

## LOCAL ORGANIZATION

Anne Dölemeyer (Universität Leipzig)  
Wolfgang Fach (Universität Leipzig)  
Christian Schmidt (Universität Leipzig)  
Gerd Tetzlaff (Universität Leipzig)  
Marijana Tomin (Universität Leipzig)  
Janek Zimmer (Universität Leipzig)

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration is available on our homepage.  
For accommodation please check list on homepage.  
Conference fees: 60 € regular; Students: 30 €

## CONFERENCE SITE

Faculty of Physics and Earth Science  
Linnéstrasse 5  
04103 Leipzig, Germany

For further information, see our website:  
[www.uni-leipzig.de/risikoerde2009](http://www.uni-leipzig.de/risikoerde2009)

In cooperation with



## RISK AND PLANET EARTH Vulnerability, Natural Hazards, Integrated Adaptation Strategies

Conference on the occasion of the International Year of Planet Earth and the 600th anniversary of the University of Leipzig.

Constant environmental threats as well as periodically occurring extreme weather events like floods, tempests or heavy turbulences can have a powerful impact on our lives, even more so in the face of climate change and changing patterns of extreme weather events. Preventing the worst effects of such cataclysms requires interdisciplinary academic collaboration as well as close cooperation between academia and politics.

The three-day conference (March 2 – 4 2009) will bring together experts from natural and social sciences to discuss aspects of resilience and strategies for the prevention of catastrophic losses caused by extreme weather events. It further connects multiple perspectives from three different continents: North America, Africa and Europe. The main focus of the conference is on adaptation; that is, adaptation to given parameters, as well as to expected changes. In this context, it is necessary to discuss a) What we know (or do not know) about changing patterns of extreme weather events, b) how we can know about them and how we distribute this knowledge, in order to efficiently prevent disastrous effects, c) which strategies secure optimal adaptation, and d) how these strategies can be implemented in daily practice. While the conference sessions concentrate on the first three issues, the second conference day features several workshops, which deal especially with the question of implementation, thus reflecting both scientific research and concrete practices and bringing together academia and professionals.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## Conference Office

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[www.sechshundert.de](http://www.sechshundert.de)

# RISK AND PLANET EARTH Vulnerability, Natural Hazards, Integrated Adaptation Strategies

Conference celebrating the 600th  
anniversary of the University of  
Leipzig

**2 – 4 March, 2009**

Conference Program  
Second circular (Dec 08)

PROFILBILDENDER FORSCHUNGSBEREICH  
**Risikante Ordnungen**

**600 JAHRE  
UNIVERSITÄT LEIPZIG**



## MONDAY, MARCH 2

9:00 hrs: [Opening Session](#)

Address of Welcome on Behalf of the Conference  
Organizers *Wolfgang Fach, Vice-Rector for Teaching and Studies, Leipzig University*

Words of Welcome *Eva-Maria Stange, State Minister of Science and the Arts*

Opening Lecture *Irmgard Schwaetzer, Chair Person of the German Committee for Disaster Reduction (DKKV), Former Federal Minister*

Opening Lecture "Who is afraid of Planet Earth?" *Eduardo de Mulder, Director of International Year of Planet Earth Inc., Trondheim*

10:00 – 13:00 hrs

[Session I: Changes of Risk and Climate](#)

CONVENERS:

Irmgard Schwaetzer, German Committee for Disaster Reduction (DKKV)

Bernd Hoffmann, Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), Eschborn

SPEAKERS:

Global Environmental Change (Including Climate Change & Adaptation): Vulnerability and Resilience in Africa *Sospeter Muhongo, International Council for Science – Regional Office for Africa, Pretoria*

Hydrometeorological Hazards in Africa *Abdourahamane Konaré, International Council for Science – Regional Office for Africa, Pretoria*

The Use of Weather Forecasts for Disaster Prevention/Reduction *Filipe Lucio, World Meteorological Organisation, Geneva*

Weather Forecasting and Issuance of Official Warnings of Severe Weather Occurrences *Gerhard Adrian, Deutscher Wetterdienst (German National Meteorological Service), Offenbach*

Integrated Research on Disaster Risk – The Challenge of Natural and Human-Induced Environmental Hazards; An International Research Program *Gordon McBean, University of Western Ontario, London, Canada*

14:00 – 18:00 hrs

[Session II: Adapting to Natural Hazards, Preparing for Predictable Disasters: Lessons Learned, Lessons Neglected. The Example of "Katrina"](#)

CONVENERS:

Jost Heintzenberg, Leibniz Institute for Tropospheric Research (IfT), Leipzig

Sebastian Lentz, Leibniz-Institute for Regional Geography, Leipzig

SPEAKERS:

Geographies of Urban Growth, Decline, Disaster, and Recovery: New Orleans, 1718-2009 *Richard Campanella, Tulane University, Center for Bioenvironmental Research, New Orleans*

Reducing Hazard-Related Social Vulnerabilities *Susan L. Cutter, Hazard and Vulnerabilities Research Institute, University of South Carolina*

An Integrative Framework for Vulnerability Assessment – a Case Study from the Tsunami Affected Areas in Thailand *Martin Voss, Disaster Research Unit (KFS), Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel; Gunilla Kaiser, Department of Geography, Coastal Geography & Natural Hazards, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel*

Agencies of Catastrophe: How Scientists Warned, or Did Not Warn, Us about Katrina *Lee Clarke, Department of Sociology, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey*

Nature's Casino? The History of Flood Insurance in the United States and Germany *Uwe Luebken, The Amerika-Institut at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich*

Adaptation to Flood Risks Through Legal Rulemaking-Opportunities and Limits *Wolfgang Köck, Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research, Leipzig*

Changing Knowledge About Disaster Recovery *James K. Mitchell, Department of Geography, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey*

19:00 hrs: [Lecture](#)

Neue Herausforderungen an die Katastrophenvorsorge und Katastrophenminderung (In German) *Rudolf Seiters, President of the German Red Cross; Vice-President of the German Bundestag, ret.; Federal Minister, ret.*

## TUESDAY, MARCH 3

9.00 – 11.00 hrs

[Workshop I: Öffentliche Infrastrukturen](#) (In German)

CONVENERS:

Wolfram Geier, Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance (BBK), Bonn

Jens Libbe, German Institute of Urban Affairs (Difu), Berlin

KEYNOTES:

Energierohstoffe: Verteilung und Verfügbarkeit *Bernhard Cramer, Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (BGR), Hannover*

Auswirkungen des Klimawandels auf die Schieneninfrastruktur *Gerhard Hetzel, Deutsche Bahn, DB Netz AG, Frankfurt*

11:00 – 13:00 hrs

[Workshop II: Capacity Building](#)

CONVENER:

Gerold Wefer, Center for Marine Environmental Sciences (MARUM), University of Bremen

KEYNOTES:

Anforderungen an universitäre Ausbildung zum Katastrophenmanagement *Dieter Farrenkopf, German Fire Protection Association (vfdB)*

Anforderungen an universitäre Bildung und Ausbildung zur Katastrophenvorsorge in der Entwicklungszusammenarbeit *Bernd Hoffmann, Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), Eschborn*

Disaster Preparedness Culture and Local Ownership of Forecasts *Kuniyoshi Takeuchi, International Center for Water Hazard and Risk Management, Public Works Research Institute, Japan*

14:00 – 16:00 hrs

[Workshop III: Adaptation/Long-Term Prevention and Climate](#)

CONVENERS:

Janos Bogardi, UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY Institute for Environment and Human Security, Bonn

N.N., Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research, Leipzig

KEYNOTES:

Minimizing Risk, Maximizing Awareness: Focusing on the Vulnerability of Coupled Social-Ecological Systems Exposed to Natural Hazards *Jörn Birkmann, UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY Institute for Environment and Human Security, Bonn*

Klimaänderungen und Auswirkungen auf hydrometeorologische Risiken *Christoph Kottmeier, Institute for Meteorology and Climate Research, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology*

Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies *Reid Basher, UN-Secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, Geneva*

19:00 hrs: [Lecture](#)

Deutschland im Klimawandel: Was müssen wir tun? *Harry Lehmann, Umweltbundesamt, Dessau-Roßlau*

20:00 hrs: [Reception](#)

Words of Welcome *Franz Häuser, Rector of Leipzig University*

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

9:00 – 11:00 hrs

[Panels for Junior Scientists](#)

PANEL I:

Was leistet der Resilienzansatz? *Convener: Martin Voss*

PANEL II:

Klimawandel als Herausforderung für neue Konzepte der Katastrophenvorsorge und der Anpassung *Convener: Jörn Birkmann*

11:15 – 13:00 hrs

[Panel Discussion: Adapting to Climate Change Related Hazards: Interdisciplinary Perspectives](#)

PANEL CHAIR:

Alexandra Kemmerer, Simon-Dubnow-Institut for Jewish History and Culture at Leipzig University

PANEL MEMBERS:

Eduardo de Mulder, International Year of Planet Earth, Trondheim

Bernd Hoffmann, Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), Eschborn

Christoph Kottmeier, Karlsruhe Institute for Technology

Claus Leggewie, Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI), Essen

Sospeter Muhongo, International Council for Science – Regional Office Africa, Pretoria

Nico Stehr, Zeppelin Universität, Friedrichshafen

13:30 – 14:00 hrs

[Presentation and Adoption of Conference Communiqué: "Disaster Prevention as a Future Task for Leipzig University"](#)