OECD Conference on the Financial Management of Flood Risk
Building financial resilience in a changing climate

WHO’S WHO?

12-13 May 2016
Paris, France
About this conference

Flooding is one of the most common, wide-reaching and destructive natural perils, affecting tens of millions of people around the world each year and causing, on average, more than USD 40 billion in damages. The financial management of flood risk presents a significant policy challenge in many countries, requiring careful consideration of the relative effectiveness of various tools to manage flood risk, from investments in risk prevention and public awareness, to the use of risk transfer tools to protect against significant post-disaster costs. This conference will provide an opportunity to exchange knowledge and share experiences on effective approaches to the financial management of flood risk.

The organisation of this event is being supported by a financial contribution from Zurich Insurance Group, which has launched a global flood resilience program to contribute with its risk expertise as a global insurer to help customers and communities to reduce the devastating impact of floods (see: www.zurich.com/en/corporate-responsibility/flood-resilience).

About the OECD

The OECD plays a leadership role in supporting the development of strategies for the financial management of natural and man-made disaster risks and has provided guidance and analysis on these issues for the G20 and APEC Finance Ministers. This work is undertaken under the guidance of the High-Level Advisory Board on the Financial Management of Large-scale Catastrophes and the Insurance and Private Pensions Committee. The OECD provides a unique forum for governments to compare policy experiences, seek answers to common problems, identify good practice and work to co-ordinate domestic and international policies.
Erwann Michel-Kerjan is recognized globally as a preeminent authority on insurance, resilience and risk management strategy by business and the public sector. At the Wharton School in Philadelphia, one of the world’s premier business schools, he serves as Executive Director of the Wharton Risk Management and Decision Processes Center, which for three decades has been at the forefront of research and discoveries on extreme events. Dr. Michel-Kerjan has worked with several multinationals, foundations and heads of state on how to build an overall integrated risk management strategy based on value creation and the important role that insurance can play in that regard. Since 2008 he has served as Chairman of the OECD Board on financial management of catastrophes, which advises the Secretary-General and works with the Finance Ministries of the 34 OECD member countries, financial institutions, and the G20. He joined SCOR’s foundation board in 2013. Dr. Michel-Kerjan was named a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum (WEF/Davos) in 2007, an “honor bestowed to recognize and acknowledge the most extraordinary leaders of the world under the age of 40”. He co-led the WEF/G20 Paris initiative on Global Risks under the high patronage of then-President Sarkozy and currently serves on the World Economic Forum advisory board of the Global Risks Report, published every year in Davos. He has testified on several occasions on these issues before the US Congress and recently served on the US National Academies of Science’s panel tasked with evaluating FEMA’s pricing of flood insurance for negatively elevated structures. Winner of the prestigious Kulp-Wright award for the most influential book on risk management (At War with the Weather, MIT Press, with H. Kunreuther) and of the 2014 Lloyd’s Science of Risk Prize, he has authored over 100 publications, 6 books, and his views regularly appear in popular outlets ranging from BBC, CNN, Huffington Post, The Economist, New York Times, Newsweek, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, Nature and Science. He serves on the board of the Women Investment Network (chaired by Melinda Gates and Her Royal Highness the Crown Princess of Norway), an initiative that drives strategic investments that go beyond the checkbook by engaging women philanthropists to improve the health and rights of girls and women worldwide. He studied at Ecole polytechnique (France), McGill (Canada) and Harvard (USA).

Rintaro Tamaki was appointed Deputy Secretary-General of the OECD on August 1, 2011. His portfolio includes the strategic direction of OECD policy on Environment, Financial and Enterprise Affairs & Anti-Corruption, Green Growth and Taxation along with representing the OECD at the Financial Stability Board meetings. Prior to joining the OECD Mr. Tamaki, a Japanese national, was Vice-Minister of Finance for International Affairs at the Ministry of Finance, Government of Japan. During his prominent 35-year career at the Japanese Ministry of Finance, Mr. Tamaki has worked on various budget, taxation, international finance and development issues. He worked as part of the OECD Secretariat from 1978 – 1980 in the Economic Prospects Division and from 1983 – 1986 in the Fiscal Affairs Division of the Directorate for Financial, Fiscal and Enterprise Affairs (DAFFE). In 1994 Mr. Tamaki was posted to the World Bank as Alternate Executive Director for Japan and in 2002 as Finance Minister at the Embassy of Japan in Washington DC. He then became Deputy Director-General (2005), before becoming Director-General (2007) and subsequently Vice-Minister for International Affairs (2009) at the Ministry of Finance. Mr. Tamaki graduated in 1976, L.L.B. from the University of Tokyo and has held academic positions at the University of Tokyo and Kobe University. He has published books and articles on international institutions, the international monetary system, development, debt and taxation.
**Saad Mered** was appointed as Global Chief Claims Officer for Zurich’s General Insurance Segment in January 2014. In that role, Saad leads over 10,000 claims professionals across more than 40 countries delivering to customers through four and half million claims per year representing $21 billion in payments and close to $43 billion in case reserves. Saad is overseeing the transformation of the claims organization as it embraces the digital age and the ubiquitous use of data so that Zurich may surpass our customers’ expectations, across segments. Prior to that role, Saad was Chief Executive Officer, Middle East and & Africa, for Zurich’s General Insurance Segment from October 2010. The region included the key strategic growth markets of Turkey and South Africa, Morocco and the Middle East. Saad joined Zurich in November 2008 as CEO Middle East and oversaw Zurich’s Life and Non-Life operations and strategic growth initiatives in the Middle East. A particular focus was the launch and expansion of Zurich’s General Insurance capabilities in the region through both Greenfield start ups in the DIFC, Bahrain and Qatar as well as gaining 100% ownership grandfathered rights entry in the UAE, Oman and Kuwait through the acquisition and integration of the Compagnie Libanaise d’Assurance, SAL. Saad started his professional career at American International Group (AIG) in 1994 where he held various positions during his long tenure with the company. He commenced his career as a Management Associate focusing on specialty general insurance products, particularly Financial Lines. He held his first management responsibilities in regional product management in Europe followed by division level leadership for AIG’s French operations. Saad moved into general management when he was appointed to lead AIG’s Egypt operations post acquisition and market entry in 2001. He returned to Europe for AIG to lead the Commercial Segment. His last assignment at AIG was a global role in the implementation of their small business strategy. His insurance career has led him to be based in New York, Paris, Cairo, Dubai and Zurich. He holds a Juris Doctorate from Georgetown University and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of California, Berkeley.

**Alice Hill** joined the White House in September 2013 and currently serves as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Resilience Policy on the National Security Council. In this role, she leads a policy group responsible for development of resilience policy and serves as a principal advisor on preparedness and resilience issues, including the President’s Climate Action Plan. While at the White House, Ms. Hill has led the creation of Presidential orders and directives regarding the incorporation of climate considerations into international development work, building national capabilities for long-term drought resilience, establishment of both a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard and an Earthquake Risk Management Standard, and increased coordination of federal efforts in the Arctic. Prior to joining the National Security Council staff, Ms. Hill served as Senior Counselor to Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano. In that position, she provided advice and counsel on public policy issues directly impacting the nation’s security. In addition, she chaired the Department’s Executive Steering Committee on Climate Change Adaptation which developed the Department’s first-ever plans for adapting to extreme weather and climate change and was an ex officio member of the Federal advisory committee for the Third National Climate Assessment. She also founded and led the internationally recognized Blue Campaign, an initiative to combat human trafficking. Prior to joining President Obama’s administration, Ms. Hill served as a judge in Los Angeles County, where she served as Supervising Judge for both the Superior and Municipal Courts, overseeing the administration and operation of multiple courthouses handling virtually every type of civil and criminal case. Before beginning her judicial career, Ms. Hill served as a federal prosecutor in Los Angeles where she headed the Major Frauds Section which was responsible for the investigation and prosecution of white-collar crime. She clerked for a federal judge before embarking on her legal career. She received her law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law and her BA from Stanford University with Distinction.
**Speakers**

**Charles Baubion** is a Policy Analyst in Risk Management in the OECD’s Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate (GOV). He supports the activities of the OECD High-Level Risk Forum in areas such as strategic crisis management and peer reviews of risk management policies. In GOV, he conducted risk governance reviews of France, the UK, Finland, Mexico and Morocco. A hydrologist by training, he has also worked on climate, water and risk management in Africa, Europe, and China, and within the UN system both on public policies and at the scientific/technical level. Before joining the OECD, he worked in the disaster risk management program of the World Meteorological Organisation. Prior to that, he spent two years at the Sahel and Sahara Observatory in Tunis focusing on environmental policies in the circum-Saharan region. He also was in charge of the organization of the World Water Forum in Mexico in 2006 and spent one year at the Chinese Academy of Science modelling the impacts of climate change on water. Charles is an alumnus from Ecole Polytechnique and holds Master Degrees in Environment and Natural Resources Management from Agro Paris Tech and in Hydrology from the School of Mines, Paris.

**Dominique Bérod** is senior expert managing the Water, Cold Regions and Disasters activities at the intergovernmental Group on Earth Observations (GEO) secretariat, located in Geneva, Switzerland. GEO is a global partnership that envisions a future wherein decisions and actions for the benefit of humankind are informed by coordinated, comprehensive and sustained Earth observations. As of June 1st, 2016, he will be the Chief of the Basic Systems in Hydrology Division of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). He is also the President of the Swiss commission of Hydrology and the hydrological advisor of the World Meteorological Organization for the regional Association Europe (including Middle East and the Caucasian region), and co-chair of the working group on Climate and Hydrology for this Region. Before joining GEO in January 2015, Dominique Berod served as the Head of the Hydrology division of the Swiss federal office of the Environment, in charge of water monitoring, flow forecast and applied research. Until 2008, he was the Head of the flood protection unit in the canton of Wallis, Switzerland, where he had responsibility for flood mitigation and river restoration projects, including flood forecast and warning as well as hazard mapping. Dominique Bérod holds a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree in Environmental Engineering from the Swiss Institute of Technology at Lausanne (1989) and a PhD in Hydrology from the same university, in collaboration with the Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge, USA (1994).

**Marko Blagojevic** is the Director of the Serbian Government’s Public Investment Management, a successor to the Office for Reconstruction and Flood Relief. He has been entrusted with the assignment to set up and manage the country’s post-flood recovery and reconstruction effort, after the May 2014 catastrophic floods in Serbia. He has overseen the transition of the mandate of the Office from post-flood recovery and reconstruction to disaster risk management and is now involved in the set-up of the disaster risk management system in Serbia. In 1997, Marko founded the Center for Free Elections and Democracy, the first Serbian watchdog organization, specializing in issues of transparency, responsiveness and accountability. In 2005, he founded CeSID, now one of the leading polling agencies in the CEE region, specializing in public affairs research and analysis. In the capacity of CeSID’s Director, he has cooperated closely with international clients such as the Council of Europe, GIZ, OSCE, USAID, UN agencies and the World Bank. Also, between 2003-2008, he was the Member of the Board of Directors of the Soros Foundation in Serbia. In his career, Marko has worked as an international consultant for OSCE, National Democratic Institute, International Republican Institute, Soros Foundation and Freedom House, on projects in Georgia, Azerbaijan, Macedonia, Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Russian Federation, Indonesia and Montenegro. He was very active as a student leader in the anti-Milosevic struggle: in 1997 he was the founder.
Jonathan Coppel was appointed as a full-time Commissioner at the Australia Productivity Commission in July 2011. Jonathan is an economist with extensive international and domestic experience advising governments on macroeconomic, investment, energy, social, environmental and regulatory policy. Prior to his appointment, Jonathan was Head of the OECD G20 Sherpa office. During his OECD career he also held senior roles as Counsellor to the Chief Economist, Executive Manager of the NEPAD-OECD Africa Investment Initiative, Head of the EU and UK Desks and analyst at the International Energy Agency. In Australia he has held senior management positions at the Reserve Bank and started his career at the Commonwealth Treasury. Jonathan has lectured at the World Trade Institute’s Mile Masters Programme in International Law and Economics and the Paris Sciences Po Institute. While overseas he established and was a director of Cafe Oz, the first Australian bar in Paris. Jonathan has a Masters in Economics and Management from Columbia University, New York, a Bachelor in Economics (Honours) from the Australian National University and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Jonathan is currently a Presiding Commissioner on the Intellectual Property Arrangements inquiry, Education Evidence Base inquiry and the Commissioner overseeing a research project on Disruptive Technologies: What do Governments need to do? He was a Commissioner on the following inquiries and studies: Public Safety Mobile Broadband; Mutual Recognition Schemes; Childcare and Early Childhood Learning; Natural Disaster Funding; Major Project Development Assessment Processes; Mineral and Energy Resource Exploration; Strengthening Economic Relations between Australia and New Zealand; Barriers to Effective Climate Change Adaptation.

Mia Ebeltoft is Deputy Director at Finance Norway with responsibilities as a financial/insurance legal specialist (all non-life issues), political lobbying, project management, climate change adaptation (national and international), natural catastrophes, municipality planning & liability and gender issues. In May 2014, she was appointed to Law and technical Commission on Climate change and urban flooding. She was also the project manager for the public-private project on the “Use of local insurance loss data in municipality planning” (2012-2015) and Chairwoman of technical board to the “National educational program for non-life insurance”. She is a member of Insurance Europe’s Sustainable Committee and General Liability Committee and a member of the Nordic Working group on Climate Change (Insurance). Prior to joining Finance Norway, Ms. Ebeltoft worked as a legal advisor in the insurance sector and at the European Commission of Human Rights. Ms. Ebeltoft has earned a Master of Laws (LL.M.) from the University of Oslo, an MBA in Project management from the BI Norwegian Business School and has undertaken legal studies at the University of North Dakota and the Université d’Aix-en-Provence.

Don Forgeron was appointed Insurance Bureau of Canada’s President and CEO in 2009. Don has a successful track record of over 25 years in the property and casualty (P&C) insurance industry. He has a strong foundation in the public and private sectors, having worked for Alberta’s Department of Environment and the National Research Council in Nova Scotia early in his career. After joining IBC in 1993 as Vice-President, Atlantic Canada, and subsequently Ontario, Don worked for positive impacts to the insurance and public policy landscapes. Leading the charge for auto insurance reform in Ontario and Atlantic Canada, he worked with various provincial governments to create sustainable and affordable auto insurance systems that meet the consumer need for affordable premiums and adequate benefit levels. Don also helped bring about graduated driver licensing across Atlantic Canada working with governments and interested stakeholders. In 2000, Don assumed the role of Vice-President, Strategic Development of Investigative Services, where he supervised work with Customs Canada and other law enforcement agencies to reduce the number of stolen vehicles shipped internationally. He guided IBC’s transition to a focused, low-cost service supplier to the industry. As President and CEO, Don works with governments and
key stakeholders across the country to build a strong, stable P&C industry and a stronger and safer Canada. He has played a key role in building a consumer-focused and sustainable auto insurance system in Ontario. He is also leading a national conversation on the need to better prepare for an earthquake in various parts of Canada and finally, he has pushed for a national dialogue with governments and consumers on the need for severe weather adaptation. Don is also a leader involved in the international insurance issues that increase industry effectiveness and provide input to regulatory bodies. He is a founding member of the Global Federation of Insurance Associations (GFIA) and leads an international working group in Natural Catastrophe response. A graduate of Cape Breton University, and a 2013 Cape Breton University Alumni Award recipient, Don has completed management studies at University of Toronto, Harvard and McGill universities. He served as the 2012-2014 Insurance Division Chair for United Way Toronto and as a member of the Campaign Cabinet. Don was also a member of the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada’s Board of Directors (Ontario Division), 2011-12.

**Cristiana V. Fragola** came to 100 Resilient Cities from her previous post as the European Regional Director for the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group. In that role, she developed and managed relationships with 19 European cities, connecting them with the C40 global network to support the successful implementation of their climate action plans. She also solidified a strong collaboration with the Mayor of Paris in connection with the COP21, promoted city-to-city strategic partnerships for participation in EU funded projects such as Horizon2020, served on the Advisory Boards of the Mayor of Milan’s Urban Food Policy Pact, and the Barcelona Smart Cities World Congress. Prior to joining C40, Cristiana held several crucial positions serving as a legal advisor to the UN Development Programme, Deputy Director of Sustainability of the New York City Housing Authority and Director of MillionTreesNYC, a PlaNYC initiative. While at the United Nations, Ms. Fragola served as legal counsel to executive leadership and set forth transparent reporting procedures for MDGs funding mechanisms. During her service in city government, she helped develop and manage large-scale environmental programs in New York City for Mayor Bloomberg’s Administration. Ms. Fragola attended Harvard University where she received her MC/MPA and University of Pennsylvania School of Law. She is an Italian citizen and is fluent in Italian, English, French and Spanish.

**Linda Freiner** is an Executive Staff at Zurich Insurance Group Ltd (Zurich). She joined Zurich in 2013 to implement the Zurich Flood Resilience Program, an innovative cross-sector collaboration, that aims to enhance community resilience to floods by finding innovative ways to increase the impact of risk reduction efforts at community, national, and global levels. Before joining Zurich she was a Global Leadership Fellow at the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Geneva from 2007-2013 where she served as Head of Financial Services Partnerships overseeing the largest group of strategic partners, and as Head of Partnerships for the Risk Response Network. Before joining the WEF, she worked as a management consultant for the CFI Group and as a finance manager at Procter & Gamble. She holds a M.Sc. in Economics and Business from the Stockholm School of Economics. She has conducted studies in France and Switzerland, and speaks four languages fluently.
Don Griffin is Vice President, Personal Lines with the Property Casualty Insurers Association of America (PCI). PCI is the largest property and casualty insurance trade association with nearly 1000 member companies nationwide. PCI’s members write 35 percent of the property and casualty insurance market. Don and his staff are responsible for development of public policy on personal automobile, personal and commercial property, catastrophe and state and federal financial issues. He is PCI’s point person in Chicago on catastrophe and flood insurance issues. Including almost 18 years with PCI, Don has more than 30 years of experience in the property and casualty insurance business including management responsibilities at both agency and company levels. Prior to joining PCI, he worked for the California Casualty Insurance Group based in San Mateo, California. His past experience also includes profit and loss responsibility for personal lines at Hall’s Insurance Agency, Inc. in southeast Texas, business insurance sales for Liberty Mutual and life insurance sales for Integon Life Insurance Company. He has served as staff liaison to the Agricultural Risk and the Property Insurance Committees, addressing such issues as credit, mold, loss database and state and federal disaster legislation. He has also worked on terrorism, service contract, general liability, building codes, professional liability and financial public policy issues. He is a member of the Society of Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters, and holds the Associate in Regulation and Compliance, Associate in Reinsurance, Associate in Risk Management, and Associate in Underwriting designations.

Bui Thanh Hai is a Deputy Director of the Non-life Insurance Supervision Division at the Insurance Supervisory Authority (ISA) of the Ministry of Finance of Vietnam. In his current position, he is responsible for advising the ISA’s leadership in formulating insurance regulations and policies and supervising operations of non-life insurance markets. Mr. Hai is a key member of ISA in developing the countries’ important policies on insurance of agriculture, natural catastrophes, public assets and nuclear operations insurance. Mr. Hai was Deputy Chief of Office at ISA in charge of ISA’s internal affairs and operations before joining the Non-life Insurance Supervision Division. Mr. Hai started his career in the public sector in 1994 with the Finance Department under the People’s Committee of Nghe An Province. From 2000 – 2007, he worked for the International Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Finance of Vietnam, taking part in the negotiation process for Vietnam’s accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO). He then spent four years in the private sector working as Deputy Representative for CIGNA International in Vietnam, a subsidiary of CIGNA – a US-based healthcare carrier where he was responsible for market research and identification of investment and business opportunities in Vietnam. Mr. Hai holds a Master of Business in Accountancy from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technologies (RMIT) and a Bachelor degree in Economics from Hanoi Academy of Finance as well as several professional qualifications in the economic, finance and insurance fields. In addition to his regulatory responsibilities, he has also engaged in several research projects in the areas of international integration and insurance.

Jeff Hebert serves as the Chief Resilience Officer for the City of New Orleans and Executive Director of the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority (NORA). NORA has been leading resilience initiatives in sustainable development, neighborhood reinvestment, and the creative reuse of land for storm-water management. In his dual role as CRO and Executive Director, Hebert oversees the development and implementation of the resilience strategy for the city. For New Orleans, the challenges include the effects of rising seas, economic and social inequality, routine flooding, and the ability to withstand a variety of weather related events. NORA provides planning, financial support, and real estate for affordable housing and commercial corridor revitalization projects throughout the City. In addition, NORA is leading the city’s efforts in the creative use of vacant land, including for stormwater management. Prior to joining NORA, Jeff served as the first-ever Director of Blight Policy and Neighborhood Revitalization for the City of New Orleans. In the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Jeff served as the Director of Community Planning for the Louisiana
Recovery Authority and has worked in community development in Brooklyn and Philadelphia. Jeff is a graduate of New York University, where he received a Bachelor’s degree in Urban Design and Architecture Studies and completed his graduate studies in City Planning at M.I.T. He recently completed the NeighborWorks® Achieving Excellence in Community Development program at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Kenzo Hiroki is Vice President, College of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (CLITT), Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Tourism, and Transport (MLIT), Japan. He has been engaged, globally and nationally, in water and sanitation, integrated water resources management, and particularly issues on water and disasters for over 33 years since he entered the Ministry of Construction, Japan after having graduated from Tokyo University in 1982. He has been engaged in field project management, public involvement in IWRM, national legislation, master planning and national budgeting, and research supervision on water resources. Dr. Hiroki contributed to the advancement of DIAS as Director, Cabinet Office, responsible for national R&D policy in space, ocean and infrastructure in 2010-2011. He was appointed as Principal of International Center for Water Hazard and Risk Management (UNESCO-ICHARM) in 2011-2014. Internationally, Dr. Hiroki was appointed as Vice Secretary-General of the 3rd World Water Forum in 2000-2003. After that, he served at the UN Headquarters, New York as Head of Secretariat, Secretary General’s Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB) in 2005-2008. Dr. Hiroki served as Chair, Hydrological Group of Typhoon Committee, UN-ESCAP in 2003-2005. He also served as Member of Steering Committee (2009-2014) and Vice Chair (2011-2014) of the Global Water Partnership (GWP). Dr. Hiroki is currently Member of UNSGAB and Coordinator, High-level Experts and Leaders Panel on Water and Disasters (HELP), a high-level international group advocating for issues on water and disaster. He also serves as Sherpa to the UN-World Bank High Level Panel on Water; Chair, Nomination Committee, Global Water Partnership (GWP); and Member, Steering Group, High Level Risk Forum, OECD. Dr. Hiroki earned a Ph. D., International Studies (Tokyo University, 2014) and a Bachelor of Arts, Civil Engineering (Tokyo University, 1982).

Aidan Kerr is the Director of Operations for Flood Re. As part of Flood Re’s Executive Team, he is responsible for ensuring Flood Re’s operations are set up to deliver Flood Re’s crucial objectives, including oversight of Capita and Landmark, the firms that will be delivering the key operational processes for Flood Re. Previously, he was Head of Property, Fraud and Specialist Lines at the ABI, covering the development of Flood Re, the ABI’s work on combating fraud, as well as the topic of how insurers assess risk and, therefore, price it for their customers. Aidan is a chartered accountant who joined the ABI from the Environment Agency where he was the Head of Investment and Funding, responsible for delivering the Long Term Investment Strategy for investment in flood risk management. Before that, he was a senior manager delivering finance transformation projects at Accenture.

Sean Kevelighan was appointed Group Head of Public Affairs in May 2015. He oversees Government and Industry Affairs and Corporate Responsibility. Sean re-joined Zurich in May 2013 as Head of Government and Industry Affairs for North America. For the two and half years prior, he worked at Citigroup, Inc. as Head of Strategic Communications for its Global Consumer Banking business, which included retail banking, branded credit cards, and commercial banking. Before joining Citigroup, Sean served with Zurich for the first time, as Head of Group Media Relations in North America. Sean has served in various public sector posts in Washington, DC. As a political appointee in the administration of President George W. Bush, he served first in the Department of Treasury as a spokesperson for economic issues, and eventually became Senior Advisor for the Office of Tax Policy. He was also the Press Secretary for the White House Office of Management and Budget. Additionally, he
Sean worked on Capitol Hill, serving on the staff of members of Congress; most notably as Legislative Director for Representative Bob Schaffer of Colorado. Sean’s private sector experience in Washington, DC included positions at public affairs firms such as Edelman and Hill & Knowlton. He consulted numerous multinational and FORTUNE 100 corporate clients on policy issue management programs, corporate reputation campaigns and crisis communications. Sean participates on the organisational boards of the Atlantic Council, Blue Marble Insurance and the Z Zurich Foundation. Sean is a graduate of the University of Colorado at Boulder. He and his wife Annik have two children and a Chocolate Lab, Wiley. He is an avid enthusiast of exercise and outdoors, participating regularly in triathlons and other sporting events.

Moritz Kraemer, a German national, joined S&P in 2001. He is a Managing Director and Chief Rating Officer at Standard & Poor’s Ratings Service’s Sovereign Ratings Group. Until August 2013, he was the Head of the Sovereign Ratings Group for Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA). Before joining S&P Moritz was an Economist with the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington DC, working with governments in Latin America in the design and implementation of economic policy reforms (mainly fiscal reform and decentralization). Moritz holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Göttingen (Germany), where he was a researcher and lecturer at the Ibero-America Institute of Economic Research and the Faculty of Economics from 1992 through 1996. He studied Economics, Latin American Studies and Literature in Frankfurt, Southampton and San Diego.

Wolfgang Kron studied civil and hydraulic engineering at Karlsruhe University (now Karlsruhe Institute of Technology - KIT), and water resources and hydrology at the University of California, Davis. From 1983 to 1994, he taught and performed research at Karlsruhe University as a research associate specialising in deterministic and stochastic modelling of hydrological and hydraulic processes, and statistics. He gained his doctorate with a thesis on the application of reliability theory to sediment transport processes. When the UN proclaimed the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) in 1990, he was appointed Secretary to the Scientific Advisory Board of the German Committee for Disaster Reduction, at first in Karlsruhe and then, from 1994, for two years at the Geo Research Centre in Potsdam. In 1996, he joined Munich Re's Geo Risks Research Department, the scientific unit of the world's largest reinsurer. He is in charge, as the head of research for hydrological hazards, of all water-related natural hazards worldwide, ranging from floods and storm surges to mountain hazards and droughts. His tasks include identification of potential hazards, analyses of loss data, risk assessment, and risk reduction. He plays an active part in national and international committees addressing aspects of disaster reduction, water management and science, and is author of more than 190 scientific articles. Among other things, he serves as an advisor to the United Nations High-Level Experts and Leaders Panel on Water Disasters (HELP).

Zbigniew W. Kundzewicz, graduate of the Warsaw University of Technology, is Professor of Earth Sciences and Corresponding Member of the Polish Academy of Sciences. He is the Head of the Climate and Water Department in the Institute of Agricultural and Forest Environment, Polish Academy of Sciences (Poznan, Poland) and a part-time Senior Scientist in the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (Germany). He earned a Doctorate and habilitation in hydrology from the Institute of Geophysics, Polish Academy of Sciences (Warsaw, Poland). His main scientific interests are extreme hydrological events and climate change impacts on water resources. He is a four-time Co-ordinating Lead Author in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). He was an Alexander von Humboldt scholar at the University of Karlsruhe, a Scientific Officer in the World Meteorological Organization in Geneva, and a Member of the Advisory Group on Environment for the 7th Framework Programme of the European Union. He has been an Editor of Hydrological
Sciences Journal and member of editorial boards of several scientific journals. He is the author or co-author of over 460 scientific publications. Bibliographic indices after Web of Science: number of citations 3618 therein 695 in 2015, h-index: 29. Single most cited publication after Web of Science: 1095 (joint paper published in Science in 2008), after Google Scholar: 2663 (IPCC Technical Paper “Climate Change and Water” co-edited by ZWK, not included in the Web of Science data base). Orders: Golden Cross of Merit (Poland), Knight’s Cross of Polonia Restituta Order (Poland). Great Golden Seal of the City of Poznań (Poland). Other awards: Tison Award of the International Association of Hydrological Sciences (1987) and two awards of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

Howard C. Kunreuther, the James G. Dinan Professor of Decision Sciences and Public Policy at the Wharton School, and co-director of the Wharton Risk Management and Decision Processes Center. He has a long-standing interest in ways that society can better manage low-probability, high-consequence events related to technological and natural hazards. Professor Kunreuther is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a Distinguished Fellow of the Society for Risk Analysis. He served on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as a Coordinating Lead Author for the chapter on “Integrated Risk and Uncertainty Assessment of Climate Change Response Policies” in the 2014 IPCC report, and currently serves on the NAS/NRC Roundtable on Risk, Resilience, and Extreme Events. His recent books include At War with the Weather (with Erwann Michel-Kerjan) (MIT Press), winner of the Kulp-Wright Book Award from the American Risk and Insurance Association in 2011; Insurance and Behavioral Economics: Improving Decisions in the Most Misunderstood Industry (with Mark Pauly and Stacey McMorrow) (Cambridge University Press); and Leadership Dispatches: Chile’s Extraordinary Comeback from Disaster (with Michael Useem and Erwann Michel-Kerjan) (Stanford University Press). Professor Kunreuther received the 2015 Shin Research Excellence Award from The Geneva Association and the International Insurance Society (IIS) in recognition of his outstanding work on the role of public-private partnerships in mitigating and managing risks, as summarized in his paper "The Role of Insurance in Reducing Losses from Extreme Events: The Need for Public–Private Partnerships" (Geneva Papers 2015, 40: 714-762).

Inge Lardinois is Deputy Director of the Directorate for Water Management in the Directorate-General for Spatial Development and Water Affairs, Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment in the Netherlands. She is responsible for four areas: (i) financing of water policy (i.e. the Deltafund, > € 1 billion per year); (ii) implementation of programmes such as Room for the River, the High Water Protection Programme (HWBP), the River Maas Project and the Afsluitdijk; (iii) monitoring and evaluation, including progress reports for Parliament; and (iv) knowledge and innovation, including the national and European coordination of the Topsector Water (partnership of National Government, business and knowledge institutions), for which she chairs the Working Group Europe. Before that she worked 11 years in the Directorate of International Affairs as Policy Coordinator Financing, Senior Programme Manager Sustainable Development and Head of Unit for Global Affairs. She was the Dutch Representative in the Environmental Policy Committee of the OECD, the Steering Committee of the UNEP International Resource Panel, the Steering Committee of the European Sustainable Development Network and the Global Bioenergy Partnership. In 2012 she was member of the Dutch delegation for the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. She was responsible for the financing of environmental policy, participated in numerous international meetings organized by UNEP, OECD and CSD and was involved in bilateral cooperation projects with among others Brazil, Malaysia, China and Canada. Before joining the Ministry she worked as a consultant and project leader of international research projects with WASTE Advisers on Urban Environment and Development mainly in Latin America and Africa. During that period she published several books, articles and conference papers on waste management. She started her career working for the Non-Governmental Organizations Both ENDS (Environment and Development Service) and the Eduardo Mondlane Foundation in the field of women and
development in Mozambique. Inge Lardinois has an MSc in Environmental Science from Wageningen University.

**Thomas Luder** joined the Swiss Federal Department of Finance in 2013 as a senior insurance regulatory expert in the State Secretariat of International Finance. There, he is involved in various national regulatory projects and international insurance policy work streams. He heads the Swiss delegation in the Insurance and Private Pensions Committee of the OECD. Prior to the Department of Finance, from 2004 to 2013, Thomas worked as a scientific expert in the Swiss insurance supervisor and the Swiss Financial Market Supervisor FINMA. He then was a member of the core team who developed the Swiss Solvency Test (SST, solvency requirement for insurers) together with the insurance industry and academia. Later in FINMA he led a team to examine internal models for solvency purposes. In addition, Thomas was an active member of the Solvency Subcommittee of the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS) from 2007 to 2012. Back in 2002, Thomas took a position in Winterthur Group’s risk management department to determine the group wide risk position and risk capacity using stochastic modelling. Thomas Luder holds a PhD in Physics on climatic effects of asteroid impacts on the Earth.

**Olivier Mahul** is Global Lead and Program Manager of the Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance Program, a joint program between the World Bank and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), supported by donor partners. The Program provides advisory services on financial protection against natural disasters in more than 50 countries, mainstreaming disaster risk finance within the broader disaster risk management and climate change adaptation agenda in developing countries. The Program offers advisory services on sovereign disaster risk finance, property catastrophe risk insurance, agricultural insurance, and disaster-linked social protection, in close collaboration with the private insurance and reinsurance industry. Since he joined the World Bank in 2003, Olivier has been involved in developing disaster risk financing and insurance solutions in more than 40 countries including Colombia, Costa Rica, Vietnam, Indonesia, Mongolia, India, Mexico, Philippines, etc. Olivier was closely involved in the product development of the World Bank CAT DDO, a contingent credit line that provides World Bank member countries with immediate budget support in the aftermath of natural disasters. Since its launch, the CAT DDO has been approved for several countries such Colombia, Costa Rica and the Philippines, for a cumulative amount in excess of US$2 billion. Olivier is one of the key architects of the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility, which provides 16 Caribbean island states with parametric insurance against major natural disasters. He has also co-led the establishment of the Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Program, which provides 5 Pacific island countries with parametric catastrophe insurance. Olivier holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Toulouse School of Economics and post-doctorates from Wharton Business School and University of California at Berkeley. Olivier has authored more than 40 publications in international journals and two books: “Catastrophe Risk Financing in Developing Countries: Principles for Public Intervention” (with J. David Cummins) and “Government Support to Agricultural Insurance: Challenges and Options for Developing Countries” (with Charles Stutley).
Anton Matzinger is Deputy Director General – Budget at the Federal Ministry of Finance, Austria. He is also a member of the OECD Network on Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations; a deputy member and permanent expert of the Austrian Fiscal Advisory Council; a member of VRV– Komitee (expert committee on accounting issues of regional and local governments); Gesellschaft für das öffentliche Haushaltswesen (Austrian society for public budgeting issues); and Statistics Austria’s expert committees on Economics and Financial Statistics. He is a lecturer at FH des bfi Wien (University of Applied Sciences bfi, Vienna) and has published and delivered lectures in a number of fields, including fiscal federalism, local and regional Budgets, European tax policy, constitutional law, European tax law, intergovernmental fiscal relations, and subnational budgeting rules. Dr. Matzinger earned a Dr. jur. and Economics, Mag. from the University of Vienna and has taken post-graduate training at the Europaakademie in Vienna.

Ivo Menzinger is Swiss Re’s Client Executive for public sector Global Accounts and Business Development activities with governments, development and non-governmental organisations based in Zurich. He started his career as specialist for natural hazards in 1998 and held various important positions at Swiss Re over the past 17 years, including Head of Sustainability & Emerging Risk Management, Managing Director of Corporate Strategy and Enterprise Steering, reporting directly to the CEO. He co-established Global Partnerships in 2011 and led the organization’s emerging market strategy efforts as well as its business activities with the public sector across Asia-Pacific from Singapore until 2015. Ivo Menzinger holds a Master of Science (MSc) degree in Environmental Sciences from the Federal Institute of Technology in Switzerland (ETH), complemented by graduate studies in the US and post-graduate studies in Cost Rica. He is a member of OECD’s High Level Advisory Board on the Financial Management of Catastrophes and of the World Economic Forum’s Grow Asia Business Council.

Laurent Montador graduated from University Pierre and Marie Curie and University Paris Dauphine and has more than 25 years of experience in the insurance and reinsurance fields. He has held management positions in Actuarial Management and Underwriting, where he worked successfully in various companies such as BNP Paribas, AXA Re, Transatlantic Re and Flagstone Re. Laurent has a strong mathematical and statistical background. He is a qualified actuary, member of the Institute of Actuaries. He wrote and participated in several articles and a collective book about reinsurance “Reinsurance, practical approach” Ed. Economica – Partrait- Blondeau; he also taught reinsurance at the Paris Dauphine University. He is member of the board of several organizations, amongst them: HCFDC’s board (French High Committee for Civil Defence), Gareat (French terror pool) and Garex (marine risks). He also chairs the board of the CCR captive Caissrelux. In May 2009 he joined CCR as the Head of Natural Disasters and Public Funds Department. In 2012, he also took charge of the Actuarial & Modeling Department and later became Executive Vice President. Laurent Montador is currently the Deputy Chief Executive Officer. CCR a reinsurance company established in 1946, was created to design, implement and manage efficient instruments to provide reinsurance cover for exceptional perils in order to meet its clients’ needs as well as serve the general interest.
**Alberto Monti** is Full Professor of Comparative Law with tenure at the Institute for Advanced Study IUSS Pavia and Director of the Risk Governance Research Division at the EUCENTRE Foundation. He teaches Risk and Emergency Regulation at the UME (Understanding and Managing Extremes) Graduate School of IUSS Pavia, as well as Comparative Law and Law & Economics. Before joining IUSS Pavia, he held tenure at Bocconi University (Milan) for ten years, heading the teaching and research activities in the field of Economic Analysis of Law. Admitted to the Italian Bar and specialized in the fields of insurance, reinsurance and financial laws, Professor Monti regularly acts as legal counsel and arbitrator for major international clients. From 2010 to 2013 he served as member of the Banking and Financial Arbitration Panel (Arbitro Bancario Finanziario), an official dispute resolution body hosted by the Bank of Italy. Alberto Monti maintains ongoing collaborations with several international organizations and research centers worldwide, such as the European Law Institute, the International Academy of Comparative Law, the European Centre of Tort and Insurance Law and the Brazilian Institute of Insurance Law. He has been Consultant for the World Bank on a major project aimed at the reform of the insurance laws and regulations in a group of countries belonging to Eastern Europe and Central Asia (2003-2004). Alberto Monti lectured at numerous academic institutions, including Fordham University, New York University, the University of California at Hastings College of the Law, and the University of Connecticut; he also teaches Insurance Law at the Milan Institute of Technology, where he is Scientific Coordinator of the Legal Area in the CINEAS Professional Programs in Insurance. He received his J.D. (1995, cum laude) from the University of Milan Law School, his LL.M. (2000, Int’l Legal Studies) from New York University (NYU) School of Law and his Ph.D. (2001, Comparative Law) from the University of Trento. He has been Visiting Scholar (1996) and Fellow (1997) at the University of California at Berkeley School of Law, Italian National Reporter in the Common Core of European Law Project, Hauser Global Scholar at New York University (1999/2000) and Research Fellow at the ICER - International Centre for Economic Research (2001 and 2002). Professor Monti published books, articles and reports on Insurance and Reinsurance Law and Economics, Comparative Law, Contract Law, and the Financial Management of Catastrophic Risks.

**Robert Muir-Wood** is the Chief Research Officer of the leading catastrophe modeling firm, RMS, where he works to extend natural catastrophe modeling and investigate emerging catastrophe risks. Over the last 25 years, Robert has led projects to develop catastrophe models for hurricane, earthquake, tropical cyclone, windstorm and flood, in Europe, Japan, North America, the Caribbean and Australia. Most recently, his research has included the modeling of mobile risks, the multiple ways in which insurance loss escalates after major catastrophes, the significance of climate change on catastrophe loss, the financial and social impact of “mega” catastrophes and the application of modelling to enhance the resilience of low income countries. He is vice chair of the OECD High Level Advisory Board of the International Network on the Financial Management of Large Scale Catastrophes; was a Lead Author on the 2007 IPCC 4th Assessment Report and on the IPCC 2011 Special Report on Extremes, is a member of the Steering Group of ‘Sovereign Disaster Risk Finance Impact’ Project (jointly run by the World Bank, the Global Fund for Disaster Risk Reduction and the UK Department for International Development) and was Expert Review Panel member on the ‘Risky Business’ study of the future US economic impacts of climate change (see http://www.riskybusiness.org) in 2013-2014. Robert has a Master’s degree and a PhD in natural sciences from Cambridge University, England, where he was also a Research Fellow. He is a Visiting Professor at the Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction at University College London. He is the author of six books, as well as numerous published scientific papers and articles. His latest book ‘The Cure for Catastrophe’ will be published in September 2016.
Alfonso Nájera Ibáñez is the Sub-Director for Studies and International Relations at the Consorcio de Compensación de Seguros (Spain). He graduated with a degree in Political Science (Complutense University of Madrid), specialized in International Relations. His professional career has been always attached to the Consorcio de Compensación de Seguros. In the academic field he has been involved in research projects and publications concerning international issues, like cooperation and development, Latin America and EU relationships, Spanish foreign affairs, etc. In the sphere of insurance, his activity in terms of studies and publications has mainly focused on topics relating to the insurance of severe risks: natural catastrophes and terrorism, always in the scope of the Consorcio de Compensación de Seguros. He has participated in several working groups and meetings hosted by different organizations (European Commission, Insurance Europe, World Forum of Catastrophe Programmes, etc.) and focused on natural catastrophes, terrorism, climate change and nuclear and environmental liability.

Andres Ricardo Quevedo Caro is the Head of Risk Management in the Ministry of Finance of Colombia with responsibilities for managing financial risk, the Medium term Debt Strategy and Contingent Liabilities among others. In this role, he is in charge of disaster risk financing and protection management strategy for Colombia. An economist with an MSc. in Economics and over 17 years of experience in risk management and Finance, Andres Quevedo has been leading financial and economic projects for a number of companies in the private and public sector. He is also an adjunct associate professor at the Universidad Externado de Colombia in risk, valuation and economics.

Milan Simic is responsible for business development, strategic growth initiatives, and client services for AIR Worldwide in London, Munich, Beijing, Tokyo, and Singapore. During his previous tenure as Managing Director of AIR’s London office, he oversaw AIR’s significant growth in the London market. Milan has more than 25 years of experience in risk assessment, engineering consulting, teaching, and research. Immediately prior to joining AIR, he was with Benfield’s Natural Hazards team. He is a Chartered Engineer through the UK Institution of Civil Engineers, a regular speaker at catastrophe-related conferences and has authored numerous papers and articles on insurance loss assessment and soil-structure interaction. He is also a Member of the OECD’s High-Level Advisory Board on Financial Management of Large-Scale Catastrophes. He earned his MSc in Hydraulic Structures from the University of Belgrade and a PhD in Earthquake Engineering from the University of Bristol.

Swenja Surminski is a Senior Research Fellow at the Grantham Research Institute and the Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy at the London School of Economics since September 2010. She is the Programme Leader for the ‘climate risk, insurance and private sector’ work-stream at the institute, overseeing research projects from a multi-disciplinary field. Her research focuses on climate adaptation and disaster risk with a special interest in the role of insurance and the private sector. The geographic scope spans from the United Kingdom across the European Union to developing countries. As a Principal Investigator for the EU-funded FP7-project ENHANCE she is currently conducting an analysis of disaster risk management partnerships across Europe and leads an investigation of the UK’s new Flood Re insurance arrangement in collaboration with Oxford University. She is also PI for the 'Costing climate change impacts and adaptation in Ireland' project, in collaboration with University College Cork and funded by the Environmental Protection Agency in Ireland and works on the Uncertainty reduction in models for understanding development (UMFULA). She was appointed Visiting Academic at the Bank of England in 2015, is lead author for the business and industry chapter of the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment, and works since
2014 as the lead academic for the Triple Resilience Dividend project for the World Bank, exploring how the co-benefits of Disaster Risk Management measures can strengthen the economic case for investment. She has published widely and works closely with industry and policy makers at a global level, in a developing country context, across the EU and within the UK. Prior to joining LSE in 2010 Swenja spent more than ten years in the insurance industry working on climate and risks management, including roles at Munich Re, Marsh Mc Lennon and the Association of British Insurers. Swenja was a Fulbright Scholar in the US, studying Environmental Economics and International Relations at the University of New Hampshire and received a PhD in Political Science from Hamburg University for her work on ‘Climate Change and the Insurance Industry’ in 2000.

Daw Ni Ni Than is a Director at the Treasury Department, Ministry of Planning and Finance of Myanmar where she works in the Debt Management Section and is responsible for formulating debt service projection, arranging debt service payments, and shaping debt service management policy. She is also responsible for providing data of foreign loan receipts, payment and grants and quarterly balance of payment reporting to the IMF. She started her career in the Ministry of Finance in 1988 as a Deputy Staff Officer in the Budget Department, and was promoted to Director in 2014 after joining the Treasury Department when it was established in 2014. In the Budget Department, she oversaw the availability of foreign loans and foreign exchange earnings by public sector and allocation of expenditure for line ministries and departments by annual budget law. Ms. Ni Ni Than obtained a Master degree of commerce in 1996 and a Bachelor degree of commerce in 1986, both from the Institute of Economics Yangon. She is the appointed focal person for the Myanmar Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance program.

Annegret H. Thieken has been Professor for Geography and Natural Risks Research at the University of Potsdam since October 2011. Beforehand, she was Deputy Director of Germany’s Climate Service Center (GERICS; 2010-2011) in Hamburg as well as Professor for Natural Hazard and Risk Management at the University of Innsbruck, Austria (2008-2010), where she also acted as scientific director of the inter- and transdisciplinary centre alpS and successfully lead-managed the research proposal for an alpS-Centre for Climate Change Adaptation with an annual budget of EUR 4.5 million and with 23 scientific and 51 company partners. Prior to that, Annegret Thieken was senior scientist at the German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ; 2000-2008). She did her PhD-research at the University of Halle (Saale) and studied environmental sciences (geo-ecology) at the Technical University Braunschweig (TU BS) and the University of Amsterdam (UvA), the Netherlands. Annegret Thieken has more than 15 years of experience with research on water-related risks. Her research has dealt with a broad range of topics, e.g. probabilistic flood risk modelling, analysis and modelling of losses, multi-risk studies as well as evaluation of mitigation measures including property-level mitigation and flood insurance. Up to now, she has (co-) authored about 55 reviewed papers in international journals (Web of Science h-index: 25) and more than 75 other contributions in conference proceedings, journals or books, including: Thieken, A.H. et al. (2014): Estimating changes in flood risks and benefits of non-structural adaptation strategies - a case study from Tyrol, Austria (Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies for Global Change); Cammerer, H., A.H. Thieken, J. Lammel (2013): Adaptability and transferability of flood loss functions in residential areas (Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. 13: 3063-3081); and Thieken, A.H., Th. Petrow, H. Kreibich, B. Merz (2006): Insurability and mitigation of flood losses in private households in Germany (Risk Analysis 26(2): 383-395). She is also involved in a number of major research projects, including Natural Hazards and Risks in a Changing World – Research Training Group (NatRiskChange GRK 2043/1); and From Climate Change-Flood-Relationship to Flood Risk Time Series (FloodTimeS). Since February 2013 she has been the chairwoman of the scientific board of the German Committee for Disaster Risk Reduction (DKKV).
Robert Whelan has guided Australia’s insurance industry through some of the most challenging issues of the past few decades, including 2010-11 season of natural disasters, the National Disaster Insurance Review, the Northern Australia Insurance Premiums Taskforce, Financial System Inquiry and five changes in Prime Minister. Rob joined the Insurance Council of Australia on March 22, 2010, after a highly successful career in a diverse range of roles within the insurance, banking and healthcare sectors. He has particularly strong experience in managing the corporate affairs and policy functions in major insurers including AAMI and Suncorp, as well as extensive general business management experience in broader financial services with companies including AMP, Legal & General and Colonial Mutual. He is highly regarded as a leader in the development of public policy, and has worked extensively with regulatory bodies, government and consumer groups. Rob’s strong background in stakeholder management and his proven track record in delivering solutions to complex business operations ensure he is a driving force with the ability to deliver results for members of the Insurance Council of Australia.

Roy E. Wright serves as the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Deputy Associate Administrator for Insurance and Mitigation. He leads FEMA’s risk management, risk reduction, and flood insurance programs. These programs promote a risk-conscious culture, enable faster recovery from flood disasters, and address long-term vulnerabilities to life, property, and well-being in communities across the Nation. Mr. Wright directs the National Flood Insurance Program, the mitigation programs under FEMA’s Stafford Act authorities, the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, and the National Dam Safety Program. Mr. Wright is also responsible for the delivery of environmental and historic preservation technical assistance and compliance across all FEMA programs. He chairs the inter-agency Mitigation Framework Leadership Group (MitFLG) that coordinates mitigation and resilience efforts across the Federal Government in consultation with State, local, Tribal, and Territorial governments as well as the private sector. Mr. Wright was appointed to the Federal Senior Executive Service in 2013. He holds a Master of Public Administration from The George Washington University and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Azusa Pacific University. Prior to taking this role, Mr. Wright has served as a strategy consultant, as the program executive for FEMA’s Risk MAP program, and as policy advisor to the Secretary of the Interior focused on land conservation measures. A native of California, Roy and his family live in northern Virginia.

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Adrian Blundell-Wignall is the Special Advisor to the Secretary-General on Financial Markets and Director in the Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs (DAF) at the OECD. He is the author of extensive publications on financial markets and monetary policy in learned journals and books, as well as broker analyst studies and reports. Early in his career he held economist positions in: the OECD Economics Department, the Reserve Bank of Australia and the Economic Planning Advisory Council of Australia. He has a 1st class Honours degree and PhD in Economics from Cambridge University, UK. He is also founder and chairman of a charitable foundation (The Anika Foundation) that raises and invests an endowment fund to provide scholarships in a critical area of healthcare.
Timothy Bishop is Head of Division at the Financial Affairs Division of the OECD Secretariat. He has been with the OECD since 2006 and is responsible for overseeing the affairs of the Committee on Financial Markets (CMF), Insurance and Private Pensions Committee (IPPC), G20/OECD Task Forces (long-term investment financing, financial consumer protection) as well as working groups and networks related to government debt management and financial education. Mr. Bishop has been responsible for such outputs as the OECD Policy Framework for Effective and Efficient Financial Regulation (2009), Report on the Impact of the Financial Crisis on the Insurance Sector and Policy Responses (2010), the revised OECD Guidelines on Insurer Governance (May 2011), and the G20/OECD Methodological Framework for Disaster Risk Assessment and Risk Financing (2012). Prior to the OECD, Mr. Bishop worked in the Financial Sector Policy Branch at the Department of Finance in Ottawa, Canada. For close to a decade, he worked on a wide range of financial sector policy issues, including domestic and international financial stability and regulatory policy, deposit insurance, payment clearing and settlement systems, and corporate governance and market integrity. Prior to this experience, he worked on a broad range of economic policy issues within the Government of Canada. Mr. Bishop has an M. Phil in Economics from the University of Oxford.

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Leigh Wolfrom is a policy analyst in the OECD’s Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs, focused on undertaking research and policy analysis on the financial management of disaster risks. In this role, he has provided analysis and reports to the OECD Insurance and Private Pensions on a variety of disaster risk financing issues, including the financial management of the climate change-related disaster risks and the establishment of OECD guidance on the development of disaster risks financing strategies. Prior to joining the OECD, Mr. Wolfrom worked in the Financial Sector Policy Branch at the Canadian Department of Finance and at the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development on international financing issues. Mr. Wolfrom has an M.A. in International Affairs from Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (Carleton University) and a B.A. in Economics from the University of British Columbia.

Cécile Vignal joined the Financial Affairs Division of the OECD in 1992. As part of the team servicing the Insurance Committee, she participated in a large number of projects and reports on insurance policy issues and was responsible for the development of technical assistance programs on insurance in non-member countries. In 2003, she was appointed Principal Administrator in charge of the OECD project on terrorism risk insurance, established in response to a 2002 ministerial mandate. She has been leading the work on terrorism risk insurance and coordinating the work on the financial management of man-made and natural catastrophic risks since that time and has been involved in recently initiated work on cyber insurance. From 2009 to 2011, Cécile was also in charge of the insurance related part of the accession reviews of Israel and Slovenia to the OECD. Cécile, who is now Senior Consultant, has contributed to and led several publications on insurance and disaster risk financing. She graduated from the Institut d’Etude Politiques de Paris (1991, Laureate) and holds an MSc from the London School of Economics.
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