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## Workshop on Science for Managing Disaster Risks

*PJ Hilton, Petaling Jaya  
9 March 2016*



PERSATUAN PENGURUSAN RISIKO DAN INSURANS MALAYSIA  
MALAYSIAN ASSOCIATION OF RISK AND INSURANCE MANAGEMENT



Unit Kajian Pengurusan Risiko  
RISK MANAGEMENT RESEARCH UNIT  
School of Economics, Finance & Banking  
Universiti Utara Malaysia

## Workshop on Science for Managing Disaster Risks 9 March 2016, PJ Hilton, Petaling Jaya

### Introduction

Climate change and expansion of settlements is expected to escalate climate induced hazards such as flooding, landslides, typhoons, etc. both in its extent and frequency as well as its occurrence in new areas within urban centres. A first step towards adaptation to future climate change is reducing vulnerability and exposure to present climate variability. Science-based products and services play a critical role in enhancing the capability of governments and the private sector in managing risk information and financing.

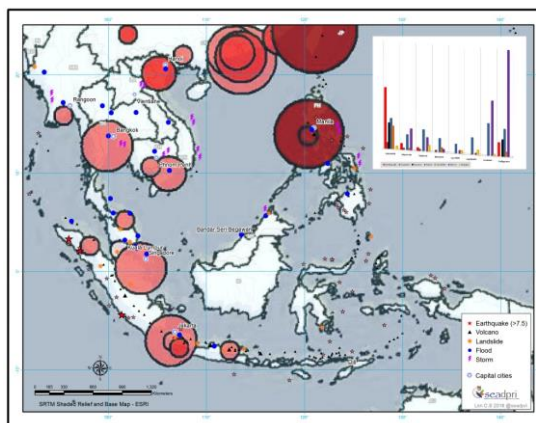
The UN Climate Summit 2014 saw the announcement of a variety of innovative initiatives related to risk financing mechanisms and climate risk investment frameworks. The 2015 Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change provide the means to advance such initiatives through science-based products and services that cater to site specific conditions and inform risk based decision making.

### Objectives

The workshop involves scientists and financial entities in particular insurers, reinsurers and risk assessors from various sectors. The objective is to **understand scientific needs and priorities of financial entities for managing disaster risks** and **identify barriers that limit the penetration of disaster risk insurance** in Malaysia.

The workshop discussion will focus on questions such as: What science information are you using now for managing risk of disasters? How effective are these? What do you need in addition? Participants from the private sector are encouraged to highlight good practices in current insurance models that should be scaled-up as well as strategies to promote risk insurance for current and future climate.

The discussion will be documented and disseminated to a wider audience to facilitate the development of science-based products and services for decision-making in a changing climate with emphasis on urban areas. The workshop inputs will also be forwarded to the National Disaster Management Agency (NaDMA) and the Office of the Science Advisor to the Honourable Prime Minister for further consideration.



Cities in Southeast Asia are affected by climate driven disasters i.e. floods, landslides etc. (except for earthquakes and volcanic eruptions in Indonesia and Philippines). Climate related threats account for 30% of the total GDP damage across cities in the region. [Source: Cambridge Centre for Risk Studies 2014]

### Programme

08:30 Registration

#### SESSION I: Opening and Keynote

Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sarah Aziz, SEADPRI-Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

09:00 Opening Remarks

YBhg. Dato' Zaitun Ab Samad

Director General, National Disaster Management Agency (NaDMA)

09:15 Keynote Address

YBhg. Professor Tan Sri Zakri Abdul Hamid

Science Advisor to the Honourable Prime Minister of Malaysia

10:00 Coffee Break

#### SESSION II: Panel Presentations & Discussion

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Joy Jacqueline Pereira, SEADPRI-Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

##### 10:30 Viewpoints – Science and Market Needs for Disaster Risk Reduction

- Professor Lord Julian Hunt  
MCSC, University of Cambridge
- Professor Johnny Chan  
City University of Hong Kong
- Dr. Ahmad Azlan Mohammad Yasir  
CoRE Expert Systems Sdn. Bhd.
- Dr. Arpah Abu Bakar  
Universiti Utara Malaysia
- Mr. Lim Tong Kang, Malaysian Association of Risk and Insurance Management (MARIM)

##### 11:30 Discussion – Priorities and Way Forward to Harness Science for Disaster Risk Insurance

12:45 Closing Remarks

YBhg. Datuk Dr. Mohd Yusoff Sulaiman

CEO, Malaysia Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT)

13:00 Lunch and End of Workshop