



COVID-19 and GADRI

The [Global Alliance of Disaster Research Institutes \(GADRI\)](#) promotes a collaborative platform for shared knowledge and networking on topics assisting disaster risk reduction and resilience, whereby combinations of research groups around the world become more influential by pulling together.

The current COVID-19 pandemic demonstrates anew the interconnected and systemic nature of risks and ongoing uncertainties affecting all societies in every part of the world. The GADRI Board of Directors and the Advisory Board—representing a membership of over 200 disaster research institutes worldwide—recognise the challenges for improved science, policy and practice in our championing of knowledge and understanding in one of the great challenges of our times.

To overcome COVID-19 and similar threats going forward we recognise that the emergence of pandemic occurs in contexts of complex biophysical, exposure and capacity influences that predispose to disaster outcomes. Addressing hope in our research and actions in securing sustainable futures our children wish to experience requires an unending advance in disaster related specialist knowledge and integrated and multidisciplinary contributions.

GADRI encourages all its members and their extensive array of further networks to invest their efforts to recognise their roles in bringing about improvements in the way global emergencies, such as that caused by COVID-19, can be informed by high quality knowledge from all regions and disciplines that are able to contribute. This way we will answer back to the current global predicament, including through building up earlier our readiness and capacity to also address the wider array of hazards and risks and ongoing challenges that follow.

Towards this end, GADRI is joining with the [North American Alliance of Hazard and Disaster Research Institutes \(NAAHDRI\)](#) to support the new [COVID-19 Global Research Registry for Public Health and Social Sciences](#). The Registry is a collaborative initiative of the [CONVERGE facility](#) headquartered at the Natural Hazards Center at the University of Colorado at Boulder that involves partners from around the world. GADRI encourages all regional alliances of disaster research and their related networks to proactively share their further innovations and actions.

The next Global Summit of GADRI is due to take place in northern Italy 14th-19th March 2021, leading to which we will be consolidating an inevitable multi-institute stimulus to new knowledge and what must be achieved going forward. We also intend to run a participatory Webinar shortly for member discussions and debate relating to COVID 19.

Wishing you all well in your many contributions for championing the purpose of the Alliance.

On Behalf of GADRI Board of Directors and Advisory Board.

Prof. Hirokazu Tatano
Secretary-General, GADRI

Prof. Andrew Collins
Chair, GADRI Board of Directors