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## SDC Network Disaster Risk Reduction

### Welcome

*Dear SDC DRR Network members, dear colleagues,*

We are glad to share with you the 3rd newsletter of the DRR Network. Don't miss the opportunity to continue exploring the relaunched Shareweb with its ongoing updates. Download useful publications and bookmark our [website!](#) This newsletter gives you an overview of the highlights from January to March 2018: publications, news from the field, international updates and upcoming events, which you should not miss. Enjoy the reading.

**Jacqueline Schmid**  
Policy Advisor DRR  
DRR network focal point  
SDC Humanitarian Aid

**Fabian Mauchle**  
Network moderator  
DRR Programme Officer  
SDC Humanitarian Aid

### The SDC contribution to DRR read more in this newsletter

From the international policy of the Sendai Framework for DRR (SFDRR) to action on the ground. In this newsletter you can read more about SDC's contribution to the four SFDRR priorities:

#### **Priority 1 – Risk understanding**

SDC promotes the use of comprehensive risk information through participatory assessments as part of the

planning process of new projects, programmes and strategies.

> Read more under the section [**Publications**]: New CEDRIG application a horticultural sector project in Cambodia.

### Priority 2 – Risk governance

A Swiss DRR expert supports the Government of Morocco in its efforts to institutionalize DRR.

> Read more under the section [**Specials**]: interview with Urs Nigg seconded to the Ministry of Interior in Morocco.

### Priority 3 – Investment in DRR

Investment in human resources related to DRR at the headoffice in Switzerland as well as abroad are crucial for SDC's programmes and its collaboration with partners.

> Read more under the section [**Who is Who**]: presentation of new members of the SDC DRR team.

### Priority 4 – Preparedness

User-tailored weather information and climate services support farmers to prepare for extreme events.

> Read more under the section [**Project news**]: updates from the CLIMANDES project in Peru.

## Who is who

Human resources and their expertise in DRR are the backbone for SDC's programmes and the collaboration with its partners. In 2017, the Swiss Humanitarian Aid Unit deployed 11 DRR experts in various DRR missions. The SDC DRR team has the pleasure to introduce three new faces of its team. >> [read more about their profiles online](#)

**Jacqueline Schmid** started her assignment as Policy Advisor in DRR and SDC DRR Network Focal Point in January 2018. Jacqueline is a development practitioner with over 20 years of experience in the fields of natural sciences, DRR and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, with a strong interest in working across sectors. Jacqueline holds a PhD in Earth Sciences of the University of Bern. Amongst other, she also worked in the Middle East and for the SDC Climate Change and Environment Division.



As moderator of the SDC DRR Network **Fabian Mauchle** facilitates the knowledge exchange among the members of the DRR network and promotes the CEDRIG tool in close collaboration with the SDC Network Climate Change and Environment. Fabian holds a Master's Degree in Climate Sciences from the University of Bern and a CAS in Development and

Cooperation from the ETH Zurich. Previously he worked for SDC in Nicaragua and for MeteoSwiss.

**Carlos Muñoz** recently started working with SDC as Regional Advisor DRR and Rapid Reponse for the South American Region. His mission is to strengthen the rapid response capabilities and to support SDC / SECO interventions in the areas of DRR and Climate Change including associated policy dialogue processes. Carlos Muñoz is based in Lima. He holds a degree in civil engineering, with postgraduate studies on water and earth sciences and over 20 years of experience in DRR and humanitarian assistance working with different institutions in Latin America and Africa.



## Specials - interview with the field

### **Interview with a Swiss expert in Risk Management working in Morocco**

Since 2015, Urs Nigg works as a DRR expert seconded by SDC to the Ministry of Interior of the Government of Morocco. This collaboration was initiated in the aftermath of the earthquake in 2004 and has meanwhile considerably evolved from recovery, preparedness, prevention and now deals with the institutionalization of DRR through this secondment. The field reality is not always linear, but might also present unexpected opportunities for synergies and entry points to share Swiss know-how and experience. More about the secondment related to the "Programm of Integrated Risk Management" and the experience of Urs Nigg in a recent interview.

>> [read the full interview](#)



## Publications

## **A guide for masons to build safer houses with confined masonry**

Practical Action published a guide for masons based on the longstanding experience of the SDC/SHA expert group on construction. The guide focuses on confined masonry, which is often adopted in earthquake-prone regions. This construction type consists of masonry walls with reinforced concrete elements to confine the masonry wall panels. This method has been developed by practitioners rather than engineers and refers to the technical and financial capacities of self-builders. The guide with simple illustrations and instructions is addressed to masons, construction workers, contractors, technicians, architects and students of architecture and civil engineering.

>> [read more and download the guide](#)



## **CEDRIG application in a horticulture project in Cambodia**

The horticulture project CHAIN in Cambodia aims to integrate DRR, Climate Change Adaptation and environmental aspects in their interventions. Through the application of the CEDRIG-tool, in a close collaboration between SDC and its implementing partners, the main risks and problems were identified in order to define concrete measures supporting the resilience of horticulture smallholders. Have a look at the initial assessments (CEDRIG Light) and the more detailed studies (CEDRIG Operational) to get an idea how CEDRIG can be used to improve your projects.

>> [read more and explore the online study](#)



## **Project news**

### **China - Capacity building for Dam Safety**

The sustainability of water retention infrastructure is one of the most efficient measures against catastrophic floods, droughts or dam breaks, particularly in China with over 98'000 dams across the country. The Sino-Swiss Dam Safety Enhancement Program (DaSEP) focuses on the efficiency of dam safety regulations, which concluded recently with the adoption of the Chinese Dam Supervision Regulation. The project data were translated into an e-learning course and disseminated to 97'000 small and middle-sized dam operators in China, which also gained the interest of the Myanmar Government. The project was presented at the International Conference on Water Resources and Renewable Energy Development in Vietnam in March 2018.

>> [more information online](#)

### **Peru - User-tailored climate services to support farmers for extreme weather and climate events**

Seasonal and climate change related weather variations are highly relevant for survival and livelihoods planning of local farmers. Learn more about the CLIMANDES project and how the Peruvian and Swiss weather services have joined forces to deliver early warnings, daily weather predictions as well as seasonal

forecasts in local languages.

>> [more information online](#)

### **Bolivia - Support by the FOEN for the phasing out of the SDC DRR Programme**

Since 2005, SDC supports Bolivian partners to develop their DRR capacities in the field of prevention, preparedness and risk transfer. In the view of the forthcoming phasing out of the SDC DRR Programme in Bolivia in 2018, a smooth handover of state-of-the-art instruments to the Bolivian counterparts is crucial. The Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) supported SDC through a review of elaborated DRR instruments and key documents. The review revealed that the availability and use of systematic information on hazards remains a challenge. FOEN recommended to the Bolivian partners to continue their capacity development and plans a 5-day training for national specialists in water and landslide-related hazard and risk analyses in April 2018.

This technical support by FOEN to SDC is based on an institutional collaboration agreement framework. Interested SDC divisions can access FOEN's DRR expertise by contacting the Focal Point of the SDC DRR Network, Jacqueline Schmid.

>> [more information on the Bolivian DRR instruments and a factsheet of FOEN service online](#)

## **International events & updates**

### **Strengthened stakeholder engagement and partnership with UNISDR**

On 20/21 February 2018 UNISDR hosted an event for non-state actors with the participation of over 50 representatives of the "Major Groups" (NGOs, Women, Children & Youth, Indigenous People, Older Persons, Persons with disabilities, Volunteers, Farmers, Local communities, Migrants, Local Authorities, Workers & Trade Unions; Business and Industry, Science & Technology, Education & Academia), UNISDR partnership groups (Private Sector Alliance, Science & Technology Advisory Group, Resilient Cities Campaign) and UNISDR of various departments, including SRSG Robert Glaser. The event focused on UNISDR partnership options to better include non-state actors to promote the implementation of the Sendai Framework and in preparation of the Global Platform on DRR (GPDRR) to be held in Geneva in May 2019.

>> [read more about the event](#)

### **Global Risks 2018 in the context of the World Economic Forum (WEF)**

Extreme weather events, natural disasters and the failure of climate-change mitigation rank among the three top global risks. This has been stated by the annual Global Risk Report 2018, based on perceptions of an annual survey with around 1'000 members of WEF's multi-stakeholder communities. This trends points out that environmental risks have significantly grown over the 13 year history of the Global Risk Report.

>> [read more and download the report](#)

## **Job opportunity**

### **Disaster Risk Financing Consultant for ADB Pakistan**

SDC Swiss Humanitarian Aid is looking for a Disaster Risk Financing Consultant, SHA-Secondment Asian

Development Bank (ADB) in Pakistan.

>> [read the full job announcement](#)

## Upcoming events

Herewith a selection of upcoming events for March to June 2018.

>> More information regarding all events and their updates on the [DRR shareweb](#).

### **18 - 23 March 2018 - Conference: World Water Forum (WWF)**

organized by the World Water Council, Brasilia/Brazil.

>> [more information online](#)

### **26 March 2018 - Brown Bag Lunch: Ecological Footprint Analysis - A Way to Track the SDG's**

organized by the SDC Network Climate Change and Environment and the Global Programme Food Security.

>> [more information online](#)

### **27 March 2018 - Webinar: DRR / CCA Basics for mainstreaming**

organized by the Swiss NGO DRR Platform (HEKS, Caritas and Helvetas), online 3 - 4:15 pm.

>> [more information online](#)

### **28 March 2018 - Brown Bag Lunch: Where people and their land are safer - A Compendium of Good Practices in DRR**

organized by the Swiss NGO DRR Platform (Caritas) and CDE/WOCAT, Bern/Switzerland.

>> [more information online](#)

### **17 - 20 April 2018 - DRR course: Assessing Risks and Enhancing Resilience**

organized by the Center for Development and Cooperation (NADEL), Zurich/Switzerland.

>> [more information online](#)

### **26 April 2018 - Conference: Resilient Cities 2018**

organized by Local Governments for Sustainability, Bonn/Germany.

>> [more information online](#)

### **14 - 18 May 2018 - Conference: 2018 Understanding Risk Forum**

organized by GFDRR, Mexico City/Mexico.

>> [more information online](#)

### **16 May 2018 - Learning event: DRR in Education**

organized by the Swiss NGO DRR Platform (Save the Children), Bern/Switzerland.

>> [more information online](#)

### **24 May 2018 - Brown Bag Lunch: DRR in Education**

organized by the Swiss NGO DRR Platform (Save the Children), Bern/Switzerland.

>> [more information online](#)

**29 May - 1 June 2018 - Workshop: Data Management for Climate Services**

organized by ClimAndes, Lima/Peru.

>> [more information online](#)

**27 - 29 June 2018 - Conference: Tech4Dev (Technologies for Development)** with thematic areas on

"Science and Technology for DRR" and "Technologies for Humanitarian Action"

organized by CODEV/EPFL, Lausanne/Switzerland.

>> [more information online](#)

## Outlook

The next DRR newsletter is planned for June 2018.

If you have any relevant news or publications to share, please post them directly under the [website](#) section [share your knowledge](#) or send us an email [sdcdrrnetwork@eda.admin.ch](mailto:sdcdrrnetwork@eda.admin.ch)

We are looking forward to your contributions!

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