



Emerging Risk Researchers in Africa

ProVention Grantee Consultation

Meeting Report, 10th July, 2006

Johannesburg, South Africa



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Additional thanks is given to USAID/OFDA for funding travel for the participants, and to ProVention for providing co-supporting administrative costs associated with UCT/DiMP's implementation of Round II of its Applied Grants Programme in Africa and the Middle East.

We are also grateful for the time and interest shown by Martin Owor, Maya Schaerer, Harlan Hale and Philip White who set aside time from their exacting schedules to actively participate in the meeting – and to Djillali Benouar, Des Pyle and Mlengi Mgendi who provided invaluable technical opinion in the course of the discussions.

Last, DiMP wishes to extend its unreserved thanks to the ProVention Grantees, Gaston Simbo Amosi, Otilie Angula, Caryn Durham, Haidil Faidi, Buh Wung Gaston, Benedict Malele, Abdelghani Meslem, James Morrissey, Prossy Namuwulya, Cyprien Ntahomvukiye, Hellen Mwangi Nyakundi and Riziki Silas Shemdoe, for their enthusiasm, professionalism and commitment to strengthening development opportunities for at-risk communities in Africa and the Middle-East. In this context, we must also recognize the commitment and energies of Thilda Hajje in Lebanon, who despite considerable obstacles and being unable to attend the meeting, was still able to complete and submit her poster and research.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

Acronym	Full Title
DFID	Department for International Development
DiMP	Disaster Mitigation for Sustainable Livelihoods Programme
DMTC	Disaster Management Training Centre
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LBE	Laboratory of the Built Environment
Periperi U	Partners enhancing resilience to people exposed to risks – focus on universities
reVAMP	Re Vulnerability, Adaptation and Mitigation Planning
RHVP	Regional Hunger and Vulnerability Programme
UCLAS	University College for Lands and Architectural Studies
UCT	University of Cape Town
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
USAID/OFDA	United States Agency for International Development/Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance
Wits	University of the Witwatersrand

Executive Summary

In August 2005, ProVention approved applied research grants of up to US\$ 5 000 to 13 recipients in Africa and the Middle East. This applied grant support aimed at enabling emerging disaster risk researchers to study disaster risks in their respective contexts and countries. The thirteen grants were administered by the Disaster Mitigation for Sustainable Livelihoods Programme (DiMP) at the University of Cape Town in South Africa.

As the completion date for the research projects was 31 July, 2006, UCT/DiMP convened a consultative workshop on 10 July 2006 at Glenburn Lodge in Johannesburg – attended by twelve out of thirteen grantees¹ - as well as representatives from the Universities of the Witwatersrand and Cape Town, Rhodes University, LBE/University of Bab Ezzouar and the University College of Lands and Architectural Studies, Dar Es Salaam.

In addition, representatives were present from ProVention, USAID/OFDA, DFID's Regional Hunger and Vulnerability Programme, UNISDR/Africa and South Africa's National Disaster Management Centre. Altogether 25 participants attended the meeting, which was jointly funded by USAID/OFDA's contribution to Periperi U, ProVention, the Norwegian Research Council and South Africa's National Research Foundation

This forum provided a useful opportunity for the young researchers to present their findings to colleagues across Africa. Specifically, the workshop aimed to provide:

- A supportive environment allowing grantees to **present their initial findings** for feedback.
- Technical and collegial support for **strengthening the quality of the final reports** and researcher confidence for undertaking future research.
- A forum for collective feedback on the Applied Grants programme so that **future programmes can be improved**.
- A focused forum for **profiling challenges and opportunities** in strengthening future disaster risk research in Africa

Group discussions resulted in the following feedback and recommendations

What were the main research findings?

- The importance of *socioeconomic factors, poverty, poor levels of education, persistent disease and livelihood insecurity* as major drivers of the disaster risks studied, irrespective of hazard type and, their role in compelling people to reside in high risk areas (especially flood-prone areas).
- The *lack of institutional capacity to implement disaster risk reduction* at all administrative levels, including national and local levels. This also included disconnects between governmental planning efforts and risk reduction actions. In one instance, it also included significant *lack of river management capacity*.
- *Uneven effectiveness of risk reduction interventions*, for instance:
 - Many of the case –studies were characterized by situation-specific risk factors that could not be generalized out of context.
 - In some examples, the flood risk reduction measures adopted were still not sufficiently robust to counteract heavy flood events

¹ One grantee from Lebanon was unable to attend the consultative meeting due to pressures of work. Her poster, was however completed on-time.

- The presence of bore-holes in refugee camps in one instance effectively reduced/eliminated cholera.

What were the most useful resources/sources of support for the research?

- *Mentors.* In almost all cases, supportive mentors were identified as a critical resource. This both reflected their knowledge as well as contacts and capacity to facilitate the research. In one case, an introductory letter from the university facilitated the research.
- *Community leaders and community residents/facilitators and local government* were also identified as key resources.
- *Access to information* was also highlighted as a critical resource. This included documentation from previous research work, as well as provision of Radar-Sat images, access to the internet and assistance in collecting data (from other institutions ie IFRC and local authorities)

What were the main obstacles/constraints faced in carrying out the research?

- *Difficulties in accessing information* – at all levels. This included difficulty in obtaining needed radar images, lack of high resolution satellite data and challenges in accessing government information in many instances. There were significant difficulties in accessing information at local level as well, with grantees reporting that community residents did not trust outsiders.
- *Practical/logistical difficulties.* This included overcoming bad roads, translation requirements and local residents demanding remuneration for participating in interviews.
- *Cultural perceptions:* Grantees reported that cultural beliefs limited their ability to research disaster risks in some situations.
- *Institutional obstacles* were also reported ‘at college level ... at government level ... at community level’
- *Political/security threats* were also experienced. These included negotiating ‘local politics’. In one instance it also involved managing the consequences of the research taking place during the national elections – thus inadvertently politicising it. In another example, the researcher and her team were in the field when a rebel attack took place, jeopardizing their personal safety.

What would enable the research findings to be better incorporated into policy and practice?

- *Existence of mechanisms for sharing/disseminating/popularising research findings and recommendations.* A repeated request was for stronger mechanisms for feedback to the original stakeholders and dissemination of lessons learned to other areas and practitioners/decision-makers. Practical suggestions were proposed of fliers or brochures in local languages featuring the risk reduction solutions proposed by community members.
- *Reproduction of the research throughout the targeted district or other areas.* Some grantees suggested that extending the research process to neighbouring areas would increase awareness of the value of risk-related investigation for local planning and development.

What would make the current applied grants programme more effective if it were offered again?

- 1) *A formal letter of introduction from ProVention* that could enable greater access to government information for individual grantees and increase the legitimacy of the research projects.
- 2) *Closer links/partnerships with local community organizations* to encourage an ‘action research’ rather than extractive research process.
- 3) *Co-funding* to increase the size of the funds available, and if generated locally, to increase local ownership of the process and results.
- 4) *More guidance on budget preparation* (especially with respect to allocations for information dissemination of results) and more timely arrival of funds.
- 5) *Greater web-enabled support on relevant data-bases and libraries.*

- 6) Closer links between the *sub-regional administrative centres in Africa and UCT/DiMP*, including the provision of regional information-sharing meetings such as this one.

What strategies or mechanisms would enable young risk researchers to contribute more to disaster risk management?

- 1) Greater *guidance in project reporting*, including a format for presenting findings.
- 2) Provision of a *broad but uniform conceptual framework* that would strengthen risk reduction advocacy opportunities, and allow for research findings to be compared and consolidated.
- 3) *Local co-funding* to increase buy-in and ownership for subsequent risk reduction action and funding permission to outsource some aspects of the research - again to broaden 'buy-in' and participation.
- 4) Identification of an *'in-country' resource person* to provide support in addition to the mentors.

What would enable disaster risk research findings to be better incorporated into policy and practice?

- 1) Some form of *consolidated publication* (ie a policy brief) from the Africa-based research work that is accessible on the ProVention website and targeted to Africa-based end-users.
- 2) A mechanism for *incorporating findings into national disaster risk management policy* processes (ie through the ISDR National Platforms).
- 3) An *'action research' approach* that explicitly requires the research to be linked with local stakeholders so that findings drive risk reduction actions.
- 4) Explicit requirements that the grant must include *costs for disseminating findings*.
- 5) Explicit requirement that *mentors must take responsibility* for sensitizing national and other institutions about the research to enable young researchers access to necessary information





Introduction

In August 2005, ProVention approved applied research grants of up to US\$ 5 000 to 13 recipients in Africa and the Middle East. This applied grant support aimed at enabling emerging disaster risk researchers to study disaster risks in their respective contexts and countries. The thirteen grants were administered by the Disaster Mitigation for Sustainable Livelihoods Programme (DiMP) at the University of Cape Town in South Africa.

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In addition, representatives were present from ProVention, USAID/OFDA, DFID's Regional Hunger and Vulnerability Programme, UNISDR/Africa and South Africa's National Disaster Management Centre. Altogether 25 participants attended the meeting, which was jointly funded by USAID/OFDA's contribution to Periperi U, ProVention, the Norwegian Research Council and South Africa's National Research Foundation

Workshop purpose and focus

This forum provided a useful opportunity for the young researchers to present their findings to colleagues across Africa. Specifically, the workshop aimed to provide:

- A supportive environment allowing grantees to **present their initial findings** for feedback.
- Technical and collegial support for **strengthening the quality of the final reports** and researcher confidence for undertaking future research.
- A forum for collective feedback on the Applied Grants programme so that **future programmes can be improved**.
- A focused forum for **profiling challenges and opportunities** in strengthening future disaster risk research in Africa.

Workshop Approach

The usual approach to 'report-back' meetings of this type is a series of information-sharing presentations. However,



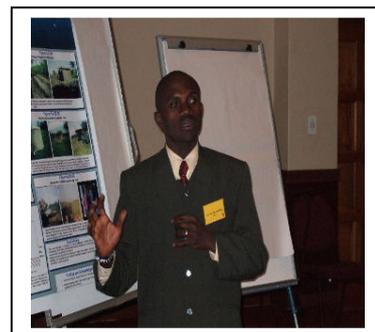
² One grantee from Lebanon was unable to attend the consultative meeting due to pressures of work. Her poster, completed on-time, is featured on p...

the workshop process adopted at Glenburn aimed at encouraging the young researchers and their more experienced colleagues to jointly take and share leadership roles. As a result, there were no formal or power-point presentations, with an explicit workshop emphasis on individual capacity building, small group consultation, dialogue and feedback.

All participants were assigned to specific thematic groups with one young researcher designated as the 'focal point' for each group. For some sessions workshop participants worked within their specific group – while at other times, they teamed up with a second group or joined a plenary discussion. In this way, the workshop process adopted a 'snowballing' strategy of introducing participants first in small groups of 6-7 people, then increasing this to 12-14 people as two groups 'snowballed' together. Only in the final sessions of the day, did all participants come together in a plenary discussion to discuss lessons learned from their research experience.

Focus on posters ...not formal presentations

Rather than presentations, the grantees were asked to prepare posters of their research, and be ready to present this in small groups. While this limited in-depth exposure to all subjects for the grantees, it provided an excellent platform for discussion and comparison of results.



How the workshop worked ... the morning sessions

Following welcoming remarks by Professor Coleen Vogel of reVAMP, University of the Witwatersrand and introductions, the larger group separated into four thematic smaller groups, each comprising three grantees and two-three more experienced resource people. This enabled a two-stage process to identify key thematic issues on disaster risk in Africa and risk reduction.



The four groups and grantee research topics are shown below:

Group	Thematic Area	Group Members	Research Topic
A	Geo risks	Hadil Faidy Abdelghani Meslem* Gaston Buh Dr Djillali Benouar Mlengi Mgendi Harlan Hale	Urban seismic risk: impacts on land-use planning in Nablus City, Palestine Seismic vulnerability- Algerian schools Delineation of potential risk/resettlement areas, Cameroon LBE/University of Bab Ezzouar DMTC/UCLAS USAID/OFDA
B	Flood risk management	Riziki Silas Shemdoe Caryn Durham* Otilie Angula Martin Awor Des Pyle	Flood risk reduction Msimbazi Vly, Dar Es Salaam Flood risk management Bath River, S.A Radar remote sensing - flood risk mgmt, Namibia UNISDR Africa Rhodes University
C.	Community risk reduction	Cyprien Ntahomvukiye Hellen Mwangi Nyakundi Prossy Namuwulya* Maya Schaerer	Youth awareness of disaster reduction, Burundi Community response mechanisms in flood emergencies, Nyando, Kenya Conflict, poverty and disaster risks, Uganda ProVention
D	Civil society-governance interface	James Morrissey Benedict Malele* Gaston Amosi Leigh Sonn Philip White	Application of CRA in dam building – Cahora Bassa and Mepanda Uncua, Mozambique Effectiveness of risk reduction in Mbezi Beach, Dar Es Salaam Implementing disaster risk reduction in vulnerable communities - Tanzania UCT/DiMP DFID/RHVP

First thematic discussions in groups of 5-7 people: Focus on learning from applied grantees' risk research

The thematic groups listed above allowed participants to get to know one another better. They also provided opportunities both for grantees to 'tell the story' of their research in depth and allowed for focused constructive feedback to individual grantees.

Last, the groups were able to identify key thematic issues on disaster risk and risk reduction in Africa drawn from the grantees' actual research.



Resources/materials used

For this exercise, group members used coloured paper on flipcharts to help highlight the main issues, specifically:

- Blue paper – for the **single most important finding** on disaster risk from each project.

- Orange paper – for the most **important resource/support** that enabled the research to happen (besides the funding)
- Red paper – for the most **limiting obstacle/constraint to the research**
- Green paper – for the most the most strategic or useful way the research could be now be **applied to reduce risks**

**Second thematic discussion in groups of 12-14 people:
Focus on consolidating disaster risk insights, obstacles and opportunities**

In the second group exercise, participants ‘snowballed’ to form a paired group of around 12-14 members. One cluster drew together the groups focused on **geo risks and the civil society-governance interface**. The second clustered group focused on **flood risk and community risk reduction**.



This allowed grantees to meet more participants in slightly larger groups and provided them an opportunity to present their posters to other colleagues. It also afforded access to additional feedback and allowed important recurrent themes and learning points on disaster risk and risk reduction drawn from the two groups’ research

During lunch, 2-3 members from each of the paired groups reviewed their respective outputs. They identified, colour-coded and arranged on flipcharts the four key research findings, as well as the most significant resources, constraints and opportunities for applying the results. These insights were carried over into the plenary later in the afternoon and discussed.



**How the workshop worked ...
the afternoon sessions**

**Third session:
Focus on solutions and advancing risk research in Africa**

After lunch, the paired groups reconvened to discuss options for strengthening the effectiveness of the Applied Grant Programme and overcoming obstacles underlined in the earlier sessions. They also identified strategies which would allow young researchers to contribute more meaningfully to disaster risk management in Africa, as well as those that would allow Africa-generated risk-related research to be more actively incorporated into country and regional capacity building, policy and practice.

Process

To do this, they clustered key insights according to coloured paper:

- Yellow paper to answer: **What would make the current applied grants programme more effective if it were offered again? Are there other funding mechanisms that should be explored?**
- Pink paper to answer: **What strategies or mechanisms would enable young risk researchers to contribute more to disaster**



risk management – within their countries, at sub-regional level, at continental level?

- Beige paper to answer: **What would enable disaster risk research findings to be better incorporated into policy and practice?**

These responses were consolidated and carried over to the plenary discussion that followed.

Session 4: Feed-back and Plenary Focus on the grantees' research experience



This session was facilitated by Des Pyle (Rhodes University) and James Morrissey (University of Cape Town). Feedback from the morning sessions was presented and discussed.

What were the main research findings?

- The importance of *socioeconomic factors, poverty, poor levels of education, persistent disease and livelihood insecurity* as major drivers of the disaster risks studied, irrespective of hazard type and, their role in compelling people to reside in high risk areas (especially flood-prone areas).
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Session 4: Feed-back and Plenary

Focus on the improving future applied research grant programmes

Grantee feedback on how to strengthen future rounds of the applied grant programme suggested the following.



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What strategies or mechanisms would enable young risk researchers to contribute more to disaster risk management?

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- 5) Explicit requirement that *mentors must take responsibility* for sensitizing national and other institutions about the research to enable young researchers access to necessary information

Session 4: Feed-back and Plenary Priorities and immediate follow-up steps

During the plenary discussion, several practical suggestions were made that would immediately address challenges in improving the dissemination of research findings from this year's grantees. While it was noted that there were few formal mechanisms at this stage to disseminate research findings to support continent-wide risk reduction advocacy, several grantees proposed low-cost advocacy approaches that would effectively reach decision-makers (including for instance, photocopying a short summary of the findings and handing out copies to parliamentarians).

In addition, there was a focused discussion on professional development/potential career paths for young risk researchers in Africa. This profiled the tensions between the institutional and often highly academic demands of research institutions and universities – and the broader developmental, humanitarian or advocacy actions needed to drive through transformation in risk reduction policy and practice.

Currently, there is no clear career path for emerging risk scientists in Africa, whose skills could significantly benefit risk reduction planning and implementation at national and sub-national levels. Skilled emerging researchers, if they remain based in universities, are aware that they will be obliged to comply with institutional constraints associated with generation of peer-reviewed publications – rather than advocating for developmental change that reduces risk.

In this context, there was an insightful discussion on the long-term professional and personal obligations of skilled young researchers in this field, and the tension between complying with a professional agenda that rewards peer-reviewed research outputs and choosing a life of 'active responsible citizenry' that results in enabling societal change.

In this context, it was suggested that 'some form of professional association' or 'professional forum' was needed in Africa that would allow committed risk scientists within the continent to come together to present scientifically robust opinion in a coherent and united way to inform regional risk reduction policy and practice.

In response to these concerns and with specific respect to facilitating dissemination of this year's research, the following actions were proposed:

- 1) Maya Schaerer (ProVention) offered to *forward to UNISDR/Africa the final grantee reports*. These could then be profiled by UNISDR/Africa in its regional publications. In addition, UNISDR/Africa could take action to inform the national ISDR platforms where appropriate to request the respective grantees to present their findings.
- 2) Professor Coleen Vogel offered to approach a *peer-reviewed journal to publish the grantees' research* as a 'special edition' reflecting emerging risk research in Africa.
- 3) UCT/DiMP agreed to explore the possibility of a more '*popular' publication* of the Africa/Middle East research projects.
- 4) UCT/DiMP offered to *reproduce the posters* so that Prof. Vogel could display these at the September meeting of Working Group II of the IPCC, to be held in Stellenbosch, South Africa.

- 5) Maya Shaerer reported that several grantees' research reports were being considered *for publication in 'Real Risk'*.
- 6) UCT/DiMP agreed to take follow-up action on options for *some kind of Africa-based professional forum*, institute or association that would provide a platform for the continent's risk science community to engage.

Closure and concluding remarks

Mlengi Mgendi (DMTC/UCLAS) provided concluding remarks to the meeting, with Riziki Shemdoe responding from the perspective of the ProVention grantees.

**Annex 1: Participant List for ProVention Applied Grants Consultation
Glenburn Lodge, Johannesburg, 10th July 2006**

	Name	Organisation	Contact Details
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Annex 2: Final Programme, background documentation and groupwork guidelines

Periperi U
First Consultation: 10-12 July, 2006
Glenburn Lodge, Johannesburg, South Africa



What is Periperi U?

Periperi U is a platform for university partnership to reduce disaster risks in Africa. It stands for 'Partners Enhancing Resilience to People Exposed to Risks' – with a special focus on advancing university action on risk and vulnerability reduction in Africa.³

What does Periperi U aim to achieve?

It aims at building sustainable 'multi-tasking' capabilities in disaster risk and vulnerability reduction capacity building in a maximum of 8 selected institutions of higher learning in Africa from 2006-2011, consistent with global disaster reduction priorities reflected in the Hyogo Framework of Action.

Specifically, it seeks to build on local energies and commitments already generated from within Africa by supporting the progressive development of university-based risk reduction units and programmes. The institutions that will be part of the programme in the first year are the disaster risk and vulnerability reduction teaching units/centres of:

- **Bahir Dar University** (Bahir Dar, Ethiopia)
- **Disaster Management Training Centre (DMTC)**, University College of Lands and Architectural Studies (UCLAS) (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)
- **Re Vulnerability, Adaptation and Mitigation Planning (reVAMP)**, University of the Witwatersrand (Johannesburg, South Africa)
- **Built Environment Research Laboratory (LBE)**, University of Bab Ezzouar, Algiers, Algeria
- **Disaster Mitigation for Sustainable Livelihoods Programme, DiMP**, University of Cape Town (Cape Town, South Africa)

Introducing the first Periperi U consultation

Periperi U aims, wherever possible, to add value to other initiatives which strengthen risk and vulnerability capacity-building in Africa, especially those which engage Africa's institutions of higher learning. It also gives priority to applied research that improves the reduction of disaster risks in vulnerable areas, communities, settlements and households. This first consultation takes place over three days. On 10 July, the focus is on the experience, findings and suggestions generated by emerging risk researchers funded through ProVention's Applied Grants project. These discussions will be significantly strengthened by the input and expertise of individuals representing six universities from Algeria, Ethiopia, Tanzania and South Africa, as well as representatives from USAID, ProVention, DFID and ISDR.

³ Periperi is also an African spice, and the name has been used effectively as an umbrella for a number of risk reducing initiatives in Africa – as well as highly sought after publications on Livelihoods and Urban Vulnerability

PROVENTION APPLIED GRANTS WORKSHOP: AFRICA REGION
Glenburn Lodge, Johannesburg, South Africa
10 July, 2006

Introduction

In 2005, Provention disbursed applied research grants of up to US\$ 5 000 to 13 recipients in Africa and the Middle East to enable emerging disaster risk researchers undertake focused studies on risk-related issues their respective contexts and countries. This forum provides an opportunity for the young researchers to present their findings to colleagues across Africa. It also provides an enabling environment for additional technical and other support to strengthen the quality of the final reports and dissemination of the findings. In addition, the workshop provides a vehicle for collective feedback on the programme, so that future funding can be more effective.

Last, the consultation provides a platform for emerging risk researchers to identify teaching, learning and applied research priorities that will inform Periperi U efforts as well as any future applied grants support.

Workshop Objectives:

- To provide a supportive environment allowing grantees to present their initial findings for feedback.
- To provide technical and collegial support for strengthening the quality of the final reports and researcher confidence for undertaking future research.
- To provide a forum for collective feedback on the Applied Grants programme so that future programmes can be improved.
- To provide a focused forum for profiling challenges and opportunities in strengthening future disaster risk research in Africa.

Workshop Approach

The workshop aims to provide a forum in which it is expected that young researchers and their more experienced colleagues will take and share leadership roles. There will be a minimum of formal presentations, with explicit emphasis on individual capacity building, small group consultation, dialogue and feedback.

All participants will be assigned to specific thematic groups (also labelled “Groups A, B, C, D”), with one young researcher designated as the ‘focal point’ for each group. For some sessions workshop participants will work within their specific group – while at other times, they will be required to team up with a second group or join a plenary discussion.

Workshop participants will benefit from more structured poster presentations for half the grantees – but will have time for informal viewing and discussion of the other grantees’ posters.

To reduce photocopying, we will copy the draft reports for the grantees in each thematic group (ie three reports) for all members of that group. However, all participants will receive a CD Rom containing an electronic version of all draft grantee reports.

Final Programme

Time	Session Focus	Facilitator
0800 – 0830	Registration and coffee	
0830 - 0845	Welcome and workshop purpose Specific welcome to emerging risk researchers	Prof. Coleen Vogel, ReVAMP, University of the Witwatersrand Graduate students, ReVAMP, University of the Witwatersrand
0845 - 0915	Introductions, workshop process	Prof. Coleen Vogel, ReVAMP, University of the Witwatersrand
0915 – 1100	Focus on individual grantee experiences in thematic groups of 6-7 people	Groups A, B, C, D working independently
1100 – 1230	Tea and Poster Presentations <i>Session focus</i> Highlighting and consolidating grantees' research experiences and insights	Groups A and B together Groups C and D together
1230 – 1330	Lunch and open viewing others' posters	
1330 - 1500	Small group discussions <i>Session focus</i> Strengthening future effectiveness of the AG Programme Advancing disaster risk research in Africa and the Middle East	Groups A and C together Groups B and D together
1500 – 1515	Tea	

Time	Session Focus	Facilitator
1515 - 1645	Plenary <i>Session focus:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening the AG Programme so it contributes to better risk management in Africa - Identification of ways in which young researchers can contribute in a meaningful way to disaster risk management in Africa - Discussion on strategies that will allow research undertaken to be actively incorporated into policy and practice 	Des Pyle, Rhodes University, Port Elizabeth James Morrissey, DiMP, University of Cape Town
1645 – 1700	Closure and thanks	Mlinge Mgendi, DMTC, University College of Lands and Architectural Studies, Dar Es Salaam Riziki Silas Shemdoe, Dar Es Salaam, UCLAS

Introduction to Group Work

Introduction to the Working Groups

Everyone attending the workshop will be assigned to a specific thematic working group. Each group will comprise three grantees and two-three resource people. One grantee has been identified as the 'point person' for each group. S/he will be responsible for ensuring the group tasks are successfully completed and for being the 'link' person between his/her group and ReVAMP/DiMP.

The proposed groups are shown below:

Group	Thematic Area	Group Members	Research Topic
A	Focus on geo risks	Hadil Faidy	Urban seismic risk: impacts on land-use planning in Nablus City, Palestine
		Abdelghani Meslem*	Seismic vulnerability- Algerian schools
		Gaston Buh	Delineation of potential risk/resettlement areas, Cameroon
		Dr Djillali Benouar	
		Mlengi Mgendi	
		Harlan Hale	
B	Focus on flood risk management	Riziki Silas Shemdoe	Flood risk reduction in Msimbazi Valley, Dar Es Salaam
		Caryn Durham*	Flood risk management Bath River, S.A
		Otilie Angula	Radar remote sensing for flood risk mgmt, Namibia
		Martin Awor	
		Des Pyle	
C.	Focus on community risk reduction	Cyprien Ntahomvukiye	Youth awareness of disaster reduction, Burundi
		Hellen Mwangi Nyakundi	Community response mechanisms in flood emergencies, Nyando, Kenya
		Prossy Namuwulya*	Conflict, poverty and disaster risks, Uganda
		Maya Schaerer	
		Tsehai Jemberu	
D	Focus on the civil society-governance interface	James Morrissey	Application of CRA in dam building – Cahora Bassa and Mepanda Uncua, Mozambique
		Benedict Malele*	Effectiveness of risk reduction in Mbezi Beach, Dar Es Salaam
		Gaston Amosi	Implementing disaster risk reduction in vulnerable communities - Tanzania
		Leigh Sonn	
		Philip White	

* are group focal points

Guidelines for group-work

Session 1

Time: 0925 – 1025

Locations: **Groups A and D in break-away rooms**
Groups B and C in the conference room

Purpose: Focus on learning from applied grantees' risk research

- To get to know people better in small groups
- To provide an opportunity for grantees to 'tell the story' of their research in depth
- To provide focused constructive feedback to individual grantees.
- To identify key thematic issues on disaster risk and risk reduction drawn from the research

Resources/materials

- Flipchart stands
- Coloured paper:
 - Blue paper – for the **single most important finding** on disaster risk from each project.
 - Orange paper – for the most **important resource/support** that enabled the research to happen (besides the funding)
 - Red paper – for the most **limiting obstacle/constraint to the research**
 - Green paper – for the most the most strategic or useful way the research could be now be **applied to reduce risks**
- Prestik

Process

1. Group focal point should facilitate more in-depth introductions in the small group.
2. Grantees should spend around 10 minutes per presentation 'telling their story' (there will be three flip chart stands per group for grantees to use or refer to their poster displays).
3. For each presentation, identify the four most important issues (see 'coloured paper' above) and stick these on a flip chart.
4. Arrange all grantees' feedback by colour (ie 4 columns of three issues).
5. Review the colour clusters. Are there recurrent issues or patterns?
6. Identify a non-grantee to report back on the clustered issues.
7. Move flip chart stands for the consolidated discussions in larger groups

Tea (very brief – just get a cup of tea/coffee and move on to consolidated groups!)

Session 2:

Time: 1025 – 1200

Locations: Groups A and B together, Groups C and D together

Purpose: Focus on consolidating disaster risk insights, obstacles and opportunities

- To meet more participants in slightly larger groups
- To provide an opportunity for grantees to present their posters to more colleagues
- To provide additional feedback to individual grantees.
- To consolidate key thematic issues and learning points on disaster risk and risk reduction drawn from two groups' research

Resources/materials

- Flipchart stands to present posters and to display coloured feedback from thematic groups
- Prestik

Process

1. Group focal points should facilitate introductions in the larger group.
2. Grantees should spend no more than 5-10 minutes per presentation.
3. Grantees should summarise by highlighting the four most important issues for their research from the first session.
4. A representative of each smaller group report back on the clustered issues.
5. Consolidate all grantees' feedback by colour (ie 4 columns of six issues)
6. Discuss similarities/differences and identify recurrent difficulties/opportunities.
7. Consolidate the key issues where possible to identify 2-3 key 'umbrella' issues for each coloured cluster.
8. Identify a 'consolidation team' to work with the other working group to further consolidate the feedback from all twelve presentations (ie over lunch)
9. Identify a representative to jointly report back to the plenary on this process with a colleague from the other working group in the afternoon.

Session 3

Time: 1400-1500

Locations: Consolidated Groups: A and C together, B and D together

Purpose: Focus on solutions and advancing risk research in Africa

- To discuss options for strengthening the effectiveness of the Applied Grant Programme and overcoming obstacles identified in the earlier sessions
- To identify strategies in which young researchers can contribute more meaningfully to disaster risk management in Africa
- To identify strategies for allowing Africa-generated risk-related research to be more actively incorporated into capacity building, policy and practice.

Resources

- Flipchart stands
- Coloured paper and prestik

- Yellow paper – for strategies that would make the current applied grants programme more effective, and other funding mechanisms that should be explored/mobilised.
- Pink paper – for strategies or mechanisms would enable young risk researchers to contribute more to disaster risk management.
- Beige paper – for suggestions on what would enable disaster risk research findings to be better incorporated into policy and practice?

Process

1. Group focal points should facilitate introductions in the larger group.
2. Discuss the following questions.
 - a. What would make the current applied grants programme more effective if it were offered again? Are there other funding mechanisms that should be explored?
 - b. What strategies or mechanisms would enable young risk researchers to contribute more to disaster risk management – within their countries, at sub-regional level, at continental level? Are there other fields that could be used as models?
 - c. What would enable disaster risk research findings to be better incorporated into policy and practice?
3. Identify no more than four key suggestions per question.
4. Cluster the group's responses by colour.
5. Identify a grantee to report back to the plenary on the group's recommendations.

Session 4

Time: 1515 – 1645

Location: Plenary

Co-facilitators: Des Pyle and James Morrissey

Purpose

- To provide feedback from group-work sessions 2 and 3
- To identify and consolidate information on key trends, opportunities and obstacles.

Process

1. The plenary will begin with four report-backs. The first is the consolidated outcome of the morning's discussions, followed by the 'solutions-oriented' recommendations in the afternoon.
2. The plenary will allow open discussion of these issues to identify consensus points for further action.