



Name of Event: [Roundtable] Addressing Wildland Fire Risk

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Panellists:

- Ms. Paola Deda, Chief, Forestry and Timber Section, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (Chair)
- Mr. Alexander Chupriyan, Deputy Minister for Civil Defence, Emergencies and Natural Disasters, Russian Federation
- Ms. Pilar Gallego, Director General on Civil Protection and Emergencies, Spain
- Mr. Phil Cottle, Managing Director, ForestRe Ltd, United Kingdom
- Ms. Kholiwe Luvuno, Working on Fire, South Africa
- Mr. Sundar Prasad Sharma, Department of Water Induced Disaster Prevention, Nepal
- Mr. Bambang Hero Saharjo, Bogor Agricultural University, Indonesia

1) Outline

The risk of wild land forest fires needs to be addressed as it can severely impact upon the economics of an affected area. Climate change contributes to wild forest fires. Early warning systems can reduce the impact of fire risks. Preventative measures that include the community as a resource can influence the outcome of a wild land fire. Risk mapping is essential to protect critical assets including thermal and nuclear facilities. An integrated emergency management approach could reduce the exposure and impact upon governments, businesses and communities.

2) Key messages, outcomes, recommendations

- Progress has been made in the last 20 years.
- Further co-operation is needed to address the risk of wild land forest fires.
- Sharing of experiences and knowledge will contribute towards emergency management plans.

- Risk modeling is essential for governments, businesses and communities to manage the exposure to these events.

3) Conclusions

Early warning systems are essential and must be combined with comprehensive preventative measures. Further knowledge transfers must take place between key stakeholders to address the impact of wild land fires. Increased cooperation between countries must take place to reduce the impact of forest fires.