

About the Chair

Created in 2019, the UNESCO Chair on Intersectoral Safety for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience promotes an integrated, science-based approach to reduce disaster risks and enhance resilience across sectors and scales. The Chair works closely with UNESCO Headquarters and UNESCO Venice Office.

Hosted by **SPRINT-Lab at the University of Udine (Italy)**, the Chair operates at the interface of:

- Science and policy
- Engineering and social systems
- Education, research, and capacity building



Meeting at UNESCO HQ - 2024

Our Impact

- Supporting safer and more resilient communities
- Bridging science, policy, and practice
- Strengthening international cooperation
- Advancing the Sendai Framework and SDG

Partner with Us

We collaborate with universities, UN agencies, governments, NGOs, and international organizations.

Website:

<https://unescochair-sprint.uniud.it/en/>



Contacts:

SPRINT-Lab (Safety and Protection Intersectoral Laboratory)
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Social media:

LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/sprint-uniud/>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Unesco-Chair-Intersectoral-Safety-for-Disaster-Risk-Reduction-Resilience/>

The poster features a light blue background. At the top left are the UNESCO and uniTwin logos. The main title 'unesco Chair' is in large blue font. Below it, the full name of the chair is written in bold blue text. The location 'SPRINT-Lab, University of Udine (Italy)' and ID 'ID 2018IT1270' are listed. A central graphic consists of five colored hexagons: green (TRAINING), orange (CREATE KNOWLEDGE), red (TRANSFER KNOWLEDGE), purple (COLLABORATE AND SUPPORT), and teal (CREATE TOOLS). Logos for the University of Udine and SPRINT are also present. At the bottom, the logos for UNESCO Chair, University of Udine, and SPRINT are displayed again.

unesco
Chair

**UNESCO Chair on
Intersectoral Safety
for Disaster Risk Reduction
and Resilience**

*SPRINT-Lab, University of Udine
(Italy)*

ID 2018IT1270

TRAINING

CREATE KNOWLEDGE

TRANSFER KNOWLEDGE

COLLABORATE AND SUPPORT

CREATE TOOLS

**UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI UDINE**
LABORATORIO
SICUREZZA E
PROTEZIONE
INTERSETTORIALE

unesco
Chair

**UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI UDINE**
HIC SUNT FUTURA

SPRINT
SAFETY AND
PROTECTION
INTERSECTORAL
LABORATORY

Core Activities

CREATE KNOWLEDGE

Create knowledge

Interdisciplinary research and methodological innovation on intersectoral safety for disaster risk reduction and resilience, from global school safety assessments to territorial, cultural heritage, and multi-hazard risk studies.

TRANSFER KNOWLEDGE

Transfer knowledge

Dissemination of scientific results through guidelines, policy support, publications, and international cooperation, fostering dialogue among science, governance, and society.

TRAINING

Training

Capacity building for students, professionals, and decision-makers through academies, university courses, MOOCs, and tailored training pathways on safety, risk-informed planning, and resilience.

COLLABORATE AND SUPPORT

Collaborate and support

Co-creation of solutions with UNESCO, universities, UN agencies, authorities, and communities, providing technical advice and operational support to strengthen disaster risk reduction and safer learning environments.

CREATE TOOLS

Create tools

Development and implementation of decision-support tools and methodologies—such as VISUS, SPRINT-Engine and SPRINT Learning-Hub—to transform data into actionable evidence for managing risk and enhancing resilience.



ResiliEnhance Platform, 2025



SERM Academy, 2019

Long-term Actions

Networks and Cooperation

ResiliEnhance Program: an expert platform to explore effective ways and means for strengthening territorial resilience to adverse events and critical situations in the context of complexity and systemic risk. It operates: *globally* with the [Resilience Catalysts](#) initiative; *regionally* with the [ResiliEnhance Platform](#); and *locally* with the [EUREKA](#) intergenerational arena of knowledge.



EUREKA project, 2024

Education, Academies & Learning Platforms

The VISUS and the SERM Academy advance capacity building and knowledge transfer in disaster risk reduction and resilience, translating scientific and experience-based insights into training, innovative tools, and on-field real-scale experiences.

Innovative research

Strengthening the development of innovative cost-effective methodologies related to geophysical measurements serving as a diagnosis tool for heritage buildings.

Major International Projects:

UNESCO-VISUS Projects

Application of the VISUS methodology for large-scale safety assessments of school infrastructure, supporting evidence-based upgrading strategies in multi-hazard contexts.



UNESCO Guidelines for Assessing Learning Facilities in the Context of Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation



Medium Term Projects:

MAPS - Migration and Displacement Action Plan for Sub-Saharan Africa

EuropeAid/181237/ACT/MULTI – NDICI/AFRICA/20247462-027, Co-funded by European Commission

CONCORDIA - COoperative Network for COoRdinated Disaster Impact Assessment

Interreg Italia-Slovenia, co-funded by European Union

ECHO - Empowering and Connecting Diverse Communities for Multi-Hazard Resilience with Open Data, Open Models, and Open-Source Software

HORIZON-CL3-2024-INFRA-01 (Resilient Infrastructure)

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Facebook
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UNIVERSITY OF UDINE



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Transfer knowledge

Dissemination of scientific results through guidelines, policy support, publications, and international cooperation, fostering dialogue among science, governance, and society.



Training

Capacity building for students, professionals, and decision-makers through academies, university courses, MOOCs, and tailored training pathways on safety, risk-informed planning, and resilience.



Collaborate and support

Co-creation of solutions with UNESCO, universities, UN agencies, authorities, and communities, providing technical advice and operational support to strengthen disaster risk reduction and safer learning environments.



Create tools

Development and implementation of decision-support tools and methodologies—such as VISUS, SPRINT-Engine and SPRINT Learning-Hub—to transform data into actionable evidence for managing risk and enhancing resilience.



ResiliEnhance Platform, 2025



SERM Academy, 2025

Long-term Actions

Networks and Cooperation

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HORIZON-CL3-2024-INFRA-01 (Resilient Infrastructure)

Core Activities



Research & Innovation

The Chair develops scientific methodologies, tools, and decision-

support systems for multi-hazard risk assessment, disaster impact analysis, and resilience evaluation. The Chair's research supports evidence-based policies and operational practices aligned with international DRR frameworks.

- Education & Advanced Training**

The Chair contributes to higher education through dedicated Master's and PhD pathways, advanced training programmes, and international schools on resilience and sustainable development. These initiatives integrate academic excellence with real-world applications and professional skills.

- Capacity Building & Knowledge Exchange**

Through academies, learning hubs, and participatory exercises, the Chair strengthens institutional capacities and promotes intersectoral dialogue among researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and youth. Activities emphasize practical tools, field-based learning, and inclusive approaches.

- Alignment and Impact**

All activities support UNESCO Strategic Objectives—Quality Education (SO1), Science and Sustainability (SO2), Social Inclusion (SO3), and Technology and Ethics (SO4)—and contribute to the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Sustainable Development Goals.



ResiliEnhance Platform, 2025



SERM Academy, 2025

Long-term Actions

Networks and Cooperation

ResiliEnhance Programme: an expert platform to explore effective ways and means for strengthening territorial resilience to adverse events and critical situations in the context of complexity and systemic risk.

Education, Academies & Learning Platforms

VISUS Academy and SERM Academy: training environments combining technical knowledge, field exercises.

Innovative research

Strengthening the development of innovative cost-effective methodologies related to geophysical measurements serving as a diagnosis tool for heritage buildings.



EUREKA project, 2024

Major International Projects:

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EUREKA project, 2024

Long-term Actions

The UNESCO Chair operates through a coherent set of research projects, education programmes, and knowledge platforms, as presented in its official activity framework.

Major International Projects:

- VISUS Projects**
Application of the VISUS methodology for large-scale safety assessments of schools infrastructure, supporting evidence-based upgrading strategies in multi-hazard contexts.

Education, Academies & Learning Platforms

- VISUS Academy and SERM Academy:** professional training environments combining technical knowledge, field exercises.

Networks and Cooperation

- ResiliEnhance Programme:** a collaborative knowledge arena promoting dialogue among universities, UN bodies, policy-makers, and practitioners on resilience and sustainable development.
- Seismology project**

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All open	All open	All open
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