



U-INSPIRE Alliance Reflection for APPDRR 1-2 Dec 2020

Strengthening the role and capacity of youth, young scientists and young professionals (YYPs) of interdisciplinary Science, Engineering, Technology and Innovation (SETI) in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA). U-INSPIRE Alliance has 12 national chapters that comprises nearly a thousand YYPs from countries in Asia and the Pacific. This regional network creates experimental spaces for collaboration in partnership with scientists, policy makers, the private sector entities, social entrepreneurs and civil society organisations. The growing pool of YYPs in both numbers and know-how carry a potential to have a significant impact in DRR through the use of SETI. Some have been in the field of DRR, and others are leading to it. YYPs have contributed significantly to DRR using SETI from various disciplines, backgrounds and professions, categorized into the following: **(1)** research and dissemination of scientific knowledge, **(2)** risk communication, education, training and awareness generation, **(3)** design and development of innovative, low-cost technologies and tools, **(4)** support evidence-based policy making and advocacy, and **(5)** applying SETI's advancement for local actions. The YYPs associated with U-INSPIRE Alliance have shown the potential in strengthening partnership with existing international and local stakeholders, for example, connection and collaboration with UN agencies, HELP, OECD, and thus empower their roles and extend their network in addressing transboundary issues, promoting dialogues and bridging information gaps from global to local, and local to global.

How do we want to achieve?

1. International and national **acknowledgement** and support for YYPs engagement in DRR and CCA. Engaging youth and young professionals at the national, subnational and local level for DRR and CCA local action **by having youth and young professional representatives** within.
2. Extending **scholarships** for YYPs to pursue higher education and research programs specifically on fields related to SETI for DRR and CCA. Additionally, enhancing science-policy interface by linking YYPs with the WB and UN YPP programs.
3. Having a **young entrepreneur group** within the UNDRR's ARISE network or Connecting with Business Initiative or similar networks and seed-funding to nurture resilience-building oriented businesses and promote social entrepreneurship. Developing close partnerships with other major groups within the UN processes, including on Scientific and Technological Community as well as Business and Industry.
4. **Capacity building** for youth, young scientists and young professionals in the field of interdisciplinary, multi-disciplinary, and trans-disciplinary in science, engineering, technology on innovation for disaster risk reduction, for example mobilizing YYPs to U-INSPIRE regional workshops and meetings.

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