



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Zurich University
of Applied Sciences



Hybrid Onsite/Online Exchange for Researchers in Pakistan and Switzerland

Disaster risk management: Opportunities for Research and Collaboration between Pakistan and Switzerland

Dear Colleagues in the scientific research community in Pakistan and Switzerland,

The [Swiss Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan](#), the [Leading House South Asia & Iran at Zurich University of Applied Sciences ZHAW](#), and the [National Disaster Risk Management \(NDMA\)](#) in Pakistan are pleased to invite you to a hybrid exchange as follows:

- Purpose:** To exchange ideas for future joint research projects regarding disaster risk management, based on the [Memorandum of Understanding](#) signed in July 2023 by the two countries
- To enable scientific researchers in Switzerland and Pakistan to establish new contacts with fellow researchers in the respective other country
- To demonstrate and deepen existing partnerships between scientific researchers in the two countries
- Date:** Tuesday, November 21, 2023
- Time:** 11:30 – 13:30 hrs (for participants in Switzerland **online**)
15:30 – 17:30 hrs (for participants in Pakistan **online**)
15:00 – 17:30 hrs (for participants in Pakistan **onsite**), reception following
- Venue:** In Pakistan the hybrid session will take place at the Swiss Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan, embedded in an onsite event. The Leading House in Switzerland will host the online session.
- Platform:** Microsoft Teams (registered participants will receive a dial-in link)
- Registration:** [Hybrid Session on Pakistan-Switzerland Disaster Risk Management \(office.com\)](#)
Registration deadline: Monday, November 20, 18:00h (CET)
- Cost:** None
- Eligibility:** Persons interested in registering need to meet the following criteria:
- A master's degree from any university, research institute or other research organization recognized by the government of Pakistan or Switzerland
- Present employment as scientific researcher with a university, research institute or other research organization recognized by the government of Pakistan or Switzerland

Welcome and opening notes		
Welcome note:	H. E. Mr. Georg Steiner , Ambassador of Switzerland in Pakistan	5 min
Opening note:	Doris Hysek , Manager Leading House South Asia and Iran	5 min

Short scientific talks		
Presentation 1 (Pakistan)	Mr. Saleem Shehzad Member Disaster Risk Reduction NDMA: “Disaster Risk Management, Innovations and Early Warning”	20 min
Presentation 2 (Switzerland)	Mr. Igor Tomic , Postdoctoral Researcher at École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne: “Earthquake engineering of unreinforced masonry structures”	20 min
Presentation 3 (Pakistan)	Mr. Raja Rehan , Advisor to World Bank in Disaster Management and Climate Change: “Disaster Risk Reduction, Resilience and Recovery”	15 min
Presentation 4 (Switzerland)	Ms. Doris Hysek , Manager Leading House South Asia and Iran: “Current funding opportunities”	15 min

Open discussion / Q & A		40 min
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Closing remarks		
Closing remarks	Doris Hysek , Manager Leading House South Asia and Iran	5 min
Closing remarks	Mr. Tanveer Piracha , DG National Institute of Disaster Management/ Ambassador Georg Steiner	5 min