

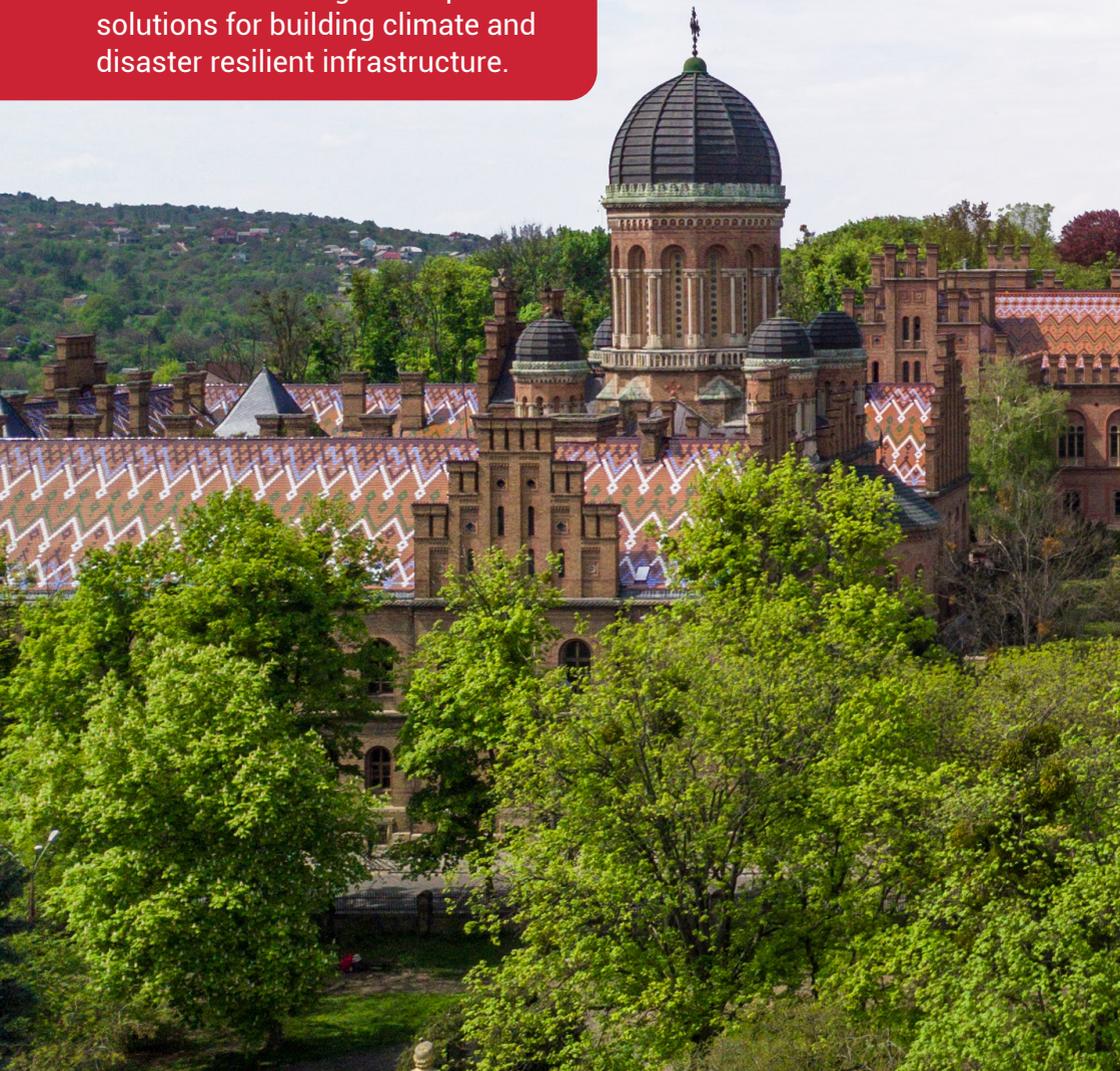
# Infrastructure Resilience Academic Exchange (IRAX)

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**A Call to Join the IRAX-University Consortium  
on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure**



An exciting opportunity to join a global academic exchange programme dedicated to disaster resilient infrastructure (DRI). IRAX will enable collaboration among universities to develop a multi-hazard, multi-disciplinary, consultative and inclusive approach towards education for DRI. This approach will help to address real-world challenges and provide solutions for building climate and disaster resilient infrastructure.



## The need

Building DRI knowledge within academia is essential given the systemic nature of physical and climate-induced disaster risks. IRAX aims to strengthen engagement with academia to mainstream DRI across curricula and develop a pool of industry-ready skilled infrastructure professionals and deepen the academia-industry connect.

The IRAX Programme, launched by the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) will facilitate the sharing of expertise on DRI from well-established institutions to those seeking to strengthen their courses, methods and research. IRAX will contribute to a more resilient world by offering value-added education, research opportunities, and professional development, guided by three objectives:

1

### Curating

opportunities for higher education and research in climate and disaster resilient infrastructure

2

### Catalyzing

research on innovative solutions for DRI and its application in real-world scenarios

3

### Creating

a cadre of industry-ready infrastructure professionals on DRI



## IRAX-University Consortium

IRAX is creating a University Consortium which will provide opportunities for institutions and existing consortiums to co-create DRI specific capacities, including research, curriculum development, capacity building, student and faculty exchanges, fellowships, and other academic initiatives. Consortium members will have the opportunity to provide inputs to CDRI's programmatic initiatives and support advocacy initiatives related to DRI.

## Consortium Membership

The Consortium will leverage existing strengths and empower new DRI champions by:

- **Leveraging existing strengths:** Universities with established research and teaching programmes in DRI will be engaged and supported to share their expertise and establish best practices. Such universities will be called "Leading Universities" of the consortium.



→ **Empowering new DRI champions:** Universities keen to incorporate DRI into their academic offerings will be provided with valuable resources, support curriculum, and offer student and faculty training opportunities, including collaboration with leading universities on research. Such universities will be called “Associate Universities” of the consortium.

The Consortium, through development of resilience centres, labs and fellowships will provide scope for both long and short-term collaborations among members. It will also bridge the gap between academia and industry, offering market-driven, project-based learning for mid-and early-career DRI professionals.

Through the consortium, CDRI Member Countries will gain access to a global network of DRI experts, allowing sharing of expertise on specific infrastructure challenges.



## Membership Benefits

Consortium will act as a platform for the universities in CDRI Member Countries to share best practices in DRI education, policy, and implementation which could be applied/adapted to infrastructure development strategies globally.

### University Specific Opportunities:

- Gain access to a network of universities and researchers focused on DRI
- Collaborate on industry-led research projects, curriculum development, and capacity building initiatives
- Access pool of resources and expertise to strengthen existing DRI curriculum or develop new DRI-focused programmes based on industry needs
- Participate in student and faculty exchange programmes
- Gain access to potential funding and grant opportunities related to DRI research and development



## CDRI Support to The Consortium

CDRI will develop strategic initiatives under the IRAX umbrella, providing **financial support** to universities in the consortium, usually through a competitive process. These initiatives will further support the mainstreaming DRI into academic discourse, aligned with the overall objectives of the IRAX programme. Additionally, CDRI will collaborate with funders for thematic and regional research initiatives through the consortium modality.



# About CDRI

Launched by the Hon. Prime Minister of India at the UN Climate Action Summit in 2019, the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) is a partnership of national governments, UN agencies and programmes, multilateral development banks, the private sector, and academia. CDRI advances the cause of climate and disaster resilient infrastructure (DRI), thereby ensuring sustainable development.



## Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)

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