

ICDRI 2021

International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure

17-19 MARCH 2021

CDRI
Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure

CONFERENCE BULLETIN | 17 MARCH 2021

INAUGURAL SESSION



[Top Row from Left to Right] Shri Narendra Modi, Honourable Prime Minister of India; The Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP, Honourable Prime Minister of the United Kingdom; **[Bottom Row from Left to Right]** H.E. Mr. Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama; Honourable Prime Minister of Fiji; Mr. Mario Draghi OMRI, Honourable Prime Minister of Italy.

The ICDRI 2021 is the third in the series of annual conferences of the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI). The Conference has a clear focus on various systems, sectors and themes which need to be made resilient for a sustainable future. The policy, technical and regional forums led by global experts along with a space for networking opportunities constitute the structure of the conference. The Policy Forums highlight the overarching risk governance perspectives critical for building resilient infrastructure. The Technical Forums dive deep into the key thematic

areas that have been identified over time as broad portfolios of actions for the CDRI. The Regional Forums share the lessons, gaps and opportunities from climate and disaster risk prone regions to contribute to the overall infrastructure resilience agenda.

The inaugural session of the ICDRI 2021 was graced by the Honourable Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi; Honourable Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP; Honourable Prime Minister of Italy, Mario Draghi OMRI; and Honourable Prime Minister of Fiji, H.E. Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama. ↻

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The **CDRI Fellowships** for 2021 were announced by Dr. Charlotte Benson on behalf of the International Jury. Details available at:

<https://fellowship.cdri.world/fellowship-batch-2021.html>





SHRI NARENDRA MODI
Honourable Prime Minister of India

“ In our quest for resilience, no one is safe till everyone is safe, we have to ensure that no community, no place, no ecosystem, no economy, is left behind. Just as the fight against the pandemic mobilized the energies of the world’s 7 billion people, our quest for resilience must build on the initiative and imagination of each and every individual of the planet. ”



THE RT HON BORIS JOHNSON MP
Honourable Prime Minister of UK

“ I applaud my friend Prime Minister Modi for this excellent initiative, the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, which the UK is proud to Co-Chair. Through events such as this, I hope we can learn more from each other and support those particularly at risk from the dramatic effects of climate change, such as Small Island Developing States. ”



MR. MARIO DRAGHI OMRI
Honourable Prime Minister of Italy

“ Italy counts on strong support from India and other countries in the Indo- Pacific region to foster the objectives and beliefs which are important for the pursuit of social and environmental sustainability for the development of a prosperous world. ”



H.E. MR. JOSAI VOREQE BAINIMARAMA
Honourable Prime Minister of Fiji

“ There are no shortcuts to disaster readiness and resilience. It’s a long journey that we make every day with one foot in the present and one foot in the future. In the wake of the changing climate, we can’t hang up our hard hats with the same sense of confidence that we once could. ”

SESSION 1

Reimagining Global Health Infrastructure and Supply Chain Systems Towards A Resilient Future

Keynote speaker: Dr. Prof. K. VijayRaghavan, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India

Moderator: Ms. Paola Albrito, Chief of Branch for the Intergovernmental Processes, Interagency Cooperation and Partnership, UNDRR

Panellists: Dr. Kayla Laserson, Deputy Director, Infectious Diseases, The Bill & Melinda Gates

Foundation; Dr. Garmalia Mentor-William, Haiti Representative, GeoHazards International (GHI); Mr. Hans-Peter Teufers, Director, International Programs, The UPS Foundation

Special Address: Ms. Lauren Anders Brown, Global Health Film Director & Producer, collABorate: ideas & images

Highlights

The session began with a keynote speech by Dr. Prof. K. VijayRaghavan and discussed the key reflections and lessons from the impact of COVID-19 on countries’ health infrastructure systems, and practices adopted in repurposing the public health system’s capacities. The session underscored the need for creating rapid tools of solution, training, human resources, governance, knowledge sharing and communications and global collaborations. It discussed the implications of the pandemic

for the future of disaster and climate resilient infrastructure in terms of opportunities for transforming infrastructure development across all sectors.

Recommendations

- » In-depth analysis of the COVID impacts on healthcare infrastructure of few CDRI Member Countries representing a variety of development and disaster risk contexts is necessary for developing a sound knowledge base.
- » Series of dialogues/ consultations with Member Countries on possible future scenarios for infrastructure development is imperative.
- » Communications and knowledge sharing are key to the development of resilient health infrastructure, future endeavours need to build on this understanding .



SESSION 2

Global Infrastructure Risk Assessment

Moderator: Mr. Andrew Maskrey, Founder, Risk Nexus Initiative

Speakers: Mr. Omar-Dario Cardona, CEO, Ingeniar; Mr. Roberto Rudari, CIMA Research Foundation; Mr. Haward Wells, Director of the National Integrated Planning and Programme Unit, Department of Finance - Government of Saint Lucia; Prof. Jim W. Hall, Professor of Climate and Environmental Risks, University of Oxford; Dr. Janise Rodgers, Chief Operating Officer, GeoHazards International; Dr.

Gabriel Bernal, Chief Scientific Officer, INGENIAR; Mr. Umar Moosa Fikry, Deputy Chief Executive, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Maldives

Highlights

The session took stock of the current state of global practice and identified gaps while charting directions for future work in disaster and climate risk assessments. It highlighted the significance of operational infrastructure networks along with physical assets and challenges faced in assessing risk and resilience of infrastructure. It also assessed risk in a context where analysis of past events is no longer enough for estimating future risk and it goes beyond the notion of assessing risk to individual infrastructure assets to systemic risk.

CDRI's Flagship Report on Global Infrastructure Resilience is a global decision-support tool for making risk-informed investments in infrastructure.

Recommendations

The Global Infrastructure Risk Model should account for past hazards as well as the uncertainties of future hazards due to climate change.

- » National and local governments must undertake steps towards conducting detailed risk assessments of infrastructure assets to rationalise future investments.
- » The move from risk metrics to resilient infrastructure requires multi-hazard risk profile and high-resolution infrastructure risk models.
- » Decision makers should appreciate the complexity of infrastructure as a "system" and understand what is at stake. They need to understand that their decision and actions are what really matters.
- » There is a need to evaluate the performance of infrastructure systems to external risks.

SESSION 3

Situating Resilient Infrastructure in the Context of International Commitments

Keynote Speaker: Dr. P. K. Mishra, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister of India

Moderator: Mr. Kamal Kishore, India Co-Chair of CDRI Executive Committee and Member NDMA

Speakers: Ms. Mami Mizutori, Head, Secretary-General and Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction; Dr. John Murton, UK Government's COP26 Envoy; Mr. John J. Haley, Chief Executive Officer, Willis Towers Watson; Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Highlights

CDRI Secretariat has been launched, and to put a global focus on disaster and climate resilience of infrastructure, CDRI discussed the challenges and opportunities towards the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Sustainable

Development Goals. The session set the tone for the next three days of the conference. It stressed on the need for global collaborations, sectoral integrations, and systemic resilience.

Recommendations

- » Infrastructure systems underpin all transitions and will be key in making progress towards SDGs, SFDRR targets and Paris Agreement in the current global context.
- » There is a need to build resilient infrastructure assets as well as systems that accelerate our transitions, to net-zero emissions over the coming decades.

