

## **Reid Basher, ISDR**

**Reid Basher** is currently the Senior Coordinator of the Policy Development Unit in the United Nations secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. The Unit's work covers policy issues related to such things as the economics of disaster risk reduction, adaptation to climate change, ISDR institutional arrangements including the ISDR Scientific and Technical Committee and relationships with technical agencies, and terminology, trends and statistics in disasters. The unit provides analysis, briefings and advocacy on these matters, both internally in the UN system, and for external partners and media. Previously he established and headed the ISDR Platform for the Promotion of Early Warning, in Bonn, for the ISDR secretariat, where among other things he led the design and execution of a \$11M project to support the development of tsunami early warning systems in the Indian Ocean. In general, Reid's interests lie in the interaction of science, policy, and applications practice concerning climate risk and disasters, early warning and the management of seasonal variability, and adaptation to climate variability and change. Before joining the secretariat in January 2004, he was Director for Applications Research at the International Research Institute for Climate Prediction (IRI), Columbia University, New York. A New Zealand citizen, he has been responsible for a broad range of public and commercial climate services in his home country. His qualifications include a Diploma of Business Administration in addition to a PhD in atmospheric science and BSc (Hons) in physics. Reid worked in Fiji for two years, was an active participant in and consultant to activities of the South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP), and developed an El Niño-related seasonal outlook scheme for tropical cyclones in the South Pacific islands. He has been a lead author in impacts reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and has held committee leadership roles in the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).