



global platform for disaster risk reduction

Geneva, Switzerland, 13-17 May 2019

Resilience Dividend:

Towards Sustainable and
Inclusive Societies

Sixth
Session



Logistical note for participants

13 - 17 May 2019 – Geneva, Switzerland

Convened and organized by



Hosted by



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra



2019 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

The Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GP2019) has been held every two years to discuss progress and challenges in reducing disaster losses and managing disaster risk in relation to natural and human-made hazards, both new and existing. The GP2019 is also a critical component of the monitoring and implementation process of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015 – 2030).

The sixth session of the GP2019 will take place in Geneva, Switzerland 13-17 May 2019. Results-oriented, innovative and inclusive, it is convened and organized by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and hosted by the Government of Switzerland.

Attended by more than 3,500 people, the GP2019 will be a high-profile opportunity to interact, strategize with and challenge the world's top Disaster Risk Reduction thinkers and practitioners, policy makers, governments officials and community members. We will share good practices, identify gaps and make recommendations to further accelerate the implementation of the global disaster risk reduction and resilience agenda.



The official agenda will start on Wednesday 15 May and conclude on Friday 17 May. Monday 13 May and Tuesday 14 May will feature preparatory events, and consultations. Each of the three official days will focus specifically on a concrete element of the GP2019 theme: "Resilience Dividend: Towards Sustainable and Inclusive Societies," investigating and demonstrating how managing disaster risk and risk-informed development investments pay dividends in multiple sectors: social, economic, financial and environmental – at all levels.





Venue

GP2019 will be held at the International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG) and the Varembe Conference Centre (CCV), which is situated opposite the CICG.

Address

Rue de Varembe 17
CH – 1202 Genève - Switzerland
Tel: +41 (0) 22 791 91 11

Web: cicg.ch/en



To reach the CICG/CCV from the airport, please use the **bus lines 5 (stop "Vermont")** and **28 (stop "Nations")**.



Registration and accreditation

Online registration

GP2019 invites all stakeholders of the Sendai Framework and Disaster Risk Reduction agenda to register, including: Member States, parliamentarians, local governments, United Nations system entities, intergovernmental organizations, major groups and other stakeholder groups. Access will only be granted to registered and confirmed participants.

Please register online through [this link](#).

To confirm the registration application has been received, an automated email with an ID reference number will be sent to the email address used to register. All applications will be reviewed by the GP2019 secretariat. A confirmation of successful registration will be sent to approved delegates. The review process may take up to four weeks.

Please note that participants must register by **22 April 2019**.

Onsite registration and badging

Participants may pick-up their badges at the onsite registration desk, and will need to show a national passport or national ID card. Photo badges must be worn at all times to gain access to the conference venue and meeting rooms. For opening and closing events, a special secondary pass will be necessary. Details on secondary passes will be available [online](#) at a later stage.

We encourage early online registration. We anticipate long registration lines on Wednesday 15 May. Badge pick-up at the registration desk will be open on:

Sunday	12 May	(12:00 – 17:00)
Monday	13 May	(07:00 – 18:00)
Tuesday	14 May	(07:00 – 18:00)
Wednesday	15 May	(07:00 – 18:00)
Thursday	16 May	(07:00 – 18:00)
Friday	17 May	(07:00 – 12:00)

Fees

No conference fees will be charged. Participants will need to cover their own accommodation and travel expenses.

Visas

Visa requirements must be met before arrival to Switzerland. Based on nationality, participants attending the GP2019 may require a visa to enter Switzerland.

A detailed note about visas to Switzerland is available in [this document](#).

Please read the visa information before registering for the GP2019.

Media accreditation

We welcome media to attend. GP2019 conference badges are required for all journalists. For opening and closing sessions, attendance in the plenary room is limited to those who have a secondary pass. Other participants may use the overflow rooms.

The UN Press Corps accredited journalists and other journalists must register in advance through the [GP2019 registration webpage](#). Non-accredited journalists must additionally provide the accreditation documents that are required for any UN conference. Please consult the following link: [UN media website](#).

Once at the conference, journalists will need to provide proof of credential at the registration desk to receive their conference badge.

A media support centre will be provided, with WIFI access. A small onsite interview area will be provided, suitable for conducting one-on-one live interviews with conference attendees.

Additional requests about media can be sent to Ms. Brigitte Leoni: leonib@un.org or +41 76 691 04 41.

Security

Access to the GP2019 is limited to registered participants with valid badges. Conference venue security is the responsibility of the United Nations. Outside the GP2019 venue, all external security related issues are the responsibility of the host country, Switzerland. All high-level participants should alert their respective permanent missions in Geneva for arrangements regarding security, transport, accommodation and other protocol matters, once registration is confirmed and prior to arrival. The Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations in Geneva must be informed as to the date of arrival of all Heads of State.



Transportation and accommodation

Access from the airport

Geneva has one airport and the International Conference Centre Geneva is 5 kilometres away from it. Good public transport from the airport to the conference venue and into Geneva is available. We encourage all participants to use it. Free bus tickets (valid for one hour upon receipt) are available from a machine in the airport baggage claim area.

To plan how to get around the city using public transport, please visit the [Geneva public transport website](#).

Public transport from the international airport to within 200 m walk of the conference centre is on two bus lines: Bus 5: please get off at bus stop "Vermont" and Bus 28: please get off at bus stop "Nations". The bus departs from the airport Arrivals level.

Most trams and buses are accessible. As a person with disabilities, you need to indicate to the bus driver directly that you wish to board the bus. The driver will come and open the ramp so that you can enter. Let the driver know the stop where you want to get off. Mobilité pour tous (Mobility for All) is a programme that provides free service to enable persons with vision impairments or walking difficulties (not wheelchair users) to travel on public transport network with a (mostly French speaking) guide. The service is available from Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. You need to book the assistance 48 hours in advance under +41 (0) 22 328 11 11.

Taxis

Taxis are available from the airport Arrivals level. Taxis are metered, so costs will vary, but the journey from the airport into the city centre will usually cost around 40 CHF. A taxi stand is located on Avenue de la Paix, next to the Place des Nations and 200m from the conference venue. Taxis are usually available around the clock.

The following direct telephone number will ensure arrival within minutes: +41 (0) 22 331 41 33.

Accessible taxi services with accessible vans are available and must be booked in advance. Please note that the booking officer may speak only French. Contact details can be found on [this website](#) under the "taxi services" section.

Parking

The [Nations Public Parking](#) garage is accessible from several entry points around the Place des Nations and is 100 meters from the conference venue.



Accommodation

Participants are required to arrange their own accommodation for their stay in Geneva.

Early booking accommodation is advised, as other large events are scheduled to take place in Geneva around the same date. For more information, please visit the [Geneva tourism website](#).

Additional accommodation may be available in neighbouring France, with good public transport options that will require between 20 and 60 minutes of travel (please note that a separate visa may be required for France).

Please note that hotels in Geneva are not always accessible for persons with disabilities. Please refer to [this website](#) that could help you identify places that are accessible.

PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE



The conference agenda will feature a range of conference activities, including high-level dialogues, official statements, working sessions, side events, an Innovation Platform, the IGNITE stage, Learning Labs and field visits.

The GP2019
official programme,
including additional
practical information
will be made
available online in
the six UN official
languages in April
2019.

Meeting rooms

All main events will be held in the meeting rooms of the CICG and the CCV. All main plenary rooms are equipped with sound systems, tables or tablets and video displays.

Official statements

Delegations are invited to provide three-minute official statements at allotted times in the plenary segments. All delegations may express their interest in making an official statement. To do this, registered and confirmed participants can log into the system to submit the request on behalf of their delegation. Registration will open online in March 2019 and further guidance is available [online](#).

Statements are of two types - oral and/or written. All government delegations can make oral statements at GP2019; official statements will be delivered in one of the main conference rooms. Other delegations such as NGOs, CSOs and IGOs can submit a request to make an oral statement. Time slots are limited, and we may not be able to accommodate every request. To that end, we en-

courage all delegations to submit a written statement. The list of speakers will be available in advance of the GP2019. All statements - oral or written - will be available on the [GP2019 website](#).

For further information related to the official statements, please contact Ms. Ana Cristina Thorlund at gp-statements@un.org.

Innovation Platform

The GP2019 will be the first to feature an Innovation Platform. The aim is to showcase applications of new and innovative approaches in disaster risk reduction, such as new methodologies to implement disaster risk reduction, or the use of new technology, innovative awareness-raising or educational activities and many more.

More information on the innovation objectives of GP2019 can be found via [this link](#). You can sign up [here](#) until 31 January 2019.





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Learning Labs

Learning Labs are small group interactive sessions that provide space for learning on the spot. Concrete Disaster Risk Reduction concepts, programs or technical equipment will be presented so that participants can try them on the spot. In order to register, please refer to the [GP website](#).

IGNITE stage

If you are not on the main speaking list for GP2019 - don't worry! You can have your 15 minutes of Disaster Risk Reduction fame on the IGNITE Stage. You are welcome to present your own Disaster Risk Reduction project, initiative or idea in a public arena. This will enable us to hear from a wide range of perspectives, beyond those presented in the main sessions and events. Interested participants can [apply online](#) until **15 March 2019**.

Field Visits

The Government of Switzerland is planning to organize field visits to give participants a first-hand look at Disaster Risk Reduction practices in Switzerland. Visits will be organized around a range of topics, including: climate services, mountain hazards, flood management, tsunamis, and earthquake protection. More information on the field visits can be found [via this link](#).

Only confirmed delegates may sign up for a field visit. Once your registration has been confirmed, you may sign up [via this website](#).

The field trips will be take place on Saturday 18 May 2019. Each participant will need to pay a participation fee of 50CHF per visit, in cash at the field visit desk at the GP2019 venue. Catering and transportation for the field visits will be included in the 50CHF fee.

Preparatory days

Monday 13 May and Tuesday 14 May 2019 will feature preparatory events, for example, the fourth session of the World Reconstruction Conference (WRC4) and the Second Multi-Hazard Early Warning Conference. [The World Reconstruction Conference](#) will take place at the CIG as well, whilst the [Multi Hazard Early Warning Conference](#) will be hosted by and at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). For the latest information on other events taking place during the preparatory days, please consult the [GP2019 website](#).

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Practical Information

Bilateral meeting rooms

A limited number of rooms (for 10 - 24 participants) will be dedicated to bilateral high-level meetings/closed meetings. Bilateral meetings will be held from 15 - 17 May 2019, and can be reserved for 20 minutes only, according to availability of rooms and on a "first come, first serve" basis.

Requests for bilateral meeting rooms will be opened from 1st March 2019 and can be sent to Ms. Céline Barmet: celine.barmet@un.org indicating the subject line "GP2019 bilateral meeting requests".

Interpretation

Opening and Closing Ceremonies, High-Level Dialogues, Ministerial Round Tables, Special Sessions and a limited number of other sessions will be interpreted in the six UN official languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

Accessibility

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the host country are committed to making GP2019 accessible to persons with disabilities.

In line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities principle on full and effective participation and inclusion in society, persons with disabilities should have the opportunity, on an equal basis with others, to be actively involved in all decision-making processes about policies and programmes, and at fora where international development is discussed.

For a general list of information about accessibility in Geneva (airport access, taxi services, hotels, rental of assistive devices and public transport), please refer to [this website](#).

International Sign Interpretation and Real Time Captioning

International Sign interpreters will support the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, High Level Dialogues, the Sasakawa Award Ceremony and selected working and special sessions. Real Time Captioning will be provided

in the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, the High-Level Dialogues, and all the Working and Special Sessions.

This is in line with the Sendai Framework commitment to ensure a disability inclusive approach to disaster risk reduction.

Medical facilities

At the conference venue, medical assistance can be requested at the information desk. An infirmary with medical staff will be available inside the conference venue.

Internet

Free wireless internet access will be available at the CIGG conference centre and the CCV Varembe conference centre during all opening hours of the GP2019 conference. One hour of free internet access is also available at the Geneva airport.

Greening

The GP2019 will minimize its "carbon footprint". Carbon dioxide emissions will be reduced through efficiency and conservation in the use of electricity, paper, supplies, and travel. Participants may wish to contribute to a carbon-offset project to offset travel-related carbon emissions, or use Geneva's public transport, which is reliable and well-connected. Upon your arrival at the Geneva International Airport you can get a free ticket for public transport from the ticket machine in the baggage collection area. At your hotel, you can ask for the free "Geneva Transport Card" that allows you to use all public transport in Geneva free of charge during your stay. We encourage participants to make use of public transportation, instead of taking a taxi or a car to the hotel or the conference centre. Also, free bikes are available in Geneva close to the CIGG.

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction is promoting a paper smart GP2019. This involves providing a virtual (online) conference and document bag on the [GP2019 website](#) and [PreventionWeb](#). All key conference documents will be available on the mobile phone-friendly [GP2019 website](#) and app. We kindly ask participants to consider not providing paper versions of documents, but rather encourage online dissemination. In cooperation with the conference centre, we will recycle materials where possible and provide climate friendly, vegetarian and vegan meals.



About Geneva

Geography

Geneva is the capital of the Swiss Canton of Geneva and is located in the westernmost corner of Switzerland. The city is situated on the banks Lake Geneva, at the mouth of the Rhone River and is bordered by the Jura Mountains to the west and the French Alps in the east. The city is easily reached within 2 hours by plane from most major cities in Europe and is a hub of Europe's highway network. High speed train connections to Paris and Milan, and fast trains to Spain and Germany provide additional access.

Language

Switzerland has four national languages: German, French, Italian and Romansh. French is the predominant language spoken in Geneva, with English widely spoken.

Time: GMT/UTC +1

Telephone Area Code

+41 for Switzerland and 022 for Geneva

Electricity

Electricity in Switzerland is 230 Volts, alternating at 50 cycles per second. Please bring a power plug converter - Switzerland uses a 3-pin outlet system. A limited number of adapters will be for sale at the CICG. For more information about the appropriate plug to use in Switzerland, please consult [this website](#).

Currency

The currency in Switzerland is the Swiss Franc (CHF; SFr.). The Euro is also accepted at most businesses but expect to pay a premium rate. Check www.xe.com for the most up-to-date exchange rates. ATMs are widely available throughout the city.

Climate

The climate in Geneva is pleasant most of the year. May is usually moderately warm, with some rain possible. For more information, see the website of the [Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology MeteoSwiss](#).

Updates, news and information

The [GP2019 website](#) will be updated regularly with background documents, programme, special events and practical information:

www.unisdr.org/gp2019



You can also follow the conversation on Twitter:

[#GP2019Geneva](#)

[#TheResilienceDividend](#)

[#SendaiFramework](#)



Or join us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/UNISDR

Previous Sessions of the Global Platform



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For additional information and updates, please consult
[**www.unisdr.org/gp2019**](http://www.unisdr.org/gp2019)

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