



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

**Concept Note of Technical Session**

<b>Event title</b>	<b>Technical Session 5: Bridging disaster risk reduction and climate change for a sustainable future</b>
<b>Event code</b>	TS 5
<b>Date and Time</b>	Tuesday, 28 March 2017, 09:00 – 11:00 hrs
<b>Venue/ Room no.</b>	Convention Center - First Floor
<b>Theme/ topic to be addressed</b>	<p>How to identify and develop concrete solutions to integrate DRR and climate change action towards more sustainable development and inclusive policy making processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the role of governments and effective governance schemes in devising sustainable and integrated policy processes (empowering and supporting action at a local level);</li> <li>• the role of local governments in integrating climate change and DRR policies to avoid, mitigate and adapt to changing risks;</li> <li>• community based CCA/DRR and the involvement of civil society in the design, implementation and monitoring of development policies and plans and in catalyzing public awareness;</li> <li>• the role of research and the opportunities created by improved science/policy dialogue;</li> <li>• the role of ecosystem based approaches for DRR and CCA.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Organizers</b></p>	<p><b>Lead:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jaroslav Mysiak, PLACARD (PLAtform for Climate Adaptation and Risk reduction) project consortium and Euro-Mediterranean Centre on Climate Change</li> <li>• Maddalena Dali', Policy Officer - Policy development in the area of adaptation to climate change, European Commission, DG Clima</li> </ul> <p><b>EFDRR Secretariat:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Luca Rossi, Programme Manager, UNISDR Europe</li> </ul> <p><b>Collaborators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lea Appulo, Policy &amp; Advocacy Officer Climate and DRR, Wetlands International</li> <li>• Alessandro ATTOLICO, Province of Potenza, Italy</li> <li>• Aslan Mehmet ÇOŞKUN, Planning and Mitigation Department Manager at local level, Tekirdağ AFAD</li> <li>• Kathryn Oldham, Association of Greater Manchester Authorities, AGMA Civil Contingencies &amp; Resilience Unit</li> <li>• Anatolie PUTUNTICA, Associate Professor, Tiraspol State University, Republic of Moldova</li> <li>• Annisa Triyanti, UN MGCY Young Scientists Platform on DRR; UN Major Group for Children and Youth</li> </ul>
<p><b>Session Objectives</b></p>	<p>The session sets out to identify challenges and possible practical solutions for an integration of DRR and climate change adaptation to enable a sustainable future, and to contribute to achieving the targets set by the Sendai Framework for DRR, the Paris Agreement and the Agenda 2030.</p> <p>The presentations and interactive discussions will allow participants to share experiences and good practices in particular on: Policy making at the national level: successful governance processes that promote synergies and integration whilst encouraging actions at local level Raising awareness on the role of local and community level action for bringing together resilience to disasters and to climate change and highlighting the role of science and private sector in developing and sharing integrated knowledge to foster and enrich policy dialogues on DRR and climate change adaptation opportunities promoted by ecosystem based approaches to uphold disaster and climate resilience</p>

## Background and context

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (SFDRR), endorsed by the UN General Assembly in June 2015, has provided disaster risk management actors with a series of new guidelines. It highlighted the role and relevance of regional platforms for disaster risk reduction, and of regional support for national and local efforts. It is built on lessons learned from the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action: 2005-2015.

According to a recent analysis conducted by the European Environment Agency, the reported economic losses caused by weather and climate-related extremes in Europe, over the period 1980-2015, amounted to around EUR 433 billion (in 2015 Euro values) [1]. The average annual economic losses have varied between EUR 7.5 billion in the period 1980-1989, EUR 13.5 billion in the period 1990-1999, and EUR 14.3 billion in the period 2000-2009.

As a consequence of both development patterns, increased societal complexity and dependencies, together with the increasing impacts of climate change, the rising trend of economic losses poses a challenge both to sustainability and to economic growth.

Over 80% of current disaster losses are caused by weather-related hazards. These are set to increase in frequency, intensity, spatial extent and duration as a result of changing climate, according to the IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report. By 2050, in a business-as-usual scenario, there could be a nearly fivefold increase in the annual economic losses resulting from floods in Europe alone. Yet we also know that the severity of extreme weather and climate events depends strongly on the level of vulnerability and exposure to these events. Only 30% of the higher flood risk can be attributed to climate change and increased rainfall. The rest is attributable to human behavior, such as building in risk areas. Far from being natural, disasters are something that we can prevent or for which we can minimize the impacts.

At global level, there is widespread recognition of the benefits of linking and integrating the knowledge base, policies and practices for addressing climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and management, and sustainable development. Many of the outcomes of the major international frameworks adopted in 2015, which included the SFDRR, the Agenda 2030, the Paris Agreement and the New urban Agenda, are mutually reinforcing in their goal of promoting sustainable development by encouraging resilience to natural disasters and reducing the vulnerability of people exposed to climate change impacts.

The synergies are also recognized in the Roadmap developed by the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction (EFDRR) to guide Europe's implementation of the SFDRR and in the European Commission's Action Plan on SFDRR 2015-2030.

It is now crucial to understand how this integration can practically and effectively be developed, including identifying synergies between the respective policies' areas. DRR and CCA embrace a range of complementary and cross-cutting methods of managing the risks of weather and climate-related hazards and risks. The overarching goal of both is to manage risks and help to transform societies to make them (more) resilient. In both cases this includes creating awareness, mobilizing resources and building capacity and actions by public and private sectors alike, preferably in partnership with each other.

In support of this approach, we propose to focus this session on identifying challenges and concrete solutions for integrating DRR and climate change adaptation by looking at government and governance processes (integrated across stakeholders and sectors, as well as vertically from national to local levels), the role of the local level, the contribution of civil society and communities, the role of science/policy interfaces and the opportunities offered by considering ecosystem based approaches.

<p><b>Session format and programme</b></p>	<p><b>Introduction and welcoming remarks – Mr Hamza TAŞDELEN, Vice President AFAD</b></p> <p><b>Keynote address and moderator - Mr André Jol, Head of group climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation, European Environment Agency</b></p> <p><b>Panel discussion:</b></p> <p><b>Panellist 1 - National Government – Mr Erling Kvernevik, Ministry of Security and Justice - Ministry of Security and Justice</b></p> <p><b>Panellist 2 – Local Government – Ms Catarina Freitas, Head of the department for Environment, Climate, Energy and Mobility of the city of Almada, Portugal</b></p> <p><b>Panellist 3: Youth – Ms Irina Kulenovic, Member of UN MGCY young scientists platform on DRR</b></p> <p><b>Panellist 4: Civil Society – Ms Thandie Mwape Villadsen, Humanitarian Diplomacy Coordination NL Red Cross</b></p> <p><b>Interactive guided discussion</b></p> <p><b>Wrap up and conclusion by the moderator</b></p>
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<p><b>Intended main outcome and Key messages</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To encourage Member States to ensure governance arrangements for DRR are aligned with and/or integrated with those for climate change adaptation</li> <li>• To enable Member States to reflect on how changes to statutory and regulatory frameworks might facilitate the delivery of stronger DRR practices, protecting communities and economies now and in the future</li> <li>• To enhance the role of local governments in promoting synergies, and fostering a more integrated vertical cooperation in DRR and CCA policy development.</li> <li>• To advocate for integration of communities and civil society in policy making processes for DRR and CCA</li> <li>• To support the private sector in considering how their investments can support disaster risk reduction whilst enabling economic growth</li> <li>• To promote the role of science/policy as useful interface for sharing knowledge, promoting awareness, co-designing effective solutions and developing integrated approaches</li> <li>• To better understand and promote the role of ecosystem based approaches for designing DRR and CCA integrated solutions.</li> </ul>
<p><b>List of Speakers</b></p>	<div> </div> <p><b>Mr Hamza TAŞDELEN</b>, Vice President AFAD. Mr. Hamza graduated from the Middle East Technical University, Department of Political Science and Public Administration in 2001. In addition to his articles published in various publications, TAŞDELEN, who is also the author of the book "E-transportation in the Information Society: The World Examples" and the research on the "From Idealism to Reactive Nationalism", has previously served as Deputy Director General in the Headquarters of Press and Information General Directorate.</p> <div> </div> <p><b>Mr André Jol</b>, Head of group climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation, European Environment Agency. André Jol joined the European Environment Agency in 1996. He is currently head of group on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation. He oversees EEA assessments on impacts of and vulnerability to climate change, and adaptation actions, and links to disaster risk reduction, in EEA member countries. He is responsible for the European Climate Adaptation Platform, managed in close collaboration with the European Commission. He regularly participates in the EU delegation to meetings of the UNFCCC and IPCC.</p>

He is a member of Advisory Boards of various EU funded research projects.

**Mr Erling Kvernevik**, Ministry of Security and Justice - Ministry of Security and Justice.

**Ms Catarina Freitas**, Head of the department for Environment, Climate, Energy and Mobility of the city of Almada, Portugal



**Ms Thandie Mwape Villadsen**, Humanitarian Diplomacy Coordination NL Red Cross. Thandie Mwape is Zambian national with 15 years in international relations and public policy. Eleven years with United Nations on emergency response and resilience in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Geneva and New York; Four years in peace and security in East Timor and Kosovo. Currently working as policy advisor on Dutch-government funded programme in the Partners for Resilience, representing an Alliance of the Netherlands Red Cross, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, Care Netherlands, CORDAID, and Wetlands International. As Humanitarian Diplomacy Coordinator, Thandie leads policy dialogue on climate change adaptation and ecosystem management to strengthen community resilience. Amongst the key principles that PfR advocates for is the centrality of local people by building on local and traditional resources and knowledge in disaster risk reduction initiatives, from planning to implementation.



**Ms Irina Kulenovic**, Member of UN MGCY young scientists' platform on DRR. Ms. Irina Kulenovic is a member of UNMGCY DRR Working group where she is actively engaged in fostering the role of youth in risk reduction decision-making processes and promoting their active engagement in implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, helping to raise the voice and profile of youth and children in international and regional disaster risk reduction forums, including global and regional platforms for disaster risk reduction. She is presently serving as DRR Programme Officer in UN Resident Coordinator Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina, working on the processes of strengthening UN inter-agency and cross-sectoral programming on DRR and resilience building initiatives around implementation of Sendai Framework for Action Priorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Previously, she was engaged at UNV Field Office in Bosnia

	<p>and Herzegovina dealing with youth, peace-building and flood-recovery initiatives, as teaching assistant at the University of Sarajevo, researcher/analyst at the South-East Europe News Service for the project "Localization of the EU" and Centre for Local and Regional Government, Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Sarajevo, within the project "Euroregions and Bosnia and Herzegovina". Ms. Kulenovic holds M.A. Degree in Political Science, International Relations and Diplomacy from the Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Sarajevo. Her most recent professional publications are: Who Does What Where in DRR in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Hazard and Risk Maps in Bosnia and Herzegovina.</p>
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