

## Conference reports (Con't)

### SiDRR conference, Beijing, China

On May 11-12, 2019, Beijing, China, International Conference on Silk-roads Disaster Risk Reduction and Sustainable Development (SiDRR) was co-hosted by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), the China Association for Science and Technology(CAST), the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and the Alliance of International Science Organizations (ANSO), a group created to connect the scientific communities of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) participants.

Climate change and disastrous geological activity, which include rapid tectonic uplift, and various natural hazards threaten both the social development and livelihoods along the Silk Road. In response to this, the theme of the SiDRR Conference 2019 is “Towards Safe, Green, and Resilient Silk Road”. Centered on this theme, more than 20 sessions focusing on various topics have been organized by several international academic organizations and societies. Scientists from China and other countries involved in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) will work together to enhance scientific and technological cooperation in disaster prevention and mitigation, according to a joint declaration, the Beijing Declaration, after the SiDRR conference.

More than 700 scientists from around 40 countries, regions and international organizations supported the declaration. It recommended actions including data-sharing, investing in disaster risk reduction technologies and infrastructure, and jointly enhancing disaster preparedness and response protocols.

Prof. Charles W. W. NG, President of International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE), Chair Professor and Associate Vice President at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), was invited as a plenary keynote speaker in the afternoon session of Room 3A entitled “Theories and mechanisms of sustainable and ecologically engineered slopes”.

As key support organizations of the SiDRR conference, Tsinghua University and ISSMGE make a great support to the academic conference. Prof. Charles W. W. NG also served as the Chair of the parallel Session 1 - The Formation Process, Mechanism, and Treating Countermeasures of Landslides, which was well organized by Tsinghua University and ISSMGE. Dr. Yifei Cui from Tsinghua University served as the secretary and host of the session. Prof. Luciano PICARELLI from Università della Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli”, Italy, and Prof. Núria PINYOL from Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC, Spain) were invited as a lecture speakers in Session 1. There are also 9 oral presentations in session 1 following the invited lectures. More details available in [www.sidrr.com](http://www.sidrr.com).



Photo 1. Opening ceremony.

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Photo 2. Keynote addressed by Prof. Charles NG



Photo 3. Group photo of Session 1.



Photo 4. Invited speech by Prof. Luciano PICARELLI



Figure 5. Invited speech by Prof. Núria PINYOL



Photo 6. Discussion session for Special Lecture



Prof. Yifei Cui  
Department of Hydraulic Engineering, Tsinghua University