

*If it's not risk-informed, it's not sustainable. If it's not sustainable, it has a human cost.
Reducing economic losses from disasters has the power to transform lives*



'Reducing Economic Losses Caused by Disasters'

Interactive Discussion

15 October 2018, 10.00 – 13.00
Palais des Nations, Room IX, Geneva, Switzerland

SPEAKER BIOS

Regina Asariotis



Regina Asariotis is Senior Legal Affairs Officer and Chief of the Policy and Legislation Section (Trade Logistics Branch) in the Division on Technology and Logistics of UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development), where she is responsible for the Secretariat's work in the field of transport law and policy (see <http://unctad.org/ttl/legal>). This includes work, since 2008, on the implications of climate change for maritime transport and technical assistance with a focus on climate change impacts and adaptation for key coastal transport infrastructure, notably seaports and airports, in Caribbean SIDS (<http://SIDSport-ClimateAdapt.unctad.org>). Before joining UNCTAD in 2001, Regina was a Senior Lecturer in Law at the University of Southampton, and member of the University's Institute of Maritime Law, where she taught international maritime and trade law for more than 10 years. She holds a law degree from the University of Augsburg, an LL.M from the University of Southampton and a Dr.jur. from the University of Hamburg and is a Barrister (England & Wales) and Attorney at Law (Greece), as well as Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb).

Rowan Douglas



Mr. Rowan Douglas has been the Chairman of Willis Research Network at Willis Towers Watson Public Limited Company since January 2006 and Chief Executive Officer of Capital Science & Policy Practice since January 2014. Mr. Douglas leads Willis Re Inc. analytics functions including regulatory, enterprise risk management, actuarial, credit and catastrophe risk modeling teams and capabilities. He served as Chief Executive Officer of Willis Re Global Analytics at Willis Group Holdings Public Limited Company and Willis Re Inc., from January

*If it's not risk-informed, it's not sustainable. If it's not sustainable, it has a human cost.
Reducing economic losses from disasters has the power to transform lives*

2009 to December 2013. In 2008, he was appointed by the U.K. Science Minister to Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) which oversees public environmental science expenditure. He also sits on the Governing Board of the Global Earthquake Model Foundation in Pavia, Italy, the Advisory Panel of the U.S.-based National Center for Atmospheric Research Earth System Laboratory in Boulder, CO and the private sector advisory panel of the U.N. International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. He served as Managing Director at Willis Re from January 2007 to December 2009. He was the Founder and Managing Director of WIRE Limited from September 1994 to November 2000. He served as Assistant Underwriter of Reinsurance at Petzold Syndicate at Lloyd's of London from September 1992 to September 1994. He began his career underwriting reinsurance at Syndicate 1095 at Lloyd's before founding the international risk information company WIRE Ltd in 1994 which he sold to Willis in 2000. He served as an Executive Director of Willis from November 2000 to January 2007. He is a visiting Lecturer at RSM Erasmus University in Rotterdam, Netherlands and was visiting Fellow (Science Policy Research Unit) at the University of Sussex from 1994 to 2001. Mr. Douglas has a B.A. (Honors) in Geography from Durham University from 1988 to 1991 and an M. Phil. from Bristol University from 1991 to 1992. He also attended Shebbear College from 1982 to 1987.

Wadid Erian



Dr Wadid Erian, Professor of soil science at Cairo University since 2001, Senior Advisor for Sustainable Development, Programme Coordinator of the League of Arab States - Climate Risk Nexus Initiative (LAS-CRNI) and Arab Geographical Information Room hosted by Arab Water Council (LAS-AGIR/AWC). Dr. Erian was a Senior Advisor, CCA and DRR at LAS (2014- 2016), consultant at World Bank (2016) and Senior Advisor at UNDP in the ACRI (2014 – 2015); Director of Land and Water Uses division in the Arab Center for the studies of Drylands and Arid zones - ACSAD, (2002 – 2014); Member in UNISDR - GAR Advisory Board (2010-2015); Lead Author in the IPCC/SREX WGII report (2009 – 2012); and Advisor and author of the World Bank Flagship Report, (2010 – 2012). He has a long list of applied researches and studies that covered more than 100 different countries in the world on the topics of “Drought, Land degradation, and Vegetation Cover, Land use planning and Natural Resource studies.

Stephen Fevrier



Mr. Stephen Fevrier is a recognised international trade policy specialist with over 18 years of professional experience in policy design, negotiation and implementation. Mr. Fevrier began his career in trade policy as an attaché at the OECs Trade Policy Project, a technical assistance intervention aimed at building trade related capacity in the Eastern Caribbean. After successfully completing this assignment, Mr. Fevrier joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade as a Foreign Service Officer attached to the Trade and Legal Division. During his term of service with the Government of Saint Lucia,

*If it's not risk-informed, it's not sustainable. If it's not sustainable, it has a human cost.
Reducing economic losses from disasters has the power to transform lives*

Mr. Fevrier held coverage of assigned bilateral and multilateral trade negotiations, including elements of the WTO work programme. During this time, Mr. Fevrier was seconded to the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM), now the Office of Trade Negotiations (OTN), on assignment to Brussels to provide technical support to the CARIFORUM - EU, Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) negotiations. Most recently, Mr. Fevrier served the Commonwealth Secretariat as a Trade Advisor in Geneva before taking up an assignment as Regional Trade Policy Advisor to the Pacific. During the latter assignment, Mr. Fevrier worked closely with a regional secretariat and oceans commission on trade and oceans policy. Mr. Fevrier is extensively published on issues relevant to Small Island Developing States, including, the Blue Economy and International Trade. He holds a Bachelor's degree (Hons) in Political Science from the University of Western Ontario, a Law degree from the University of London, and a Master of Laws in International Commercial Law. Mr. Fevrier has recently been appointed by the OECS Commission as Head of Mission to the United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva. The focus of this latest assignment is to represent the interests of OECS governments at the United Nations and WTO and to engage development partners with the aim of generating tangible development benefits for Member States.

Prof. Paolo Garonna



Since October 2012 Prof. Garonna is Secretary General of the Italian Banking, Insurance and Finance Federation. He is also Professor of Political Economics at the LUISS Guido Carli University of Rome. From 2009 to 2012 he was Secretary General of ANIA, the National Association of Insurance Companies. Former Director General of the National Institute of Statistics (ISTAT) from 1992 to 1999 and, from 1989 to 1992, Deputy Director General of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) of Paris for the Employment, Social Affairs and Education sectors. He also held the position of Deputy Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (EEC-UN) in Geneva. He was also Director of Economic Studies and Chief Economist of Confindustria from 2003 to 2005. He carried out research in America as a Fulbright scholar and in Cambridge in Great Britain where he collaborated with the Nobel Prize winner Richard Stone. He has produced a significant number of monographs and essays on applied economics, finance, the research economy of innovation and information. Since October 2012, he is Secretary General of the Italian Banking, Insurance and Finance Federation.

*If it's not risk-informed, it's not sustainable. If it's not sustainable, it has a human cost.
Reducing economic losses from disasters has the power to transform lives*

Lorenza Jachia



Lorenza Jachia is the Secretary of the UNECE Working Party on “Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies”, an intergovernmental body tasked to develop recommendations and best practice to enhance standards usage and uptake by policymakers. In this capacity, Lorenza coordinates a project on “Standards for the Sustainable Development Goals” to strengthen cooperation between United Nations organizations, standardization and conformity assessment bodies, and local and national authorities. Lorenza is – since 2012 – the Focal Point for Disaster Risk Reduction of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. A trade economist by training, she joined UNCTAD in 1995 where she conducted research and capacity building activities on regional agreements and trade preferences. She joined UNECE in 2002 as an advocate of standards as a key component of economic integration. Since then, she has taken up a larger mandate, that promotes standardization as a tool for sustainable development and resilience. Her publications on the topic of risk and disaster risk reduction include: [“Risk Management for Regulatory Frameworks: Towards a Better Management of Risks”](#) and “Standards for DRR”.

Alexander Kasterine



Alexander Kasterine is Senior Adviser within the Trade for Sustainable Development Programme at the International Trade Centre (UN/WTO). He manages Aid for Trade projects at ITC that support the development of agriculture and natural resources value chains with a focus on livelihoods and sustainability issues. He has published technical papers, research and articles in the field of agriculture and trade development, nature conservation and climate change. Prior to joining ITC in 2002 he worked as a researcher at the University of London and in southern Mexico for a rural development organization. Alex holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural and Environmental Economics from Imperial College, London.

Michael Roberts



Michael Roberts is the Head of the Aid for Trade Unit in the Development Division at the World Trade Organization (WTO). The Aid for Trade Initiative seeks to assist developing countries connect to the multilateral trading system. Michael recently led preparations for the 5th Global Review of Aid for Trade: "Reducing Trade Costs for Inclusive, Sustainable Growth" held from June 30 - July 2, 2015. Michael joined the WTO in 2001, starting his career in the Agriculture and Commodities Division. Between 2003 and 2009, he established and led the Standards and Trade Development Facility. Prior to joining WTO, he worked in the Russian Federation and the UK on agriculture and trade policy issues. Michael is an agricultural and development economist by training and holds degrees from University of Oxford and the University of Kent at Canterbury in the U.K.

*If it's not risk-informed, it's not sustainable. If it's not sustainable, it has a human cost.
Reducing economic losses from disasters has the power to transform lives*

Irina Zodrow



Irina Zodrow is the Head of the Partnerships Unit at UNISDR (United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction), which coordinates the organizations' engagement with the private sector, Parliamentarians, civil society organizations, science and technology institutions and international financial organizations. Her work focuses on engaging stakeholders in the integration of disaster and climate risk into public and private policy and investment decisions for a resilient and sustainable future. Prior to joining the United Nations, Irina worked as commercial lawyer in Germany and Australia. She holds a law degree from the University of Tübingen, an LL.M from Melbourne University and is Attorney at Law (Germany) and Solicitor (England & Wales).