

## Welcome Back

Once again the Bonn Dialogues Series is bringing together a panel of esteemed scholars to discuss the issue of global environmental change, the risks it poses, and the role of education in adapting to and becoming resilient against these threats. The event is sure to engage and inform the public audience in attendance on this important facet of global environmental change.

### Public Symposium

Wednesday, 1 April 2009

Deutsche Post Tower, Bonn

Discussion begins at 6:30 pm

Refreshments to follow



## Welcoming Speakers

Helmut Joisten, Bonn Mayor

Andreas Rechkemmer, Director UNU-IHDP

Sören Dengg, Vice President Government Affairs, Deutsche Post

WorldWide Net

## Panelists

Zinaida Fadeeva, Regional Centre of Expertise (RCE), United Nations University Institute for Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS)

Manu Gupta, Sustainable Environment and Ecological Development Society (SEED), Asian Disaster Reduction Response Network (ADRRN)

Peter Croll, Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC)

N.N. International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR)

## Register to Participate

The Bonn Dialogues is a free event, open to the public. Registration, while not required, helps in the organisation of the event and the catering. If you are planning to attend, please send a fax, e-mail, or postcard to the contact address below including your name, organisation, e-mail and confirmation of attendance. You can register until the day before the symposium (31 March 2009).

Send your registration to:

Bonn Dialogues c/o UNU-EHS

UN Campus, Hermann-Ehlers-Str. 10

53113 Bonn, Germany

info@bonn-dialogues.org | www.bonn-dialogues.org

fax: 0228 815 0299

### Organised by



UNITED NATIONS  
UNIVERSITY

UNU-EHS  
Institute for Environment  
and Human Security



### Special Co-organiser



International Strategy for  
Disaster Reduction

### Supported by

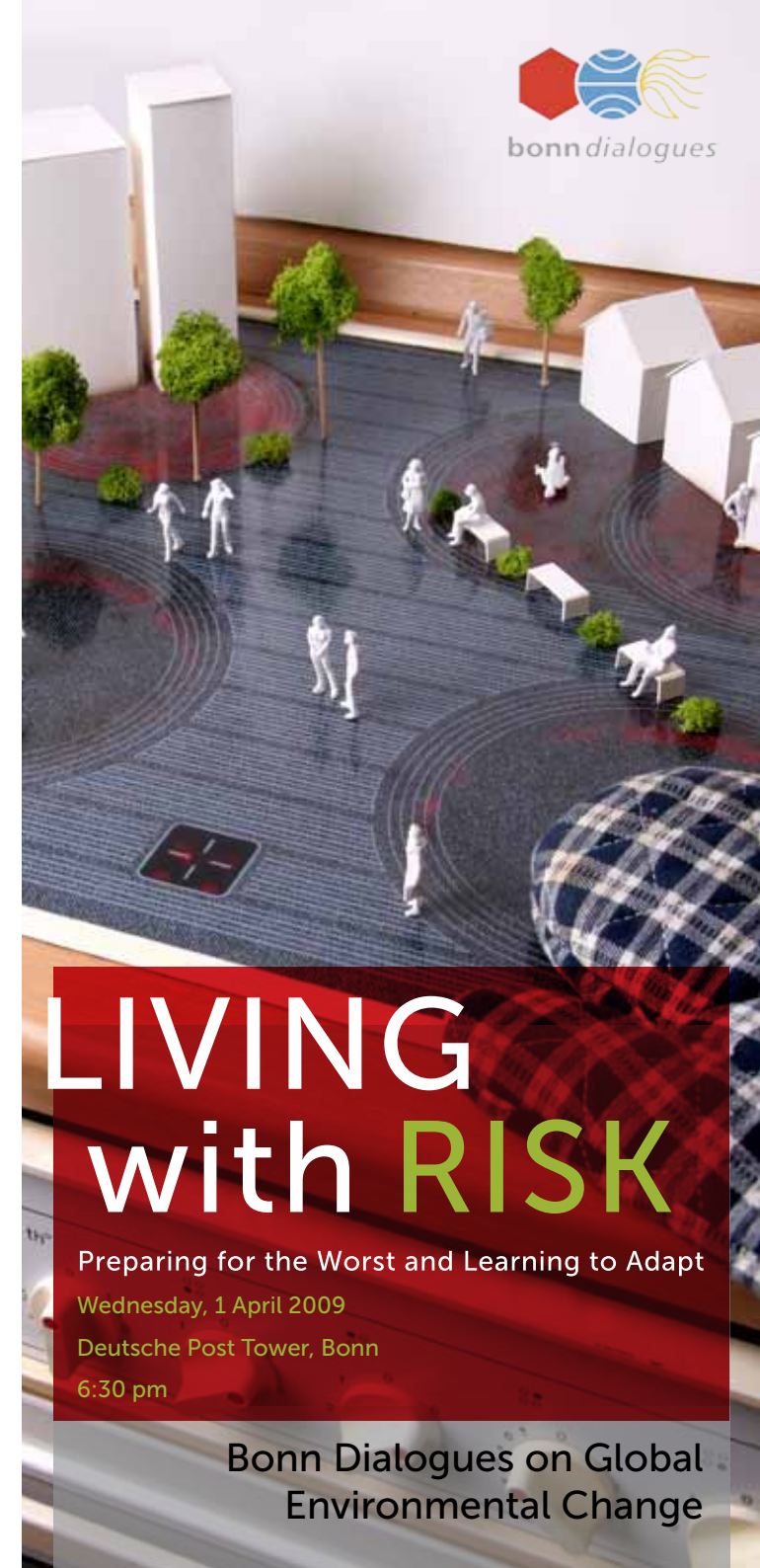
VEREINTE NATIONEN.  
UNITED NATIONS.  
NATIONS UNIES.  
BONN.



Die Landesregierung  
Nordrhein-Westfalen



EUROPÄISCHE UNION  
Investition in unsere Zukunft  
Europäischer Fonds  
für regionale Entwicklung



# LIVING with RISK

Preparing for the Worst and Learning to Adapt

Wednesday, 1 April 2009

Deutsche Post Tower, Bonn

6:30 pm

Bonn Dialogues on Global  
Environmental Change

## About the Bonn Dialogues Series

The Bonn Dialogues Series on Global Environmental Change is a forum for discussing substantive issues related to anthropogenic drivers and consequences. Being held twice a year since 2006, the series addresses topics such as climate, water, energy, migration and food with an interdisciplinary approach.

The Bonn Dialogues Series are open panel discussions with experts and the interested public audience. The meetings address prominent scientific, political and public discourses and raise awareness for issues connected to worldwide environmental change.

The 5th Bonn Dialogues takes place as a special public event of the UNESCO's World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development, held in Bonn from 31 March to 2 April 2009. Against the background of this conference's theme, the Bonn Dialogues event is investigating the role of education in preparing people around the world to deal with risks based on environmental hazards.

Refreshments will be provided after the event, kindly sponsored by the city of Bonn.

Risk management can be integrated into education advancing our understanding and response to risk.

## Living with Risk: Preparing for the Worst and Learning to Adapt

Processes of climate change are adding new and more complex dimensions to the problem of risk. Climate change is just one among a number of paramount global environmental risks faced by humankind.

Risk can be multifaceted and is the product of hazard, vulnerability and exposure. Risk and associated disasters are often detrimental to socio-ecological systems, reducing biological diversity, undermining development and aiding the cycle of poverty.

### Integrating Stakeholders in Order to Cope

These challenges can not be dealt with in isolation and the current trend is to adopt an integrated risk governance approach to managing and responding to risk by involving governments, intergovernmental organisations, industry, military, academia and civil society to analyse and respond to risk.

### Education can Reduce Vulnerability

Education has the capacity to enhance individuals and society's resilience and adaptive capacity to change and associated risks. Knowledge about risks helps to foresee changes, impacts and guide political demands and recommendations. Placing emphasis on education is an essential part of risk reduction, risk management and risk adaptation strategies.

### Dealing with Risk

We need to learn to live with risks rather than try to control them. Acknowledging the risks surrounding us while knowing how to adapt and respond to them seems to be the answer.



## Living with Risk

- How can institutions, devoted to education, enhance social resilience to risks?
- What role do knowledge and social learning play in recognising and dealing with risk?
- How effective can education be in reducing risks and supporting prevention?