

# International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (ICDRI) 2025

Shaping a Resilient Future for Coastal Regions



## Introduction

ICDRI 2025 will contribute to shaping a future where coastal regions, particularly Small Island Developing States (SIDS), are better equipped to withstand climate-induced hazards while fostering economic stability and ecological sustainability.



## Background

Climate change is intensifying climate-induced hazards - both hydrometeorological disasters and slow-onset events - and creating new risks for places and communities. In coastal regions, rising temperatures have increased the frequency and intensity of heavy precipitation events, such as hurricanes, cyclones and flooding; and, extreme storms and sea-level rise are resulting in greater coastal flooding, storm surges and coastal erosion.

About 37 percent of the world's population lives within 100 km of the coast, where the population density is twice the global average. These coastal communities contribute an estimated 1.5 trillion USD to global GDP annually, a figure projected to rise to almost 3 trillion USD by 2030. In addition, nearly 90 percent of the goods being moved globally are transported by sea.

The interconnectedness and interdependence of critical infrastructure in coastal areas amplifies this increasing risk, leading to higher dynamic risks and cascading impacts. The risks to critical services such as health, transport, power and telecommunications are exacerbated by aging infrastructure, poor maintenance and their establishment in hazard-prone areas.

While all coastal areas face these increasing challenges, for SIDS, their remoteness and geographic location compounds their vulnerability.



## ICDRI 2025

ICDRI's ambition is to align with both the UNDRR Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) in Geneva, and third UN Oceans Conference (UNOC3), in Nice, both in June 2025, around integrated, risk-informed and adaptive infrastructure solutions that safeguard both people and the planet. CDRI has been engaging with UNDRR to support the integration of DRI into the GPDRR agenda, and the venue for ICDRI will be in the UNOC3 Green Zone.

The Conference will be an opportunity to address the challenges of harmonising infrastructure development priorities in the coastal regions, with a specific focus on SIDS. Governments, public and private sector infrastructure stakeholders, multilateral development banks, local bodies and financial institutions will convene to deliberate, showcase and share risk-informed infrastructure investment approaches towards shaping a future beyond disaster and climate risks in the coastal regions and SIDS.

CDRI through its programmes is already contributing towards resilience of coastal areas including SIDS. These contributions are realized through country-level technical support, development of frameworks, assessment of infrastructure and systems, developing knowledge repository on disaster risk management, and enhancing adaptive capacity and resilience of infrastructure to climate and disaster risks. These efforts are influencing infrastructure investments, facilitating access to financing for resilience-building measures and supporting the adaptation of the urban environment.

Through these engagements, and through consultation with representatives from coastal regions, CDRI has identified the key priorities which will drive the agenda and outcomes of ICDRI:



### Outcomes

CDRI will launch a thought piece on DRI for Coastal Regions in the Inaugural session of ICDRI, which will be developed by the Expert Groups within the Community of Practice. This will frame discussions over the two days and beyond, including in the broader UNOC3 events.

A summary of the Conference and key recommendations will be produced, and released, at a high-level side event planned to be held in the UNOC3 Blue Zone.

CDRI will maintain the Community of Practice as a space for experts to share good practices and collaborate.