended consequences of the technology. Understanding and managing technology advancement is therefore a key part of global resilience building and development safety.

This workshop is an initial expert meeting that starts the discussion on the Priority 5. The overall objective of this workshop is to bring together experts in the field of DRR, technology, and policy to discuss the opportunities and emerging risks associated with new technologies. The workshop aims to provide a platform for participants to share the insights, knowledge and experiences to identify the new opportunities harnessing the technology for the benefits of communities in DRR and to articulate the new challenges in forms of development risks, and to elaborate the specific suggestions and recommendations for intersectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration and practice. The output of this workshop will be a concrete contribution to the implementation of the Research Framework and the inputs toward IRDR 2023 Conference.

Key questions to be addressed:

- What are significant impacts of the technology advancements to DRR both as the opportunities and emerging risks?
- How can DRR community maximize the benefits of new technologies especially in forms of knowledge integration and information service?
- What other key measures and actions should be taken to reduce the digital inequalities and systemic vulnerabilities?

Expected outputs:

- The outline of IRDR Special Report on the overall implications of new technology advancement in DRR, evidenced by the contributions and case studies, key insights, as well as suggestions and recommendations for further actions and collaborations.
- The concept and research targets for IRDR Work Stream on the Priority 5.
- Suggestions for IRDR Pilot Studies or technical task force.

Participants:

The workshop is made for the participation of experts from DRR communities, technology industries, policy makers, as well as representatives of international organizations committed to Sendai Framework and Open Science.

Date and Time:

The workshop will be at UTC 8:00-9:30 AM, 4 May, 2023.

Structure:

The workshop will take the form of online panel and will last for 90 minutes. The structure is as following:

- Brief opening by ISC/UNDRR/IRDR (5 min in total)
- 5 panelists (8 min each, 50 min in total)
- 2 discussants (5 min each, 15 min in total)
- Q&A and discussion from the audience (15 min)
- Summary by the moderator (5 min)

Organized by:

Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR), Global Open Science Cloud (GOSC)

Supported by:

International Science Council (ISC), United Nations Office on Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)

Registration Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYucOGqzgpE90y0c-jvA4TPhvgDJiMWC-G>