



Understanding Risk Europe

Bucharest, Romania | 27-29 November 2019

Wed, November 27th

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Palace of Parliament

Registration and
welcome coffee

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM
A.I.Cuza Room

Welcoming Remarks
& Keynote

Dr. Raed Arafat
**Ministry of Internal Affairs,
Romania**



Dr. Raed Arafat is Secretary of State and Head of Department of Emergency Situations in the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Government of Romania. Being specialized in anesthesia and critical care and having a European Master in disaster medicine, Dr. Raed Arafat is the founder of Mobile Emergency Service for Resuscitation and Extrication (SMURD), that was established since 1990. Starting with 2007, he coordinated the activity of many institutional structures and strategic programmes for Emergency Situations, among them: Healthcare System for Emergencies and Disasters in the Ministry of Health, as well as the Department for Emergency Situations that coordinates the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations, General Inspectorate of Aviation, Emergency Medical Services and Mountain Rescue in the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Dr. Arafat has a wide experience in operational coordination of emergency services, he participated and organized numerous training courses and seminars in the field of emergency medical care, control and coordination of emergency services, emergency management, etc

Tatiana Proskuryakova
World Bank



Tatiana Proskuryakova was appointed Country Manager for Romania and Hungary in the Europe and Central Asia Region of the World Bank in July 2017. Prior to this appointment, she was Country Manager in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro based in Sarajevo since 2015, Country Manager in FYR Macedonia during 2013-14, and Country Operations Adviser for Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay during 2010-13. Proskuryakova joined the World Bank in 1992 and throughout her career she has held various positions both in headquarters and in field offices, including in operations (in Europe and Central Asia Region, and in the Latin America and the Caribbean Region), portfolio management (in Latin America Department of Development Effectiveness), and corporate strategy (in Operational Policy and Country Services Vice Presidency). From 2003-2007, Proskuryakova was Senior Advisor representing the Russian Federation at the World Bank's Board of Executive Directors. Proskuryakova holds an M.Sc. in Economics/ Political Economy from the Moscow State University, Russia, and an M. Phil. in Economics from the University of Oxford, UK.

Wed, November 27th

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM
A.I.Cuza Room

Welcoming Remarks
& Keynote

Pablo Suarez
Artist in Residence,
National University of Singapore



Pablo Suarez is the Associate Director for Research and Innovation at the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, visiting fellow at Boston University, as well as artist in residence at the National University of Singapore. He is a consultant for the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, and has consulted for the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, Oxfam, and numerous other international humanitarian and development organizations, working in more than 60 countries. His current work involves creative approaches to climate risk management, ranging from self-learning algorithms for flood prediction, to collaboration with humorists and artists to inspire thinking and action. Pablo holds a degree in water engineering, a master's degree in planning, and a Ph.D. in geography.

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
A.I.Cuza Room

Ignite
Presentations

Thu, November 28th

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
N. Balcescu Room

Assessing and addressing the fiscal and economic impacts of natural disasters: recent experiences and innovations on country financial resilience

Samantha Cook
World Bank



Samantha Cook has been with the World Bank Crisis and Disaster Risk Finance team since 2012 and has over 10 years of experience in the design and implementation of sovereign disaster risk financing instruments. Samantha was instrumental in the establishment of the Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Company and its regional catastrophe risk insurance scheme. She has experience of working in Asia, Pacific, Africa and more recently Europe. Prior to joining the Bank Samantha worked in both central and investment banking as a macroeconomist and has been leveraging this expertise to ensure that crisis and disaster risk is recognized as a macro-fiscal issue.

Luis de la Plaza Brigas
World Bank



Luis de la Plaza is the Lead Financial Officer for the World Bank Treasury, where he has worked for over 15 years leading the work globally in designing customized financial solutions for clients in infrastructure, energy, disaster risk financing and other sectors. Prior to joining the World Bank, Luis worked in investment banking for more than 12 years in various positions as Director at ABN AMRO Rothschild, Head of Asian Equity and Derivative Syndication and at J.P. Morgan, Vice President, Equity Capital Markets, Derivatives and Corporate Finance in Madrid, New York, London and Hong Kong. Luis, a Spanish national, holds a PhD in Financial Economics from Universidad Complutense de Madrid, an MA in International Economics & Emerging Markets from Johns Hopkins' School Advanced International Studies (SAIS), an MBA from University of Michigan, and a BA in Economics from Universidad Autonoma de Madrid.

Hitoshi Bana
JICA



Dr. Hitoshi BABA has over 30 years of extensive national and international experience in technical and administrative management in disaster and water resource areas in the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MLIT) of the Government of Japan, and in technical cooperation with developing countries to strengthen national capacity for disaster risk reduction, emergency response and reconstruction. Dr BABA has an academic background of hydrology and river engineering. He has Ph.D. in Environment and Resource Engineering and MSc. in Forest Science. He speaks Japanese and English. He is from Japan.

Thu, November 28th

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
N. Iorga Room

Managing earthquake risk at a national scale: from strategic planning to on the ground actions

Radu Vacareanu
**Technical University of Civil
Engineering of Bucharest, Romania**



Carlos Sousa Oliveira
**Instituto Superior Técnico (IST),
Portugal**

Mauro Dolce
**Italian Department of
Civil Protection, Italy**

Thu, November 28th

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
N. Balcescu Room

Sari Lappi
**World Meteorological Organization
(WMO)**



Leveraging regional systems to improve national forecasting and early warning of weather-related hazards

Sari Lappi is a Project coordinator in the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). For the last 10 years, Sari Lappi has managed projects in the fields of meteorology, hydrology, climate, disaster risk reduction, and environment in the South-East Europe region for WMO and Finnish Meteorological Institute. Currently, she is leading the WMO Project Office for South-East Europe, coordinating projects WMO is implementing in the region in the fields of meteorology, hydrology, and climate. The main activity of the project office is the implementation of the project 'South-East European Multi-Hazard Early Warning Advisory System (SEE-MHEWS-A)', funded by the World Bank and European Union. SEE-MHEWS-A is aiming to provide operational forecasters from National Meteorological and Hydrological Services of the region with effective and tested tools for forecasting hazardous weather events and their possible impacts in order to improve the accuracy of warnings and their relevance to stakeholders and users. On a single virtual platform, the system will collect existing information, products and tools for the provision of accurate forecasts and warnings to support hazard-related decision-making by national authorities. Furthermore, the SEE-MHEWS-A will function as a cooperative platform where forecasters from different countries can work together on the identification of potential hazards and their impacts, especially when impending weather hazards may have potential impacts in many countries.

Florian Pappenberger
**European Centre for Medium-Range
Weather Forecasts (ECMWF)**



Florian Pappenberger leads the Forecast Department at the European Centre For Medium-Range Weather Forecasts. The Forecast Department at ECMWF has a strong customer focus. He is responsible for the 24/7 production of weather forecasts, forecast quality control (verification and diagnostics), development of novel forecast products, applications of weather forecasts such as flood, drought, fire and health forecasts, numerical weather prediction relevant software development, data sales and outreach and training. Florian has a background in the forecasting of weather driven natural hazards including floods, droughts, windstorms, forest fires and impacts on human health. He has over 10 years of expertise in operational probabilistic forecasting, extreme value statistics and numerical model system development at ECMWF. He was responsible for the development and implementation of the operational centre of the Copernicus Emergency Service - Early Warning Systems (floods). Florian is the author of over 150 scientific publications and has won several scientific awards.

Thu, November 28th

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
N. Balcescu Room

Paolo Fiorucci
CIMA Foundation
Centro Internazionale in
Monitoraggio Ambientale, Italy



Leveraging regional systems to improve national forecasting and early warning of weather-related hazards

Paolo Fiorucci, Electronic Engineer, Ph.D. in Methods and technologies for environmental monitoring, Head of wildfire sector in CIMA Research Foundation. CIMA Foundation, International Center for Environmental Monitoring, is a non-profit research organization, active in carrying out training, research and technological development in the fields of Civil Protection, Disaster Risk Reduction and Biodiversity located in Savona. More than 10 years of relevant experience in environmental engineering, early warning system with special focus on wildland fire risk modeling and data services at regional, national and international level. Professional experience in wildland fire early warning system, Disaster Risk Reduction, information and communication technology for wildland fire modeling and data services. Responsible/coordinator research and development activities on wildland fires risk assessment and management. Development, implementation and maintenance of regional, national and international platform and services for wildland fire early warning systems. Operational experience in wildland fire risk assessment and management. Responsible/coordinator of several projects implementing early warning systems for wildland fire danger prediction at regional, national and international level.

Thu, November 28th

Gregor Gregorič

**Drought Management Centre for
Southeastern Europe
(DMCSEE, Slovenia)**



Gregor Gregorič has obtained B.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in meteorology from the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, where he has position of assistant lecturer. He was assisting in courses of physical and dynamic meteorology (1996-2007). He is employed in Slovenian environmental agency since 2002. He has been appointed as member of ad-hoc national committee for estimation of drought impacts during drought episodes in 2003, 2006, 2007, 2013 and 2017. Since 2007 he acts as coordinator of activities of the Drought Management Center for Southeastern Europe (DMCSEE). Between 2009 and 2012 he coordinated the initial DMC-SEE project (supported by the EU Transnational coordination programme for SE Europe, with 15 cooperating partner institutions). He acted as national coordinator of the IDMP-CEE project (2012-2015). Most recently, he acted as deputy coordinator of the DriDanube project, led by ARSO and supported by Eu's TCP programme for Danube catchment area (2016-2019).

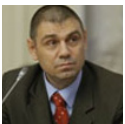
Gabriela Băncilă

**Romania National Meteorological
Administration (NMA)**



Francisc Senzaconi

**Romania National Meteorological
Administration (NMA)**



Romanian General Inspectorate for Emergency Management
Francisc Senzaconi is a chemical engineer and works for General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations as chief of Disaster Risks Control Office. In this role, he is responsible for organizing and coordinating disaster prevention activities at national level, implementation of the Seveso III Directive, Hyogo and Sendai DRR framework implementation and create specific legal framework. He has an experience of more than 20 years in the field of Civil Protection and disaster risk prevention and he published over 10 articles in national and international science journals. Mr. Senzaconi is member of several national and international technical groups, among Seveso Expert Group responsible for the implementation of Seveso Directive, Technical Working Group 2 – Seveso II Inspections, Committee of Competent Authorities (CCA) on implementation of the Seveso Directive, Working Group of Implementation of the UNECE Convention on transboundary effects of the industrial accidents, Working Group on National Risk Assessment (GLERN). In the period 2011 – 2015 he was Co-chair of the Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents. In the last 10 years, he participated as key-person, assistant and project leader to the implementation of various national and international projects, among PPRD East, EMERSYS, RO-RISK.

Thu, November 28th

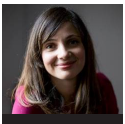
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
N. Iorga Room

Community engagement, raising awareness and driving action

George Manea
**Department of Emergency Situations,
Ministry of Interior Romania**



Alina Kasprovski
**Bucharest Community Foundation,
Bucharest, Romania**



Alina Kasprovski founded and manages the Bucharest Community Foundation. The organisation brings together donors, NGOs, and initiative groups aiming at growing communities where we can feel at home. In eight years, more than 410 projects were financed with + 1.500.000 euro. The Foundation supports people with initiative from Bucharest with resources and acknowledgement, so that their actions inspire others to get involved and create a support network for the city. Alina frequently writes and speaks about philanthropy and community involvement. She has 10 years of experience in marketing and PR. During that period, she worked for communication agencies and companies such as Western Union Financial Services and Sony Ericsson.

Daniel Homsey
**Neighborhood Empowerment
Network, San Francisco, California**



Daniel Homsey is the Director of The Neighborhood Empowerment Network (NEN) for the City Administrator's Office of the City and County of San Francisco. A fourth generation San Franciscan who has a degree in Political Science from San Francisco State University, Mr. Homsey has spent the last 25 years as a communications professional in both the private and public sectors. After a long stint in the tech field, Mr. Homsey joined the City in 2004 and in January 2008 became the Director of the NEN, a coalition of residents, faith based, philanthropic and academic institutions, non-profits and private sector organizations and government agencies. The NEN's mission it is to empower residents with the capacity and resources to build and steward stronger, more resilient communities. Daniel Homsey is the Director of The Neighborhood Empowerment Network (NEN) for the City Administrator's Office of the City and County of San Francisco. A fourth generation San Franciscan who has a degree in Political Science from San Francisco State University, Mr. Homsey has spent the last 25 years as a communications professional in both the private and public sectors. After a long stint in the tech field, Mr. Homsey joined the City in 2004 and in January 2008 became the Director of the NEN, a coalition of residents, faith based, philanthropic and academic institutions, non-profits and private sector organizations and government agencies. The NEN's mission it is to empower residents with the capacity and resources to build and steward stronger, more resilient communities.

Thu, November 28th

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
N. Balcescu Room

Thierry Davy
World Bank



Challenges and opportunities for assessing flood risks

Thierry Davy, a French national, joined the Bank in November 2013 as Senior Climate Change Specialist in the Europe and Central Asia region (Bucharest country office). In 2015, he joined the World Bank Water Global Practice as Senior Water Resources Management Specialist. He has worked on integrated water management for the World Bank in Latin America, Africa and Europe and Central Asia regions. He holds a Ph.D. in environmental economics from Toulouse University in France. He has 20 years of experience in the field of water (IWM and water services), natural resources management, climate change, agriculture, impact assessment, biodiversity, environmental indicators, water economics, science policy interface. He has worked in the field of water and natural resources at different scales: for a French river basin agency, for the French Ministry for Ecology, and for the European Commission. In his last position, before joining the Bank, Thierry Davy was the representative of the French water agencies, the Office National de l'eau, the Water Marine and Biodiversity Directorate of the French Ministry for Ecology to the European Commission.

Nataša Milić
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry
and Water Management, Serbia

Natasa Milic was born on April 24, 1962. in Pristina. She graduated in 1984. from the Faculty of Forestry, Belgrade University in Belgrade, in the direction of water management of erosion areas. She started her professional career in 1986. in Obrenovac municipality as an expert associate for water management and continued from 1992-2004. at the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management as a Republic Water Inspector. From 2004-2015 she worked at the protection of water protection as the head of that department at Public water management company "Srbijavode". She is currently acting director Republican Water Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water management. Her main areas of work are related to water resources, law enforcement, ecosystem protection, participation in international cooperation, project management and coordination, etc.

Thu, November 28th

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
N. Balcescu Room

Janusz Zaleski
**Odra-Vistula River Basin Flood
Protection Project, Poland**



Challenges and opportunities for assessing flood risks

Janusz Zaleski is a Professor at Institute of Meteorology and Water Management in Warsaw and Wrocław University of Technology, Senior Policy Advisor at Odra-Vistula Flood Management Project Coordination Unit and Director of Strategy at the Wrocław Regional Development Agency. Expert in water management and in regional policy. He is author of more than 180 papers publications and numerous professional evaluations in the domain of water management, environmental engineering, application of mathematics, public finances and regional policy. In years 1992-1998 Governor of Wrocław Province, 1993-1997 Chairman in the National Council of Governors, 1998-2001 Advisor to Prime Minister. In 2000-2001 and 2008-2010 Chairman of the International Commission of Odra River Protection Against Pollution. During 2004–2005 he was a member of the Governmental Interdepartmental Team preparing the National Development Plan 2007-2013 for Poland. Since 2001-2006 he worked as PCU director in World Bank Flood Recovery Project implementing realization of modern flood protection warning and forecasting system for Poland. Since 2008-2016 Project director of the next World Bank supported Odra River Basin Flood Protection Project and Odra-Vistula Flood Management. He is member of the Committee for Spatial Planning and Deputy Chairman of the Water Management Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences. He was also project director for preparation flood risk management plans in Poland in first cycle of implementation of European Directive on the Assessment and Management of Floods.

Clemens Neuhold
**Austrian Federal Ministry of
Sustainability and Tourism**



Clemens Neuhold is administrator at the Austrian Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism. Working in the Division for Flood Risk Management Mr. Neuhold is responsible for the implementation of the EU Floods Directive in Austria at national level as well as for international coordination. In the frame of the Common Implementation Strategy (CIS) for the EU Water Framework Directive and Floods Directive at EU level he is co-chairing the EU Working Group on Floods. Mr. Neuhold is also strongly involved in international coordination of the international river basins Rhine, Elbe and Danube. In the latter he is chairing the Flood Protection Expert Group of the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR). Mr. Neuhold is holding a Water Management Diploma and PhD from the University of Natural Resources and Life Science, Vienna.

Thu, November 28th

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
N. Balcescu Room

Sorin Rîndașu
“Romanian Waters”
National Administration



Challenges and opportunities for assessing flood risks

Sorin Rindasu is Director for Emergency Situation Department in Romanian Water National Administration. He graduated University of Civil Engineering Bucharest with specialization in hydraulic structures and hydrology (Faculty of Hydro-technics). He obtained in Tempus Programme a master degree - DEA with studies in reservoir operations optimization. He has been working for more than 23 years for the Romanian Waters National Administration, starting as Dispatching Officer, Head of the Dispatch and Flood Defense office and finally Director of Emergency Situations - Floods, Droughts and Accidental Spills on water. He was actively involved in the last big floods in Romania, in 2005, 2006, 2008 etc. He is the representative of Romanian Waters National Administration in the Working Group for Floods, Common Implementation Strategy at the European Union level and in the Flood Protection Expert Group in the International Commission for Protection of Danube River and co-coordinator of the Flood Directive in Romania.

Thu, November 28th

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
N. Iorga Room

Zuzana Stanton-Geddes
World Bank



Private Sector and Business Continuity: Preparing for and Managing Disasters

Zuzana Stanton-Geddes is a Disaster Risk Management Specialist at the World Bank, where since 2010, she has been working on projects and analytics related to urban resilience, flood risk management, post-disaster recovery, and risk financing. She has country experience in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Indonesia, and China. Most recently, she has been working on the disaster risk management program in Romania and other European countries, as well as analytics related to the urban heat island effects in European cities. Zuzana has led and contributed to several World Bank flagship reports including Strong, Safe, and Resilient: A Strategic Policy Guide for Disaster Risk Management in East Asia and the Pacific (2013); Building Urban Resilience: Principles, Tools and Practice (2013). A native of Slovakia, she holds a Master's degree in International Relations from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Master's degree in European Studies from the Humboldt University in Berlin, and a Bachelor's degree from the University of Cambridge.

Ömer İnan
**Istanbul Chamber of Industry,
Environment and Energy Department**



Ömer İnan who is Assistant Manager of Environment and Energy Department of Istanbul Chamber of Industry was born in Istanbul in 1979. He has a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering and a Master's degree in Engineering Management from Marmara University in Istanbul. He worked as a team leader of occupational health and safety and maintenance team in Procter&Gamble's warehouse in Kocaeli and as a process engineer (environmental engineer) of Siirt Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant in Siirt. He started his career in Istanbul Chamber of Industry in 2007 and since has been working on Turkish and EU Environmental Legislation, Environment, Occupational Health and Safety and Energy issues.

Jörg Schleenbecker
FM Global

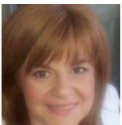


Mr. Jörg Schleenbecker, Operations Vice President and Group Manager of Field Engineering at FM Global, is in charge of FM Global engineering operations in Eastern Europe including Romania, Czech Republic, and Slovakia. Jörg has over 26 years of professional experience in engineering and client engagement in the region. His particular expertise is flood risk management, including risk assessment, reduction, and response that will improve business continuity and overall economic well-being when faced with disasters. He holds degrees in engineering from Germany.

Thu, November 28th

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
N. Iorga Room

Dragana Radić Jovanović
IKEA SEE



Private Sector and Business Continuity: Preparing for and Managing Disasters

Dragana Radic Jovanovic is Operational Risk Management Leader for IKEA Southeast Europe. She is passionate about risk assessments and compliance, particularly being responsible for securing the right competence and knowledge, leading and inspiring a risk-based mind-set and thereby supporting growth and maximization of business value. Currently working as Operational Risk Management Leader for IKEA SEE, Dragana has extensive experience in standardization, accreditation and public health expertise especially in the field of technical legislation development and implementation, audits and consultancy. Author and co-author of more than 40 scientific papers and two books in the field of quality, environment protection and food safety, lead auditor, authorized lecturer, member and chairman of numerous professional associations.

Thu, November 28th

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
N. Balcescu Room

Yann Kerblat
World Bank



Determining disaster and climate impacts on the poorest and most vulnerable and optimizing solutions for resilience

Yann Kerblat is currently a Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Analyst for Europe and Central Asia at the World Bank, a region where he currently provides analytical support to partners and governments for technical assistance and lending operations - focusing in particular on urban resilience, seismic risk mitigation, emergency preparedness, and in developing risk information to enhance investments, policies, and decision-making. Prior to this role, Yann worked in DRM in the East Asia and Pacific region at the World Bank, and with several humanitarian agencies in post-crisis contexts in Africa, Central Asia, and Southeast Asia. A French and Filipino national, Yann holds degrees from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London (SOAS).

Anne Zimmer
Climate Analytics



Anne Zimmer works at Climate Analytics since January 2018. Climate Analytics is a non-profit organisation with the main mission is to synthesise and advance scientific knowledge in the area of climate change and on this basis provide support and capacity building to stakeholders. At Climate Analytics, Anne mainly works on co-benefits of mitigation and adaptation, climate impacts and avoided damages. In the SLICE project ('Short- and Long-term Impacts of Climate Extremes'), she and her project partners assess how households in low-income countries are impacted by climate-related shocks and extreme events, including effects on wellbeing, health, education and coping capabilities. Anne Zimmer holds a Diploma in Economics from the Freie Universität Berlin and a PhD in Climate Change Economics from the Technical University of Berlin. During her studies, she has focused on development economics, social policy issues and empirical analyses using econometrics. After her internship in the field of development cooperation at the GTZ (now GIZ), Anne did her PhD at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK). In her PhD thesis, she investigated the interlinkages of climate change issues with other policy areas. Towards the end of her PhD, Anne worked for the World Bank as a short-term consultant, conducting econometric analyses on poverty dynamics and vulnerabilities of households affected by climate-related shocks and weather variability. After this, she provided policy advice on sustainable consumption issues, among others to the German Ministry for Consumer Protection (BMJV) and the German Federal Environment Agency (Umweltbundesamt).

Thu, November 28th

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
N. Balcescu Room

Dr. Jun Rentschler
World Bank/GFDRR



Determining disaster and climate impacts on the poorest and most vulnerable and optimizing solutions for resilience

Jun Rentschler joined GFDRR through the World Bank's Young Professional Program. As an economist, he contributes to the applied research agenda on disaster risk management and climate change adaptation, and supports project teams in developing robust strategies for resilient and sustainable development. Prior to joining GFDRR, Jun was a Doctoral Researcher at University College London, and a Visiting Researcher at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies in Tokyo and at the Oxford Institute for Energy Studies. A Japanese national, Jun holds an MSc in Economics and a PhD in Environmental and Resource Economics from University College London.

Manuela Sofia Stănculescu
Research Institute for Quality of Life,
Romania National Institute for
Economic Researcher



Manuela Sofia Stănculescu is a Senior Researcher at the Research Institute for Quality of Life since 1994 and doctor in Sociology since 2006. Manuela worked as a consultant in over 100 national and international research projects in various fields and published over 100 scientific papers (articles, books, research reports). Her main research interests are in poverty and social inclusion, development through innovative solutions, children's rights protection and local development. The latest publications that she coordinated are Services for social housing in Romania and an analysis on children from the special protection system in Romania.

Thu, November 28th

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
N. Balcescu Room

Mihaela Toader

Romanian Ministry of European Funds



Determining disaster and climate impacts on the poorest and most vulnerable and optimizing solutions for resilience

Mihaela Toader graduated the Law Faculty in 2002 and has a master degree in European Public Space, awarded in 2005 by the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration in Bucharest. During 2003-2008 Mrs. TOADER was counselor for European Affairs within the General Secretariat of the Government and, later on, in 2008 she was designated as director of the Public Policies Directorate within the same institution, function that she held until 2013. Since March 2013 she was the general director of the Analysis, Programming and Evaluation Directorate in the Ministry of European Funds. The main task was related to the coordination of negotiations with European Commission and elaboration of programming documents for the use of the European Structural and Investment Funds in Romania. In the first quarter of 2017, Mrs. TOADER was appointed Delegated Minister for European Funds in the Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds. Between March-July 2017, she exerted the function of general director of a horizontal unit in the ministry being responsible for the programming tasks, system coordination, and development of the IT system and evaluation of the European programmes. All this extensive and complex experience gained in the area of strategic planning and development, public policies, governance, sound management in the use of EU funds is duplicated by a well-organized spirit and highly motivation to deliver smoothly the responsibilities she holds. Currently, she holds the position of State Secretary in the Ministry of European Funds, being responsible for the coordination of managing authorities, implementation of ESI funds and the coordination of the Romanian Presidency to the European Union Council.

Thu, November 28th

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
N. Iorga Room

Scaling Up Safer and Quality Learning Environments

Radu Vacareanu

**Technical University of Civil
Engineering of Bucharest, Romania**



António Sousa Gago

Instituto Superior Tecnico, Portugal



Fernando Ramirez Cortes

World Bank



Alina Sava

World Bank, Romania



Fri, November 29th

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
N. Balcescu Room

Building urban resilience integrating climate and disaster risks into urban development

Carli Bunding-Venter
Senior Urban Development Specialist



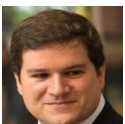
Carli Venter, a South African national, is a Senior Urban Development Specialist with the World Bank based in Bucharest, Romania. She has extensive experience spanning both the private and public sectors, with an in-depth understanding of public management, urban governance and economic development at local and regional level. Her skillset includes policy and strategy formulation, research, project planning, facilitation, the design and implementation of participatory process, design of governance processes and the ability to navigate the intergovernmental and public-private space. She holds an undergraduate and honors degree in Financial Management, a Masters' degree (cum laude) in Environmental Management and a PhD in Public Management, focused on collaboration and partnerships in Regional and Local Economic Development.

Dr. Raed Arafat
Ministry of Internal Affairs, Romania



Dr. Raed Arafat is Secretary of State and Head of Department of Emergency Situations in the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Government of Romania. Being specialized in anesthesia and critical care and having a European Master in disaster medicine, Dr. Raed Arafat is the founder of Mobile Emergency Service for Resuscitation and Extrication (SMURD), that was established since 1990. Starting with 2007, he coordinated the activity of many institutional structures and strategic programmes for Emergency Situations, among them: Healthcare System for Emergencies and Disasters in the Ministry of Health, as well as the Department for Emergency Situations that coordinates the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations, General Inspectorate of Aviation, Emergency Medical Services and Mountain Rescue in the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Dr. Arafat has a wide experience in operational coordination of emergency services, he participated and organized numerous training courses and seminars in the field of emergency medical care, control and coordination of emergency services, emergency management, etc

Carlos Castro
City of Lisbon, Portugal



Carlos Castro is City Councilor for the Municipality of Lisbon concerning the areas of Urban Waste, Civil Protection, Fire Department, Sports, Public Space and Animal's House. He has a Bachelor Degree in Political Science and a Post-Graduation Degree in European Studies.

Fri, November 29th

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
N. Balcescu Room

George Dimarelos

Transport Consultant and Project Manager



Building urban resilience integrating climate and disaster risks into urban development

George Dimarelos is a civil and transport engineer with 20 years experience in the private sector and in local governance. George graduated from the University of Birmingham (BEng in Civil Engineering) and earned his MSc in Transport Engineering and Operations from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne. In 2005 he received a Masters in Business Administration from the American College of Thessaloniki. From 2001 to 2010, he worked as a transport consultant and project manager in a range of projects in the private sector. Since 2010, he has served as an elected member of the Thessaloniki city council. He was appointed by the Mayor as an executive transport consultant and member of the Board of Directors of the Thessaloniki Port Authority. The Peripheral Union of Local Authorities appointed him as board member of the Thessaloniki Urban Transport Authority. In March 2017, he was appointed by the Mayor to serve as Deputy Mayor for Education and Sports. After taking an active role on transport issues in the process of developing the city's first resilience strategy, as part of the city's participation in the global 100 Resilient Cities Network, in October 2017 he started serving as Deputy Mayor for Urban Resilience and Development Programs, by the Mayors appointment until September 2019. He is now special advisor to the Mayor of Sykies and Neapoli for mobility and smart city issues, and he is also consulting companies for smart city issues in relation with local authorities.

Fri, November 29th

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
N. Iorga Room

Jun Rentschler
WB-GFDRR



Critical Infrastructure risks and why investing in resilience makes financial sense

Jun Rentschler joined GFDRR through the World Bank's Young Professional Program. As an economist, he contributes to the applied research agenda on disaster risk management and climate change adaptation, and supports project teams in developing robust strategies for resilient and sustainable development. Prior to joining GFDRR, Jun was a Doctoral Researcher at University College London, and a Visiting Researcher at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies in Tokyo and at the Oxford Institute for Energy Studies. A Japanese national, Jun holds an MSc in Economics and a PhD in Environmental and Resource Economics from University College London.

Mihai Știrbulescu
CE-Distribution



Mihai Știrbulescu has been the Director of the Operations and Maintenance Department of the E-Distribuție companies in Romania since 2015. In this capacity, he has been in charge with managing the Operative Control Centers, the SCADA system, drawing up the maintenance plans for the high- and medium-voltage grid, as well as designing internal procedures and operational instructions regarding network construction and exploitation. When severe weather strikes, in all its forms, be it extremely strong winds, snow storms, freezing rain or even tornadoes, and impacts the functioning of the electrical grid, Mr Știrbulescu and his team are at the forefront of the crisis response. Together with our colleagues in the field, they do their utmost in order to restore the power supply to our affected customers. Throughout the year, Mihai makes preparations for the more difficult seasons, especially the winter, and that means not only making sure the grid is well taken care of from a technical point of view, but also that the natural environment around it is being managed and that everyone is able to intervene promptly when the situation requires it. A power engineer by training, having graduated from the Polytechnic University of Bucharest, Mr Știrbulescu has enjoyed a long and outstanding career, which began in 1984 as a junior engineer at the construction of the Danube-Black Sea Channel. He then moved through the ranks and acquired more and more responsibilities and experience, working both in Romania and in Italy and specializing in grid commercial operations as well as development, maintenance, and operation of the electrical network, metering and new connections. Besides his native Romanian, Mihai speaks English and Italian. He likes football and reading historical accounts, as he finds inspiration in the thoughts and speeches of ancient leaders.

Fri, November 29th

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
N. Iorga Room

Gaetano Vico
DG Echo

Critical Infrastructure risks and why investing in resilience makes financial sense

Gaetano Vico is the Team Leader for the Prevention and Preparedness Programme in the European Commission's Directorate General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Operations (DG ECHO). Among other responsibilities, he manages a financial instrument providing grants for disaster resilience in Europe and its Neighborhoods and a programme of peer reviews addressing civil protection/disaster risk management institutions and policies. Before joining the European Commission in 2016, Gaetano worked for the World Bank in Washington DC, where he was Team Leader for investment projects and technical assistance services in several Latin American and Caribbean countries focusing on: modernization of hydro-meteorological and climate services, disaster risk reduction and post-disaster recovery and reconstruction, critical infrastructure resilience, etc. Previously he worked with the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) in Washington DC and Brussels and with the Civil Protection Department of the Italian Government on a post-conflict reconstruction program in South Sudan. Native of Italy, Gaetano holds a Master Degree in Communications and Political Science from the University of Bologna and has lived and worked in North America, the Caribbean and Africa.

Fri, November 29th

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
N. Balcescu Room

Innovations in Geospatial Data Collection and Analytics: Shaping the Future of Understanding the Built Environment

Vica Bogaerts
World Bank, USA



Andreas Uttenthaler
GAF



Andreas Uttenthaler received a master degree in Applied Geoinformatics from the University of Salzburg in 2007. Since 2008, he is working for GAF and is now a Senior Expert for satellite image processing and since 2018, he is the head of the elevation products group at GAF. He has been responsible for several small-, medium- and large-scale projects with focus on the generation of very-high and high resolution digital elevation models for national and international, public and industrial clients and he is accountable for product development of 3D products.

Max Ferguson
Stanford University



Max grew up in New Zealand where he received a Bachelor of Engineering in Civil and Environmental Engineering. His interest in earthquakes and natural hazards was sparked by the 2011 Christchurch earthquake, which devastated his home city of Christchurch. In 2014, he was awarded a Fulbright Graduate Fellowship to research how machine learning could be leveraged to reduce earthquake risk. During his PhD studies at Stanford, Max won several international computer vision competitions, including the PEER Hub ImageNet challenge. Additionally, he has published over 14 academic papers on computer vision applications, and has won several best paper awards. His current focus is to quantify and reduce natural hazard exposure, through the application of computer vision and artificial intelligence.

Zac Yang
Solutions Engineering, Orbital Insight



Zac Yang is Director, Solutions Engineering at Orbital Insight, a geospatial analytics firm that leverages machine learning at scale to analyze petabytes of multi-source data, including satellite imagery, geolocation intelligence, and vessel traffic data, in order to understand what is happening to and on the Earth. Prior to Orbital Insight, Zac was an equity analyst at BlackRock, overseeing emerging market investments.

Fri, November 29th

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
N. Iorga Room

Assessing and Managing Risk to Cultural Heritage: Preserving the Past for the Future

Mihaela Harmanescu
"Ion Mincu" University of Architecture
and Urbanism Bucharest, Romania



An architect, holding an MA in Sustainable Built Environment, PhD in Urban Planning, and an Associate Professor of the Urban Planning Faculty within the "Ion Mincu" University of Architecture and Urbanism in Bucharest. Ms. Hărmănescu teaches subjects such as Rural Landscape and Sustainable Development and is involved in various research projects and studies on these subjects. Ms. Hărmănescu also conducted a post-doctoral research on Rural Landscape. She is member of several professional associations as Chamber of Architect (OAR București), Register of Urban Planners (RUR), Romanian Landscape Association (ASoP Bucharest), ICOMOS Romania.

Xavier Gerard
ICONEM



After studying history and project management, Mr. Gerard started working on Digital Humanities. A consultant for French museums, he joined Iconem in 2017 as Project Manager. Iconem's mission is to digitize endangered heritage sites around the world to record them for future generations. Iconem operates in 30+ countries, using a wide range of 3D scanning techniques including drones. Many iconic heritage sites have been digitized so far: Saint Jacques Tower in Paris, Pompeii in Italy, Island of Delos in Greece, Mes Aynak in Afghanistan, Palmyra in Syria, Angkor in Cambodia, ... Mr. Gerard coordinated the production of two digital and immersive exhibitions in France and Qatar and set up Iconem's architecture department.

Zeynep Gul Unal
ICORP
(ICOMOS, International Scientific
Committee on Risk Preparedness)



In the past, Dr. Ünal held various positions, namely UNESCO Turkey Tangible Heritage Committee Member, Advisory Board Member of Republic of Turkey Presidential National Palace Organization, Scientific Board Member of Diyarbakır Fortress and Hevsel Gardens Cultural Landscape, Advisory Board Member of Historic Areas of Istanbul World Heritage Sites. Dr. Ünal is also member of the GEA Urban Search and Rescue Group and participated in many search and rescue operations and humanitarian assistance in response phase, such as Haiti, Ercis-Van Earthquakes, Bosnia and Herzegovina flood disasters. Dr. Unal continues to give trainings in GEA SAR and several international organizations, such as Cultural Heritage without Borders Albania and Kosovo, and Bosnia Civil Protection. Within the scope of ICOMOS/ICORP on the Road Project, Dr. Ünal and her team work in different countries around the world (Nepal, Mali, Pakistan, Turkey, Brasil), producing documentaries to showcase the inspiring stories of professionals and local communities about post-disaster response and recovery of cultural heritage.

Fri, November 29th

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
N. Iorga Room

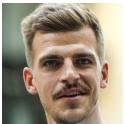
Assessing and Managing Risk to Cultural Heritage: Preserving the Past for the Future

Luca Ponticelli
University of Rome, Italy



Luca Ponticelli is a civil engineer and for two years he was a Professor at the University of Rome (La Sapienza) in design of active protection measures in fires, as well as expert member of a national standardization organization (UNI) in Italy. He was the technical manager of DR HOUSE European project and he also co-authored two books on the fire resistance of structures and shoring techniques of buildings damaged by earthquakes for the Italian Fire and Rescue Service. Being an expert in fire prevention since 2003 and in disaster management, he had numerous missions in post seismic and hurricane affected provinces and countries (L'Aquila 2009, Emilia Romagna 2012, Amatrice 2016, Ischia 2017, Nepal 2015, Antigua and Barbuda 2017). At the moment he is the fire chief of Avellino, Italy

Matei Sumbasacu
Re:Rise



Matei Sumbasacu worked in various roles in the construction industry after finishing his MSc. in Earthquake Engineering at the National Technical University in Athens, and is also the founder of Re:Rise - Romania's first NGO dealing explicitly with seismic risk reduction. But, more importantly, he enjoys talking about seismic risk and earthquakes to anyone that will listen. Since returning to Romania in 2013, he started talking about Romania's seismic vulnerability. First, he talked to his neighbors in the vulnerable building he used to live in, then to his friends alongside whom he started Re:Rise and, now, thanks to Re:Rise, to constantly growing audiences. Re:Rise grew from 4 people to, now, 13 persons and, for almost 3 years now, they have been proposing and implementing a diverse range of seismic risk reduction projects - from the digital transformation of disaster intervention, to community empowerment and awareness.

Fri, November 29th

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
N. Iorga Room

Raluca Trifa
**University of Architecture and
Urbanism "Ion Mincu"**



Assessing and Managing Risk to Cultural Heritage: Preserving the Past for the Future

Raluca Trifa is an Architect, a Teaching Assistant at "Ion Mincu" University of Architecture and Urbanism Bucharest and a Researcher in the field of built heritage. After graduating from the Faculty of Architecture Timișoara in 2009, Raluca-Maria Trifa attended the "Conservation and Rehabilitation of Built Heritage" Postgraduate Study Program at "Ion Mincu" University of Architecture and Urbanism Bucharest. Over the next four years she was enrolled in a PhD Program at the same University, with a thesis that focused on the analysis of reuse potential of historic industrial architecture in Timișoara. The result of her work in the field of architectural heritage has been constantly demonstrated in a significant number of public presentations and published papers. At the moment, Raluca-Maria Trifa's research and professional interest lie in the area of urban heritage preservation and rehabilitation. As a result, Raluca-Maria Trifa has joined since the beginning the project "Catalog Bucuresti", launched in March 2017 by the Romanian Association for Culture, Education and Normality - ARCEN, in an extensive effort to collect and analyse all the buildings located in the 98 Built Protected Areas of Bucharest. This project aims to be an educational tool for the inhabitants of Romanian capital city and an initiative able to engage all key-actors involved in territorial policies, in order to cease the degradation of the built heritage and to preserve the cultural specificity of Bucharest.

Fri, November 29th

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
N. Balcescu Room

Cristina Stefan
Global Risk Platform, World Bank



The threat of emerging risks (cyber, pandemics, extreme heat)

Cristina Stefan joined the World Bank as part of the FCV/GCRP team, in the role of Sr. Risk Monitoring Specialist, leading the design and implementation of a cross-World Bank initiative on multi-sector risk modelling and early warning system that integrates analysis of conflict, natural disasters, food insecurity and pandemics, called the Global Crisis Risk Platform (GCRP). Cristina has 9 years of experience as a Life & Health Actuary, focused on insurance product design and pricing. Prior to joining the Bank she was Head of Insurance Solutions at Metabiota, an infectious disease risk analytic company, where she was leading projects focused on modeling and quantifying the microeconomic impact of infectious disease risk on companies' and insurance portfolios, and the macroeconomic impact of pandemics. Her most recent work revolves around collaboration with international organizations for the development of parametric sovereign insurance products aiming at closing the epidemic insurance gap and improving containment measures for countries considered to be "at-risk". She was also heavily involved in the development and operationalization of vulnerability indices (pandemic preparedness index, pandemic fear index) that support the definition of payout triggers for novel parametric insurance products covering the vulnerability of the private markets to epidemic catastrophic events.

Mark Gallivan
Metabiota



Mark Gallivan is the Director of Data Science at Metabiota where he researches, programs, and creates mathematical models to estimate the burden of infectious disease outbreaks and effects of mitigation measures. Over the past three years with Metabiota, Mark has built out data and modeling pipelines incorporating mobility and spark models into global, large-scale disease spread simulations. At Metabiota, Mark has published on epidemic preparedness, catastrophe risk modeling, and using social media data to estimate the economic impact of the Zika virus epidemic. Previous to Metabiota, he led the influenza surveillance program for the California Department of Public Health and has completed two CDC-sponsored fellowships in emerging infectious diseases and applied epidemiology. Mark received his MPH at the University of Washington and BS in Microbiology at the University of Minnesota.

Fri, November 29th

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
N. Balcescu Room

Rosmarie DeWit
ZAMG, Austria



The threat of emerging risks (cyber, pandemics, extreme heat)

Dr. Rosmarie de Wit joined the urban modelling team at ZAMG, Austria's national weather service, in 2016, after a postdoctoral fellowship at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. Her work has since focused on alternative data sources to characterize urban heat islands, as well as interdisciplinary projects dealing with climate risks for cultural heritage and urban infrastructure projects. Outreach and science communication are a key part of her work.

Bogdan Carlescu
Bitdefender, Romania



Bogdan Carlescu is Acting Cybersecurity Professional and Sr. Product Marketing Manager at Bitdefender and has extensive international experience in various roles across IT Industry, including IT Systems Integration, Cybersecurity, Sales Engineering and Product Management. He enjoys combining his engineering background with industry knowledge and business sense to fulfill his professional mission: help businesses grow by leveraging technology.

Fri, November 29th

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
N. Iorga Room

An urgent matter in our homes: tackling challenges of earthquake risk reduction in the housing sector

Maryia Markhvida
World Bank



Maryia Markhvida received her Ph.D. from Stanford University, where she was one of the first members of the Stanford Urban Resilience Initiative. Her research and professional interests center around computational techniques for regional seismic risk modeling, post-disaster economic impact analysis, household disaster resilience, and application of machine learning techniques in risk quantification. Maryia currently works on the Disaster Risk Management team at the World Bank, conducting risk assessments in Europe and Central Asia and helping governments integrate risk information into strategic decision-making. Maryia had also worked on model development and catastrophe risk modeling in the insurance sector.

Manya Deyanova
Mott MacDonald, Bulgaria



Manya Deyanova is currently a Principal Engineer at Mott MacDonald, leading numerous seismic risk assessment projects. Manya holds a PhD degree in Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology from ROSE doctorate program at the UME Graduate School, IUSS Pavia. She has expertise in seismic risk assessment and advanced finite element non-linear modelling and dynamic analysis. In addition, she has 10 years of experience as a licensed engineer in seismic design, structural assessment and retrofit of buildings and facilities. Manya has been a research collaborator in international scientific projects related to performance-based design of earth-retaining structures and seismic assessment of reinforced concrete precast buildings. She has authored and presented several research papers internationally.

Giuseppe Margani
Department of Civil Engineering and Architecture, University of Catania, Italy



Department of Civil Engineering and Architecture, University of Catania, Italy
Giuseppe Margani is an associate professor of Building Construction at the Department of Civil Engineering and Architecture, University of Catania, Italy. He received his PhD in "Architectural Engineering: design, production and refurbishment techniques" from the University of Palermo, Italy. His research interests include sustainable architecture, energy and seismic renovation, innovation in building technologies, integration of renewable energy systems in the building envelope, and history of construction technologies. He is author or co-author of 7 books and of over sixty papers published in national and international peer-reviewed journals, and conference proceedings. Giuseppe has experience in the development and direction of national and international research projects, and he is an independent expert of the European Commission for European research and innovation programmes. He has over 25 years of work experience in detailed design, building refurbishment and non-destructive tests on cultural assets.

Fri, November 29th

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
N. Iorga Room

Kelvin Berryman
GNS Science, New Zealand



An urgent matter in our homes: tackling challenges of earthquake risk reduction in the housing sector

Kelvin Berryman is currently the leader of the natural hazards and risks theme of GNS Science. He is a geologist by training who joined the predecessor organisation to GNS Science in 1974. His speciality is the geology of earthquakes and tsunamis. This has evolved increasingly into technical and strategic risk management. He often works with engineers, planners, and policy makers on design of new structures, seismic safety assessment of infrastructure and disaster risk management. His research and applied science has been undertaken throughout New Zealand and extensively around the Pacific and beyond and presented in more than 130 peer-reviewed journal publications and a similar number of peer reviewed reports for public and private sector clients. He currently serves as NZ representative on the Governing Board of the GEM (global earthquake model) Foundation and is an elected Fellow and Life Member of the NZ National Society for Earthquake Engineering. In 2012 he received a Queens Service Order honour for services to science and Canterbury earthquake recovery.

Marina Neagu
World Bank



Marina Neagu is a development professional specializing in urban economy and local economic development. Over the past 10 years she has done extensive grassroots work across Romania assisting communities in participatory strategic planning processes. Besides her main activity as part of MKBT: Make Better, a Romania based organization dedicated to urban regeneration, she has worked as consultant for UNDP, the World Bank and Council of Europe, on policy fields including integrated planning, community development, housing and seismic risk reduction. Her background is in economic studies, complemented by postgraduate degrees in urban planning and regional development at the University of Architecture and Urbanism in Bucharest as well as London School of Economics.

Fri, November 29th

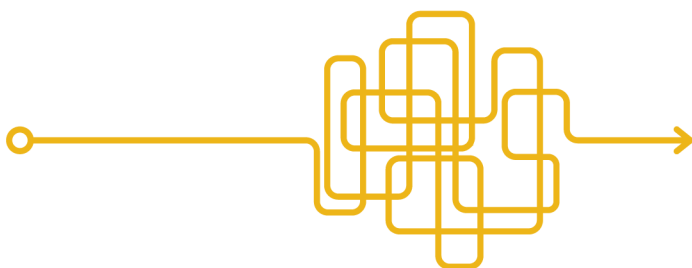
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
A.I.Cuza Room

Closing remarks & Keynote

Otilia Ciotau
World Bank Treasury



Otilia is Senior Portfolio Manager in the Strategic Portfolio Investment team in the World Bank Treasury. She joined the Treasury's strategic asset allocation and quant team in 2015 and she worked with several central banks on the design and fine tuning of their foreign exchange reserves asset allocation, under the umbrella of World Bank's Reserve Advisory Management Program. Before World Bank, Otilia led the Market and Liquidity Risk team within Erste Bank's Romanian subsidiary – Banca Comerciala Romana, after being part of the foreign exchange reserves management team in the National Bank of Romania. Before that, Otilia was Treasury Chief Economist and Director for capital markets division in Piraeus Bank Romania. Otilia has a degree in Mathematics and one in Finance, a MSc in Finance and she is a CFA and CAIA charter holder.



Innovate for Resilience