



Virtual ARISE2020 Annual General Meeting.

## Spotlight on:

### ARISE hosts largest member conference to date as AGM goes digital

The ARISE Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place on 15 July 2020, bringing together 280 participants including incoming and outgoing ARISE Board members, ARISE members and the SRSG for informative presentations, exchange of recent developments, progress, engaging discussions and next steps and opportunities for action.

The AGM presented the newly elected global ARISE Board and highlighted ongoing initiatives supporting the four ARISE priorities from global and local perspectives. Members also shared their understanding of the activities and expected impact of ARISE in 2020-2021 related to the new four priorities, value proposition, communication, and advocacy opportunities, and exchanged ideas on enhancing the visibility of the network. The new ARISE Global board are:

- **Co-Chair** Martha Herrera - CEMEX, Mexico
- **Vice-Chair** Hans-Peter Teufers - UPS Foundation, Germany
- Ahmed Riad Ali - Estmrarya Management Consulting, Egypt
- Fernando Perez de Britto - AI Systems Research Ltd, Brazil
- Chloe Demrovsky - Disaster Recovery Institute International, USA
- Lizra Fabien – CARICHAM and DAIC, Dominica
- Satoshi Hijikata - Kokusai Kogyo, Japan
- Nirankar Saxena - The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, India
- Liza Silerio - SM Prime Holdings Inc., The Philippines
- Michael Sudarkasa - Africa Business Group, South Africa

The AGM included insightful presentations on actions taken by ARISE members, followed by active discussions on how similar activities could be replicated in other networks. The outgoing private sector co-chair, Dale Sands,

## Key events related to ARISE Priority Areas:

### July

- 29: Launch of Sendai Hazard List

### August

- 17-19: The 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Flood Management

### September

- ARISE Board Meeting (date TBC)
- 8: Financing for Development Forum in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond
- 9-10: 8th International Conference on Sustainable Development
- 21-25: The 14<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Community-Based Adaptation to Climate Change.
- 21-27: Climate Week NYC

### October

- 09-10: Global Conference on Climate Resilience and Disaster Risk Reduction.
- 13-15: The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Disaster and Resilience Congress

concluded the event by 'passing the baton' to the new ARISE Board members, and especially to Martha Herrera and Hans-Peter Teufers who will become the new ARISE Co-Chair and Vice-Chair respectively.

Other outgoing Board members provided guiding words to the new board including Hans Sy of SM Prime Holdings: "Remember that the strength in numbers and active collaboration will never fail you. I hope you that you increase your visibility and credibility of ARISE. Use your reach and influence to make positive change in building resilience". Aris Papadopoulos, STET America, and Sandra Wu, Kokusai Kogyo, spoke to the extensive impact that ARISE has already been able to accomplish and to all the work that still lies ahead. The report of the AGM will be published and shared on the ARISE website shortly.

<https://www.undrr.org/news/arise-hosts-largest-member-conference-date-agm-goes-digital>

## News round-up:

### **ARISE Board; launch of SME COVID-19 recovery toolkit**

The ARISE 2020 Board Member Election was the most widely engaged election to date. With 20 qualified nominees for the board, 132 members voted for seven board members each. The last three members were appointed by UNDRR in consultation with the Election Committee. The Board has a balanced representation between regions, genders, and sectors. The ARISE Board, with its new Co-Chair Martha Herrera and Vice-Chair Hans-Peter Teufers, will meet for the first Board meeting in September (date TBC). UNDRR's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific developed the COVID-19 Small Business Continuity and Recovery Planning Toolkit with 15 tips to protect their employees and customers; rapidly take measures that can protect their businesses from disruptions, and how to utilize all resources to remain solvent and operational. Available in 11 languages: <https://www.undrr.org/publication/covid-19-small-business-continuity-and-recovery-planning-toolkit>

### **2020 High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development**

The HLPF was held between 7-16 July 2020 virtually with the theme "Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development". The programme included multiple events on or related to DRR. For the first time ever, it included a session on building resilience. The events clearly saw an increasing focus on reducing disaster risks and build resilient societies in accordance to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. For the full list of the programme: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2020#programme> For the DRR session: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=20000&nr=6855&menu=2993>

### **5<sup>th</sup> United Nations Senior Leadership Group for Disaster Risk Reduction**

On 17 July 2020, the 5<sup>th</sup> UN SLG was held virtually with representatives from more than 40 UN agencies and additional observers participating. The meeting was highly engaging and clearly showed that DRR is being integrated into programmes across UN agencies. The meeting was chaired by SRSB Mami Mizutori and successfully approved the UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience: Towards a Risk-informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development (UN Plan of Action). The UN Plan of Action includes three commitments with 10 proposed results. The UN SLG also approved the nine recommendations coming out of the UN Plan of Action Progress Report. [https://www.preventionweb.net/files/49076\\_unplanofaction.pdf](https://www.preventionweb.net/files/49076_unplanofaction.pdf)

### **Engaging the financial investment sector**

During the ARISE AGM the presentation by Carlos Sanchez from Willis Tower Watson, and the subsequent Q&As were highly relevant as they proposed how ARISE members and networks can engage with the financial investment sector. WTW's work with the Coalition for Climate Resilient Investment (CCRI) aims at a future by 2025, where "we do not talk about resilient investments, because all investments will be resilient". It is essential that when communicating the story about resilient investments that it is tailored for the receiver: For governments it is about demonstrating the economic case for building resilience; for the investor it is about building the financial case for resilience which is the risk adjusted returns that can be articulated.

## In depth: ARISE Africa

The highly exciting creation of ARISE networks in Africa began in the spring with networks developing in South Africa and East Africa, where Kenyan companies are active. In addition, ARISE West Africa is in the early stages of development with Nigerian companies showing increasing interest. The networks have been highly active early on, and Michael Surdakasa from Africa Business Group in South Africa, was elected to join the new ARISE Board. Judy Wambugu, from Safety Instructors and Planners K Limited in Kenya, represented the continent at the ARISE AGM with an informative presentation on the creation of the ARISE networks in Africa and the important steps being taken now and in the future to grow and sustain the networks.