

SURVIVAL OF THE RESILIENT

DISRUPTION

IMPACT

RESPONSE

IRMSA
The Institute of Risk Management
SOUTH AFRICA

**3 OCTOBER
2025
08H30 - 13H00**

**IRMSA ANNUAL
MASTER CLASS**

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SURVIVAL OF THE RESILIENT

Disruption | Impact | Response

In an era marked by constant upheaval—from global crises and cyber threats to regulatory shifts and climate events—disruption is inevitable. Its impacts are far-reaching, causing operational breakdowns, financial strain, and strategic uncertainty. In this context, resilience is the defining trait that enables organisations not only to withstand shocks but to emerge stronger.

Resilience involves anticipating risks, absorbing shocks, adapting swiftly, and maintaining continuity. It spans five key dimensions: absorption, recoverability, adaptability, continuity, and learning. Resilient organisations are proactive, embedding resilience into their core operations and culture rather than treating it as an afterthought.

There are various response pathways to disruption. Some organisations capitalise by innovating, others realign processes, repurpose assets, or retrench to preserve core functions. A resilient response typically includes strategic agility, strong communication, empowered teams, and data-driven decision-making.

08:00	Registration
08:30	OPENING THE CONVERSATION ON SHOCK, CHANGE AND CHALLENGE Cathy Mohlahlana Facilitator
08:40	WELCOME Yvonne Mothibi Chief Executive Officer, IRMSA
	DISRUPTION
08:45	DISRUPTION ON THE FRONTLINES: HUMANITY IN THE MIDST OF DISRUPTION Dr Imtiaz Sooliman Lessons from the Gift of the Givers Founder
09:15	UNPREPARED FOR THE UNTHINKABLE: GLOBAL CRISES AND CORPORATE BLIND SPOTS When Risk Becomes Reality Franck Baron Director, SOS International IFRIMA President
	IMPACT
09:35	IMPACT UNDER PRESSURE The Ripple Effect: How Disruption Tests National Resilience Mpumi Tyikwe CEO SASRIA
09:55	WHAT IF IT WAS ME? Living the Disruption and the Impact. A personal journey into the heart of disruption Cathy Mohlahlana Facilitator
10:15	CONNECTION BREAK Colour Match: Finding Your Disruption Tribe
	RESPONSE

10:40	FROM SHOCK TO STRATEGY: RESPONDING WITH RESILIENCE This panel brings together leading global and local risk professionals to explore how organisations can move beyond crisis mode, turning disruption into decisive, resilient strategies. They will share practical insights on preparedness, agility, and building long-term resilience in an unpredictable world. Alex Sidorenko Group Head of Risk, Insurance and Internal Audit Serra Verde Group (Zug, Switzerland) Bheki Gutshwa Managing Director Risk Eyes Solutions Franck Baron Director, SOS International IFRIMA President Themba Sibiya Executive Manager: Underwriting and Strategy SASRIA Cathy Mohlahlana Facilitator
11:10	FROM DISRUPTION TO TRANSFORMATION: LEADING PEOPLE THROUGH CHANGE This session explores how change management professionals guide organisations and individuals through uncertainty, ensuring that disruption becomes an opportunity for adaptation, resilience, and long-term transformation, resulting in the End Game Playbook. Representing the Association of Change Management Professionals (ACMP): Peter Brian Cully: Transformation Lead ○ Rory van der Merwe: Change Management Specialist ○ Janet du Preez: Organisational Design Expert
12:10	FUTUREPROOF: THRIVING BEYOND THE UNEXPECTED WHY? You didn't see it coming HOW? You could've had the foresight to see it WHAT? You could've done to be better prepared to thrive, not just survive Dr Craig Wing Founder and CEO What the Foresight
12:55	CLOSING REFLECTIONS: FROM DISRUPTION TO RESILIENCE A Call to Action Nicola Comninos President, IRMSA
13:00	RESILIENCE LUNCH: BUILDING CONNECTIONS FOR THE FUTURE Closing - Cathy Mohlahlana Facilitator