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**2017 EFDRR Open Forum
Istanbul, Turkey
26-28 March 2017**

Concept Note for Pre-conference events on 26 March 2017

Event title	Early Warnings and Climate Risk
Event code	PRE - 2
Date and Time	Sunday, 26 March 2017, 10h30 to 12h00
Venue/ Room no.	tbc
Theme/ topic to be addressed	The event will present examples of how, through the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative, advances in early warning systems, notably in Europe, are being applied in Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States.
Organizers	<p>Lead: Ministère de l'environnement, de l'énergie et de la mer Direction, France</p> <p>Collaborators: Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) Secretariat, World Meteorological Organization (WMO)</p> <p>Contact Details* (lead): Marie-Pierre Méganck, Ministère de l'environnement, de l'énergie et de la mer Direction générale de la prévention des risques Chargée de la cellule européenne et internationale</p>

Session Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Present effective models of cooperation for advancing end-to-end early warning systems in Least developed Countries and Small Island Developing States. - Present good practices in early warning system application in the Europe region. - Present status of progress in the climate Risk Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative
Background and context <i>(rationale of the event)</i>	<p>Early warning systems have for a long time been part of countries' strategies to deal with extreme climate events and disasters. Considerable progress has been achieved in recent years towards effective early warnings such as better understanding of the risks, faster and broader dissemination of warnings and the quality of the information provided to those at risk, through capacity development, operational support and improved coordination and governance.</p> <p>National meteorological and hydrological services can predict weather and climate further ahead, progress is made for monitoring other hazards and the impacts are communicate with increased accuracy. Standard alerting procedure allow warnings to be received and understood through multiple communication channels. However, the resulting societal benefits of early warning systems have been spread unevenly across regions, countries and communities.</p> <p>The French Government has joined effort with a number of partners to address the significant gaps in providing early warnings to deal with extreme events, especially in reaching the "last mile" - the most vulnerable and exposed populations with timely, understandable and actionable warning information. In particular, in least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS), that have not benefited from advances in the science, technology and governance behind early warning systems.</p> <p>CREWS is also contributing to efforts to define an approach to establish national baselines on early warning systems to be used by government agencies to report on advances in early warning efforts on a periodic basis, as contemplated in the Sendai Framework (Target G). One goal is therefore to take stock of the current level of development of single and multi-hazard early warning systems, including their effectiveness, related actors and partnerships, and coordination mechanisms.</p>
Session format and programme <i>(detailed agenda)</i>	<p>Session facilitation:</p> <p>Mr. Michaël Chouraki, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Ms. Marie-Pierre Méganck, Ministry of Environment, France - CREWS as a mechanisms for effective cooperation and partnerships on early warning and climate risk.</p> <p>Representative of the Turkish State Meteorological Services (TSMS) tbc – effective models of end-to-end early warning systems.</p> <p>Representative of UNOOSA, tbc - improved risk information systems for early warning such as geo-spatial tools and risk maps.</p> <p>Mr. John Harding, CREWS Secretariat – effective investment models in early warning systems</p>

**Intended main
outcome and Key
messages**

- Early warning systems need to part of local, national and regional strategies on disaster risk management.
- Capacity building and technical support is required to assist countries put in place the required systems to issue impact-based multi-hazard early warning systems.
- CREWS presents an effective initiative for upscaling support to Least Developed Countries and SIDS.