Recognizing that every segment of society holds unique skills, resources, and insights crucial for mitigating risks and bolstering relief initiatives, our unified approach is key to achieving the goals set by the Sendai Framework and building resilient communities. It is imperative that we involve various groups throughout the risk reduction process, enhancing their ability to tackle challenges and leveraging their strengths to bolster societal resilience. In May 2023, during the High-Level Meeting on the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, UN Member States agreed a political declaration advocating for comprehensive, equitable, and meaningful involvement of all societal groups in disaster risk reduction.

This Action Oriented Dialogue (AOD) aims to catalyse the implementation of the regional EFDRR Roadmap 2021-2030 and the Sendai Framework under the theme “Reducing Risk Together”. This collaborative event will host a diverse array of stakeholders, including members from the Council of Baltic Sea States, national and local government bodies, youth, volunteers, scientists, industry professionals, civil society, and international organizations. The event will involve a visit to a Civil Defence Shelter, followed by four interactive sessions and a UNDRR Stakeholder Groups Roundtable. The Dialogue will contribute to accelerating the implementation of the Sendai Framework in the Baltic Sea region and beyond, and support the preparation of the next European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2024.

**Programme**

**Wednesday**
**December 13**
14:00-16:30 EET

Field Visit: Arena Center Hakaniemi / Civil Defence Shelter, Merihaka, Helsinki
(Address: Miina Sillanpään katu 2, 00530 Helsinki)

**Thursday**
**December 14**
08:45-17:30 EET

Registration: Laurea University of Applied Sciences, Tikkurila Campus
(Address: Ratatie 22, 01300 Vantaa)

Opening Ceremony

Interactive Session 1: Early Warning Systems

Interactive Session 2: Youth and Risk Communication

Interactive Session 3: Volunteering in DRR

UNDRR Stakeholder Groups Roundtable

**Friday**
**December 15**
09:30-11:30 EET

Interactive Session 4: Addressing Industrial Accident Risks

Closing Ceremony
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date / Time</th>
<th>Agenda</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>December 13</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:00-16:30</td>
<td><strong>Field Visit:</strong> Arena Center Hakaniemi / Civil Defence Shelter, Merihaka, Helsinki (Address: Miina Sillanpääkatu 2, 00530 Helsinki)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>December 14</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08:45-09:15</td>
<td><strong>Registration:</strong> Laurea University Campus, Tikkurila Campus (Address: Ratatie 22, 01300 Vantaa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:15-09:55</td>
<td>Opening Ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00-11:15</td>
<td>Interactive Session 1: Early Warning Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15-11:45</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45-13:00</td>
<td>Interactive Session 2: Youth and Risk Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00-14:15</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:15-15:30</td>
<td>Interactive Session 3: Volunteering in DRR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:45-17:30</td>
<td>UNDRR Stakeholder Groups Roundtable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19:00-21:00</td>
<td>Official Dinner hosted by the Government of Finland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>December 15</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:30-10:45</td>
<td>Interactive Session 4: Addressing Industrial Accident Risks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00-11:30</td>
<td>Closing Ceremony</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
December 13
14:00-16:30 EET
Field Visit: Arena Center Hakaniemi / Civil Defence Shelter, Merihaka, Helsinki
(Address: Miina Sillanpään katu 2, 00530 Helsinki)
Participants are welcomed to a field trip to the Merihaka civil defense shelter which is a part of Finnish civil protection system and is built to protect thousands of people in exceptional circumstances. The Merihaka shelter is one of many bed-rock-built shelters and one of thousands of civil defense shelters in Helsinki. In normal conditions, the Merihaka civil defense shelter functions as a sports and leisure center.

December 14
08:45-09:15 EET
Registration: Laurea University Campus, Tikkurila Campus (Address: Ratatie 22, 01300 Vantaa)
Attendees will register and receive name tags which are also used as lunch coupons. Beverages will be available.

09:15-09:55 EET
Opening Ceremony
The event will be officially opened by Jari Honkanen, Senior Specialist at the Department for Rescue Services of the Ministry of Interior of the Government of Finland, and Natalia Alonso Cano, Chief of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia. The opening remarks will be followed by a speech by Kazimierz Musial, Senior Adviser for Regional Identity from the Council of Baltic Sea States on the power of narratives and regional identity building in the Baltic Sea area.

Interactive Session 1: Early Warning System
When it comes to developing, designing, and comprehending Early Warning Systems, there is an opportunity to adopt a more systematic approach to involving vulnerable groups from the outset. This session seeks to emphasize the significance of inclusivity by inviting representatives from various stakeholder groups to participate and share their perspectives.

Speakers
Moderator:
Fanny Langella
Head of Content and Channels
UNDRR

Jari Honkanen
Senior Specialist
EU and International Affairs Unit
Department for Rescue Services
Ministry of the Interior (Finland)

Natalia Cano Alonso
Chief
UNDRR Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia

Kazimierz Musial
Senior Adviser for Regional Identity
Council of Baltic Sea States

Ronja Winkhardt-Enz
Researcher
German Committee for Disaster Risk Reduction

Juhana Hyrkkänen
Director of Weather, Sea and Climate Service Centre
Finnish Meteorological Institute

Paula Uski
Senior Specialist on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management
Finnish Red Cross

Gordon Rattray
External Relations Officer
European Disability Forum
Interactive Session 2: Youth and Risk Communication
This session builds on the last Action-Oriented Dialogue on risk communication, hosted by Romania in February 2023, which underlined the importance of strengthening evidence-based and accessible risk information for all, and the need to invest in youth education, preparedness, and media literacy, so that we can ensure the societal resilience of the future. It will bring together perspectives of youth, media, UN, and government stakeholders on solutions supporting effective risk communication that builds capacities and empowers young people to be agents of change and to build resilience individually and in their communities.

Speakers

Moderator:
Fanny Langella
Head of Content and Channels
UNDRR

Julia Alajärvi
Senior Adviser
National Audiovisual Institute (KAVI) of Finland

Ana Sabancevaite
Teacher and DRR Youth Advocate

Kirsi Teräväinen
Head of the Youth News Section
YLE

Krzysztof Zyman
Executive Secretary, EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement Council of Europe

Leonardo Palumbo
Community Engagement Officer
World Health Organization

Interactive Session 3: Volunteering in DRR
Volunteerism in disaster risk reduction is a powerful means of engaging people. Volunteers play a strategic role in community development processes and in strengthening community resilience to disasters. This session aims to explore practices of how best to integrate volunteerism into community disaster risk preparedness.

Speakers

Moderator:
Marie-Luise Walther
Programme Analyst
Disaster Risk Reduction UN Women

Arsi Veikkolainen
Coordinator of the Finnish Volunteer Rescue Service
Finnish Red Cross

Carlos Mendes
Head of Department for Risk Analysis and Emergency Planning
Government of Portugal

Olha Voropai
Activities Coordinator at Shropshire Supports Refugees and Coordinator of social projects at All-Ukrainian NGO Poruch

Nebojsa Medojevic
Disaster and Crisis Preparedness Delegate
International Federation of Red Cross

Bistra Mihaylova
Senior Water and Sanitation Expert
Women Engage for Common Future
**UNDRR Stakeholder Groups Roundtable**
This meeting will be the opportunity for the UNDRR Stakeholder Group representatives, including youth, gender, disability, science, to meet in person and to discuss the priorities for the Regional Platform 2024. The session will result in a set of recommendations for the policy makers for 2024 EFDRR from Civil Society. The session will be chaired by UNDRR and the Government of Finland.

**Interactive Session 4: Addressing Industrial Accident Risks**
This session aims to integrate good practices in managing risks related to industrial and chemical hazard into the implementation of the Sendai Framework. The session will show existing governance frameworks and highlight examples of disasters that could have been prevented, and good practices on prevention of industrial accidents. It will emphasize the role of science and the private sector in accident prevention and mitigation.

**December 15**
**09:30-10:45 EET**

**Speakers**
- **Georgios Georgiadis**
  DRR Focal Point
  United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
- **Christian Resch**
  Managing Director
  Disaster Competence Network Austria
- **Simo Kolehmainen**
  Head of Operational & Process Safety
  Neste
- **Beata Janowczyk**
  Deputy Director
  Government Centre for Security
  Government of Poland

**11:00-11:30 EET**

**Closing Ceremony**

**Speakers**
- **Moderator:**
  Jari Honkanen
  Senior Specialist
  EU and International Affairs Unit
  Department for Rescue Services
  Ministry of the Interior (Finland)
- **Moderator:**
  Fanny Langella
  Head of Content and Channels
  UNDRR
- **Gordon Rattray**
  External Relations Officer
  European Disability Forum
- **Natalia Cano Alonso**
  Chief
  UNDRR Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia
- **Pauliina Eskola**
  Director of International Affairs
  Head of Unit Department for Rescue Services
  Ministry of the Interior (Finland)