

# 2019 Global DRR Youth Forum

## A Safer World, A Brighter Future

### Background

Since the 2013 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (May 2013, Geneva), regional platforms successfully recognized the important role of youth in reducing disaster risk and in building community resilience to disaster. In 2015, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction indicates that disaster risk reduction requires an all-of-society engagement and partnership; especially, youth leadership and engagement should be promoted. Under the Sendai Framework's guidance, Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) is committed to raise public awareness of the role of youth in disaster risk reduction through the 2019 Global DRR Youth Forum and the existed IRDR Young Scientists Program.

The 2019 Global DRR Youth Forum is a youth-lead Forum to showcase their knowledge, skills, strengths and ability to lead in global disaster risk reduction agenda. The world forum provides a precious opportunity for youth to raise their voices and review the [Young Scientists Roadmap](#) for implementation the Sendai Framework based on the UNISDR Science and Technology roadmap 2015. Most importantly, a Global Commitment For Action will be issued in accordance with the Sendai Framework, the Paris agreements and SDGs. The outcomes of the Forum will contribute to the 2019 Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva.

#### 1. Who will lead the organization of this Global DRR Youth Forum:

- IRDR (and its ICoEs) under the auspices of UNISDR and ICSU
- Partnership with other ICSU programs: WCRP, Future Earth-KANs
- UN: UNISDR, UNESCO, UNDP, UNEP, UNICEF, UN Major Group for Children and Youth
- Host country government
- Leading educational institutions in DRR
- Private sectors

#### 2. Who are expected to participate in the Targeted participants (about 300 to 400

from all regions – age range 20-35<sup>1</sup>)

- Young scientists and engineers in DRR fields
- Young officials working in DRR governance and policies.
- Young social workers and volunteer organizations in disaster preparedness and post disaster response.
- Young entrepreneurs interested in development of new service/products for DRR in societies.

### 3. What are expected to achieve through the World Forum:

- Transfer the fundamental ideas and global goals/targets in the Sendai Framework on DRR and the related global targets as set by Agenda 2030, the Paris Agreement and New Urban Agenda into youth communities for concerted actions at local, national and regional levels;
- Establishing a global alliance of youth groups and their respective supporting organizations under UNISDR in research, engineering, social development, governance and business, as a new force for SFDRR and beyond.
- Mobilize youth communities to participate and contribute through concrete actions in respective countries and regions toward the global goals and targets, through research and innovation, outreach, capacity building and communication.
- A Global Commitment For Action in form of a statement will be issued at the World Forum, with also specific suggestions to the 2019 Global Platform of SFDRR (or to its follow up).

### 4. How the World Forum will be constructed

- The World Forum will take 3+2 formula, with 3 days for very engaged and interactive thematic/regional/dialogue sessions and 2 days field visit to a major post disaster area to expose to the ground truth. For the field exposure, if this event takes place in Europe, Italy maybe the good choice. If it takes place in Asia, Sichuan Province of China and Sendai of Japan are a good choice.
- The World Forum will be mainly operated by young people themselves, with back up from the organizing programs and agencies.
- Thematic sessions will include young scientists research, engineering solutions on disaster risk reduction, innovation in information and communication and

---

<sup>1</sup> This is not UN defined age range: 15-25. Considering the DRR related work, it is more appropriate to target 20 to 35.

new DRR related products/services.

- Regional sessions will discuss regional and national challenges and ways to connect knowledge and expertise for action, and how to link with the international programs on DRR.
- On-line reporting by social media will be continuously before, during and after the Global Forum, enabling a diverse and collective voice of youth communities on SFDRR and their plan of actions.
- Parallel exhibitions of posters and products

## **5. Timeframe**

- The ideal time of the World Forum will be in April 2019, one month before the 2019 Platform of SFDRR in Geneva. This will enable the inputs to the 2019 Platform. Alternatively, it is also possible to do it in later part of 2019, as a major follow up to 2019 Platform.
- Decision and first announcement should be made by April 2018, one year before. 2<sup>nd</sup> announcement by September 2018, 3<sup>rd</sup> announcement with detailed agenda will be by January 2019.

## **6. Resource required:**

- International air tickets for the participants especially from developing countries
- Hotel accommodations
- Funding for World Forum Secretariat to hire a few temporary assistance
- Funding/in kind contribution from the host