

For more information

Please contact UNESCO's
Disaster Risk Reduction Unit:
drd@unesco.org

Get In Touch



UNESCO DRR
Website



Event page



UNESCO's Support on Building Resilience and Advancing Early Warning Systems

7 April 2025, 13.20 – 14.20 CEST/Paris time

Paris, UNESCO Headquarters

Room IX

PROGRAMME

Session Notice

Dear Participants,

as we welcome you to this information session, here are a few friendly reminders to make the most of your experience:

- If you have questions, we encourage you to raise them during the Q&A session and use the microphone at your seat.
- Please feel free to network during lunch from 14:20.

UNESCO's contribution to DRR

UNESCO plays a pivotal role in advancing disaster risk reduction (DRR) by promoting knowledge exchange, facilitating policy dialogue, and strengthening capacity-building efforts through a comprehensive, inter-sectoral approach.

Opening Remarks

13:20 - 13:30



1 Ms Lidia Brito, Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, UNESCO

- Ms Brito's mandate includes overseeing the institution's contributions to addressing today's global economic, social and environmental challenges through science.



2 H.E. Mr Takehiro Kano, Ambassador of Japan to UNESCO

- Ambassador Kano has been in this post since 2023 after having held high-ranking roles in Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including Director of the Climate Change Division and Director General for Southeast and Southwest Asian Affairs.



3 Ms Jiřina Valentová, Permanent Delegate of the Czech Republic to UNESCO

- Ms Valentová is responsible for representing her nation's interests within the organization, notably heading the Czech delegation for the nomination of "Žatec and the Landscape of Saaz Hops" to the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Panel Discussion

13:30 - 14:10



1 Mr Abou Amani, Director of the Division of Water Sciences and Secretary of the IHP, UNESCO

- Appointed in the role since 2021; has experience in hydrology and address water-related disasters, hydrological change and water scarcity challenges.



2 H.E. Ms Nathalie Rossette-Cazel, Ambassador of the Cook Islands (tsunami EWS)

- Ambassador Rossette-Cazel holds a Doctorate in International Law, specializing in labor law, dispute resolution, and mediation. A dedicated advocate for Small Island Developing States (SIDS), she actively champions their priorities across all sectors of UNESCO.



3 Dr Jan Danhelka, Czech Hydrometeorological Institute, Czechia (flood EWS)

- Dr Danhelka is the Chair of the Czech National Committee for Hydrology, as well as the Czech Republic representative in Working group F (Floods) within the framework of Common Implementation Strategy of EU Directive 2007/60/EC.



4 Dr Nacer Jabour, Head of Division, National Institute of Geophysics, Morocco (earthquake EWS)

- Based in Rabat, Dr Jabour specializes in earthquake EWS and seismic risk assessment. He advocates for continuous seismic monitoring in Morocco, emphasizing the critical need for interdisciplinary integration to enhance the accuracy of seismic hazard predictions.



5 Dr Joachim Ayiwe Abungba, Deputy Director of Water Resources Commission, Ghana (flood and drought EWS)

- Dr Abungba is also the Head of the Black Volta Basin and oversees the sustainable management of water resources in Ghana and supports capacity-building initiatives, especially to strengthen community-based water management.

Q&A Discussion and Closing

14:10 - 14:20