

# TRANSFORMATIVE DISASTER RISK GOVERNANCE

Monthly Newsletter



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### Welcome

From Vice-President Research and Innovation, Amir Asif

Welcome to the first issue of “Transformative Disaster Risk Governance (DRG) Newsletter”. I am very excited to launch this newsletter which will inform and inspire you with the DRG news and updates, University-wide and beyond, on a monthly basis. It is thus my pleasure to invite you to read through this initial issue and learn about our upcoming events.

### Introduction

“Transformative Disaster Risk Governance and Emergency Management” is a University-wide initiative aiming to position York in an international leadership role by pursuing several goals in research, scholarship and academic and professional development activities. Transformative Disaster Risk Governance is a multi-disciplinary project bringing together experts from Disaster and Emergency Management, Public Health, Governance, Environmental Studies, Natural Science, Mathematics, and Engineering to work on all aspects of Disaster and Emergency Management, including a series of measures and practices consisting of five major pillars- prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery and adaptation- designed to reduce risk and health and economic consequences. Transforming the way we approach crises and risks requires a paradigm shift on the part of those in governance to reduce negative health consequences, economic burdens, and disruptions across societies. When these disciplines come together to anticipate risks and innovate around them, it can also create a more resilient and equitable state of human well-being.



## DRG highlights

### **Springer recognition note for Dr. Agrawal's book**

The book, "Natural Disasters and Risk Management in Canada, An Introduction", by Dr. Nirupama Agrawal has received a recognition note for being among the top used publications on Springer Link that concern one or more of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### **Enhanced public education on flood risk could strengthen disaster resilience**

A professor in the Disaster & Emergency Management Program who studies flood risk management identifies a gap between public beliefs and data-informed reality. She proposes a community-based solution to bolster disaster resilience – a timely example of how research can create positive change for communities and the world.

### **Paper on post-pandemic gender inequity offers evidence-based manual for change**

Researchers have raised alarm bells on inequity during the pandemic, suggesting that women are shouldering a heavier burden and this inequity may continue post-pandemic. One law professor adds vital evidence to this claim and, most importantly, offers policy-applicable suggestions for improvement.

### **Research on COVID-19-based job loss and inequity could inform future public policy**

A York U economist collaborated with an American academic to study the first months of COVID-19 and consider how the pandemic affected Americans' earning potential. The findings, as harrowing as they are, will help public policy-makers on both sides of the border.

## Media

### **Collaboration to tackle COVID-19 in Africa and future disease outbreaks**

A collaboration between York University and University of the Witwatersrand will help to predict outbreaks before they happen across Africa by using artificial intelligence to detect early warning signals.

Featured on CTV News:  
<https://bit.ly/3rcb2Dc>



### **DRG Symposium and Webinar Series**

The first DRG symposium, held on Feb 12, was focused on exploring the subject with a group of researchers, students and partner organizations featuring an academic and non-academic DRG expert as well as a panel of York researchers. Interested individuals can access the Symposium resources [here](#).

### **Upcoming events**

#### **Global Ethics Day Video Competition**

The global ethics day video competition 2020-2021 is open until Feb 28, 2021 to college or university students who are interested in this field of emergency management, ethics, access, and equity issues. More information can be found [here](#).

#### **5th World Congress on Disaster Management**

The World Congress on Disaster Management (WCDM) 2021 will take place in New Dehli, India, Nov 24-27, 2021. The congress will address a range of disaster risk management challenges through plenary, technical, concurrent and special feature sessions. For details visit the [event website](#).

### **Newsletter signup**

To subscribe to our newsletter visit <https://www.yorku.ca/tdrg/contact/>

Contact: [mahnazal@yorku.ca](mailto:mahnazal@yorku.ca)

### **What is next?**

The DRG webinar series will start at the end of February on a monthly basis for 4-5 months, featuring researchers at different career stages such as faculty, graduate students, post-docs and trainees.

For the updates visit the [DRG website](#).