Aims of the conference

By exploring how mortality caused by natural disasters impacts on women, men, children, the elderly and people with disabilities, the conference aims:

1. to contribute to more cost-effective government policies on disaster mitigation, preparedness and recovery for vulnerable populations;

2. to make the latest cultural and cross-cultural research on disaster mitigation, preparedness and recovery available to representatives from disaster impacted countries with a view to this material being incorporated in public policy;

3. to enable Disaster Risk Reduction practitioners among civil society groups who have daily operational interaction with disaster-impacted communities to come together to share their knowledge and experience with a view to opening dialogue on improved approaches to development and resilience among vulnerable, often poverty-stricken, populations;

4. to explore how access to social capital in family and kinship networks, land and assets influence survival rates and adaptive behaviours after a disaster; and

5. to examine the impact of migration into and out of disaster-affected areas and what are the long-term socio-economic impacts of these migration flows on individuals and population groups.