

LLOYD'S REGISTER FOUNDATION INSTITUTE FOR THE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF RISK

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Happy New Year from the Lloyd's Register Foundation Institute for the Public Understanding of Risk (IPUR) at NUS. As we move into 2022, we would like to update you on our recent works and look forward to your continued support.

On 2-3 December 2021, we jointly organised a conference called *Understanding Risk Asia* with the World Bank. Involving over 25 organisations and about 100 speakers, the conference focused on how effective risk communication can help build trust within communities and lead to more resilient societies. The hybrid event was attended by 90 participants in-person and broadcasted to over 1,000 virtual participants from about 50 countries.

In partnership with the NUS Office of Risk Management and Compliance (ORMC), we completed a study to understand how undergraduate students in Singapore perceive risks. To obtain additional insights in other ASEAN countries, the study also included undergraduates in selected universities in Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam.

We conducted *Data Innovation Masterclasses* to follow up on our MOU signed with the National Academy of Governance of Mongolia. The online classes were attended by more than 1,000 participants from rural and urban Mongolia to learn about best practices in data innovation and literacy.

We concluded our 2021 data visualisation competition which invited youths to propose creative ways of communicating risks on climate change in Asia. Three teams have developed different digital products ranging from an interactive quiz to article. These products will be featured soon on our website.

Read on to find out more about IPUR in this newsletter.

Koh Chan Ghee

Lloyd's Register Foundation Professor and Director, IPUR





In tackling threats posed by the pandemic, climate change and natural disasters, effective risk communication is crucial to influence behaviours and make decisions. However, the increasingly crowded and noisy media space has rendered this task most challenging. In the *Understanding Risk Asia 2021* conference held on 2-3 December 2021, about 100 speakers shared their views and best practices on disaster-related messaging and risk communication strategies that can help foster trust within communities and lead to more resilient societies.

Access all sessions [here](#).



Collaborating with the NUS Office of Risk Management and Compliance (ORMC), we conducted a study on "Understanding the risk perceptions of undergraduates". The study revealed many interesting and useful insights shared by students across five ASEAN countries: Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam. The study covers a comprehensive set of 36 risk sources, ranging from personal worries such as financial security and mental health to societal and global concerns such as rising living costs, fake news and climate change. Read more [here](#).



We organised a data visualisation competition (Optigram 2021) for youths to develop creative ways of risk communication in climate change. Based on their proposals, three teams were invited to develop their digital products ranging from an interactive quiz, to a video and article. Hear from one of the winning teams on their use of an [interactive article](#) to show how individual energy consumption habits are directly translated into carbon emissions and dollars spent. Watch the video [here](#).



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The COVID-19 pandemic has heightened the need for data literacy in order to achieve better evidence-informed decisions. In partnership with the National Academy of Governance of Mongolia, IPUR conducted Data Innovation Masterclasses in Q4 2021 to equip participants with data literacy and risk communication skills. The response was overwhelming with more than 1,000 participants comprising mid to senior level civil servants and those from international and non-profit organisations in Mongolia. Read more [here](#).

INSIGHTS

[Influencing behaviours about the environment](#)

While many people are aware of the severe consequences of climate change, they find it difficult or helpless to take individual actions because of various reasons, one of which is the false belief that their actions cannot make a significant difference to fight climate change. An IPUR-funded study led by Dr Joost Buurman of LKYSPP examined the roles and challenges of climate change communicators in influencing public perceptions and beliefs. Read more [here](#).

Improve your risk literacy in six weeks

IPUR has Past Issues successfully launched a Massive Open Online Course (MOC) on “Understanding a Communicating Risk” on edX. The introductory course helps participants to understand the underlying factors of risk perceptions and master the tools for communicating risk information --with applications in the domains of health, climate and environment, and technology. Now the course is available at learner's pace, estimated to take six weeks with 3-5 hours per week to complete. If interested, register [here](#).

Dr Paul Slovic named recipient of prestigious award

Congratulations to our International Advisory Board Member, Prof. Paul Slovic, for his 2022 Bower Award and Prize for Achievement in Science. A University of Oregon professor of psychology and president of the local institute Decision Research, Prof. Slovic is well known for his research in judgment and decision processes. Inspired by Prof. Slovic and his colleagues' seminal work on risk perception, IPUR is working on developing a framework to measure risk perception gaps between experts and the public.

Using a game to build resilience towards fake news

In partnership with the NUS Centre for Trusted Internet and Community (CTIC), IPUR piloted a study on using an online game to combat proliferation of mis/disinformation. The online game aims to help individuals internalise “early mental warning signals” so that they can identify potential deception attempts and avoid them. Read more [here](#).