



## **Invitation to the F2F Event 2016 of the Swiss NGO DRR Platform**

### **Urban DRR and Urban Resilience, 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

Over the past years, the importance of cities has drastically increased as more than 50% of the global population live in cities, and urbanization is further on the rise with the most rapid urbanization expected to occur in mid-sized towns and cities in Africa and Asia. Although urbanization brings along economic, social and ecological benefits and opportunities, unplanned urbanization can result in considerable risks for the population. Cities are often located in areas that are highly exposed to natural hazards, such as on floodplains, coastal belts and fault lines, resulting in a high density of assets and people being highly vulnerable to disastrous effects should an extreme event strike. Interventions to reduce risks in urban areas face different challenges than those in rural settings such as increased density, diversity and complexity, in terms of structures, actors and processes.

A Face-to-Face (F2F) event is organized by the Swiss NGO DRR Platform to bring in different perspectives from a number of practitioners and experts to shed light on disaster risks in urban areas and provide insights into different approaches and practices in urban DRR and resilience building. The event will draw on resources within the Platform as well as from external and will start with a two-day workshop introducing and discussing approaches and case studies followed by a half-day public event that will broaden the thematic scope towards urban resilience.

The workshop will address key questions on the scope of DRR in the urban context also with regards to urban development and urban resilience, the commonalities and differences between DRR in rural areas and urban areas and how learning from rural DRR interventions can be leveraged for urban DRR, as well as the shaping the engagement of NGOs in urban DRR and their role in contributing to resilience building in cities. The workshop will be structured along four thematic blocks: Disaster risks in the face of increased urbanization (Block I), Understanding urban disaster risks (Block II), Interventions for urban disaster risk reduction (Block III), and The space and strategy for NGOs in working on urban DRR towards resilience (Block IV). The event will conclude with a public event on urban resilience with inputs from representatives from different sectors.

For participation please register until 31st October 2016 through the Swiss NGO DRR Platform via the following link <http://drrplatform.org/index.php/20-event-registration>

More information is available at <http://drrplatform.org/11-events/31-f2f-registration-2>

For any further questions, please contact Renate Fleiner ([rfleiner@caritas.ch](mailto:rfleiner@caritas.ch)), or Sylvie Frei ([sfrei@caritas.ch](mailto:sfrei@caritas.ch)) for any administrative matters.

We are looking much forward to welcoming you to an exciting event with stimulating discussions and exchange of experiences and ideas.

On behalf of the Swiss NGO DRR Platform,  
Nicole Stolz, Head of Department of Advisory Services Caritas Switzerland, and Renate Fleiner, DRR Advisor Caritas Switzerland

## Programme

Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 – Hotel Freienhof, Thun	
08.45 - 09.15	Arrival of participants and welcome coffee/tea
09.15 - 10.15	Introduction to key questions & hypotheses
	Participants round
	Guiding through the programme
10.15 - 10.45	Coffee/tea
<b>Block I: Introduction - Disaster risks in the face of increased urbanization – Facts and Figures</b>	
10.45 - 11.45	Disasters in the urban context
<b>Block II: Analyze – Understanding urban disaster risks</b>	
11.45 - 12.30	Informal settlements and vulnerability (case study)
12.30 - 13.30	Lunch
13.30 - 14.15	Density/heterogeneity - built environment (case study)
14.15 - 16.00	Group work
16.00 - 16.30	Coffee/tea
<b>Block III: Apply – Interventions for Urban Disaster Risk Reduction</b>	
16.30 - 18.15	Market place (poster session) on urban DRR practices/case studies
18.15 - 18.30	Wrap-up of the day
19.00	Dinner
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 – Hotel Freienhof, Thun	
08.15 - 08.30	Summary Day 1 and introduction Day 2
08.30 - 10.30	Private sector and Swiss government on urban DRR (short talks, panel discussion)
10.30 - 11.00	Coffee/tea
11.00 - 11.15	Platform member engagement in urban context/urban DRR
11.15 - 12.30	Swiss NGO DRR Partners on urban DRR (case studies)
12.30 - 13.30	Lunch
<b>Block IV: Advocate – The space and strategy for NGOs in working on urban DRR towards resilience</b>	
13.30 - 15.00	Group work on case studies
15.00 - 17.00	Walking tour in Thun
17.00 - 17.30	Coffee/tea
17.30 - 18.30	Group presentations and presentation of workshop findings and key messages
19.00	Dinner
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 - Hotel Kreuz, Bern	
<b>Public Day</b>	
08.30 - 09.00	Arrival of participants and welcome coffee/tea
09.00 - 09.45	Report back from F2F workshop and key messages
09.45 - 10.30	Keynote address on urban resilience
10.30 - 11.00	Coffee/tea
11.00 - 13.00	Panel discussion on urban resilience
13.00 - 14.30	Lunch-Apéro