The
#NoNaturalDisasters
Conference

Conway Hall, London, WC1R 4RL
&
Online
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22 September 2022 // 10am to 6pm

Agenda

Introduction (10:00 - 10:15)
A high level introduction to the conference, its aims, objectives and the importance of the wider discussion around risk, exposure and vulnerabilities and societies role in all.
● To be announced

Opening session (10:15 - 11:30)
The ‘who, what and why’ of the #NoNaturalDisasters argument including specific sections on the history of the campaign, why disasters are not natural and why this discussion is so important and more than a discussion of semantics.
● Confirmed panel
  ○ Katiuscia Fara - DRR Expert
  ○ Bhola Saha - Assam Royal Global University
  ○ Terry Cannon - Institute of Development Studies
  ○ Kanza Ahmed - UK Health Security Agency
● Questions & audience discussion
● Interactive polls & quiz

The implications of the status quo (11:30 - 13:00)
Examining the status quo, including presentations on why some organisations, institutions and individuals within the sector fight for “natural” to be part of the discourse and an exploration of why the term has been beneficial to some people throughout history.
● Confirmed panel
  ○ Monica Sanders - Georgetown University
  ○ Malcolm Shead - ShelterBox
  ○ Ksenia Chmutina - Loughborough University
  ○ Jeanette Elsworth - United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
● Questions and audience discussion

**Lunch (13:00 - 14:00)**

#NoNaturalDisasters within broader societal systems (14:00 - 15:30)
Looking at the role of culture, language, economics and religion (amongst other areas) this session will explore how our societal systems shape and limit our campaign and how best to work within these systems.
● Confirmed panel
  ○ Jason von Meding - University of Florida
  ○ Leisa Perch - SAEDI Consulting Inc
  ○ Becky Sindall - WASH Failures
  ○ Rod Mena - International Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University
● Questions and audience discussion
● Interactive polls
Researching the unnaturalness of disasters (15:30 - 17:00)
We’ll examine what research is already out there, how future generations are being taught about disasters and risk and discuss which areas need further consideration to help move theory into practice.

● Confirmed panel
  ○ Louis Vis - Redland Green Secondary School
  ○ Alex Louis Lazaros Tsakiridis - PreventionWeb
  ○ Dewald van Niekerk - African Centre for Disaster Studies
  ○ Jazmin Scarlett - University of East Anglia
  ● Questions and audience discussion

Micro-presentations on upcoming research (17:00 - 17:50)
Micro-presentations based on abstracts submitted from a number of early career researchers and academics highlighting their own research & how it contributes to the #NoNaturalDisasters campaign.

Closing (17:50 - 18:00)
● Ilan Kelman - UCL Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction

Post-conference social event (18:00 onwards)
Details to be confirmed.

This event is supported by