Dr. Karen Sudmeier-Rieux has been working in the field of ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction for over a decade and has written some of the first publications on this topic. She is currently an education and training consultant with U.N. Environment, with whom she develops education materials and workshops, including an online course: "Disasters and Ecosystems: Resilience in a Changing Climate." She is also an associate researcher at the University of Lausanne, Institute for Earth Science, where she manages a project on landslide risk and bioengineering in Western Nepal. She holds a PhD in Environmental Science from the University of Lausanne and Masters' degrees in international development and forest ecology.