

# Partnerships to address Climate Change, Extreme Events and Disaster Risk Reduction towards Sustainable Development Goals

## CONCEPT NOTE

### Background and Rationale

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The side-event will contribute to the SDG-17 'Partnerships for the Goals', aiming to support countries to build back better from the Covid-19 pandemic by improving the efficiency of interventions at national, sub-regional and cross-regional levels in collaboration with European and Central Asian partners working in science, innovation, and technology. During the side-event, examples of partnerships to build regional resilience against climate related disaster risks in support of the sustainable development will be introduced: [here](#)

- **Making Cities Resilient 2030 initiative** is a cross-stakeholder initiative for improving local resilience through advocacy, sharing knowledge and experiences, establishing mutually reinforcing city-to-city learning networks, injecting technical expertise, connecting multiple layers of government, and building partnerships.
- **GLOFCA project** aims to build resilient communities and reduce vulnerabilities from glacier lake outburst floods in Central Asia through early warning and regional cooperation.
- **CADRI Partnership** facilitated a "whole-of-system" DRR Capacity Diagnosis exercise in Kyrgyzstan enabling identification of the right policies, methodologies, skills, and financing mechanisms required to shift from a response centric system to risk-informed planning.
- **Partnership between the UNECE Water Convention and Industrial Accidents Convention** supports countries in the UNECE region and beyond to prevent and manage accidental water pollution events on a transboundary level, including industrial accidents triggered by climate-related extreme weather events.
- **Strategic Partnership for 'South-East European Multi-Hazard Early Warning Advisory System (SEE-MHEWS-A)'**, which was created due to recognizing the urgent need to respond to increasing threats the region faces from severe meteorological and hydrological hazards including floods, extreme temperatures, severe storms, droughts, wildfires, and landslides.

### Session objectives and expected outcomes

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#### Objective:

- 1) To promote the inclusive partnerships at regional level in Europe and Central Asia in addressing climate change, extreme events and disaster risk reduction;
- 2) To engage the new potential partners in existing partnerships;
- 3) To discuss the potential to utilize the lessons learned and replicate the partnerships existing in some regions, such as SEE-MHEWS-A Strategic Partnership in South-East Europe, to the other regions, such as Central Asia and South Caucasus for the CASC MHEWS-A partnership.
- 4) To promote knowledge-sharing on localised disaster risk reduction and resilience building, including in city-to-city contexts, and to raise awareness on the Making Cities Resilient 2030 initiative as a platform that is open to cities and partners to share best practices.

## Outcomes:

- Building resilient communities through EWS and regional cooperation;
- Risk-informed planning as part of the preparedness and prevention;
- Increasing integrated intergovernmental approaches for better prevention and management of disasters, including industrial accidents triggered by climate change;
- Transforming MHEWS partnership into strategic alliance to create sustainable value;
- Raising awareness, building capacity and strategizing of interagency collaboration and partnership on local, national and subregional levels.

## Organizers

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**Lead organizers:** WMO Regional Office for Europe and UNDRR Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia

**Contributors:** UNICEF, UNDP, UNECE, UNESCO and other members of the Task Team on Climate Change and DRR of the Issue Based Coalition on Environment and Climate

**Focal points:** Milan Dacić, WMO Representative for Europe; David Baker, Associate Programme Management Officer, UNDRR Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia.

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## Agenda and Structure

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<b>Welcome address introduction of the panellists</b>	Mr. Cyrille Honoré, Director, Disaster Risk Reduction and Public Services Branch of WMO Services Department Mr. Octavian Bivol, Chief of the UNDRR Regional Office for Europe & Central Asia	10 min
<b>Making Cities Resilient 2030 initiative</b>	Ms. Ares Gabàs Masip, Head of the Resilience Department of Barcelona City Council	7 min
<b>GLOFCA project</b>	Mr. Alessandro Cicoira, Dr. rer. nat., University of Zurich, Switzerland	7 min
<b>CADRI Partnership</b>	Mr. Almabek Aidakeev, Head of the Secretariat of the DRR National Platform of the Kyrgyz Republic	7 min
<b>Partnership between the UNECE Water Convention and Industrial Accidents Convention</b>	Mr. Bojan Srdic, Co-Chair of the Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents from the Republic of Serbia	7 min
<b>Strategic Partnership for 'South-East European Multi-Hazard Early Warning Advisory System (SEE-MHEWS-A)'</b>	Dr. Kornélia Radics, President of Hungarian Meteorological Service, President of WMO Regional Association VI (Europe), Chair of SEE-MHEWS-A Steering Committee	7 min
<b>Discussion, questions and answers</b>	Moderated by the Co-Chairs All participants	35 min
<b>Closing (wrap up)</b>	Co-Chairs	10 min

## List of Panellists

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### Co-Chairs:

- Mr. Cyrille Honoré, Director, Disaster Risk Reduction and Public Services Branch of WMO Services Department
- Mr. Octavian Bivol, Chief of the UNDRR Regional Office for Europe & Central Asia

### Panellists:

- Ms. Ares Gabàs Masip, Head of the Resilience Department of Barcelona City Council
- Mr. Alessandro Cicoira, Dr. rer. nat., University of Zurich, Switzerland
- Mr. Almabek Aidakeev, Head of the Secretariat of the DRR National Platform of the Kyrgyz Republic
- Mr. Bojan Srdic, Co-Chair of the Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents from the Republic of Serbia
- Dr. Kornélia Radics, President of Hungarian Meteorological Service, President of WMO Regional Association VI (Europe), Chair of SEE-MHEWS-A Steering Committee