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Chairman

*Scientific and Technical Committee
WCDM-2020*



WCDM-2020 succeeds four earlier editions of World Congress on Disaster Management held under the auspices of DMICS to discuss some of the challenging issues of reducing risks and building resilience to disasters in communities, countries and regions.

Each edition brought together scientists, researchers, policy makers and practitioners from around the world in a common platform for free exchange of ideas and experiences on successes, shortcomings, challenges and opportunities on disaster management.

The third edition of WCDM in Visakhapatnam discussed seven pillars of resilience on health, education, agriculture, livelihood, social protection, infrastructure and sustainable cities. The fourth edition in Mumbai deliberated on the challenges of bridging gaps between promises and action on each of these pillars. WCDM-2020 has been structured to discuss the issues of Technology, Finance and Capacity (TFC) for building resilience across all sectors.

The trinity of the TFC holds the keys to the success of global frameworks of disaster resilience. Cutting edge technologies have always been the game changers and these would more likely to be so in the years ahead. Global resources are more than adequate to finance implementation of the ambitious agendas of resilience. Countries and communities have inherent capacities to adjust, adapt and absorb changes. Yet these apparently simple tasks are so formidable to accomplish.

WCDM-2020 would deliberate on the challenges and opportunities of harnessing technologies, mobilising resources and developing capacities for building resilience to disasters. Each day morning in plenary sessions, global thought leaders and opinion makers would deliver keynote addresses and engage in panel discussions on various aspects on technology, finance and capacity. Post-lunch in parallel technical sessions, researchers and practitioners would present their recent scientific, academic and action research on different aspects resilience building. There would be separate sessions on recent disasters, special session on forensic ge-technical engineering and special feature events involving parliamentarians, mayors, media, youths and innovators.

In all, WCDM-2020 promises to be the largest and most diverse conference on disaster management in the developing world. I urge researchers, practitioners and policy makers across all relevant disciplines and sectors to attend, interact and contribute to make it a success.
