



Science and Policy Forum

SESSION 5 - Science and Technology for Resilience: Towards Sustainable and Inclusive Societies

11:00-12:30, Tuesday 14 May

Assembly Hall, Palais des Nations

Chair

Shuaib Lwasa, Makerere University

Shuaib Lwasa is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography Geoinformatics and Climatic sciences at Makerere University. Shuaib is active in teaching and research using inter-disciplinary research approaches on DRR. Recent works are the fields of climate change, adaptation, urban environmental management, spatial planning, disaster risk reduction and urban sustainability. His works focus on cities in Global South, adaptation to climate change, health impacts of climate change and urban resilience. Shuaib served as Scientific Committee member of the Integrated Research on Disaster Risk program and immediate previous Chair. Shuaib is also a Coordinating Lead Author on Urban Systems and Human Settlements in AR6.

Moderator

Andrew Revkin, National Geographic

Andrew Revkin is one of America's most honored writers on environmental sustainability and the role of communication innovation in fostering progress on a finite, fast-forward, noisy planet. In 2018, he joined the staff of the National Geographic Society as Strategic Adviser for Science and Environmental Journalism to help expand support and grants for global sustainability-focused journalism. This move

follows three decades of ground-breaking journalism, including 14 years at The New York Times as a reporter and 6 after his Dot Earth blog moved to the Opinion section in 2010. He began writing on climate change in the 1980s and never stopped. Revkin has won most of the top awards in science journalism.

Speakers

H.E. Mr. Mahdi Elyasi, Deputy-Vice President for Science and Technology, Iran

Mahdi Elyasi is Deputy of Policy Making and the strategic Evaluation of Iran vice presidency for science and Technology. He received his Ph.D. in Technology Management (policymaking) from Allameh Tabatabai University, Tehran, Iran where he later becomes a faculty member in Technology management and science and technology policymaking.

He is also assigned by the president of the Republic of Iran as Board member of Iran National Innovation FUND (INIF) before joining the government, he has an extensive background in academic, research, and executive position in and non-governmental entities.

América Santos Riveras, Vice-Minister of Science and Technology, Cuba

Ms. America Santos Riveras graduated with a Degree in Scientific and Technical Information and Librarianship and a Master's Degree in Intellectual Property Management from the University of Havana. She also graduated from the Superior Course of Inventions of the Superior Institute for the Elevation of the Qualification of the Officials of the State Committee of Inventions and Discoveries of the USSR; in the matter of Industrial Property. She is a full Professor of the University of Havana. For 16 years she worked in the Cuban Office of Industrial Property, of which 6 years she was the Director of this Institution.

Since 2001, she has been Vice Minister of the Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment, attending, among other topics: Intellectual Property; Quality, Metrology and Normalization; Food Safety, Document Management and the Gender issue. President of the National Accreditation Body of the Republic of Cuba (ONARC)

She has taught numerous courses in her specialty and has been a tutor and court of diploma work at the university, master and technical level. He has published several works in scientific and popular publications. She has participated as a delegate and guest in national and international events, both in Cuba and in other countries.

Ms. America Santos Riveras the founder of the Renewable Energy Front in the country, where she participated in the preparation of the Platform for Policy and Legislative Basis. He has lectured on the studies of danger, risk and vulnerability; Climate Change: a technological challenge; as well as on the State Plan of the Republic of Cuba for the confrontation to Climate Change: Life Task.

She is a founding member of the Cuban Society of Scientific and Technical Information (SOCICT) and for eight years was President of the same. He has received different distinctions for his contribution to the scientific-technical activity and for his performance in the different responsibilities developed in the country.

She served as a member of the Advisory Board of the Academy of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO); On two occasions she was selected coordinator for the sessions of the same for developing countries.

Wenjian Zhang, Assistant Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization

Dr Wenjian Zhang is currently the Assistant Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). He has, under the guidance and supervision of WMO Secretary-General, Professor Petteri Taalas, the responsibilities for supporting the global coordination and implementation of the following WMO Priorities: i.e. Disaster Risk Reduction and Weather Services; WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) including both space and surface components, WMO Information System (WIS), and WMO Polar and High Mountain Regions; WMO Regional development and activities including Capacity Development at WMO Regions, and WMO Administrative Services Management.

Prior to this position, he served as the Director of the Observing and Information Systems Department and the Director of WMO Space Programme of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) from 2008 to 2016; Deputy Administrator of China Meteorological Administration (CMA) from 2006 to 2008; Director-General of Observing and Information Systems Department of CMA (2004-2006); Director-General (1998-2004) of National Satellite Meteorological Center of China (CMA). He majored in Weather Prediction and Services from 1978, and the Satellite Meteorology since 1986, and obtained his degree on Master of Science (MSc) from Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences in 1989, and a doctorate degree (PhD) from Peking University in 1993.

Toshio Koike, Science Council of Japan

Toshio Koike received the Bachelor, Master, and Doctor of Engineering, in 1980, 1982, and 1985, respectively, from the University of Tokyo, Japan. He was at the University of Tokyo, as a research associate in 1985 and a lecturer from 1986 to 1987, and at the Nagaoka University of Technology, Japan as an associate professor from 1988 to 1999 and a professor in 1999. In 1999, he joined the Department of Civil Engineering, the University of Tokyo, where he held the position of Professor until 2017. He is also working as Advisor to the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan (MEXT). Since October 2014, he has been appointed as Director, International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management under the auspices of UNESCO (ICHARM), Public Works Research Institute (PWRI) in Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan.

Zuzana Harmackova, Global Resilience Partnership

Harmáčková is a postdoctoral researcher within the GRAID programme, working on comparative analysis of resilience indicators among diverse social-ecological case studies. Her research aims to identify which traits of social-ecological systems explain resilient and transformative outcomes as well as loss of resilience.

Harmáčková's research interests include resilience indicators, disaster risk resilience, participatory scenario building and ecosystem services modelling (InVEST, ARIES).

Harmáčková's PhD thesis, assessing ecosystem services and the alternatives of their future development in UNESCO Biosphere Reserves, carried out at CzechGlobe – Global Change Research Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences – focused on developing participatory scenarios for selected UNESCO Biosphere Reserves in the Czech Republic, and modelled potential future trade-offs between ecosystem services.

Harmáčková has been involved in the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), as a Fellow in the IPBES Europe and Central Asia regional assessment and currently as a Lead Author in the IPBES Assessment on Values. She has been a member of Ecosystem Services Partnership.