



DRAFT AGENDA

**9TH HIGH LEVEL RISK
FORUM**



3-4 December 2019
OECD Conference Centre • 2 Rue Andre Pascal, Paris

3 December 2019

Room CC7

08:30-09:00 Welcome coffee and tea

09:00 - 09:30

Item 1: Welcome and introductory remarks

- The Chair (Dr. Daniel Kaniewski, United States) will welcome delegates to the Forum.
- Marcos Bonturi, Director of Public Governance, will offer some introductory remarks and address the renewal of the HLRF mandate to set the scene.

Action: The Chair will invite Members to adopt the Agenda of the 9th Session of the HLRF.

Reference Documents: Agenda - [GOV/PGC/HLRF/A\(2019\)3/REV1](#)

High Level Risk Forum mandate [GOV/PGC/HLRF\(2019\)2/REV1](#)

09:30 - 09:45

Item 2: Designation of the Chair

- In accordance with the rules of procedure of the Organisation, the Chair of the HLRF shall be designated.

09:45- 11:15

Item 3: Governance of critical infrastructure resilience

Countries will present the design and revision of national strategies on resilience of critical infrastructure assets and systems. Countries have committed to substantially reducing disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services in the Sendai Framework (Global Target D), and participants will be invited to discuss how the OECD could support them with policy-oriented research, e.g. through voluntary country case studies. The OECD will present initial results of its project to build composite indicators on the governance of critical infrastructure resilience, and participants will discuss how the indicators could be useful benchmarks in the design and monitoring of national strategies.

Speakers:

- Matthew Travis, Deputy Director, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, United States
- Peter Lauwe, Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance, Germany
- OECD Secretariat

Discussant:

- Katrina Pullen, First Secretary (National Security), Department of Home Affairs, Australia

Questions for discussion:

- What benefits does a “critical functions” approach to critical infrastructure resilience present compared to an assets based approach?
- What are the key criteria to determine criticality of an infrastructure system, asset or function?
- How can governments encourage operators to invest in resilience of entire systems, rather than just the assets or functions they own or manage?
- What guidance is available, or could be developed, concerning the use of penalties for failure to comply with policies for critical infrastructure resilience?

11:15 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 - 13:00

Item 4: Examining the costs and benefits of investments in resilience

A key component of risk governance is using risk analyses to inform priorities and make the most of limited public resources to strengthen resilience. The OECD Recommendation calls on countries to “Strengthen the mix of structural and non-structural measures to reduce critical risks through the use of cost-benefit analysis, and to maximise cost effectiveness of public and private investments”. This session will highlight the challenges governments face in conducting cost-benefit analyses for investments in disaster risk reduction. Participants will be invited to discuss good practices in these tools of accountability in light of increasing expenditures on disaster risk reduction.

Speakers:

- Kazushi Furumoto, Director for International Coordination of River Engineering, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Japan
- Jody Springer, Data Analytics Team Lead, Hazard Mitigation Assistance Programs, Federal Emergency Management Agency, United States
- Doris Nicklaus, Head of Office on Risk, General Commissariat on Sustainable Development, Ministry of Ecological Transition and Solidarity, France

Questions for discussion:

- Does your government use cost-benefit analyses to prioritise investments in disaster risk reduction measures?
- Does your government use cost effectiveness analyses to advocate for increased investments in disaster risk reduction?
- Would OECD guidance on conducting cost-benefit analysis for disaster risk reduction measures be a useful tool for governments?
- Would the development of an automated, online tool for cost-benefit analysis be useful for applicants to use in the process of applying for public grants?

Reference document: [GOV/PGC/HLRF\(2019\)3](#)

13:00 – 14:15 Lunch Break

14:15-15:45

Item 5: High Level Roundtable on Financing Resilience to Critical Risks

Transfer of large-scale financial risks is a core capability in the resilience planning of governments that often fails to take place. This session will explore the different mechanisms available for large-scale risk transfers between the public and private sectors. Speakers will present tools of financial resilience they have used successfully, and explain considerations surrounding collaboration with the private sector to utilise available products and knowledge. Participants will be invited to discuss whether these products could be more extensively used, and what governance bottlenecks impede their uptake.

Speakers:

- Veronica Scotti, Chairperson, Public Sector Solutions, Swiss Re
- Lionel Corre, Deputy Director for Insurance, General Directorate of the Treasury, Ministry of the Economy and Finance, France
- Charles Whitmore, Managing Director, Head of Placement Solutions Group, Guy Carpenter
- Alfonso Garcia Mora, Global Director, Finance, Competitiveness & Innovation, The World Bank

Questions for discussion:

- How does your government plan for the residual financial risks of disasters? For example, does it transfer financial risks to the private sector or maintain a standing disaster fund? Are these tools sufficient?
- Does planning for financial resilience to disasters factor in the design of disaster mitigation policies and preparedness planning? If not, why not?
- What good practices in governance can push plans for financial resilience to disasters through to completion?
- What institutional/organisational barriers to clarity and coherence of leadership in the above questions does your government face? How could they be overcome?

15:45 – 16:00 *Coffee Break*

16:00-17:45

Item 6: High Level Roundtable on Governance of Critical Risks

In this session speakers will present their experiences in efforts to achieve policy coherence between multiple risk management agendas. In particular, it will focus on the coordination mechanisms across government to align policies for disaster risk reduction and climate risk adaptation. Speakers will highlight examples of how mainstreaming these priorities has led different ministries to identify common challenges and work together across bureaucratic silos to achieve cooperative synergies.

Speakers:

- Sebastien Maire, Chief Resilience Officer, City of Paris
- Juan Carlos Orrego Ocampo, Deputy Director General, UNGRD, Colombia
- Oscar Zepeda Ramos, Director General of Civil Protection, Mexico
- Dr. Markus Steinich, Head of programme, Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management, German Association for Development Cooperation (GIZ), Germany

Discussants:

- Nacira Boulehouat, Head of Unit Prevention and Disaster Risk Management, DG ECHO, European Commission
- Anika Terton, Policy Advisor, Resilience program, International Institute for Sustainable Development

Questions for discussion:

- What benefits have been observed in efforts to mainstream disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation policies across different government entities?
- What institutional settings, mechanisms and processes are key to a coherent implementation of goals that traverse disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and sustainable development?
- What lessons learned hold high potential for transfer to different country contexts?
- What policy implementation gaps at the local level are experienced frequently, and what central government policies have been successful to encourage implementation?

17:45-18:00

Item 7: Updates and announcements

- Activities of the Task Force on Countering Illicit Trade (TF-CIT)
- OECD Framework for the Governance of Infrastructure

Reference Documents:

- Update on TFCIT activities TFCIT [GOV/PGC/HLRF\(2019\)5](#)
- Updating the OECD Framework for the Governance of Infrastructure [GOV/PGC\(2019\)46](#)

18:00 Hosted cocktail

4 December 2019

Room CC7

08:30-09:00 Welcome Coffee

09:00-09:10

Item 8: Welcome and Chair's Summary of Day 1

The Chair will summarise key points from the first day and explain the objectives of the second day.

09:10-10:00

Item 9: Keynote presentation: Mr. Henk Ovink, Special Envoy International Water Affairs, Government of the Netherlands

The keynote speaker will underline the growing and global risks associated with water resources and strategic approaches to managing these challenges. He will put into perspective the long term benefits of water risk mitigation projects that outweigh the short term, significant investment costs realised upfront. The keynote speech will frame this challenge in light of global commitments to increase investments to reduce water-related disaster risks. A question and answer session with participants will follow.

10:00-11:30

Item 10: Identifying and Assessing Critical Risks

Speakers will be invited to share the results of their most recent assessments of emerging and critical risks. Presentations will highlight new risks that have been added to their risk registers, and especially those that present transboundary risks of concern to the broader High Level Risk Forum community. Participants will be invited to discuss the administrative structures for risk assessments and means to link these functional teams to structures with responsibility for capability assessments.

Speakers:

- Rob Duiven, Head of Analysis, National Coordinator for Security and Counterterrorism, the Netherlands
- Al Bender, Section Chief, FEMA, Preparedness and Development, United States

Questions for discussion:

- What are the key drivers that explain changes to previous versions of risk registers?
- What actions are being taken to address these drivers, and the ensuing changes?
- What are the advantages/ disadvantages of the same teams carrying out both risk assessments and capabilities assessment?
- Should the OECD gather information to develop a registry of transboundary risks?

11:30-11:45 Coffee Break

11:45-13:00

Item 11: Building capabilities to manage critical risks

Leveraging the results of National Risk Assessments, or National Risk Profiles, governments need to decide where to invest in capabilities to mitigate, prepare for and respond to risks. In this session, speakers will share their methods to define and develop civil contingency capabilities that meet acceptable levels of preparedness for extreme events. In addition to investments in equipment, education, research and exercises, speakers will highlight institutional factors that underpin resilience, such as those that enable cooperation with different agencies, private sector actors, NGO and international actors. Participants will

provide their insights related to building capability through partnerships as a key component of a whole of society approach to management of critical risks.

Action point: *Country delegates are invited to volunteer as peers in support of OECD missions to build risk governance capabilities in countries that request an OECD review or country case study.*

Speakers:

- Félix A. Blanco de la Torre, Head of Crisis Management, Department of National Security, Cabinet of the Presidency of the Government, Spain
- Carlos Mendes, Head of Department, Risk Analysis and Emergency Planning, Department of Civil Protection, Portugal

13:00-14:30 Hosted Lunch

14:30-15:45

Item 12: Assessing capabilities to manage critical risks

In this session, speakers will be invited to share their methods and experience in mapping the broad range of capabilities in place to manage critical risks and evaluating their quality. Different government bodies take the lead in provision of these services, but it is important to have a whole of government view on where preparedness is advanced or in need of reinforcement. To give the session useful context and impart relevant lessons learnt to participants, speakers will share experiences drawn from capabilities assessments that have followed recent critical events.

Speakers:

- Magnus Winehav, Head of Strategic Analysis Section, The Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency
- Gethin Jenkins, Policy Advisor, Civil Contingencies Secretariat, United Kingdom
- Yussie Shapiro, Planning and Critical Infrastructure Division Director, National Emergency Management Authority, Israel

15:45-16:00 Coffee Break

16:00-17:30

Item 13: Building resilience to emerging risks – focus on election security

The protection of elections from interference secures a strategic interest of democratic governments. Efforts to preserve the transparency and integrity of electoral processes are needed to maintain credibility of results and public trust in government. This session will focus on risk management capabilities for actions that threaten election security. Invited speakers will highlight recent cases of election interference, the tactics that adversaries used with the aim to incite emotions of voters, create confusion or disinterest, and attack election infrastructure systems. The objective is to begin an OECD process of sharing effective practices and techniques to safeguard against such threats. Participants will be invited to discuss holding an OECD hosted workshop on innovative learning modules for election security under the auspices of its ongoing work stream on strategic crisis management.

Speakers:

- Matthew Travis, Deputy Director, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, United States
- Lina Rosenstedt, Project Manager Electoral Interference, European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats, Helsinki

Questions for discussion:

- What threats or techniques are delegates seeing in their countries related to electoral interference?
- What institutional/organisational changes are governments making to adapt to the threat of election interference, and are there lessons learned that can be shared?
- Where is there the potential for more international cooperation on election security?
- How can we collectively improve information sharing across governments to bolster election security?

17:30-18:00

Item 14: Next steps

The Chair will provide summary remarks on the meeting, reflect on how the discussions could guide future directions of the Forum and reflect on where it adds value and support of efforts to strengthen international cooperation. Delegates will be invited to table proposals for future projects as part of the Forum's programme of work, such as country case studies and national or thematic workshops in furtherance of implementing the OECD Recommendation on the Governance of Critical Risks.

Reference document:

Discussion note on possible High Level Risk Forum work streams for 2020 [GOV/PGC/HLRF\(2019\)8](#)

18:00 - Close of meeting

