

6th DRM Colloquium: Understanding Interconnected Disaster Risks With Prof. Dr. Xiomeng Shen: UNU-ViE | UNU-EHS (2023/5/23)

Theme: United Nations University Europe/United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security, Disaster Risks, Climate Change, Arts and Science

Venue: IRIDeS Building, Multipurpose Hall

Disaster Humanities and Social Science Division of IRIDeS held the 6th DRM Colloquium on May 23, 2023, inviting Prof. Dr. Xiomeng Shen, United Nations University Vice-Rector in Europe and Director of the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS). This event was co-hosted by International Joint Graduate Program in Resilience and Safety Studies (GP-RSS).

The talk was titled “Understanding Interconnected Disaster Risks” and Prof. Dr. Shen revisited ten past disasters renowned for notoriety and unveiled their root causes to show a macro picture of the interconnected systems of risks. She took further steps to show how a “solution package,” an approach with multiple solutions, is valid for alleviating risks when various actors in our society take responsible actions. This talk was derived from the UNU-EHS’s flagship report, which poses questions on the following explanation: “As climate change is here to stay and its impacts are increasingly felt, the challenges for disaster risk reduction will only grow in the future and be intensified by the impacts of loss of nature and vanishing biodiversity. Solutions are already being implemented around the world to address risks, but interconnectivity is not yet placed at the heart of solution design and implementation (UNU-EHS, 2022, pp.6.).

Over 50 students and faculties participated in the event onsite and held lively discussions with Prof. Shen.



Prof. Shen providing insights about inter-connected risks



Engaged participants on the novel theme shared