

UK Alliance for Disaster Research (ukadr.org)

The primary motivation for the UK Alliance for Disaster Research (UKADR) is to bring together the UK's rich and diverse disaster research community, to facilitate collaboration and partnership in order to aid representation of the research community at government level in the UK and to facilitate where appropriate the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The Alliance is independent and managed by voluntary contributions from the UK research community.

Membership is open to any research and capacity building institute based in United Kingdom active in researching on disaster risk and its management. This includes universities and other educational institutions, charitable trusts, think tanks and research departments within government agencies, private business or civil society organisations. Disaster risk reduction, prevention and preparedness, disaster response, reconstruction and recovery are of interest.

The focus is on all contexts and systems of disaster risk recognising of the UK role in this field across an interconnected world.

UKADR understands science on disaster risk and its management to be interdisciplinary. There is an emphasis on integrated and applied dimensions of knowledge production rooted in fundamental science. This includes work from the natural sciences, engineering and technology, medical and health sciences, agricultural science, social sciences, and humanities and includes information technology, economics, and behavioural sciences.

UK science on disaster risk is widely recognised as world leading. UKADR aims to support excellence in science and enhance opportunity for impact on policy and practice by acting as:

- An alliance of the research and academic disaster research community to facilitate collaboration and partnership across the UK
- An advocate of UK science to UK Government
- A contact point for UK Government seeking the best UK science input
- A mechanism for UK Government to communicate emerging needs to the UK science community.

To help meet these aims UKADR will sit on the UK Disaster Research Group, a committee of research funders, government departments and charitable donors, which has been hosted by UKCDS since 2009.

UK Government first called for improved interaction with the disaster science community in its 2011 Humanitarian Emergency Response Review. This was repeated in the 2012 Government Office of Science Foresight Report on Reducing the Risk of Future Disasters. In 2015 UK Government's responsibilities under the UNISDR Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 placed renewed emphasis on science and on evidence based policy and practice. In 2016 many from the international science community attended the UNISDR Science and Technology Conference on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and a roadmap for supporting Sendai was shared under the leadership of the UNISDR Science and Technology Advisory Group.

The UK Alliance for Disaster Research will provide a national contact point for international efforts to coordinate science efforts to reduce the global impacts of disaster. It will also collaborate with other

international agencies engaged in supporting Sendai. This includes the International Council for Science /International Social Science Council/UNISDR sponsored programme on Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) and the Global Alliance of Disaster Research Institutes (GADRI).

Mark Pelling and Andrew Collins, Founding Co-Chairs, UKADR 19 April 2016

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