



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



UNESCO Chair on Intersectoral Safety
for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience
SPRINT-Lab, University of Udine, Italy



UNIVERSITY
OF UDINE



1st Meeting of UNESCO-VISUS Experts

Udine 11th-13th September 2018

The 2015-2030 Agenda of the United Nations for Sustainable Development defines goals and targets for the Sustainable Development. In particular Members States and International Organization are called to “upgrade education facilities in order to provide a safe and effective learning environment” (Goal 4.a) as a way to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 calls for the strengthening of disaster resilient public and private investments, particularly through structural, non-structural and functional disaster risk prevention and reduction measures in critical facilities, in particular schools and hospitals and physical infrastructure.

In this context, UNESCO’s Unit on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience is working in the design of an International Programme for Assessing Safe School Facilities. The programme aim to provide decision makers and the educational community with practical information concerning the risks affecting educational infrastructure (multi-hazard approach) as well as, practical information that allows decisions to be made on the investment needs and areas of concern where this investment should be prioritized.

SPRINT-Lab researchers of the University of Udine in close collaboration with UNESCO’s Unit on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience, developed a specific technical-triage methodology named VISUS (Visual Inspections for the definition of Safety Upgrading Strategies). This safety assessment methodology facilitates the decision-making process in the definition of rational and effective safety-upgrading strategies, and allows decision makers to take science-based decisions on where and how they may invest their available resources for strengthening the safety of schools, their students and teaching staff in an efficient and economical manner.

VISUS methodology has been adopted by UNESCO and has been successfully implemented in pilot projects in seven countries worldwide (Italy, El Salvador, Indonesia, Laos, Haiti, Peru, Mozambique). Considering the positive results is intention of the UNESCO to proceed with publishing the VISUS guides for a more extensive and widespread application.

For this aim, the “1st Meeting of UNESCO-VISUS Experts” (MUVEx) meets together several experts, with different technical skills, for analyzing in detail the methodology, reviewing and validating the VISUS guides. The participants will also attend, as observers, to the full scale exercise of the SERM Academy in Venzone and Palmanova where Regional Civil Protection, National Fire Brigade, and University of Udine will test innovative techniques and tools for implementing a rapid post disaster technical triage for decision making support in the emergency response and need assessment.

The VISUS methodology has been conceived and implemented by the researchers of the SPRINT-Lab of the University of Udine. SPRINT lab is now a UNESCO Chair in Intersectoral Safety for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience. For this reasons the 1st MUVEx meeting will take place in Udine, in the prestigious palace of CISM (International Centre of Mechanical Science). CISM operates in strict collaboration with the University of Udine and after the 1976 earthquake in Friuli Region, had a strong role in terms of scientific support for technicians and decision makers in the reconstruction phase, organizing conferences and producing guidelines and books. The MUVEx has similar purposes, therefore, the location provides the proper environment for the validation of the UNESCO guides of the VISUS methodology.

PROGRAMME
1st MUVEx Meeting

10th September

Arrivals

11th September (Conference room - CISM)

Morning

- Welcome, general introductions, scope and objective of the 1st MUVEx Meeting of UNESCO-VISUS Experts – UNESCO and UNIUD
- Role of the Scientific committee for UNESCO VISUS Guides review, and overview of the meeting program – UNESCO and UNIUD
- Greetings from Authorities (UNIUD, CISM, UNESCO)
- VISUS: a brief history – UNESCO

Lunch (buffet)

Afternoon

- Part I - Illustration of VISUS Methodology – UniUD
- Round table – All participants
- Revision outcomes – UNESCO

12th September (Caminetto room - CISM)

Morning

- Part IIa – Specific illustration of single Guide – UniUD
- Round tables
- Revision outcomes – UNESCO

Afternoon

- Part IIb – Specific illustration of single Guide – UniUD
- Round tables
- Final considerations and closure - UNESCO

Night

Social dinner (Elliot Restaurant – Manzano, Udine)

13th September (SERMex18 Full scale Exercise - on site visit)

Morning

- Visit Civil Protection HQ
- Observation SERM Academy full scale exercise in the Friuli 1976 Earthquake area

Lunch (Venzone area)

Afternoon

- Visit Museum Tiere Motus – Venzone historical centre
- Gemona – Via Bini and Cathedral

14th September

Departures

Participants

The “1st meeting of UESCO-VISUS Experts” will be leaded by the UNESCO VISUS steering committee composed by members of HQ UNESCO DRR Unit and UNESCO Chair SPRINT-lab of the University of Udine.

The meeting will see the participation of experts from all over the world; the expertise ranges from decision making to specific hazard vulnerability, cost estimation, post-disaster assessments, management and implementation.

List of Experts

#	Country	Institution	Name
1	Indonesia	UNESCO Office Jakarta Programme Officer for Disaster Risk Reduction and Tsunami Information Coordinator of Indian Ocean Tsunami Information Centre (IOTIC)	Ardito Kodijat
2	Romania	Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest	Radu Vacareanu
3	Mozambique	Eduardo Mondlane University - Faculty of Architecture and Physical Planning	Luis Lage
4	Cuba	Universidad Tecnológica de La Habana José Antonio Echeverría, Cujae Académico Titular de la Academia de Ciencias de Cuba	Carlos Llanes Burón
5	Spain	CECAT Universidad Tecnológica de la Habana	Maria Luisa Rivada Vazquez
6	Slovenia	University of Ljubljana UNESCO Chair for Water Related Disaster Risk Reduction	Mitja Brilly
7	Ethiopia	UNESCO IICBA International Institute for Capacity building in Africa	Eyerusalem Azmeraw
8	Russia	Saint Petersburg University of State Fire Service of EMERCOM of Russia	Andrey Perlin
9	Italy	University of Trieste	Paolo Rosato
10	Saudi Arabia	King Abdulaziz University	Andres Moreno Sierra
11	Japan	Disaster Prevention Research Institute of Kyoto University	Kazuyoshi Nishijima
12	El Salvador	University of El Salvador	Edgar Peña
13	Japan	Building Research Institute	Tatsuya Azuhata
14	Japan	Building Research Institute	Koichi Kusunoki
15	France	Project Coordinator in the Section on Earth Sciences and Geo-Hazards, HQ UNESCO	Takeo Fukui
16	France	Coordinator for GADRRRES (Global Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience in the Education Sector) Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience Earth Sciences and Geo-hazards Risk Reduction Natural Science Sector, HQ UNESCO	Lucille Anglès
17	France	Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience Earth Sciences and Geo-hazards Risk Reduction Natural Science Sector, HQ UNESCO	Jair Torres
18	Switzerland	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs - Headquarters (OCHA); United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Margherita Fanchiotti
19	Italy (Venice)	UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe	Davide Poletto

5 Researchers of SPRINT-Lab University of Udine – UNESCO Chair on Intersectoral Safety for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience

1 observer from Regional Civil Protection