

# TRANSFORMING DEVELOPMENT AND DISASTER RISK

An IRDR International Centre of Excellence



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Development is vital for disaster risk reduction (DRR), yet current unsustainable development models are driving and creating disaster risks, for example, in the removal of mangrove forests that act as natural storm-surge protection barriers in favour of beachfront property development. At the same time, disasters can destroy development gains, but existing DRR approaches are not sufficiently contributing to sustainable development. Transformation is increasingly considered as a legitimate and necessary pathway for moving from development patterns that increase, create or unfairly distribute risks, towards more equitable, resilient and sustainable development outcomes.

The International Centre of Excellence on Transforming Development and Disaster Risk (ICoE-TDDR) seeks to transform the relationship between development and DRR. We work with academic, policy, development and private sector partners at global, regional and sub-national levels to advance scientific knowledge and support policy and practice to enact transformations towards more equitable, resilient and sustainable societies, in line with the Sendai Framework for DRR and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Our focus on transformation highlights the need for systemic change from social and political systems that create and perpetuate risk, and lead to socially unjust and unsustainable development outcomes, to systems where sustainable development and DRR work in unison to address the root causes of risk.

ICoE-TDDR is hosted by the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) and supported by the Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) programme<sup>1</sup>.

## Our Aim and Objectives

ICOE-TDDR seeks to advance understanding and application of transformation within development and disaster risk policy and practice, leading to equitable, resilient and sustainable development.



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<sup>1</sup> Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) is a research programme co-sponsored by the International Science Council (ISC) and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR). It is a global, multi-disciplinary approach to dealing with the challenges brought by disasters, mitigating their impacts, and improving related policy-making mechanisms. Core funding for IRDR is provided by the China Association for Science and Technology. IRDR International Programme Office is hosted by Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth (RADI) Chinese Academy of Sciences.