

EEI Expert Accepts Appointment to United Nations Working Group

June 9th 2017 - Juan Pablo Sarmiento M.D. M.P.H., Director, Disaster Resilience in the Americas Program (DRCAP) and Associate Director for Research, [Extreme Events Institute \(EEI\)](#), has accepted his nomination to the [World Meteorological Organization's Working Group on Societal and Economic Research Applications \(WG SERA\)](#).

The WG SERA's mission is to advance social and economic application of weather related information and services, and to help develop and promote demonstration projects. Members are drawn from multiple disciplines and involve organizations focused on how weather influences mortality, morbidity, and economic loss. *"The WG SERA fosters research and helps societies around the world deal with the complexities of weather and weather science," said Sarmiento. "It is a great honor to join this group."*

The [World Meteorological Organization \(WMO\)](#) is a specialized agency of the United Nations with 191 Member States and Territories, and is the UN system's authoritative voice on the state and behavior of the Earth's atmosphere, its interaction with the land and oceans, and the resulting distribution of water resources.



As signatories to the [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030](#), WMO Members are working to reduce existing disaster risk through the implementation of a range of measures to prevent and reduce hazard exposures and vulnerabilities, and to increase preparedness and strengthen resilience.

Working with governmental, non-governmental, and university partners, the Extreme Events Institute (EEI) carries out research and provides strategic technical assistance in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in more than a dozen countries, particularly in Latin America and the Caribbean. Invited to the May 2017 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Cancun, Mexico, EEI's role as a top authority in multi-hazard education, analysis, and action planning has been recognized by the [United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction](#).

About EEI

The FIU Extreme Event Institute's (EEI) mission is multi-hazard research synergy across disciplines to reduce human and economic losses from disasters, and to help sustain FIU's Carnegie "Research 1" status. By their very nature, extreme events cross traditional academic boundaries and require trans-disciplinary research and knowledge application. EEI programs include faculty and researchers from the social and behavioral sciences, engineering, computer science, earth and atmospheric sciences, business, public health, public administration, and management.