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## SDC Disaster Risk Reduction Network



Dear SDC DRR Network members, dear colleagues and friends

2020 is a challenging year – showing us how rapidly the nature of risk can change. COVID-19 has brutally revealed blind spots in our risk perceptions and has shown us how important it is to look at risk holistically, around the globe.

Let us be confident that nations around the globe will take the opportunity to build more resilient societies. And let us strive to be agents of change in our own functions.

Today's lead article will take you to Peru, where the SDC DRR and Rapid Response Hub has been forced to swiftly redirect its planned prevention activities to respond to the COVID-19 crisis.

Enjoy the reading!

We wish you all the best in these turbulent times, stay safe and healthy!

Jacqueline Schmid  
August 2020



Jacqueline  
Schmid, SDC  
DRR Thematic  
Network

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## **Who is Who: new faces in the DRR team**

### **Agnese Staderini Romeo – new Financial Administrator in the Multilateral Affairs Division**

Agnese Staderini joined the DRR Team in August 2019. Agnese is an FDFA employee since 1997, working in consular matters at the Swiss Embassies/Consulates in Vienna, Bogotá, Bordeaux, Rom and Lyon. From 2016 to 2019, Agnese offered her services at the FDFA Helpline before joining the SDC/Humanitarian Aid at the Multilateral Affairs Division and our Team in August 2019. Agnese replaces Ms Jolanda Wehrli and is responsible for financial matters for DRR, OCHA and UNICEF.



Agnese Staderini Romeo – new Financial Administrator

We take the occasion to thank Jolanda Wehrli for her great support in the past years, and wish her success in her new assignments !

### **Helen Gambon - DRR Network Moderator**

Helen Gambon recently joined the SDC DRR Team and SHA. She is responsible for M&E and supporting the DRR network and Shareweb. Helen is a Social Anthropologist and has just completed a PhD in Geography and Sustainable Development. She specializes in natural resource governance, DRR, resilience, and sustainable land management. Before joining SDC, Helen worked as a regional DRM advisor based in Haiti for Terre des hommes foundation, as a Junior Programme Coordinator at Swiss Red Cross, as a DRR consultant and as research assistant. So far, her work has brought her mainly to Latin America and the Caribbean, with additional experiences in Nepal and Kenya. Helen replaces Mr Julien Grunder. Many thanks to Julien for the precious collaboration in the DRR Team during the past year. Best of success in all future endeavours!



Helen Gambon - DRR Network Moderator

## **Lead Article: SDC Support in the Andean Region**

## Stories from the Field



Carlos Muñoz, Regional DRR and Rapid Response Advisor (left) and Omar Bellprat, deployed through the Programme Vert of SDC/HA/SKH until June 2020 (right)

**Carlos Muñoz** and **Omar Bellprat** talked to us on the important role of the Regional DRR and Rapid Response Hub in Lima to strengthen Disaster Risk Management in Latin America and the impact COVID-19 had on their daily operations. [Read the interview](#)

### FACT SHEETS of the Regional DRR and Rapid Response Hub in Lima

- Objectives ( pdf )
- Priorities and Projects (pdf)
- COVID-19-Response in Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador (pdf)
- For more information refer to:  
<https://www.cooperacionsuiza.pe/cosude/gestion-del-riesgo/>

## Morocco

### Eleven years of cooperation in support of the DRM system in Morocco



Starting in 2004 in response to the Al Hoceina Earthquake, the collaboration between Morocco and Switzerland evolved from managing the disasters, to a comprehensive approach of Disaster Risk

Management. From 2008 to 2019, the two countries partnered for the strengthening of local Preparedness, as well as building up of institutional capacities on a national level. [Read more](#) (Report in French only)

## GNDR - New strategy 2020-25 Local Leadership for Global Impact



GNDR, the largest international network of civil society organisations working to strengthen resilience and reduce risk in communities has launched its [new global strategy](#) based on **3 goals**:

1. Strengthen the collaboration, solidarity and mobilisation of civil society organisations
2. Champion a localisation movement
3. Strive for risk-informed development

Due to the current global COVID-19 outbreak, the **Global Summit** will take place virtually from **6th to 22nd October**. It will be a very important moment for all GNDR members to learn from each other, strengthen collaboration among them with an increased focus on national and regional collaboration, and start working together in the implementation of the new strategy.

### Use of drone and satellite technology in DRR programming



Photo: Georg Heim, Swiss Red Cross

How can basic data can be obtained worldwide if terrain inspections are not possible for example because of COVID-19? The Swiss Red Cross, University of Zurich and the company senseFly SA published the following articles:

#### **Use of satellite data for risk**

**analysis:** Every day, numerous satellites worldwide collect

information on precipitation, temperature and soil moisture. The Google Earth Engine (GEE) platform makes this data freely available, backdated to 1981. This powerful platform is accessible to all interested parties and thus enables desktop analyses of hydrometeorological natural hazards. [Read more](#)

**Use of drones in DRR programming:** Today, drones are affordable and easy to operate. Provided that their use is permitted in an area, drone photos can be taken on site and subsequently be processed in the office to produce topographic maps, aerial photos and 3-dimensional terrain models. [Read more](#)

For more information refer to the new [Swiss Red Cross guideline](#) for analysing hazards, risks and the cost-effectiveness of mitigation measures.

## Interesting publications and news

### **SDC Climate Change and Environment Network:**

[Newsletter March 2020](#) with focus on Mainstreaming gender aspects into the SDC's Climate Change Portfolio.

**SDC Climate Change Foresight Analysis:** 'SDC Climate Change Foresight Analysis – Global and Regional Risks and Hotspots' compiled by INFRAS.

**SDC Evaluation and Corporate Controlling Division:** Independent Evaluation of SDC's Performance in Disaster Risk Reduction 2010-2017

**WHO, The Graduate Institute Geneva:** Capstone Project Research Report: Gendered Impacts of Weather and Climate: Evidence from Asia, Pacific and Africa

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**World Economic Forum:** [The Global Risks Report 2020](#)

**Climate Security Expert Network:** [Climate-Fragility Policy Paper: Climate Change and Security in the Horn of Africa: Can Europe help to reduce the risks?](#)

**Climate Security Expert Network:** Newly published Climate-Fragility Risk Assessments : Mali, Latin America & the Caribbean, North Africa & Sahel

## COVID-19 - related

[N° 2 May 2020 | COVID-19 and Poverty-Wellbeing](#)

[N° 1 April 2020 | COVID-19 and Poverty-Wellbeing](#)

[Coronavirus Coverage for Switzerland - Swiss Info](#)

[SDC Shareweb Health on COVID-19 Updates](#)

## Past and upcoming events

**[upcoming] CBA14: 14th International Conference on Community-based Adaptation to Climate Change**, September 21-25, 2020. Online Conference. Find out more and register [here](#).

**[upcoming] GNDR Global Summit (virtual), 6th to 22nd October.** More

information will follow. Please refer to <https://gndr.org/>

**[upcoming] Swiss NGO DRR Platform SAVE the DATE: 3-day Annual F2F** event on the **Nexus Humanitarian Aid & Development** will take place on **March 29 to 31 of 2021** with a focus on in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) as a linking element. **Location: Hotel Seaside** in Spiez and Public event in Bern. [Further information and registration](#)

**[upcoming] 12. Symposium Anpassung an den Klimawandel: Wasser jetzt und in Zukunft – Stehen Antworten für die Herausforderungen bereit?** Organisiert durch ProClim, OcCC, BAFU und dem Bundesamt für Metereologie und Klimatologie. Verschoben auf 2021. [Mehr Informationen](#)

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**[past] Webinar, August 12 of 2020:** “Financiamiento Climático para los Bosques y Agua: Experiencias de éxito”. En el [evento virtual](#), expertos de la región compartieron experiencias y aprendizajes referidos a financiamiento destinado a la conservación y manejo de bosques y agua.

### **COVID-19-related**

**[upcoming] Global Webinar Series: Environment and Emergencies in the face of COVID-19** The series covers different aspects of readiness for and response to the environmental dimensions of emergencies in a global pandemic context (from coordination and assessments to waste management, re-starting industry and the sustainability of humanitarian action, among others). It will consist of six webinars running from **July to December 2020**. [Registration](#)

**[past] UNDRR: COVID-19 Webinar series** from June to August 2020

### **Further publications, news and events**



[on the SDC DRR Shareweb.](#)

Next newsletter to be published late 2020.

### **CONTACT**

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