



Preface to the IDRiM 2024 Conference Special Issue

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This Special Issue of the IDRiM Journal features a collection of papers presented at the 14th Annual Conference of the International Society for Integrated Disaster Risk Management (IDRiM 2024). This conference, held for the first time in Latin America, took place in the historic city of Cartagena, Colombia, from August 28 to 30. The theme of the conference, "Disaster Resilient Communities for Life," challenged traditional top-down risk management approaches and emphasized state-of-the-art knowledge, innovative solutions, and best practices in Disaster Risk Management (DRM).

The conference focused more broadly on integrated disaster prevention and mitigation, emergency response, and disaster recovery. It encouraged the scientific community to adopt new perspectives that move beyond traditional risk management concepts, which often fall short in addressing emerging risks and uncertainties. As risks become increasingly systemic and complex, our thinking and actions must also evolve to safeguard our health and well-being, as well as to protect lives from climate-related hazards and technological accidents. This conference marked a historic milestone as the first IDRiM event in Latin America, serving as a vital platform for global experts, local practitioners, and policymakers to approach DRM from diverse viewpoints.

Under the IDRiM motto, "I dream, you dream, we all dream of a safer world," a shared vision resonated deeply during the conference, transcending traditional academic boundaries and merging cutting-edge disaster science with the lived experiences of vulnerable communities.

The papers compiled in these volumes reflect a collective effort to bridge the gap between theoretical risk modeling and actionable, community-centered implementation, aligning

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closely with the priorities of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. This special issue is published as follows.

Volume 15, Issue 2 includes three papers:

1. The Impact of Business Continuity Planning on Institutional Risk Response: A Structural Equation Modeling Approach in State Universities in Bukidnon.
2. Built Environment Resilience in Latin America and the Caribbean (BERLAC).
3. Am I at Risk if an Earthquake Occurs? An Initiative for Raising Seismic Risk Awareness and Knowledge Transfer in the Community.

Volume 16, Issue 1 includes three papers:

4. Municipal Decision-Making Processes and Learning from Flood Simulation Exercises Using Climate Projections: Insights from Two Municipalities in the Tokachi River Basin, Hokkaido, Japan.
5. Analysis of the Effectiveness of a Learning Environment for Community Disaster Prevention: A Case Study in the Nishikino Area of the Town of Kuroshio, Kochi Prefecture.
6. Assessment of the Robustness and Resilience of the Water System in the Bogotá River Basin.

Volume 16, Issue 2 includes one paper:

7. Update of the Map of Zones Prone to Landslide Phenomena in the City of Ocaña, Norte de Santander, Colombia.

The papers are organized around three core pillars:

Infrastructural and Hydro-Meteorological Resilience: Highlighting studies that evaluate water infrastructure resilience under extreme climate events in key regional basins.

Institutional Governance and Municipal Decision-Making: Examining how climate-projection-based flood simulations and Business Continuity Plans (BCP) can actively transform municipal and institutional response strategies.

Community-Led Adaptation and Co-Creation of Knowledge: Showcasing participatory action research, seismic awareness initiatives, and the BERLAC project framework, which emphasizes built environment resilience through grassroots engagement.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Colombia's National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (UNGRD) for hosting this landmark event, as well as to the Local Organizing and Scientific Committees for their dedication and rigorous review process. We are equally thankful to the authors for entrusting the IDRiM Journal with their valuable contributions and to the anonymous peer reviewers and the editorial board whose unwavering support ensured the scientific excellence of this volume. Ultimately, we hope that these insights inspire continued interdisciplinary collaboration toward building a safer, more resilient world.