



UNDRR

ARISE Annual Report
2020



UNDRR
UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



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ARISE 2020 Annual Report

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Foreword

Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Disaster Risk Reduction; ARISE Co-Chair

This ARISE Annual Report 2020 marks one year of COVID-19 pandemic. The year 2020 clearly showed us again how devastating the effects of disasters can be and how important it is to prevent them before they happen. The pandemic that initially started as a public health issue quickly became a socio-economic disaster emphasizing the importance of the private sector as game changers and drivers of disaster risk reduction and resilience building. However, while all attention is on COVID-19 we should not forget that we are in the middle of a climate emergency and investing in prevention and joining forces for disaster risk reduction is more important than ever. And with alarming levels of increasingly systemic disaster risk, our approach in dealing with risk must also be systemic. In this context, ARISE, the Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies is increasingly relevant, and this is reflected in the sharp increase in global membership which grew extensively from 250 members in 2019 to nearly 370 members, across 27 networks by the end of 2020. Throughout the year we welcomed new ARISE Networks, notably in Africa and the Arab States. There were also many applications for the elections of the new ARISE Global Board held in summer 2020; I was delighted to welcome the new Board members at the largest ever virtual ARISE AGM held, with over 280 participants. I personally look forward to working with the new ARISE Global Board as well as the new networks and I encourage all ARISE members to work together on the four ARISE priorities, bringing innovative solutions to address the complex challenges that we face.

Martha Herrera, Global Social Impact Director, CEMEX, Mexico; ARISE Co-Chair

Looking back at the year 2020, the challenges triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic and the increasing awareness from private sector of the importance of integrating DRR as a strategy for the sustainability of our business, especially SMEs, I couldn't be any prouder of the ARISE Network advances. In the face of present adversity, the leadership of our members has been instrumental in transforming challenges into development opportunities. This report showcases the achievements of ARISE, with the support of UNDRR, with regards to governance, communication, knowledge, advocacy and global engagement. ARISE has strengthened its Governance by defining 4 priority areas and its KPIs. Communication and partnerships are key factors to increase awareness for Disaster Risk Reduction, hence, we launched the ARISE Communications Toolkit and the global ARISE platform (website) to disseminate information on the networks, its advances and best practices for the construction of disaster resilient societies. 2020 is definitely a year to remember and I truly believe that now, more than ever, we need initiatives such as ARISE, to work together for a safe and prosperous future for all. I am extremely excited to be driving forward the new ARISE Board Workplan for 2020-2023 by your side. I recognize and value your courage and leadership, for being an agent of change within your communities, and I ask you not to push back, but to continue contributing to the construction of more inclusive, safer, more resilient and of course more sustainable communities, without leaving no one behind.

ARISE Highlights from 2020

1. Internal Progress

Election of the new ARISE Board 2020-2023

The ARISE 2020 global Board Member election was the most widely engaged election to date. Out of 20 qualified nominees, [10 ARISE Board Members](#) were appointed from the private sector as ARISE global board members for the period 2020 – 2023. The Board has a balanced representation between regions, genders, and sectors. Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Disaster Risk Reduction, acts as permanent Co-Chair of ARISE.

The new elected ARISE Global board members for the period of 2020 – 2023 are:

- Ms. Martha Herrera Gonzalez, Global Social Impact Director, CEMEX, Mexico; ARISE Co-Chair
- Mr. Hans-Peter Teufers, Director International Programs at the UPS Foundation, Germany; ARISE Vice-Chair
- Ms. Chloe Demrovsky, International President and CEO at Disaster Recovery Institute (DRI), USA
- Ms. Lizra Fabien, CARICHAM and DAIC, Dominica Executive Director at Dominica Association of Industry & Commerce (DAIC) and Network of Chambers of Commerce (CARICHAM), Dominica
- Mr. Satoshi Hijikata, President, Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd. (geospatial information technology and solutions), Japan
- Mr. Fernando Perez de Britto, CEO at AI Systems Research Ltd (AIR), Brazil
- Mr. Ahmed Riad Ali, Managing Director, Estmrarya Management Consulting, Egypt
- Mr. Nirankar Saxena, The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, India Deputy Secretary General, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), India
- Ms. Liza B. Silerio, Management Executive at SM Supermalls, The Philippines
- Mr. Michael Sudarkasa, CEO of Africa Business Group, South Africa

The ARISE Annual General Meeting

The [ARISE Annual General Meeting](#) (AGM) was held on 15 July 2020, gathering 280 participants including incoming and outgoing ARISE Board members, ARISE members, and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction (SRSG), Mami Mizutori. The AGM welcomed the new global ARISE Board elected in 2020 and highlighted ongoing initiatives supporting the four ARISE priorities at the global and local levels. ARISE Members also shared their

views and expectations with regards to the activities and 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.

ARISE Board Meeting

The first meeting of the new global ARISE Board, elected for a three-year period, took place on 19 October 2020. The meeting focused on the development of a Board Workplan for 2020-2023, aligned with and supporting the implementation of the ARISE Global Terms of Reference (TOR), ARISE Four Priorities, KPIs, and the Value Proposition, which had been adopted by the previous Board.

Co-chairs Mami Mizutori (SRSG) and Martha Herrera (CEMEX), and Vice-Chair Hans-Peter Teufers (UPS Foundation) engaged in an active dialogue with the Board highlighting three critical points that will lead to the successful implementation of the Board mandate over the next three years.

1. The urgency and timeliness of ARISE to take a lead role in encouraging more engagement by the private sector in driving risk-informed decision-making and investment.
2. The critical role of the Board members to act in a global capacity to help further accelerate and focus the activities and impact of the ARISE initiative at all levels.
3. The key focus for Board members to agree on concrete and realistic activities to be implemented by the board including with specific roles and commitments of each member.

Following the Board meeting on 19 October 2020, the 2020-2023 Board Workplan was finalized and endorsed by all Board members. The core areas of work focus on the implementation of the four ARISE priorities (1. Small and Medium Enterprises, 2. Investment and Investors, 3. Insurance and 4. Resilient Infrastructure), as well as strengthening the network communication and collaboration and enhancing the visibility of ARISE in the policy and business community.

New ARISE Governance Documents

ARISE Key Performance Indicators

Following the AGM, [ARISES' Key Performance Indicators \(KPIs\)](#) were updated and endorsed by the Board in 2020. KPIs focused on advocating for risk-informed development, disaster risk reduction, and preparedness action by encouraging and supporting the private and public sectors to put in place policies and practices to reduce disaster risk and related human and economic losses. The KPIs outline mobilization and facilitation of the private sector to carry out risk-informed investments and to apply business practices that reduce and prevent the creation of risk, build resilience, and enhance recovery from disasters, in line with the Sendai Framework.

Communication Toolkit

In 2020, UNDRR developed the [ARISE Communication Toolkit](#) outlining key communication guidelines, objectives, target audience, and activities of ARISE developed into key messages, with guidance on the ARISE target audience, content tone, channels, use of ARISE logos.

Global Engagement

In January 2020, the ARISE Global Board endorsed the four ARISE priorities, to focus ARISE network activity and showcase the impact of their work. The four priorities support the global policy discussions on the engagement of the private sector in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Sustainable Development Goals, and Paris Climate Agreement, and related business and multi-stakeholder initiatives:

Box. 1 The ARISE four priorities for 2020-2021:

- *Enhancing the resilience of **Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)**;*
- *Integrating disaster and climate risks into **investment** decisions by the **financial sector**;*
- *Incentivizing disaster risk reduction and enhanced data for risk-informed decision-making through engagement with the **insurance** industry as global risk manager;*
- *Supporting **resilient infrastructure development**.*

New ARISE Website

Throughout 2020, the [ARISE website](#) was redesigned a new, interactive, fresh interface and benefitted from direct input from ARISE members, some global Board members as well as the wider ARISE community to address specific objectives including:



Figure 1. New makeover to the ARISE website.

- to enhance the visibility of ARISE globally,
- to promote the networks' work on the [four priorities](#)
- to enable new members to join via an online application form.

This new platform is user-friendly and provides access to relevant [information, news, and tools](#). As of 2021, prospective ARISE members will be able to submit their application to ARISE through an online form on the website. ARISE

members will also have a possibility to submit their own good practices, news, and case studies through the website.

New SMEs Guidance Report

The guidance report “[Reducing Risk and Building Resilience of SMEs](#)” was published on 31 December 2020 and provides guidance for how to build the resilience of SMEs to multiple hazards, enabling SMEs to be sustainable and competitive in the long run by reducing disaster risks, and with a specific focus on prevention, i.e. activities and measures that help SMEs avoid potential adverse impacts of hazardous events and reduce vulnerability and exposure (see Fig. 2 & 3). The guidance benefited from support and active input from ARISE members through a global survey, providing case studies and literature for review on the report. It was also informed by a range of consultations with regional and international partners working on and with SMEs including ARISE members, International Chambers of Commerce (ICC), the International Cooperative and Mutual Insurance Federation (ICMIF) and the International Trade Center (ITC).

The report is accompanied by an SMEs Resources Compendium, 6 sets of two-pagers with infographics, as well as a [video](#) about the report. The two-pagers showcase tailored statistics for the Caribbean, Central and South America, Mexico, India and the Philippines. A global two-pager provides a comprehensive view of the regions and country with aggregated data.



Figure 2 & 3. Guidance report on 'Reducing Risk & Building Resilience of SMEs to disasters'

ARISE Networks Achievements in 2020

ARISE National and Regional Networks ('ARISE Networks') are set up in alignment with the specific requirements and local environment of the respective country and region, under the overall umbrella to promote, enhance and support the implementation of the Sendai Framework at the regional, national and local levels through the integration of DRR into business strategies and management practices, advocacy, knowledge and best practice sharing among peers and public-private collaboration on the creation of enabling business environments. Common elements across networks include advocacy and capacity building initiatives highlighting the need, tools and opportunities for integrating disaster risk considerations into business strategies and plans. Many networks are also closely collaborating with national governments to enhance DRR related business policies, laws and regulatory frameworks, as well as work on enhanced comprehensive risk assessment.

The following section provides an overview of activities carried out by ARISE National and Regional Networks during 2020, as well as reports from ARISE members active in other countries where networks do not yet exist.

Africa

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ARISE South Africa & East Africa Networks

ARISE East Africa Network Leads: Kenneth Macharia; Judy W. Wambugu

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**Company / Organization: Eastern Africa Humanitarian Private
Partnership Platform; Safety Instructors and Planners K
Limited**

ARISE South Africa Network Lead: Michael Sudarkasa

Email: michael@abghq.com

Company / Organization: Africa Business Group

ARISE in Africa comprising ARISE East Africa and ARISE South Africa gained momentum with several consultative virtual meetings conducted during 2020 with the objective to lay a firm foundation for a solid and sustainable ARISE Africa Network. Top on the agenda was to strategize on how to conduct a baseline survey of existing businesses and private sector networks across Africa, to carry out recruitment of new ARISE members through advocacy and awareness raising, and to draw a strategic plan for 2020-2021 aligned with the global priorities of ARISE.

A task team of five ARISE members spearheaded this process:

- Michael Sudarkasa – CEO of Africa Business Group to support Southern Africa region;
- Judy Wambugu – Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KPSA) to support Eastern Africa region;
- Michel Kahasha – CEO Dellions Insurance to support Central Africa region;
- Aminou Akadiri – CEO Federation of Western Africa Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FEWACCI) to support the western Africa region.

This task team was first established in line with the agreed ARISE Africa Network structure at the continental level. Currently, regions have started discussions on the establishment of national networks drawing on the example of the Southern Africa region.

Capacity building is another area that ARISE networks put high on the agenda. Due to the highly varying professional backgrounds within the ARISE Africa Network there is a need to build capacity

around the basic principles of the Sendai Framework and ensure coherence with other post-2015 international frameworks.

In 2021, the ARISE Africa network will actively engage in the Africa Regional Platform on DRR and provide inputs and commitments to the joint position from the Africa Region to the Global Platform on DRR in 2022. Furthermore, to ensure sustainability of the network, a resource mobilization strategy will be developed and shared with other stakeholders.

UNDRR ARISE Focal Point for Americas & the Caribbean: Melany Paola Riquetti Moran
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During 2020, ARISE in the Americas and the Caribbean was the fastest growing initiative within ARISE globally. For instance, in the whole region, 67 companies joined ARISE, 53 of which were based in Mexico, reaching the highest number of new memberships in one year since the launch of ARISE. By the end of 2020, ARISE in the Americas and the Caribbean comprised 19 national ARISE Networks and 2 sub-regional ARISE Networks in Central America and the Caribbean, representing over 90,000 companies (see Fig. 4).



Figure 4. Graphic display of ARISE's impact in Americas & the Caribbean in 2020

Throughout the year, the networks proved to be a valuable space for peer-to-peer collaboration and knowledge sharing, especially in the context of COVID-19, supporting business communities in their countries not only to consider business continuity actions, but to also prevent the creation of risk and integrate multi-hazards approach within their operational plans.

In total, [12 webinars and meetings were co-organized by UNDRR and 15 different ARISE Networks in this region](#). The webinars focused on business resilience, risk management, and business responses to COVID-19, among others. Additionally, over 30 events were led by ARISE networks to exchange good practices, information, resources, and lessons learnt among companies. Topics covered improved integration of risk into business practices, in particular in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Furthermore, trainings with a special focus on SMEs were conducted by ARISE networks to build capacity of the larger business community and disseminate tools for enhanced risk awareness and the development of business DRR plans. Among them, three trainings were co-organized with ARISE Networks in the Caribbean, together with the Network of Chambers of Commerce of the Caribbean Region (CARICHAM), and in Central America with support of *Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de los Desastres en América Central y República Dominicana* (CEPRENAC).

ARISE Networks in the Caribbean (Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago and Saint Lucia) supported the development of a [study on the role of the telecommunication sector](#) in response to the pandemic, identifying good practices and areas to further explore the resilience of this critical infrastructure sector.

Finally, the private sector, through ARISE, has taken a lead role in driving the discussions between the public and private sectors on policy development related to DRR in Haiti, Colombia, St. Lucia, Chile, Trinidad and Tobago, and are actively engaging companies in these discussions on resilient economic recovery.

Caribbean

ARISE Network of Chambers of Commerce from the Caribbean Community Network

ARISE Network Lead: Lizra Fabien

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Company / Organization: Dominica Association of Industry & Commerce

ARISE Network of Chambers of Commerce from the Caribbean Community Network (CARICHAM) organized a series of webinars titled “*CARICHAM Regional Growth Series*” to promote business resilience in response to the impact of COVID-19. The [first series](#) which was launched in coordination with UNDRR and conducted in collaboration with ARISE Barbados, focused on the preparedness to the cyclone season (see Fig. 5), engaging both the private and public sectors in introducing measures to reduce risks and gain a better understanding of the systemic nature of risks.



Figure 5. Launch of episode 1 of ‘CARICHAM’s Regional Growth Series’

The Strategic Plan of CARICHAM builds on **four main pillars of engagement**:

1. Advocacy and memberships.
2. Disaster risk reduction (DRR).
3. Knowledge sharing, and best practices.
4. Transportation, trade facilitation and promotion.

The plan is in line with the Sendai Framework and ARISE commitments, reflecting the region's specific needs and opportunities.

Additionally, in line with the ARISE Four Priorities, CARICHAM engaged in the development of UNDRR's guidance report "[Reducing Risk & Building Resilience of SMEs to Disasters](#)" by actively supporting the dissemination of a survey that informed the development of the above guidance report.

In line with the [Pillar 2 of engagement](#) of CARICHAM, which focuses on disaster risk reduction (see above), CARICHAM supported the development of a [workplan on SME resilience](#) in the Caribbean region. The plan comprises knowledge sharing and capacity building of the Chambers of Commerce in order to enable the entity to provide direct guidance and support to SMEs with regards to COVID-19 pandemic as well as hurricanes. Crucially, CARICHAM also continued to support the ARISE national focal points in their engagement with ARISE and UNDRR, and facilitated the establishment of new ARISE national networks, such as ARISE Grenada.

During 2021, CARICHAM aims to work towards DRR and SMEs resilience by developing new digital tools to help small businesses to prevent risks and recover from disasters. Moreover, CARICHAM in collaboration with intergovernmental partners such as CDEMA, will foster the role of the network as a platform to exchange information on risk reduction and resilience.

ARISE Dominica Network

ARISE Network Lead: Lizra Fabien

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Company / Organization: Dominica Association of Industry & Commerce (DAIC)

In 2020, the ARISE Dominica Network concentrated in integrating the ARISE Four Priorities in its workplan. The network also focused on providing support to the business community affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. In this context, ARISE Dominica [launched a report](#) assessing the impact of COVID-19 on employment and revenues in the country, with a special focus on SMEs. The report also provided recommendations on resilience solutions to mitigate the impact of the pandemic in the long run.

As a follow up to the report, ARISE Dominica, in collaboration with CARICHAM, initiated a [public campaign](#) (see Fig. 6) to support the regional business community in strengthening prevention and business continuity measures.

The aim was to reduce potential risks during the second quarter of the year. The campaign was followed by member meetings to share good practices, linked with the CARICHAM webinar series.



Figure 6. Public campaign promoting prevention and business continuity measures.

MSME VIRTUAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT TRAINING



Figure 7. MSME virtual financial management training announcement.

Aiming at enhancing the resilience of SMEs, DAIC together with the Climate Resilience Execution Agency for Dominica (CREAD), organized an [SME Virtual Financial Management Training](#) (see Fig. 7) to ensure that SMEs: i) understand the importance of financial processes, and ii) enhance their access to finance to prevent potential future losses due to disasters. Moreover, to engage the financial sector, DAIC organized its annual general meeting with support of the National Bank of Dominica Ltd., the Dominica

Cooperative Societies League Limited, and the First Caribbean International Bank and Republic Bank (EC) Limited. The discussion centered on the role of financial institutions in recovery and the need of risk-informed investments.

The above initiatives also fed into Dominica's national DRR Strategy and highlighted the importance of public-private partnerships through increased information sharing on DRR with ARISE members and other businesses.

Most importantly, ARISE Dominica was actively promoting ARISE objectives and engaged at the global level through its Executive Director, Lizra Fabien, who is now member of ARISE Global Board, effectively displaying Caribbean representation and leadership in support to ARISE.

During 2021, ARISE Dominica plans to further expand its activities and the impact of its network, including improved coordination, expanded partnerships with key stakeholders, and increased visibility and information sharing among the business community and DRR partners.

ARISE Network Lead: Brian Louisy
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Company / Organization: St. Lucia Chamber of Commerce

Following the ARISE Saint Lucia Network launch, the Network has continued to work hand in hand with the public sector through the National Emergency Management Organization to align its workplan and to promote the private sector's resilience with a focus on SMEs. In 2020, in close coordination with UNDRR and CARICHAM, ARISE Saint Lucia conducted an [E-Symposium](#) (see Fig. 8) for its members. [Specific training](#) on understanding of risk, business continuity, and disaster risk reduction was provided to businesses, recognizing their key role in ensuring a quick and resilient economic and social recovery.



Figure 8. 'Enhancing the Resilience of Caribbean MSMEs to Multi-hazards' E-Symposium announcement

The objectives of the E-Symposium were to:

- inform businesses on concepts of disaster risk reduction and resilience and the components and nature of risk;
- demonstrate the value of adopting resilient practices for businesses;
- encourage the exchange of experience, good resilience practices and challenges unique to the MSME sector; and
- introduce participants to UNDRR's set of toolkits for risk reduction and responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, throughout the year, the Saint Lucia Chamber of Commerce partnered with the Sparkasse Stiftung and the Saint Lucia Development Bank to further support the resilience of SMEs. For instance, support was gained by providing [training on financial literacy](#) and by informing MSMEs affected by the pandemic on how to access financing mechanisms, such as the [Climate Adaptation Financing Facility \(CAFF\)](#) to incentivize the adoption of climate smart technology.

In 2021, ARISE Saint Lucia will continue to support SMEs resilience.

ARISE Trinidad & Tobago Network

ARISE Network Lead: Melissa Pierre

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Company / Organization: American Chamber of Commerce in T&T (AMCHAM T&T)



Figure 9. Virtual HSSE conference & exhibition organized remotely.

During 2020, the American Chamber of Commerce in T&T (AMCHAM T&T), in line with its workplan, organized the 24th Annual Health, Safety, Security & Environment (HSSE) Conference and Exhibition (see Fig. 9 & 10); the largest regional gathering of CEOs, and HSSE professionals in the region. This year's conference was conducted virtually and reached a broader publicum of more than 1,000 people from the local, regional, and international private and public sectors.

During the [virtual HSSE Conference and Exhibition](#) (see Fig. 9 & 10), a special session was dedicated to Disaster

Risk Reduction and ARISE. During this session, UNDRR focused on the role of the private sector in achieving the Sendai Framework through risk-informed investments, while other panelists presented insurance, sustainability, climate financing, and other mechanism to promote resilience. The event became an opportunity for sharing information, encouraging best practices, and engaging the public sector in disaster risk reduction discussions from the business sector's point of view. In line with ARISE Priority on SMEs, AMCHAM T&T in collaboration with the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management, started the process of identifying small businesses to be part of a Training of Trainers (TOT) to further train and support resilience of SMEs.



Figure 10. '24th Annual Virtual HSSE Conference & Exhibition' flyer.

Central American Integration Network for Corporate Social Responsibility (INTEGRARSE)

ARISE Network Lead: Alicia Urbaneja
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Company/ Organization: Integración Centroamericana por la Responsabilidad Social Empresarial (INTEGRARSE)

In Central America, ARISE is embedded within a sub-regional initiative - INTEGRARSE Alliance. INTEGRARSE is a network of private organizations from seven countries in Central America. It supports companies in the dissemination and implementation of social responsibility initiatives as part of their business strategies. INTEGRARSE also has a partnership with regional governmental organizations, such as Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Disasters in Central America (CEPREDENAC) and the Global Compact.

In 2020, together with INTEGRARSE, UNDRR has been strengthening the national ARISE networks in Central America and supporting the private sector's resilience in the context of COVID-19 and the hurricanes Eta and Iota. Subsequently, INTEGRARSE promoted collaboration among public and private actors within the first weeks of the COVID-19 crisis. UNDRR and INTEGRARSE, together with the Interregional Organization and CEPREDENAC, conducted a [webinar](#) with over 300 participants on the use of UNDRR tool for business resilience. The session was well received by business owners seeking support and information to cope with the effects of the pandemic.

By the end of 2020, all INTEGRARSE organizations updated their memberships to ARISE in accordance with the TORs and the organization SUMARSE from Panama committed to officially join ARISE.

¹ Integración Centroamericana por la Responsabilidad Social Empresarial (INTEGRARSE)

ARISE Network Lead: Olga Sauma
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Company / Organization: Alianza Empresarial para el Desarrollo (AED)

In 2020, AED represented ARISE in Costa Rica. In the Americas region, Costa Rica offered an exemplary model to managing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, with the private sector playing a key role in this response. ARISE Costa Rica Network contributed to these efforts by supporting public-private partnerships and coordinating actions with the National Disaster Management Institution (CNE).

For example, to promote knowledge sharing, the Network launched a [COVID-19 Business Action Platform](#)², which provided its members with information and training (see Fig. 11). The Platform offered [29 webinars](#) focusing on business resilience and continuity, prevention, and compliance with

Acción Empresarial COVID-19



Figure 11. COVID-19 Business Action Platform announcement

emergency regulations, which were attended by over 200 companies. This exchange was key to support business operations during the crisis.

Additionally, in 2020, ARISE Costa Rica represented the private sector in the development of the [National Disaster Risk Reduction Plan 2021-2025](#). As a result, AED integrated ARISE priorities on SMEs resilience and insurance to ensure coherence in the joint efforts with the public sector. The plan is expected to be launched in April 2021 (see Fig. 12).

Finally, ARISE [Costa Rica formalized an agreement with the National Insurance company](#), a public-private company, to work on the National DRR Plan and better integrate the insurance



Figure 12. 'Disaster Risk Reduction: Business Sector impact' webinar

² Link: www.aedcr.com/accion-empresarial-covid-19

sector in DRR discussions and cooperation efforts with the national government.

Looking towards 2021, the goals of ARISE Costa Rica include:

- **Strengthening the cooperation** between the network and the CNE through joint activities.
- **Expanding the national outreach** to private sector partners for the communication and promotion of disaster risk best practices.
- **Integrating the insurance and financial sectors** in ARISEs activities in the country and integrate ARISE in climate financing discussions in coordination with key stakeholders.
- **Engaging financial institutions** in supporting CNEs plan to promote resilient investments.

ARISE Dominican Republic Network

ARISE Network Lead: Alicia Urbaneja

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Company / Organization: ECO RED

In 2020, ECO RED actively undertook activities in line with the ARISE commitments: raise awareness, influence, share knowledge, catalyze, implement projects and activities to achieve the targets of the SFDRR, and initiated the alignment of its national workplan with the ARISE Four Priorities.

Furthermore, ECO RED facilitated the engagement of new members in the ARISE Dominican Republic Network. For instance, in 2020, the company *Consejo de Regulación y Desarrollo de la Información y Comunicación* (CORDICOM) and the major insurance company in the Dominican Republic, *La Universal*, became official members of ARISE.

As part of engaging the insurance sector in the ARISE activities, ARISE Dominican Republic, together with UNDRR, held a [special session](#) on systemic risk and the importance of insurance to prevent losses from disasters. The session included the participation of the UN Dominican Republic Resident Coordinator, who delivered key messages about the need to better integrate disaster risk reduction in the development agenda through the support of all stakeholders.

Additionally, ECO RED organized [five webinars](#) on resilience with the network's members, including two webinars to commemorate and raise awareness on the International Disaster Risk Reduction Day and the World Tsunami Day (see Fig. 13 & 14). ECO RED was also involved in the development of a report on the role of the private sector in the telecommunications sector conducted by UNDRR.

In 2021, ECO RED will continue to support close engagement of ARISE with the insurance sector and to expand the network in Central America in cooperation with INTEGRARSE.



Figure 13. Announcement on ARISE’s national workplan initiative. Figure 14. Informative flyer on DRR.

ARISE Haiti Network

ARISE Network Lead: Fania C. Joseph

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Company / Organization: AGERCA - Alliance pour la Gestion des Risques Et la Continuité des Activités

AGERCA, a business association in Haiti, is an integral part of the National System for Disaster Risk Management in Haiti and it is mobilized when the National Emergency Operations Center is activated during a period of crisis. During 2020, AGERCA collaborated with Digicel foundation to train trainers on disaster risk management and developed a study report on the impact of COVID-19 on SMEs in Haiti in order to allow business leaders to capitalize on this crisis with lessons learned. For 2021, AGERCA will focus on working on SMEs resilience and represent the private sector within the national disaster risk management system to engage the private sector in discussions and advocate for financing of DRR in Haiti.

ARISE Honduras Network

ARISE Network Lead: Claudia Diaz

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Company / Organization: FUNDAHRSE

In less than two weeks after being battered by the tropical storm Eta, Honduras was hit by the hurricane Iota, a category 5 hurricane that caused flooding and landslides in the northern part of the country. The hurricanes' effects eventually exacerbated the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis. These events shifted the private sector's focus and Network's activities towards humanitarian action in order to address the needs of the vulnerable population and to support the Honduras Government's response.

Nonetheless, Fundahrse continued to enhance business resilience and disaster risk reduction by supporting SMEs resilience (see Fig. 15). In order to achieve this objective, ARISE Honduras hosted a [series of webinars and organized five courses](#) (see Fig. 16 & 17) focusing on value chain approaches for SMEs development for its 107 members (including multiple SMEs).

Furthermore, [additional webinars](#) aimed at exchanging practices and lessons learned were organized with UNDRR and other ARISE Networks from the region, reaching over 200 individuals.

Moreover, to promote resilient infrastructure, Fundahrse organized [an eight-hours course](#) on adaptation to climate change and nature-based solutions (NbS) for recovery, including the use of ecosystems for the protection of coastal areas (see Fig. 15).

For 2021, the goals of ARISE Honduras include:

- Strengthen prevention in the SME sector through capacity building;
- Include the insurance and banking sectors in this year's training plan;
- Engage with the public sector on DRR to develop a strategy on resilient infrastructure in the aftermath of the hurricanes ETA and IOTA.



Figure 15. Announcement of support towards business resilience and responsibility

The image shows a conference flyer on the left and a webinar agenda on the right. The flyer is for a conference titled 'El rol de las empresas responsables y la continuidad de negocios en tiempo de crisis' on June 5, 2020, at 10:00-11:00 AM, featuring Elisa Trujillo Leyva, Director of ARISE. The agenda for a regional webinar on May 5, 2020, at 10:11:30 AM (CST) is titled 'Continuidad de negocios ante el COVID19 a través de la Resiliencia empresarial'. The agenda items include: 10:00-10:05 AM: Palabras de bienvenida; 10:05-10:20 AM: Importancia de la preparación y prevención para la resiliencia; 10:20-11:00 AM: Resiliencia Empresarial y Continuidad de negocio; 11:00-11:15 AM: Acciones desde AED y Fundahrse; 11:15-11:30 AM: Preguntas y respuestas.

Figure 16. Conference flyer on the role of business continuity in times of crisis.

Figure 17. Regional webinar's agenda on 'Business continuity in the face of COVID-19 through business resilience.'

ARISE Guatemala Network

ARISE Network Lead: Juan P. Morataya

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Company / Organization: CentrARSE

In 2020, ARISE Guatemala continued to promote its national workplan focusing on the following key priorities:

- Increase knowledge and understanding of DRR among the networks' members;
- Strengthen ARISE network's internal capacities on risk-informed business plans and practice;
- Engage the public sector in the ARISE network's activities to discuss the importance of risk-informed investments;
- Strengthen governance and incentives to invest in risk reduction.

On 14 October 2020, the ARISE Guatemala Network organized a virtual meeting with its members in coordination with UNDRR on the need to integrate DRR tools and the systemic risk approach in business investment decisions (see Fig. 18). The network also supported the creation of the environmental thematic roundtable on Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change at the national platform on DRR in coordination with the national governing body the National Coordination for Disaster Reduction (*Coordinadora Nacional Para la Reducción de Desastres* - CONRED).

Additionally, [CentraRSE worked closely with CONRED](#) to support the development of public-private partnerships for [disaster risk reduction](#). Based on good practice and experience from recovery, rehabilitation, and DRR, the network created [tools and manuals](#) and promoted exchange of experiences to support companies in increasing their disaster preparedness and reduce human and economic losses.

In 2021, ARISE Guatemala aims to support SMEs resilience by engaging with key actors from the private and public sectors to promote the development of relevant policies. ARISE Guatemala will also work towards expanding the ARISE membership and facilitate further knowledge exchange.



Figure 18. Virtual Forum invitation on disaster risk management.

ARISE El Salvador Network

ARISE Network Lead: Haydee Trigueros
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desarrolloinstitucional@fundahrse.org
Company / Organization: FUNDEMÁS

FUNDEMÁS is a member of the regional Association INTEGRARSE and represents ARISE in El Salvador. During 2020, as part of its ARISE activities, FUNDEMÁS organized [three trainings](#) on DRR and business resilience for its members, reaching 355 people (see Fig. 19 & 20). Throughout the year, ARISE El Salvador also developed three specific tools on DRR including:

- A Business Continuity Guide;
- A risk identification and mapping tool; and

- A Risk Reduction Guide for Educational Centers.



Figures 19 & 20. FUNDEMÁS virtual trainings and webinars promoting business resilience and DRR

In October 2020, ARISE El Salvador in coordination with UNDRR organized the private sector symposium for sustainable development. The event highlighted the role of the private sector in achieving sustainable development. In addition to the private sector, the event was attended by government authorities, and the international cooperation representatives, including the EU and UN agencies. The symposium included special sessions on DRR and the ARISE initiative. [One of the sessions](#) included a dialogue between UNDRR and companies from the food, logistics, and insurance sectors. The dialogue focused on how the private sector can ensure risk reduction and implement prevention measures in their internal processes. As a result, multiple stakeholders joined FUNDEMÁS and established the private-public alliance *Unidos Somos Más*, whose common strategy will focus on integrating the systemic risk approach to make El Salvador more resilient to disasters.

During 2021, ARISE El Salvador will focus on strengthening the priorities of ARISE by embedding these in the public-private partnerships through the *Unidos Somos Más* alliance. This partnership will focus on supporting private sector resilience with special attention paid to SMEs, and effectively, engaging the insurance and construction sectors in DRR discussions and ARISEs initiatives.

South America

ARISE Brazil

ARISE Network Lead: Fernando Perez de Britto
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Company / Organization: Artificial Intelligence System Research (AISR)

In 2020, in support of the all-of-society approach within DRR, Artificial Intelligence System Research (AISR) facilitated the participation of the private sector through ARISE in the UNDRR [Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism \(SEM\)](#). AISR was also re-elected as a member of the ARISE Global Board for the second term (2020-2023), maintaining its active participation and leadership in promoting the private sector's role in disaster risk reduction, especially at local level.

AISR also increased the engagement of Local Resilience Plans (PLR) generated by the Making Smart Cities - PLR software from 7 to 22 and released a Spanish and English version of the software, while also promoting the DRR activities of the Portuguese speaking Resilient Cities Network related to exchange of experiences, best practices and knowledge.

ARISE Chile Network

ARISE Network Lead: Juan Luis Quer
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Company / Organization: Instituto Cerda

The National Network of ARISE Chile was established in 2016 to enhance engagement between the private sector and the Chilean National Emergency Office's (ONEMI). In July 2020, ARISE Chile continued to operate as the public-private 'Extended Alliance for Resilience and Disaster Risk Reduction' Roundtable, a mechanism framed under [Chile's National Disaster Risk Reduction Platform](#). The Roundtable seeks to generate intersectoral synergies to achieve the objectives of the Sendai Framework and to further strengthen the partnerships between the public and private sector working in DRR and resilience.

The ARISE Roundtable work plan for 2019-2020 was coordinated by the Department of Management of the National Service of Civil Protection (SNPC) of the ONEMI. It is co-led by the ARISE network focal point, the Department of Emergency Management and Resilience of Organizations (SECRO) of the Instituto Cerdá, the Global Compact Network, and the civil society organization, MovidosX



3:41 pm - 18 Nov 2020 - Twitter Web App
 Figure 21. Announcement on the presentation of ARISE Chile's 'Business Resilience Guidance for DRR'

Chile. In 2020, ARISE Chile launched a [Business Resilience Guideline](#) and promoted the exchange of good practices among public and private sector companies (see Fig. 21). Thus, with UNDRR's support, ARISE Chile organized a virtual session with members of the national platform for DRR to:

- Present the [National Guideline to develop and implement Disaster Risk Reduction Plans for private sector companies](#);
- [Exchange experiences](#) with the ARISE Colombian network, which had also promoted a similar process in Colombia in coordination with national authorities.

In 2020, ARISE Chile also conducted a survey to collect information on MSMEs resilience and their capacities to cope with disasters. The results of the survey will be launched in 2021 in coordination with ONEMI.

For 2021, ARISE Chile aims to:

- Strengthen ARISE Chile through the promotion of private public partnerships in DRR in coordination with all members of the National DRR Platform;
- Expand the membership of the network through a dissemination campaign;
- Generate greater positioning of ARISE Chile globally through exchange of experiences with other ARISE networks working together with the public sector in DRR.

ARISE Colombia Network

ARISE Network Lead: Angela Gomez
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Company / Organization: National Business Association of Colombia

In 2020, ARISE Colombia was strengthened by engaging with the *Consejo Colombiano de Seguridad* and La Federación Nacional de Comerciantes (FENALCO), the biggest Small and Medium Enterprises Association in the country. FENALCO is part of the national ARISE board, which is co-led by the National Association of Entrepreneurs of Colombia (ANDI).



Figure 22. Webinar presenting ‘Resilient businesses & communities’ organized by CCS and ARISE Colombia

As one of the achievements, ARISE Colombia successfully promoted their partnership with the National Disaster Risk Management Unit (UNGRD) in order to enhance a broad and coherent business resilience strategy across the country in line with the National Action Plan for DRR and the ARISE global priorities. For this, in August 2020, ARISE Colombia, with UNDRR’s support, organized a [forum](#) to present a risk assessment tool for private sector companies to provide guidance on the development and implementation of Business Disaster Risk Management Plans (see Fig. 23).

The implementation of these plans is mandatory for all private sector companies as stipulated in the presidential Decree 2157/2017 governed through the UNGRD. The forum gathered over 720 participants, including small business owners.

Furthermore, ARISE Colombia organized a podium discussion with ARISE Mexico to share knowledge and showcase the impact and achievements of ARISE in the region. The virtual event was viewed by 2,700 people.



Figure 23. Forum announcement on ‘Communication in Crisis’ presenting an effective management tool



Figure 24. Webinar flyer on Business Continuity in the context of COVID-19

Additionally, ARISE Colombia focused on resilient business recovery from COVID-19. For example, on 27 May 2020 the Network organized a [webinar on business continuity in the context of COVID-19](#) and presented a tool developed by UNDRR (see Fig. 24). The webinar aimed at providing the business sector with key information on how to protect their business from the future impacts of the pandemic. Another webinar on business communication during crisis was conducted in October 2020, with high participation of 800 attendees.

Despite the pandemic, throughout 2020, ARISE Colombia has been actively participating in regional ARISE activities, promoting ARISE through the adherence of new members, and aligning its workplan to the ARISE priority one on SMEs resilience.

In 2021, ARISE Colombia aims to continue positioning the ARISE Network and strengthening the dialogue with UNGRD with the goal to promote public-private partnerships for risk-informed

investments and business resilience. Furthermore, the Network will continue to work with local governments, while aligning its activities with the national DRR plan. Finally, to support SMEs, ARISE Colombia is planning to develop a tool to assess business resilience alongside value chains.

North America

ARISE Canada Network

ARISE Network Lead: David Greenall
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Company / Organization: VIRIDI

ARISE Canada activities in 2020 focused around integrating the financial sector in disaster risk reduction to promote risk-informed investments by engaging the company *Des Jardines*, financial services [cooperative](#) and the largest federation of [credit unions](#) in Canada.

Additionally, one of the ARISE Canada Members, McAllister and Craig, engaged with CARICHAM to support its SMEs resilience strategy by developing a digital tool planned to be launched in June 2021, which will represent a new genre of Business Continuity tools for the region.

In 2021, ARISE Canada aims to activate and amplify Canadian private-public action member companies and support ARISE global advocacy efforts by engaging ARISE in the Race to Resilience initiative³.

³ See Link: <https://www.preventionweb.net/news/view/75669>

ARISE Network Lead: Martha Herrera
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Company / Organization: CEMEX

In 2020, [ARISE Mexico](#) was the fastest growing network in the region with 53 new member companies from the insurance, infrastructure, and financing sectors as well as business associations and chambers of commerce joining ARISE Mexico. This was made possible through the development of a strong advocacy and communication strategy which reached the whole country as well as the Latin America and the Caribbean region. This communication strategy also helped to create the ARISE branding and raise awareness of ARISE main goals and objectives. Hence, it is resonating among the most important stakeholders from the private and public sector in Mexico. The strong leadership of ARISE Mexico was also reflected through the election of Martha Herrera, the President of ARISE Mexico, as the Co-Chair of the Global Board of ARISE.

In 2020, main activities of ARISE Mexico included the organization of [19 webinars, forums and meetings by network's members](#), reaching a total publicum of over 600 participants and over 10,000 online viewers. In addition, ARISE Mexico participated in 91 events organized by other partners promoting the ARISE initiative.

During 2020, ARISE Mexico also increased the number of partnerships. One of the highlights included the collaboration with Global Compact Mexico (UNGC), where ARISE Mexico is leading the Resilience Roundtable. The Resilience Roundtable is one of the 14 Working Groups that were jointly launched with the Office of the Presidency (Federal Government), the Business Coordinating Council (CCE), which is the most influential body of the private sector in the country, and Global Compact Mexico, with the aim to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

In addition, with support from UNDRR, [Five Voluntary Cooperation Agreements](#) were signed with strategic institutions such as: the Confederation of National Chambers of Commerce, Services and Tourism (CONCANACO SERVYTUR), the Alliance for Corporate Social Responsibility in Mexico (AliaRSE), the Mexican Chamber of the Construction Industry (CMIC), the Mexican Association of Insurance Institutions (AMIS), and the five regional nodes. Furthermore, UN Mexico and the National Coordination of Civil Protection participated as observers and allies (see Fig. 25).



Figure 25. Celebratory announcement on the Voluntary Cooperation Agreements signing on the Resilience Protocol for SMES in the context of COVID-19

ARISE Mexico also made a great progress in its communication efforts. For instance, in 2020, the numbers online followers of ARISE Mexico increased by 223.5%. In addition, ARISE Mexico developed and shared 28 newsletters with its 2,135 subscribers. Also, seven press releases were disseminated through ARISE Mexico on the network's progress and milestones, leading to additional 49 press releases and 6 interviews in some high-level national media such as [*El Universal*](#), [*El Economista*](#), [*La Jornada*](#), [*El Reforma*](#), among others.

To align its workplan with the ARISE four global priorities, ARISE Mexico has reorganized its Members into four Working Groups, one for each ARISE priority area (see Fig. 26). In fulfillment of one of the commitments requested by UNDRR to position the value proposition and the 4 priority areas, two testimonial videos were developed for each priority area, with leadership of members dedicated to the topic. These videos were shared on YouTube and in social media networks; links to these testimonials are provided below.

Testimonials SME Resilience

[Salvador Villalobos, Presidente Ejecutivo, Consejo de la Comunicación](#)

[José Manuel López Campos, Presidente, CONCANACO-SERV y TUR](#)

Testimonials Resilient Investments

[Alfonso Carrillo, Director General del Observatorio de la Construcción, Cámara Mexicana de la Industria de la Construcción \(CMIC\)](#)

[Nicolás Mariscal, Presidente del Consejo de Administración, Marhnos](#)

Testimonials Re-Insurance

[Ingrid Cerwinka, Vicepresidenta de Asuntos Públicos, Comunicación y Responsabilidad Corporativa, AXA México](#)

[Ángeles Yáñez, Directora Ejecutiva de Líneas de Negocio, Riesgos y Desarrollo del Sector, Asociación Mexicana de Instituciones de Seguros \(AMIS\)](#)

Testimonial Resilient Infrastructure

[Martha Herrera, Directora Global de Negocio Responsable, CEMEX](#)

[Esther Fernández, Directora de Continuidad del Negocio, AT&T México](#)

Grupos de Trabajo ARISE MX



Figure 26. ARISE MX Working Group overview on ARISE's priorities

For 2021, ARISE Mexico has identified three main lines of action:

- **Positioning** through own communications channels including ARISE Mexico website and the 5 social media platforms (Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube and Twitter), sending biweekly newsletters, quarterly progress bulletins (at least 4 per year), and conducting interviews with media (at least 2 per year). Additional milestones include the expansion of the ARISE Mexico membership by at least 50 new companies, as well as the organization and participation in events (at least 1 event organized: ARISE Mx Forum in the framework of the Regional Platform Jamaica to be held in 2021; participation in at least 5 external events to promote ARISE).
- **Training:** conduct at least 5 Business Resilience Workshops, 5 digital seminars and design 1 training repository and tools for members.
- **Public Policy Analysis:** monitor the proposed New General Law on Comprehensive Risk Management and Civil Protection (pending adoption). Liaison with the Federal Chamber of Deputies and Senators for technical advice on public policy and legislation related to disaster risk management and civil protection.

ARISE Network Leads: Dale Sands; Cheryl Kreindler; Debbra Johnson; Jason Bird
Email: mdalesands@aol.com; cheryl_kreindler@golder.com; debbra.johnson@me.com; jason.bird@jacobs.com
Company / Organization: Village of Deer Park & MD Sands Consulting Solutions LLC; Golder; Debbra A.K. Johnson, LLC; Jacobs Engineering Group Inc.

After the launch of the [Commercial Buildings Resilience Scorecard](#) in January 2020, ARISE US has been selecting companies and cities to continue testing the tool. Thus, the network has been establishing new partnerships in the US, but also in the Latin America and the Caribbean region to work on resilient infrastructure.

Consequently, the work on resilient infrastructure drew the highest levels of collaboration amongst ARISE Members, especially related to the above Buildings Scorecard, and the start of the Critical Asset Management System (CAMS) Project in October of 2020 – both headed by Peter Williams Solutions, LLC. CAMS is currently under development and will allow cities and states to inventory their critical assets and track the relationships between them. For example, the system will allow to predict, plan for and mitigate cascading failures between systems. In 2020, the project is focusing on confirming requirements and creating the software. Pilots are currently being implemented in Dominica and US, with other locations also showing interest to test the tool.

Although highly focused on infrastructure, the CAMS project has the potential to contribute to all four ARISE priorities. Members including Debbra Johnson are leveraging these tools to bring together public and private sectors, increase knowledge and build resilience capacities. Work has now started on confirming requirements and creating the software.

Another potentially far-reaching SME and infrastructure initiative by one of the ARISE US Members, Risk and Resilience Consulting, was the co-creation of the [10-year sustainability and resilience plan defining goals, targets, recommended actions and an implementation plan](#) for the largest trade association in the U.S., the National Association of REALTORS, with the aim to help America's largest small businesses - real estate agents - guide their clients in making risk-informed decisions. Additionally, Risk and Resilience Consulting collaborated with City of Miami, Enterprise Community Partners and Affordable Housing Leaders to create "[Keep Safe Miami](#)," informed by [UNDRR Building Disaster Scorecard](#), to equip affordable housing owners and operators with tools to assess their buildings' resilience to climate change and natural hazards, and provide them with actionable strategies and guidance on financing to address these vulnerabilities.

Furthermore, in 2020, the US Network Board and key members promoted ARISE and solicited new members. The network welcomed three new members applications and many of its members renewed their commitments to ARISE, showcasing the rising interest in ARISE and disaster risk reduction. In support of ARISE network at global level, one of ARISE US members, Chloe Demorsky, was elected as a new member of the Global Board, demonstrating the leadership of the Americas region in the promotion of the ARISE agenda.

Finally, in 2020, ARISE US conducted its new board election process and enhanced its board terms of reference to expand the board's scope of action and allow a smooth transition to align the new board's workplan with ARISE Four Priorities.

Asia & the Pacific

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ARISE India Network

ARISE Network Lead: Nirankar Saxena
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Company / Organization: The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry

India has been one of the most impacted countries by the COVID-19 pandemic, both in terms of the number of cases, which now top over [11 million \(with >150,000 deaths\)](#) and the socio-economic losses resulting from the crisis. Amid these challenges, India's private sector has emerged as a vital resource in building local resilience, with benefits extending across the globe as well.

In 2020, ARISE India member companies and organizations helped government to surmount the crisis by taking this pandemic as an opportunity to make the private sector realize the significance of reducing risks and make India self-reliant. In addition, some of the ARISE India member companies developed indigenous kits to detect the coronavirus (RT-PCR).

ARISE India has also been working with partners to directly help those who have been hit hardest by the pandemic's economic consequences. According to a survey conducted by ActionAid India, more than 75% of informal workers lost their livelihoods since the COVID-19 lockdowns started. In addition to providing food and assistance to hundreds of thousands of people, ARISE India members and partners have been supporting a number of initiatives to help alleviate poverty and foster sustainable development. One



Figure 27. Mask Production

initiative is the [Parli Project](#), which aims to trigger a “rural economic revolution” by helping rural farmers adopt new farming methods and crops to help combat drought and build economic resilience. In 2020, the project scaled up its work to plant 3 million fruit trees in four of the poorest districts in the Marathwada division of the Indian state of Maharashtra, which consists of 3,856 villages. This is in addition to planting around 500,000 trees in the Raisen District of Madhya Pradesh state. ARISE India members have been helping businesses to keep afloat, through supporting business continuity planning and resilience building, creating employment opportunities through facemasks production for the women whose husbands lost their livelihood due to lockdown (see Fig. 27), initiated new opportunities of social business in terms of apple garden management, oyster mushroom cultivation

and construction of toilets in schools, installation of reverse osmosis plants, and digital classrooms in schools.

A key pre-requisite to proper planning is understanding the business' vulnerability and exposure. To aid that process, ARISE India member Resilience Innovation Knowledge Academy (RIKA) assisted UNDRR Regional Office for Asia-Pacific to develop an easy-to-use online [Quick Risk Estimation Tool](#) for Asia-Pacific to help small businesses across the region. ARISE India also supported the development of the Hindi version of the UNDRR COVID-19 Small Business Continuity and Recovery Planning Toolkit and supported by an online training course, done in collaboration with the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre.

In a good example of stakeholder-to-stakeholder collaboration, RIKA was also part of a collaboration with members of the UNDRR Asia-Pacific Science, Technology and Academia Advisory Group (APSTAAG) who developed an innovative new concept to foster green business recoveries. The concept for ecosystem-centric business continuity planning was published in *Progress in Disaster Science*, a peer-reviewed journal.

ARISE India along with [Japan Bosai Platform](#) (JBP) and [Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure](#) (CDRI) organized webinars on [“Innovations, New Technologies and AI – New Tools for future complex disasters post COVID-19”](#) for Indian and Japanese companies. They shared their innovative technologies and practices which led to b-2-b talks later.

ARISE India in partnership with the World Animal Protection India organized a webinar on strategies to be adopted for protection of animals during and post COVID-19. ARISE India member RIKA India and VNIT, Nagpur, India co-hosted the [Urban Thinker Campus](#), with multiple national and international organizations as partners. The Campus is an initiative of UN Habitat's World Urban Campaign, which aims to bring dialogues amongst experts from various fields of science and technology, management, etc. for better urban management. The event focused on comprehending present and future urban challenges, especially among the Asian countries, and explored workable solutions that would ensure attaining sustainable goals in the context of urban climate change. Mami Mizutori, SRSG and Head UNDRR and Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister, MSME, Government of India addressed the participants.

To unite innovators, mission-driven entrepreneurs, experts, and developers in finding unique solutions for tackling the issues of pandemic and future disasters to make the society resilient and sustainable, [online social hackathon](#) was created by ARISE India in partner with RIKKA (see Fig. 28). To ensure wider outreach and feasibility of innovative ideas/solutions, thematic mentors guided the specific groups through weekly sessions.



Figure 28. On-line Social Hackathon by ARISE INDIA and RIKKA

Emphasis of the event was to develop implementable solutions and prototype development. Five universities (2 IITs, 2 NITs and Keio University, Japan) participated in this bilateral event. Six Themes were selected, and 52 hours of mentorship was done. In the end, three top ideas were selected based on a jury.

Lastly, ARISE India and its partners mounted, since the start of the pandemic, a number of communication and awareness-raising campaigns to help individuals and organizations cope with the disaster's impact. These included advisories for businesses, back-to-back innumerable webinars, job training, social media campaigns, and psychological and spiritual advice.

Japan

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ARISE Japan Network

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Company / Organization: The Japan JTB Tourism Research & Consulting Co.;
Tourism Resilience Japan

ARISE Japan Secretariat:

Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd. (Yoshiko Abe and Akira Doi)

ARISE Japan Steering Committee:

Satoshi Hijikata, Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd., ARISE Global Board Member

Shigeki Honda, Minerva Veritas Co., Ltd. (Affiliate Member)

Kiyomi Nakamura, Japan Conservation Engineers & Co., Ltd.

Members as of end 2020: 23 Businesses (21 Members and 2 Affiliates)

Members welcomed in 2020: 3

Members left in 2020: 0

2020 at a Glance:

| | |
|----------|--|
| January | ARISE Japan published a voluntary commitment at the Sendai Framework Voluntary Commitment online platform (SFVC) |
| March | ARISE Japan Public Symposium – planned, then postponed to October. |
| April | ARISE Japan Lead Masato Takamatsu in UNDRR Asia-Pacific’s webinar “Business Resilience in the Face of COVID-19” and submitted list of members “COVID-19 and DRR initiatives” to SEM/UNDRR. |
| May | Publication of highlight article featuring ARISE Japan’s voluntary commitment at the SFVC online platform. |
| June | Submitted list of member activities for ARISE AGM. |
| July | ARISE Japan Summer Meeting, ARISE Japan Lead Masato Takamatsu presents at ARISE AGM (Session A). |
| August | Publication of ARISE Japan’s story in a series of stakeholder experience stories during the COVID-19 pandemic by UNDRR Asia-Pacific. |
| October | ARISE Japan Online Symposium 2020: Tourism and resilience to disasters; working with ‘with-COVID’ present for a better ‘post-COVID’ future. |
| December | Participated in APP-DRR (preparatory meeting for Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference for DRR), prepared and submitted joint stakeholder statement, ARISE Japan Winter Meeting. |

ARISE Japan in 2020: overview and highlights

Japan, a country faced with a multitude of hazards and risks, and with risk reduction engrained in public and private policy and decision making, features a range of government, private sector and multi-stakeholder groups and initiatives that work towards promoting disaster risk awareness, business continuity, and partnerships. The Government of Japan also hosts an annual large-scale national DRR platform event, including strong focus on the role of the private sector.

Most ARISE Japan members are part of these other domestic groups and initiatives; ARISE Japan's strength is thereby its cross-silo and cross-pollination role, as a space where ideas can be exchanged between members, as well as at the regional and global levels.

ARISE Japan's 2020 activities followed its three-year ARISE Japan Network Action Plan (2019-2022), marking its first full year of implementation. ARISE Japan's annual activities focus on two invitation-only informational meetings per year, geared towards members, and an annual public symposium for advocacy and outreach.

Specifically, the highlights in 2020 included:

ARISE Japan Online Symposium (annual public symposium)

[*ARISE Japan Online Symposium 2020: Tourism and resilience to disasters: working with the 'with-COVID' present for a better 'post-COVID' future*](#) was held as a virtual event on the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, 13 October 2020 (see Fig. 29). The event kicked off the tourism-focused activities of the three-year ARISE Japan Network Action Plan, which aims to invigorate Network activities in Japan and to attract new members through targeted engagement of the tourism sector.

Resilience of the tourism industry became a very timely topic under COVID-19, as restrictions on domestic and international travel devastated Japan's industry populated by small and medium-sized businesses. The event combined DRR education geared towards tourism businesses, in the form of three lightning lectures with an overview of resilience-building practices in the tourism sector at the corporate, community, and industry level. Through this event, ARISE Japan initiated relationships with a key industry organization, the Japan Travel and Tourism Association ([JTTA](#)).

The online event was attended by 45 participants who were highly satisfied of the event’s quality and content⁴. A detailed and favorable post-event report was published in a bimonthly tourism industry newspaper ([online](#) and [in print](#), in Japanese). Nevertheless, contrary to expectations, nearly all attendees were from the DRR industry’s private sector. Essentially, indicating that either the programming or the outreach mechanism failed to sufficiently engage the targeted tourism sector’s audience.

Efforts were activated in order to reach the tourism sector and utilize the event’s learnings, [short recordings](#) of the event were compiled and disseminated in November 2020. These recordings were subtitled in English as part of ARISE Japan’s dissemination efforts of good practices to global ARISE colleagues and the wider DRR community.



Figure 29. ARISE Japan Online Symposium

Publishing ARISE Japan’s Sendai Framework Voluntary Commitment



Figure 30. Publishing ARISE Japan’s Sendai Framework Voluntary Commitment

ARISE Japan became the first ARISE network to commit and publish its three-year activity plan as a voluntary commitment through the Sendai Framework Voluntary Commitment (SFVC) online platform, in an effort to make private sector actions more transparent and open to partnership and “[Resilience in the tourism sector: ARISE Japan Activity Plan 2019-2022](#)” featuring ARISE Japan’s voluntary commitment was also published in May at the platform (see Fig. 30). In addition, progress reports have been published through the SFVC platform in April and October 2020, featuring ARISE Japan’s voluntary commitment was also published in May at the platform. In addition, progress reports have been published through the SFVC platform in April and October 2020.

⁴ The fifth National Conference on Promoting Disaster Risk Reduction (“Bosai Kokutai”) was held by the Government of Japan in October 2020 as a one-day virtual event; ARISE Japan members Tokio Marine Nichido Fire Insurance and Japan Bosai Platform contributed via virtual booths (presentations).

ARISE Japan’s stakeholder COVID-19 experience story

In response to a request by UNDRR Asia-Pacific and Office in Japan, ARISE Japan prepared a group narrative, combining information provided by six member companies to give an overview of the Japanese private sector experience in supporting preparedness for disaster evacuations under pandemic conditions (see Fig. 31).

The narrative described how the private sector is contributing to urgent updates to ‘with COVID’ disaster preparedness, under government guidance and coordination, in their specific business areas, citing efforts to make private-owned facilities available in case of disaster evacuation, helping the public reassess their preparedness plans in light of the pandemic, helping the informationally vulnerable access key information via multi-language hotlines, and helping local governments understand public opinion via polls.

Private sector experience in Japan: Supporting disaster preparedness for evacuations under COVID-19



Figure 31. ARISE Japan’s stakeholder COVID-19 experience story

ARISE Japan Stakeholder Reflections for APP-DRR

Governments and stakeholders were asked to prepare a short reflection on the guiding question: “The cascading and compounded impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and other disasters has shown that we must transform how disaster risk is governed. Going into 2021, please share your reflections on what is most needed to facilitate this transformation?” ARISE Japan, India, and Philippines submitted a [joint reflection](#) as the private sector under ARISE Japan’s coordination. ARISE Japan’s reflection was that an overhaul of societal assumptions is needed to facilitate transformation towards a more whole-of-society approach to disaster risk governance.

ARISE Japan Summer Meeting



Figure 32. ARISE Japan Summer Meeting

The ARISE Japan Summer Meeting was held virtually on 7th July, with 21 participants including representatives from 12 companies, and Yuki Matsuoka from UNDRR Office in Japan.

This was the first meeting under the COVID-19 pandemic (see Fig. 32). The meeting covered welcome of new ARISE members; planning of the postponed March public symposium, including a discussion of what themes are now newly relevant under COVID-19; It also included a discussion on latest publications, webinars, and tools such as the COVID-19 Small

Business Continuity and Recovery Planning Toolkit, as well as a discussion of ARISE Four Priorities in preparation for the ARISE AGM.

ARISE Japan Winter Meeting

The ARISE Japan Winter Meeting was held virtually on 10th December, with 10 participants including representatives from 6 companies, and Yuki Matsuoka from UNDRR Office in Japan (see Fig. 33).

The meeting included post-event review of the online symposium held in October (see above), and information-sharing on UNDRR-related activities, particularly the APMCDRR, as well as forward-looking brainstorming of possible events and activities in 2021. On the latter, it was agreed to plan the annual March public event as a virtual event, and to maximize the current online environment to engage with other ARISE networks in similar time zones.



Figure 33. ARISE Japan Winter Meeting

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Company / Organization: SM Prime Holdings

In 2020, ARISE Philippines with its 150 members, undertook activities in line with its five commitments: raise awareness, influence, share knowledge, catalyze and implement projects and activities to achieve the targets of the SFDRR. While undertaking these activities, the Philippines, however, was hit by a number of severe natural hazards starting with the eruption of Taal volcano in January 2020, near the National Capital Region, and powerful typhoons that caused destructive floods in many parts of the country. In addition to these disasters, the COVID-19 pandemic enormously affected the population. Despite these challenges, the network continued to perform and even increase its activities to extend support to those affected by disasters and the negative effects of the pandemic.

Furthermore, ARISE-Philippines updated its organizational and operational structures to improve capacities and performance and thus to achieve Networks goals and objectives.

Re-energizing and transforming the Network

Throughout 2020, the network underwent some developments that helped revitalize the commitment of members, while strengthening collaboration and synergies.

ARISE Global Board election – Following the termination of the successful term of Hans T. Sy on the ARISE Global Board, Liza B. Silerio, the Vice President of SM Prime Holdings Inc., was elected as a member of the ARISE Global Board.

Terms of Reference (TOR) – The ARISE Philippines Network developed the network’s first-ever Terms of Reference (TOR). It will serve as the official document that will provide institutional reference and guidance for the network’s rules, organization, structure, memberships and operations.

Election of the Board of Directors (BOD) – Aligned with its TOR, the Network elected its first Board of Directors (BOD) that will provide guidance and direction to the Network. The Board is composed of eleven members including two (2) Co-Chairs and nine (9) regular members representing their respective companies that are also members of ARISE Philippines (see Fig. 34).



Figure 34. Diagram displaying ARISE-Philippines' Board of Directors

Annual General Meeting - As part of its continued efforts to mobilize the private sector and foster its collaboration in support of the SFDRR and the targets of UNDRR, the network conducted its Annual General Meeting (AGM) online on 9 October 2020. The AGM, attended by the general membership, was highlighted by remarks from Mami Mizutori, UNDRR Head and SRSG, Sec. Delfin Lorenzana, Chair of the Philippines National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, and other distinguished guests from the Philippines, and UNDRR. During the AGM, Network members renewed their commitment to the network's mandate to support the implementation of the SFDRR, and particularly to create a disaster risk-resilient Philippines. During the AGM, ARISE members also presented their initiatives to address the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and other activities aligned with the Network's commitments to the SFDRR (see Fig. 35).



Figure 35. ARISE Philippines Annual General Membership Meeting

Living up to its commitments and performing its duties

Members of ARISE Philippines actively pursued activities to achieve the goals of ARISE three Work Themes and four Priority Areas to which ARISE Philippines committed to.

Work Theme: Disaster Risk Management Strategies

NRC 2020 Colloquium. The National Resilience Council (NRC), ARISE Philippines' lead implementing partner, conducted its annual colloquium focusing on Pathways and Milestones in Building Local Resilience. The event marked the transitioning of the Local Government Unit partners from the *Prepare* year to the *Adapt* year as part of their three-year capacity building program. The event highlighted the leadership and the community capacity building efforts of partners from the local government and other sectors in building community resilience.

Adopt-a-City Program: The [Adopt-a-City Program of NRC](#) is an innovative ongoing initiative for businesses to collaborate directly with local governments, civil society organizations, academic partners, and communities in transforming local climate and disaster risk landscapes. The Program seeks to engage the private sector in supporting disaster risk reduction and long-term resilience efforts of cities through private investment. [In December 2020, NRC signed a memorandum of agreement with the City of Manila](#), and the private sector partners from the Bank of the Philippine Islands Foundation (BPIF) and the International Container Ports Terminals Inc. (ICTSI) Foundation to support the program (see Fig. 36).

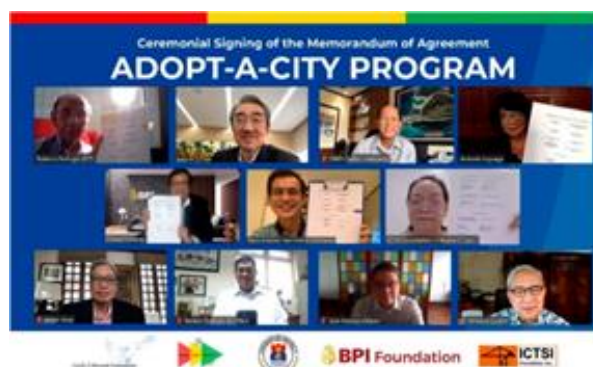


Figure 36. Adopt-a-City Program Zoom Meeting

Work Theme: Education and Training (see Fig. 37)

First graduates of master’s programs on Disaster Risk. Two members of the ARISE network, both prominent learning institutions in the country, celebrated with first 31 graduates completing their Executive Master in Disaster Risk and Crisis Management (EMDRCM) from the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) and 9 students completed their Master in Disaster Risk and Resilience (MDRR) from the Ateneo De Manila University (ADMU).

Collaboration for Resilience. To raise awareness and empower youth in the field of disaster risk reduction, the Asia Pacific College (APC), IBM, the Department of Science and Technology, Resilient.PH, and ARISE Philippines worked together to incorporate resilience matters in the [Skillsbuild Innovation Camp](#) initiative of APC and IBM. During the Camp 150 college students collaborated with ten organizations.

Training on Urban Risk Resilience. Belle Corporation conducted a training on fire safety for its employees and other stakeholders in line with the network’s priority action on urban risk resilience.

COVID-19 Knowledge Sharing. ARISE Philippines Network Members conducted a series of [webinars](#) to share information to support communities and businesses affected by the pandemic. For example, NRC organized the webinar “COVID-19 Knowledge Series: Expert Dialogue on Resilience, Public Health, and Human Security”. Another webinar titled “The Fight against COVID-19: Lessons from Taiwan,” was organized by the Asian Institute of Management. Other ARISE member companies conducted similar activities.

Priority Area: Small and Medium-size Businesses

MSME Resilience and Recovery.

The network, together with the NRC, and the Department of Trade and Industry Bureau of Small and Medium Enterprises Development (DTI - BSMED) organized a [webinar](#) to help small and medium businesses improve their business continuity plans (BCP) and help increase their organizational resilience to anticipated shocks and disruptions. More than 300 organizations participated in the webinar.



Figure 37. MSME Resilience and Recovery after COVID -19 webinar

Business Continuity Summit.



Figure 38. Business Continuity Summit 2020 flyer

The Business Continuity Managers Association of the Philippines ([BCMAP](#)) conducted its annual summit to discuss trends and issues related to establishing, improving, and sustaining robust and agile business continuity plans. Several members of the network participated in the online summit which was designed to reinforce the role of the private sector in building a more resilient Philippines (see Fig. 38).

Buy Local Campaign

To support small and medium businesses severely affected by the restrictions on travel and business operations, several members of the network, in collaboration with the Association of Filipino Franchisers, Inc. (AFFI), and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) organized the “*Buyanihan*” media campaign to encourage consumers to purchase locally made products (see Fig. 39).



Figure 39. Buy Local Campaign “Buyanihan” flyer

ARISE COVID-19 activities that contribute to long-term DRR:

- SM Prime donated Php 1.4 M to the city governments of Iloilo and Cagayan De Oro to fund the acquisition of COVID-19 equipment and testing facility to supplement the two cities' capacity to conduct Covid-19 tests. The company also donated Php 1.4M to the city government of Zamboanga to help in the construction of an emergency quarantine facility that would house residents who would require isolation. In addition, the SM Mall of Asia Arena started operations as a COVID-19 mega swabbing facility to help the country against the coronavirus pandemic.
- The Aboitiz Group donated a total of 2.2 Billion in support of efforts to address the pandemic.
- The Airspeed Group of companies donated food packs to front-liners from different hospitals during the pandemic.
- CEMEX Philippines distributed food in the form of 600 50kg-sacks of rice grains, hundreds of canned goods, hygiene products, medicines, and isolation suits to over 30 barangays in the Provinces of Rizal and Cebu, Antipolo City and the City of Naga. The corporation also provided transportation and manpower for the delivery of the goods and donations. Cemex Philippines also set up sanitation tents with a disinfecting mist system suitable for public use in Cebu.
- Far Eastern University donated food packs to frontlines in different hospitals.
- Jollibee Food Corporation sent meals to frontlines on different hospitals nationwide.
- NEO Property Management Incorporated launched the “NEO Give” program to provide cooked meals to front-liners at the Taguig LGU and Taguig Pateros District Hospital.
- GMA Kapuso Foundation launched the ‘Labanan and COVID-19’ campaign for the workers at the front-liners in the fight against COVID-19.
- The Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF) conducted several projects, such as [Project Ugnayan](#) to help the poor communities in Metro Manila; [Project Pagasa Pandemic Responders](#) offering a series of training for healthcare front-liners; and [Project Kaagapay](#), a fundraising initiative that raised Php 92 million and provided 200,000 PPEs for 70 hospitals among other significant response operations with its member companies and other sectors.
- CARD MRI, one of the members of the network from the micro-financing sector, stepped up its efforts to provide assistance to its members severely affected by the pandemic and the other hazards. Among the high impact initiatives of the organization was the suspension of loan amortization while the quarantine is in effect. This initiative is in recognition of the difficulties of conducting business activities amidst social distancing protocols and travel restrictions (see Fig. 40).



Figure 40. CARD MRI Social Media Cards: Response to COVID-19

Arab States

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Company / Organization: **Real Estate Regulatory Agency of Dubai**

2020 saw the establishment of the first National Network for ARISE in the United Arab Emirates. UAE ARISE was formally established in September 2020, Dr. Mahmoud Al Burai was elected as a Chair, Mr. Ahmed Riad as a Co-Chair, and Dr. Tariq Nizami as Vice Chair of UAE ARISE; its board is comprised of 11 industry leaders and CEOs from some of UAE's most distinguished firms in various sectors, including real estate, health, business networks, start-ups, academia, and finance.

The activities of the Network focus on enhancing SMEs resilience, infrastructure resilience, and advocacy as UAE ARISE network continues to expand.

The [first meeting for the UAE ARISE Network](#) was organized at the Burj Khalifa on 9th September 2020 (see Fig. 41). The meeting was led by Sujit Mohanty, the Chief of UNDRR Regional Office for the Arab States, Dr. Mahmoud El Burai the Vice President of International Real Estate Federation and Senior Advisor in the Dubai Government, along with the United Nations Resident Coordinator for UAE, Dr. Dena Assaf, and other senior officials from UNDRR.



Figure 41. First Meeting of UAE ARISE

During 2020, UAE ARISE actively engaged in ARISE four focus areas for private sector engagement: starting by issuing an [International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction \(IDDRR\) Booklet](#) in collaboration with the Dubai Resilience Programme in October 2020, conducting the CEOs' Symposium for Business Resilience in December 2020 in collaboration with UNDRR, and supporting the entrepreneurial ecosystem with the aim to increase the resilience of SMEs.

UAE ARISE Board Members continue to work towards building a new generation of experts in business continuity, resilience, and risk reduction in the Arab States to enhance partnerships among the board, networks, and other initiatives; and to expand the reach of ARISE. These actions are supported by the ongoing promotion of innovations in the field of business continuity and resilience.

In order to further enhance the resilience of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), one of UAE ARISE board members, Estmararya Consulting collaborated with UNDRR, National Crisis & Emergency Management Authority (NCEMA) and National Technology Group (NTG) in May 2020 in the organization of a webinar “[*Business Resilience in the face of COVID-19 in the Arab States*](#)”.

Starting from July 2020, Estmararya Consulting and other UAE ARISE members have been developing an online platform targeting 1000 SMEs from the Arab States to help establish and develop a robust business continuity program to deal with the repercussions of COVID-19. The platform is planned to be launched in July 2021.

Moreover, to support resilient infrastructure development, Estmararya Consulting also disseminated and encouraged the implementation of scorecards on “[Public Health on COVID](#)” and “[UNDRR Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Industrial and Commercial Buildings](#)”, which also contributed to increased awareness on DRR in the Arab States. In addition, UAE ARISE participated at the 5th Arab Partnership Meeting for DRR.

In 2021, UAE ARISE Network continue recruiting new companies to actively engage in the ARISE initiative. The Network will also continue raising awareness on disaster risk reduction and building a new generation of experts in business continuity, resilience, and risk reduction in the Arab States. UAE ARISE is also planning to organize a CEOs Symposium for Business Resilience, conduct an ‘Introduction to Business Resilience’ webinar, and continue nurturing an alliance with the Dubai Police and other interested parties as well as to build capacity in the area of Resilience and DRR in UAE and beyond.

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In the Europe Region, ARISE continues to expand, with 21 active members and more organizations at the final stages of the application process. While the networks are still at the early stages of establishment, the growth of ARISE members in Europe indicate the interest of the private sector in the region in disaster risk reduction, and opportunities for further growth in 2021-2022.

UNDRR recently published the report “[Making Critical Infrastructure Resilient: Ensuring Continuity of Service - Policy and Regulations in Europe and Central Asia](#)” which can support ARISE Members’ work, given the recent announcement of ARISE joining the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure. The report provided an assessment of including risk reduction and resilience measures in national policies as well as regulations protecting critical infrastructure in the European and Central Asia countries.

The report outlines key recommendations for governments, including engaging and creating incentives for the private sector to invest in resilience. In addition, the UNDRR Regional Office for Europe continues building resilience of SMEs in the region by organizing workshops and engaging with local SME networks. Discussions on financing long-term resilience and private sector engagement will continue at the European Forum on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2021.