



**IDRC
Davos
2006**



INTERNATIONAL DISASTER REDUCTION CONFERENCE

(27 August - 1 September 2006, Davos, Switzerland)
(Organized jointly by [GADR](#), [GDIN](#), [UNESCO](#), [UN/ISDR](#))

The International Disaster Reduction Conference will take place August 27th through September 1, 2006 in the unforgettable Swiss mountain surroundings of Davos. You are invited to join this global gathering of leading experts from science, government, business, civil society, international organizations, NGOs and risk management professionals across the various risk sectors.

As recent mega-disasters have shown, risk management from the perspective of a single field is not adequate to address the complex threats to today's society. The conference will address different kinds of risks (e.g. risks due to natural hazards, technical risks, biological and chemical risks but also pandemics, terrorism, climate change, endemic risks, etc.). A truly integrated and participative approach is planned to ensure that the valuable lessons learned about risk reduction from a wide spectrum of fields are applied correctly for the benefit of communities, countries, and regions. The IDRC Davos 2006 will be a valuable forum and strategic platform for the world's risk management community. The program will include topical plenary sessions and panel debates, scientific and policy-oriented thematic sessions, special regional sessions for Africa, Asia, North and Latin America and Europe and side events organized by different international and national organizations, exhibits, and special recognition of international pioneers in risk reduction.

At this time, abstracts are being accepted for presentation during IDRC Davos 2006 under the overall theme of risk management and the creation of safer, more resilient and thus sustainable societies. Future risk management solutions will undoubtedly involve a mix of approaches, from state-of-the art technology to forward-thinking policy making and wise institutional governance. Experts from all over the world are invited to submit abstracts and contribute to the unique, interdisciplinary dialogue and discussion of IDRC Davos 2006.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF IDRC Davos 2006

To achieve risk-resilient, sustainable societies, the management of unexpected events such as natural hazards, diseases, man-made hazards and terrorism need to be approached in an integrated way. It is no longer adequate for risk management professionals to focus solely on risk within a particular realm. Rather, in a complex world with interdependent systems, risk

management must have a new vision, one that reaches across disciplines and departments to allow better planning, response, and reduction of the most pressing risks facing communities. Emerging trends from risk management confirm the perception of the general public: the world we live in today is more complex, less certain, and more interdependent than any time before in history. These messages have been highlighted at the World Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction held in Kobe, Japan in January 2005 (WCDR 2005).

The International Disaster Reduction Conference IDRC Davos 2006, to be held from August 27 to September 1, will push forward the vision of WCDR 2005 and will deepen the understanding of what is needed to mainstream and integrate risk management across fields. IDRC Davos 2006 will focus attention of WCDR's priorities (see box below), while involving a wider group of risk management experts, practitioners, decision makers, and scientists with a strong emphasis on implementation at "the last mile". The conference in Davos will thus contribute to the UN international strategy for disaster reduction, and strengthen links between participants from different areas of risk management while adding the lessons and new knowledge gained from recent complex disasters such as the December 2004 tsunami, the Hurricanes Katrina and Rita with flooding in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast of the USA, Hurricane Stan and the flooding and mudflows in the middle Americas, the earthquake in Pakistan and the threat of an avian flu pandemic.

PRIORITY AREAS HYOGO FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION 2005-2015

Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters

The World Conference on Disaster Reduction (www.unisdr.org/wcdr), held in Kobe Japan in January of 2005, achieved consensus on the following risk management and risk reduction priorities.

- Risk governance: Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and local priority with strong institutional basis for implementation.
- Risk analysis and assessment: Identify, assess, and monitor disaster risks.
- Preparedness: Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels, enhance early warning systems.
- Culture of safety: Use knowledge, innovation, and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels.
- Reduce underlying risk factors: Identify those variables latent in society and the environment that contribute to risk, and ways that these variables can be mitigated.

General information:

Conference website and flyer:

- [First Announcement](#)
- [Conference website](#)

Language, simultaneous translation:

The official conference language is English. All conference events, printed material, posters, and excursions will be in English. For Special Sessions and specific events simultaneous translations may be provided.

Registration fees:

	Up to April 30th	As from May
Participants	CHF 650.–	CHF 750.–
Students (written proof by head of department and copy of student card)	CHF 430.–	CHF 530.–
Accompanying person(s)	CHF 150.–	CHF 150.–

The following items are included in the registration fee:

for participants: access to the sessions, posters and exhibits, daily highlights, proceedings, opening reception, coffee breaks

for accompanying persons: access to opening reception, coffee breaks, daily highlights.

Important note: meals are not included and a surcharge of CHF 90.– for the congress dinner is added.

Important dates to remember:

- **NEW:** February 28, 2006: Paper and poster abstract submission deadline
- **NEW:** February 28, 2006: Travel grant applications submitted
- **NEW:** February 28, 2006: Application for Special Session deadline
- Mid March 2006: Notification of acceptance or rejection of abstracts and applications for Special Sessions
- April 30, 2006: Submission deadline for full papers
- April 30, 2006: Early registration deadline for reduced conference fee

Contact:

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