

**Environment & Society Forum
Dinner Discussion**

**From Caribbean Hurricanes to Indian floods:
Experience and Lessons Learned for Disaster Reduction**

Hosted by the Royal Geographical Society with IBG
and ActionAid International

Wednesday 18th January 2006

Exhibition Road doors open 5.00pm

5.00pm – 6.00pm Welcome drinks in the Map Room

6.00pm – 7.30pm Presentations in the Education Centre

Introduction and welcome

Dr Rita Gardner, Director, Royal Geographical Society with IBG

Key speakers

Jim Drummond, Director, UN Conflict and Humanitarian Division, DfID, speaking on how DfID are using their programme to address Disaster Risk Reduction

Kristina Peterson, University of New Orleans, CHART (Centre for Hazard Assessment and Response Technology), speaking with first hand experience of preparedness and response to Hurricane Katrina 2005

Dr UnniKrishnan, Conflict and Emergencies Advisor, ActionAid International, speaking on The Mumbai Floods 2005: synergies between local community, civil society and governmental response

Helena Molin Valdes, Deputy Director, International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, speaking on The Hyogo Framework for Action: an overview of the past year from commitment to action. Current challenges faced.

7.30pm Dinner in the Main Hall

9.00 – 9.30pm Post dinner discussion

Roger Yates, Head of Emergencies and Conflict Team, ActionAid International will lead the dinner discussion