



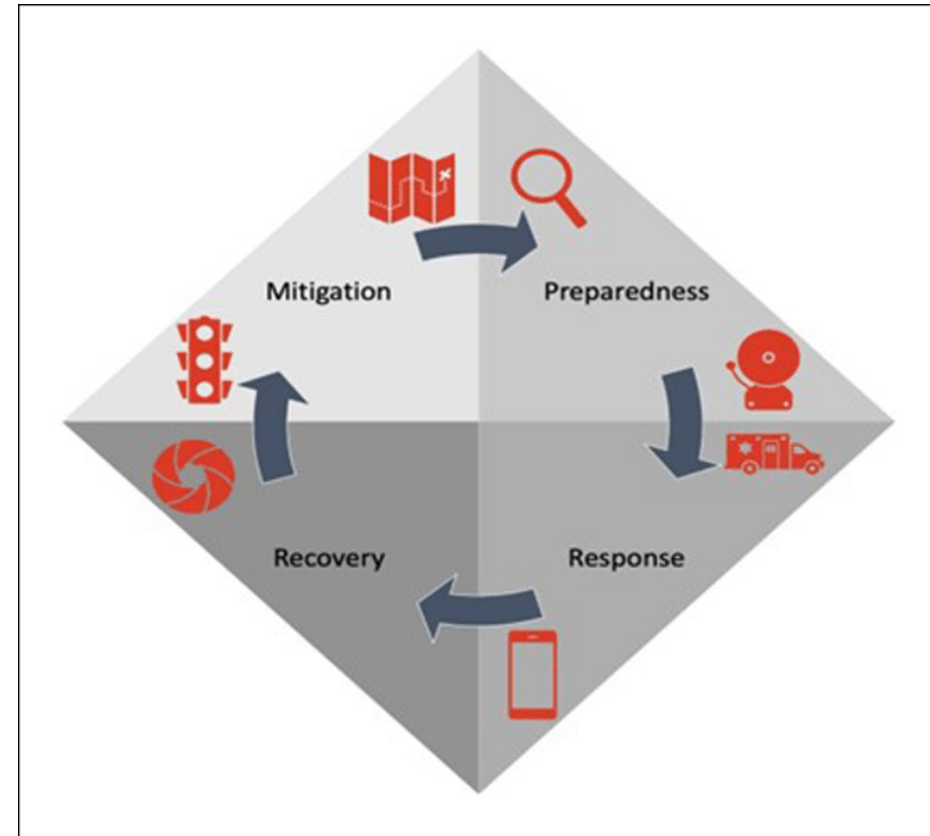
# AI to the rescue: Enhancing Disaster Warnings with Tech Tools

*Elena Xoplaki, Ph.D., Justus Liebig University Giessen*



# How is AI being used to support disaster management?

Fig. 1. *AI can contribute at each phase of disaster management, from mitigation (e.g., optimizing the location of traffic sensors and providing susceptibility maps), to preparedness (e.g., forecasting or monitoring conditions and triggering alerts), to response (e.g., providing situational awareness and decision support), and into recovery (e.g., damage assessment).*



Kuglitsch, M. M., I. Pelivan, C. Danakkaew, J. Dramsch, and R. Arghandeh (2024), Cultivating trust in AI for disaster management, *Eos*, 105, <https://doi.org/10.1029/2024EO240402>. Published on 11 September 2024.

# What are standards and why do we need them?



Guidelines on how to use **technology**.



Produced by an **international SDO**.



**IEEE**



Mandatory by **adoption** into national laws.



# AI for Natural Disaster Management

ITU Focus Group



Est. 2020

Community of  
experts &  
stakeholders

Systematically  
evaluating AI  
use to identify  
challenges &  
opportunities

Developing best  
practices

Supporting  
capacity sharing





## WG-Roadmap

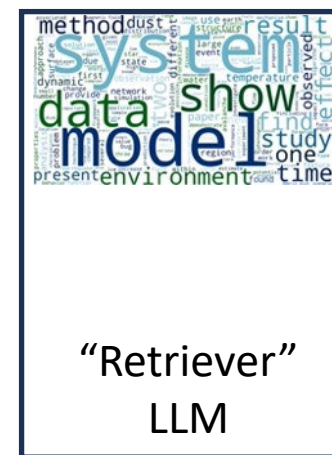
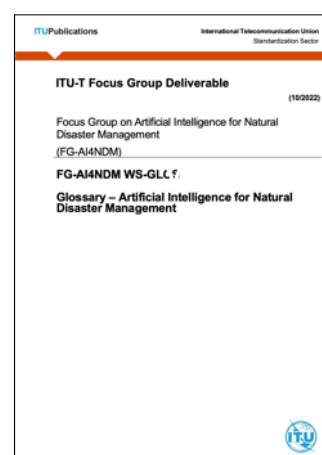
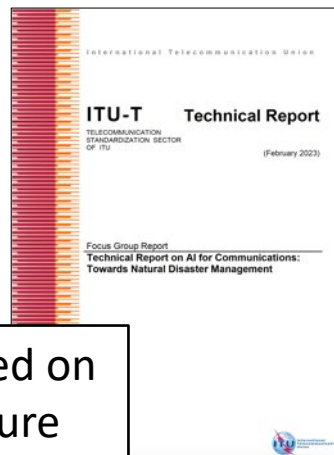
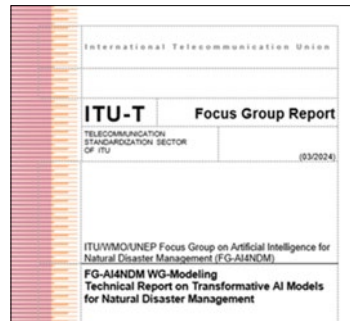
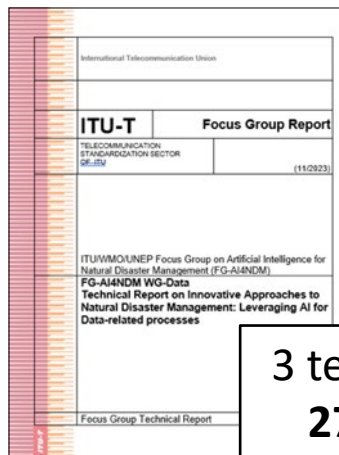
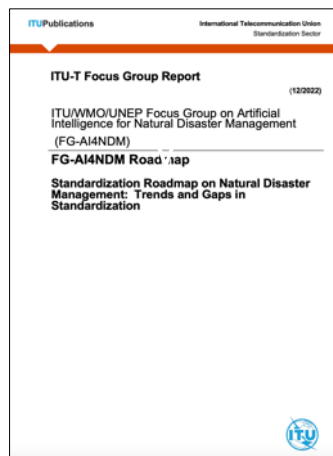
## WG-Data

## WG-Modelling

## WG-Comms

## WS-Glossary

## WS-Tools

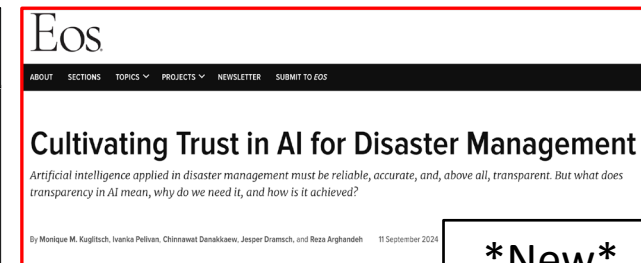
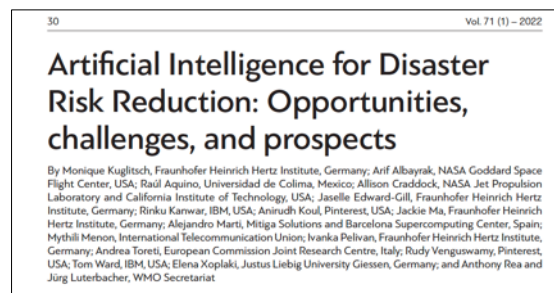


3 technical reports based on  
27 use cases & literature

## WG-EduMat

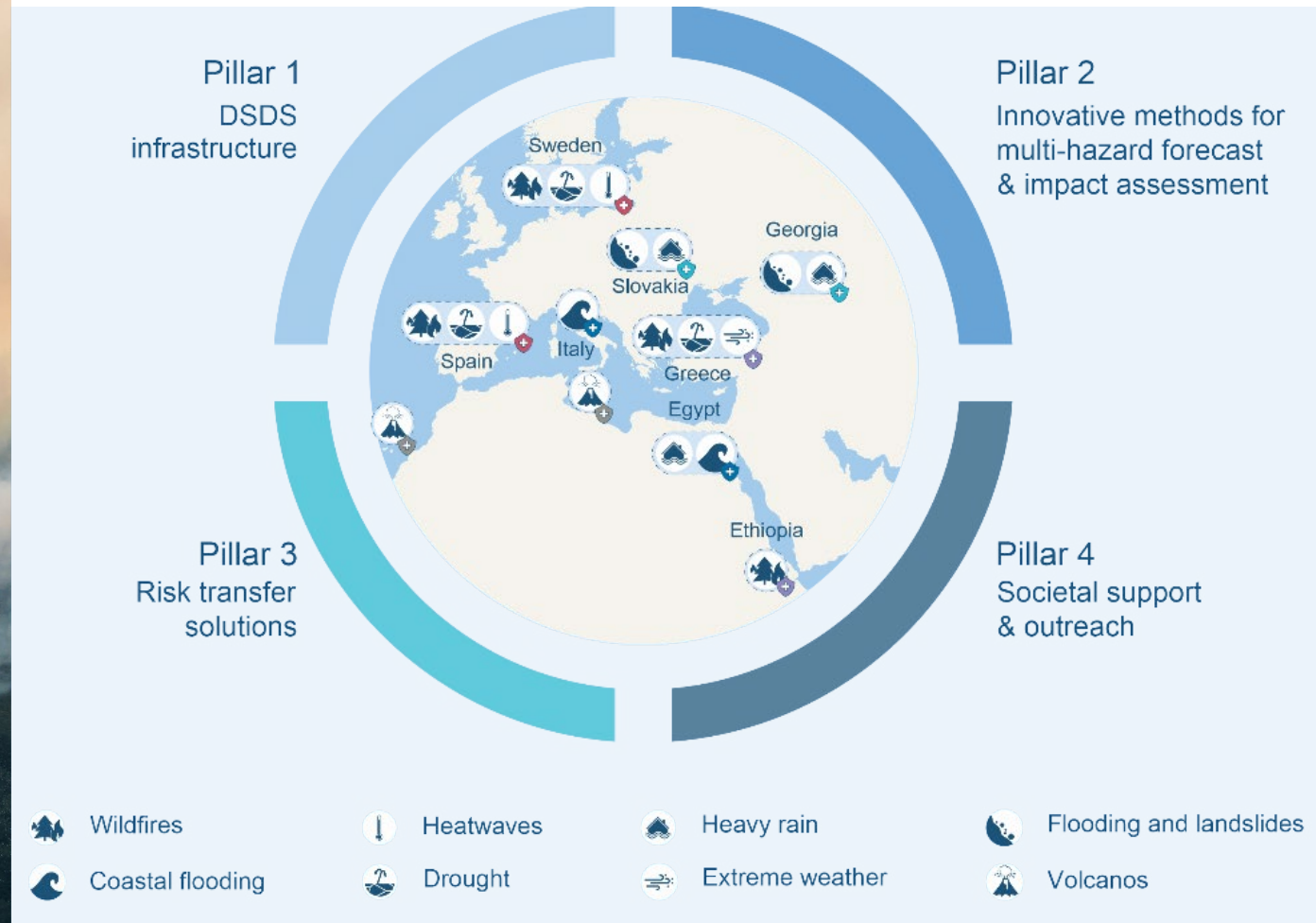


- workshops/webinars
- hackathons
- training sessions
- scientific publications



# Proof-of-concept

Mediterranean and pan-European forecast and early warning system against natural hazards



MedEWSa

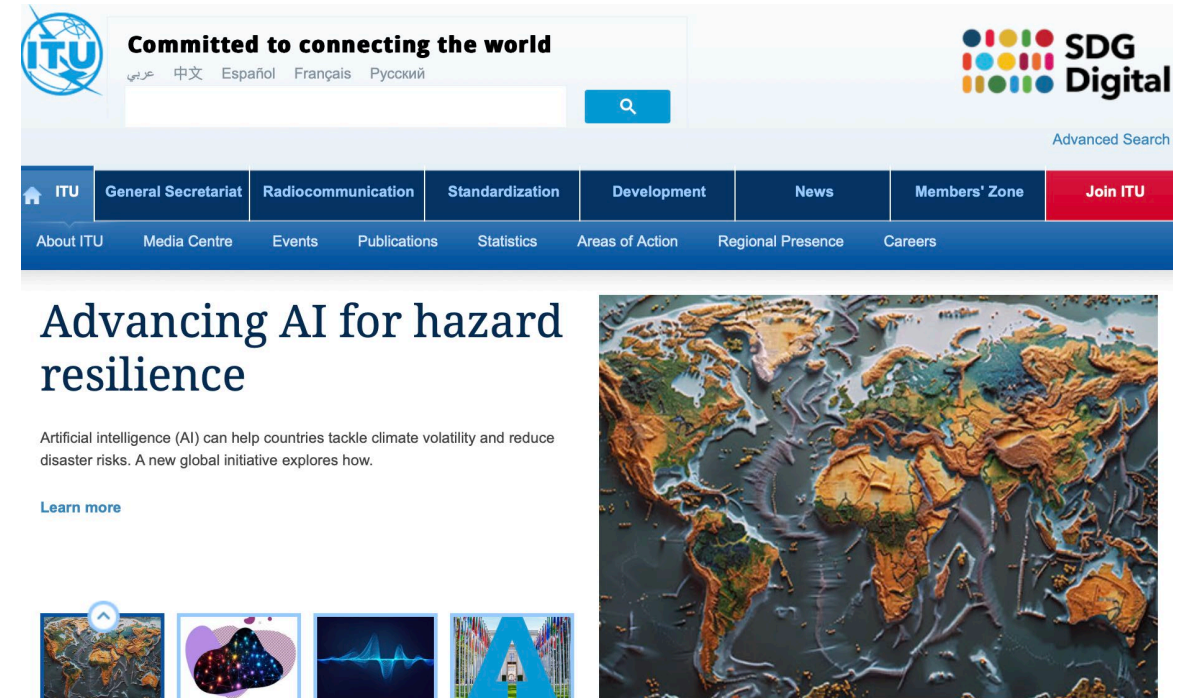




# Focus Group -> Global Initiative



*Transition of Focus Group into a Global Initiative announced by the ITU Secretary General during the **AI for Good Global Summit**, June 2024.*



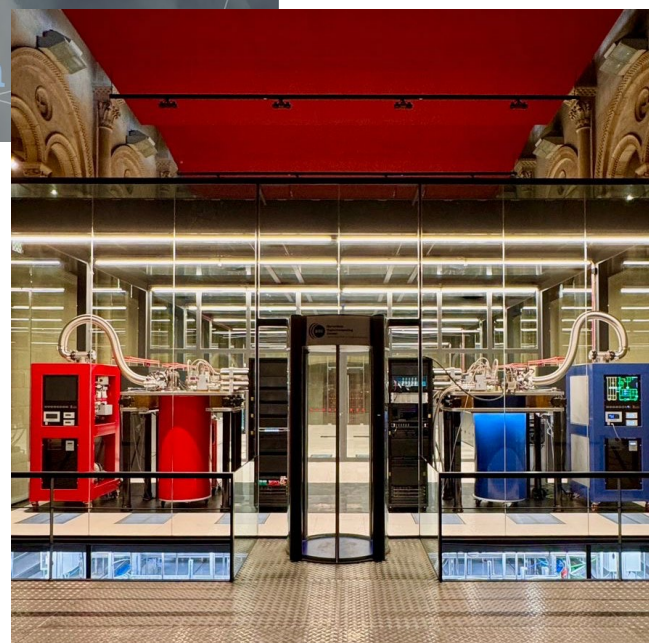


# Focus Group -> Global Initiative

## Kick-off meeting of the ITU • WMO • UNEP • UNFCCC • UPU Global Initiative on Resilience to Natural Hazards through AI Solutions

6 November 2024

Barcelona Supercomputing Center, Spain



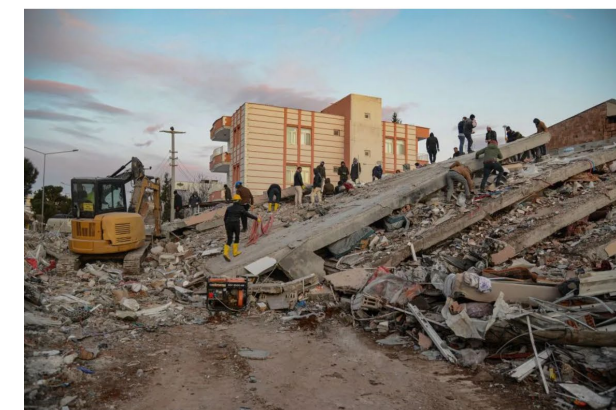
TIME

SUBSCRIBE

TIME 2030/CITIES  
WORLD • 2030 CITIES

## How AI Is Being Used to Respond to Natural Disasters in Cities

7 MINUTE READ



AI was used to identify damage in Adiyaman, Turkey, after last year's earthquake. ILYAS AKENGİN—AFP / Getty Images

BY HARRY BOOTH AND THARIN PILLAY

NOVEMBER 4, 2024 11:01 AM EST

time.com



# Focus Group -> Global Initiative

**New** UN partners



ITU ♦ WMO ♦ UNEP ♦ UNFCCC ♦ UPU

**New** use cases



**New** technologies



**New** best practices



**New** PoC



**New** opportunities to support capacity development



MedEWSa

# Bridging the digital divide: Ensuring inclusive frontier technology for climate action



18 November 2024

Capacity Building Hub, Baku Stadium, Baku, Azerbaijan



Monique Kuglitsch



Elena Xoplaki



Alex Marti



Saman Ghaffarian



Maria João Sousa



Patrick Büker



Lóránt Czárán



Anil Mishra



Tom Wagner

Co-organizers: ITU, WMO, Climate Change AI, Fraunhofer HHI





United Nations  
Convention to Combat  
Desertification



G20 GLOBAL  
LAND INITIATIVE

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY,  
& INNOVATION DAY



# Digital technologies:

A boon for drought  
management



UNCCD  
**COP16**  
Riyadh | 2024

RESTORATION  
PAVILION

© WMO

## Participants



**Andrea Toreti**  
European Commission,  
Joint Research Centre



**Mythili Menon**  
International  
Telecommunication Union



**Hwirin Kim**  
World Meteorological  
Organisation



**Matteo Zampieri**  
King Abdullah University  
of Science and Technology



**Elena Xoplaki**  
Universität Giessen

Date // **9 Dec 2024**  
Time // **10:00-11:00 AST**  
Location // Blue Zone,  
Restoration Pavilion

This workshop delves into the potential of digital technologies like artificial intelligence and digital twins for forecasting, monitoring, and managing drought risks, impacts, and cascading effects within new international initiatives. It also addresses challenges inherent to these technologies, highlighting the need for governance standards. The session includes expert presentations followed by a panel discussion, inviting audience interaction on advancing drought resilience through technological innovation.

Register here: [bit.ly/3AAd4rm](https://bit.ly/3AAd4rm)







Scan to learn more about  
the Focus Group



Scan to learn more about  
the Global Initiative

