



**CARTAGENA COLOMBIA  
DISASTER RESILIENT  
COMMUNITIES FOR LIFE  
August 28th to 30th 2024**

**LOGISTICS NOTE**

## General description

The IDRiM Society is pleased to announce its **14th International Conference entitled "Disaster Resilient Communities for Life"**, which will be held in Cartagena, Colombia. This conference will be hosted by the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (UNGRD), in partnership with several national and international organizations. It is a pleasure for us to invite you to participate in the International Conference, which will be dedicated to strengthening capacities in integrated disaster risk management within our communities.

The conference theme Disaster Resilient Communities for Life reflects the government's overall vision "Colombia, world power of life." This vision aims to lay the foundation for Colombia to emerge as a global leader in the collective search for life, humanity, and nature.

The conference has a broad focus on integrated disaster prevention and mitigation, emergency response and disaster recovery. It encourages the scientific, academic, and educational community in general to consider new perspectives beyond traditional risk management concepts, which seem insufficient to address emerging risks and uncertainties. As the nature of risk becomes increasingly systemic and complex, the way we think and act must also become more systemic to maintain our health and well-being and protect our lives against different hazards.

Scheduled for two and a half days from August 28 to 30, the conference will provide a collaborative platform for knowledge exchange. IDRiM2024 in Cartagena will be a unique space to promote dialogue and share experiences in the field. Under IDRiM's motto, "I dream, you dream, we all dream for a safer world", 2024 will be the year in which Colombia envisions a safer and more integrated country and region.

## Place of the event

The **14th International Conference** will be held at the Cartagena de Indias Convention Center (CCCI), located in the Getsemaní neighborhood, on Calle 24 No. 8a-344.

The **Cartagena de Indias Convention Center** is located approximately 7 km from the Rafael Núñez International Airport, with an approximate travel time of 19 minutes. Likewise, its location in the heart of the historic center of Cartagena de Indias, a World Heritage city, offers us an experience close to the heritage and

culture of the city. Its proximity to hotels adjusted to various budgets, gastronomic offers and emblematic tourist sites, makes it an attractive venue to host national and international events.

The conference will have 6 rooms available for parallel sessions, stand and poster spaces. Likewise, appropriate infrastructure for people with disabilities. The conference will have 144 oral presentations, seven keynote talks, four panel discussions and 18 special sessions.

### Modality

The IDRiM 2024 conference in Cartagena de Indias will be held in person, with some hybrid sessions, transmitted through the UNGRD virtual channels. Likewise, the presentation of abstracts, for the Junior/Young Researchers Session, will be carried out in person, with some exceptions where participants will present their work in virtual sessions (only for those who previously applied).

### Sign Language

Sign language interpretation will be provided, both in plenary and parallel sessions. It will also be available via *streaming* on the UNGRD YOUTUBE channel only for keynote and plenary talks.

### Conference Program

You can see the agenda by visiting our conference website, available at:  
<https://idrim2024.com/es/oradores-principales/#>

### Registration

To register for the IDRiM 2024 conference in Cartagena de Indias, see the table below and register at the corresponding link: <https://idrim2024.com/es/registration/>  
It should be noted that for Colombian citizens, registration for the conference has no cost.

**TASAS DE INSCRIPCIÓN ANTICIPADA (Del 15 de Junio al 15 de julio)**

			Inscripción (USD)	Cuota de afiliación (USD)	Total (USD)
Colombiano	IDRiM	Regular	\$0	\$32	\$32
	no-miembro		\$0	\$0	\$0
	IDRiM	Estudiante	\$0	\$16	\$16
	no-miembro		\$0	\$0	\$0
País de renta baja ( <a href="#">consulte la lista de países</a> )	IDRiM	Regular	\$40	\$20	\$60
	no-miembro		\$80	\$0	\$80
	IDRiM	Estudiante	\$20	\$20	\$40
	no-miembro		\$50	\$0	\$50
Resto del mundo	IDRiM	Regular	\$160	\$65	\$225
	no-miembro		\$250	\$0	\$250
	IDRiM	Estudiante	\$80	\$33	\$113
	no-miembro		\$140	\$0	\$140

**Credentials distribution**

A credential will be required to enter the International Conference and participate in the different activities. This credential must be carried at all times and kept clearly visible to control access.

To obtain this credential, registered participants must present their citizenship card, passport or personal identification at the registration tables at the Pórtico Registration entrance on Wednesday, August 28, 2024 starting at 8:00 am.

In case of loss of said credential, you must contact the conference organizers at the information points.

## How to get to Cartagena de Indias?

### *By air and land*

### Getting to Cartagena, Colombia

Cartagena de Indias is a tourist destination accessible from anywhere in the world. The most common way to arrive is by air:

- **International and national flights:** Many airlines offer flights to Cartagena with a stopover in Bogotá. Some have direct flights from cities such as Miami, Punta Cana, Montreal, Santo Domingo, San José de Costa Rica, Atlanta, Amsterdam, Cali, Bucaramanga, Lima, Medellín, Orlando, Fort Lauderdale, San Andrés, Madrid, New York, Madrid or Panama.

With the following flight times from different destinations:

#### From North America:

- 3-6 hours (direct flights from some cities)
- 7-9 hours (with stops from further cities)

#### From Europe:

- 10-11 hours (direct flights from Madrid)
- 11-14 hours (with stops from other European cities)

#### From South America:

- 1-2 hours (from nearby countries like Colombia or Panama)
- 3-9 hours (from more distant countries, usually with stops)

#### From Asia:

- 20-30 hours (multiple stops)

#### From Oceania:

- 24-30 hours (multiple stops)

### From Africa:

- 16-22 hours (multiple stops)

**Airport:** Rafael Núñez International Airport (CTG) is the main air entry point, located just 10 minutes from the historic center.

### Get to the Cartagena Convention Center

Cartagena de Indias Convention Center is strategically located in the Getsemaní neighborhood, near the historic center. To get there:

- **From the airport:** A taxi takes about 15 minutes and is the most convenient option.
- **From the historic center:** It can be reached by walking in about 10-15 minutes or by taxi in 5 minutes.
- **From hotels in Bocagrande:** A taxi takes between 10-15 minutes depending on traffic.

**Public transportation:** There are buses that pass nearby, but taxis are more recommended for visitors.

The exact address is Calle 24 #8A-344, Getsemaní, Cartagena, Colombia.

### Land Route

From other Colombian cities, you can get there by bus or car, these are the travel times from different cities in Colombia to the Cartagena Transportation Terminal:

- From Bogotá: 20-22 hours
- From Medellín: 12-14 hours
- From Cali: 18-20 hours
- From Barranquilla: 2-3 hours
- From Santa Marta: 4-5 hours
- From Bucaramanga: 12-14 hours
- From Montería: 4-5 hours
- From Sincelejo: 3-4 hours
- From Valledupar: 7-8 hours
- From Pereira: 16-18 hours

## Mobility

### *Taxi service in Cartagena*

The taxi service in Cartagena is individual and operates 24 hours a day without route or schedule restrictions. This means that the user chooses the destination and the route is freely agreed between both parties. It is suggested to use the applications or digital platforms available in the area for greater security.

### *Public Transportation System in Cartagena*

The Mayor's Office of the City of Cartagena de Indias is committed to contributing to social, political, economic, cultural, mobility and environmental development in order to improve the quality of life and competitiveness of the city.

To take public transportation you must purchase a Smart Card, which you can purchase at Transcribe stations and authorized points of sale. This card has an initial cost, which varies depending on the current promotion.

However, **be careful** when using public transportation, including taxis. Stay alert, especially after dark, and take sensible precautions.

Agree on the fare before getting into a taxi. In Cartagena, taxis **are not metered**, so you won't know the fare beforehand. Always ask or agree on the price before you go up. If you are unsure, ask the staff at your accommodation for guidance or request a taxi at your hotel reception to have a record of the taxi company, the vehicle's license plate number and the driver's details. The minimum fare is \$9,800 COP (about 2.45 USD) and there is a nightly surcharge of \$900 COP (about 0.225 USD).

Taking a taxi directly on the street without agreeing on a fare can lead to overcharges. Instead, if you feel comfortable, use transportation apps to have the right fares based on your trip.

### **Health recommendations, health and emergency services**

Before traveling to Colombia, it is important to take into account some health recommendations, since, being a tropical country, people may be exposed to different diseases or conditions that may affect them. It is recommended to be vaccinated against diseases such as yellow fever, hepatitis A and B, and malaria, among others.

Additionally, it is crucial to take precautions against vector-borne diseases, such as dengue, Zika and Chikungunya, which are common in some regions of Colombia. It is recommended to use insect repellents, clothing that covers most of the body, and avoid the accumulation of stagnant water near lodging areas.

If you plan to engage in outdoor activities or visit high-altitude areas, it is important to be prepared for changes in atmospheric pressure and altitude. Drinking enough water, avoiding strenuous physical exertion, and taking frequent breaks can help prevent the effects of altitude.

Likewise, it is advisable to be careful with the food and water you consume, especially street food. Opt for well-cooked foods, peeled fruits and vegetables, and drink only bottled or boiled water to avoid gastrointestinal illnesses.

In addition, it is advisable to have travel insurance that covers medical emergencies, as well as carrying a (small) first aid kit that includes basic medications, antidiarrheals, pain relievers, and any necessary personal medications.

Finally, for more detailed and up-to-date information on the necessary preventive measures according to the itinerary and activities planned during the trip, it is recommended to consult a health professional or the corresponding authorities.

In the following link you can see the vaccination requirements and other necessary recommendations on health issues, which must be taken into account when visiting our country:

[https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/colombia?s\\_cid=ncezid-dgmq-travel-single-001](https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/colombia?s_cid=ncezid-dgmq-travel-single-001)

### **Assistance available at the event**

### **Unique Security and Emergency Number of Cartagena de Indias**

If any type of emergency occurs, please review the following table with all the emergency line information or call line **112** from your phone.



Police	112	Navy Hospital	(605) 6653987
CAI* Laguito	(605) 6652889	Traffic emergencies	127
CAI* Bocagrande	(605) 6655997	Civil Defense	(605) 6602288
CAI Crespo	(605) 6600869	Firefighters	119
CAI Bazurto	(605) 6621999	Airport	(605) 6666610
CAI Bosque	(605) 6622004	Coastguard	(605) 6550316
CAI Parque Centenario	(605) 6640211	Electrical Energy Damage	115
Medical Emergencies	125	Water Service Damage	116
Red Cross	(605) 6627202	Gas Service Damage	164

\* Immediate Attention Command (CAI)

## Security

### *General recommendations for ALL participants:*

#### 1. Transportation and Mobility:

- Use authorized taxis through applications.
- Avoid walking alone in unfamiliar areas, especially after dark.
- Plan your transportation in advance and avoid waiting in lonely or poorly lit places.

#### 2. Documents and Money:

- Do not carry large amounts of cash or all your important documents together.
- Keep a copy of your passport and other documents in a safe place, preferably digitally.

#### 3. Personal security:

- Avoid displaying flashy jewelry or valuables that may attract unwanted attention.
- Keep your belongings together at all times, especially in crowded places like markets or tourist sites.

#### 4. Accommodation:

- Choose accommodations that offer security measures such as surveillance cameras, security guards, and in-room safes.

## 5. Shopping and Tourism:

- Preferably, buy in recognized establishments and avoid informal or unsafe transactions.
- Hire tourist services and excursions through certified and recommended operators.

### Internet

In Cartagena, most urban areas have internet access, with broader coverage in tourist areas and the historic center. There are several types of connection: fiber optics, available in many areas and offering the highest speeds; ADSL, still common in some residential areas; 4G/LTE, widely available for mobile devices; and 5G, which is in the process of implementation, but is not yet widespread. The main internet service providers in Cartagena are: Claro, Movistar, Tigo and ETB.

Public Wi-Fi is available in many hotels, restaurants and cafes, and some public spaces also offer free Wi-Fi, including the airport. Average internet speeds vary by provider and plan, but generally range between 10 Mbps and 300 Mbps for fixed connections. Visitors or tourists can purchase prepaid SIM cards with data, available in operator stores and at the airport. The quality of internet service may vary in different parts of the city.

**Safety note:** *When using public Wi-Fi networks in Cartagena, be sure to take extra precautions to protect your personal information. Avoid making sensitive financial transactions or accessing bank accounts while connected to unsecured Wi-Fi networks. Consider using a virtual private network (VPN) to encrypt your connection and protect your data against potential cyber threats.*

### Outfit

The city of Cartagena de Indias is located in a region with a constant tropical climate, with average annual temperatures between 27 and 28°C (80-82°F). For much of the year, highs reach between 31 and 33°C (88-91°F), while lows are around 23-25°C (73-77°F). Humidity is high, generally staying between 75% and 85%, which contributes to warm nights and a high thermal sensation.

Average sunlight varies between 6-8 hours a day, with generally light winds that intensify during the dry season. The sea temperature remains constant between 26-29°C (79-84°F) throughout the year, ideal for water activities during all seasons.

For these reasons, the following recommendations must be taken into account regarding clothing within the city:

**1. Light and fresh clothing:**

- T-shirts and blouses made of cotton or breathable materials
- Shorts and short skirts
- Loose and light dresses
- Light pants or capris

**2. Swimsuits:**

- Essentials for beaches and swimming pools
- Sarongs or camisoles to cover up

**3. Footwear:**

- Sandals or flip flops for the beach
- Comfortable walking shoes (the historic center has cobblestone streets)
- Light closed shoes for the night or restaurants

**4. Solar protection:**

- Wide-brimmed hats or caps
- Sunglasses
- UV protective clothing for outdoor activities

**5. For the nights:**

- Slightly more formal clothing for restaurants and bars
- A light jacket or thin sweater (some places have air conditioning)

**6. Accessories:**

- Waterproof beach bag
- Lightweight hiking backpack

**7. Special considerations:**

- Modest clothing for visiting churches or temples
- Garments that dry quickly due to humidity

**8. Avoid:**

- Very tight or heavy clothing
- Dark colors that absorb more heat

**9. During the conference:**

- Consider using business-casual outfits
- Keep in mind that the Convention Center has air conditioner

The key is to stay cool and comfortable, but also be prepared to enter air-conditioned places.

### **Accommodation**

The closest hotels to the Cartagena Convention Center are located in the Getsemaní neighborhood or in the Walled City, from where you can reach the Cartagena Convention Center by walking for no more than 10 minutes. Please note that information regarding hotels recommended or offering special rates for IDRiM participants will be shared on the event website [www.idrim2024.com](http://www.idrim2024.com).

### **Other aspects of interest**

#### ***Time difference***

It must be taken into account that Cartagena is in the COT (Colombia Time) time zone, which is **UTC-5**.

#### **1. North America:**

- East Coast (EDT): -1 hour
- West Coast (PDT): -3 hours
- Central Canada: -2 hours

#### **2. Europe:**

- Western Europe (CEST): +6 hours
- United Kingdom (BST): +5 hours
- Eastern Europe (EEST): +7 hours

#### **3. South America:**

- Brazil (Brasilia): +2 hours
- Argentina, Chile: +1 hour
- Peru, Ecuador: Same time

#### **4. Asia:**

- China, Singapore: +12 hours
- Japan, South Korea: +13 hours
- India: +9.5 hours

#### **5. Oceania:**

- Australia East (AEST): +14 hours
- New Zealand: +16 hours

#### 6. Africa:

- South Africa: +6 hours
- West Africa: +5 hours
- East Africa: +7 hours

#### 7. Middle East:

- UAE (Dubai): +8 hours
- Saudi Arabia: +7 hours

#### It's important to highlight:

- These differences may change during daylight saving/winter time changes in some countries.
- Some large countries such as Russia, Canada or the United States span multiple time zones.
- The exact difference may vary slightly depending on the specific location within each continent.

#### Currency

The official currency of Colombia is the Colombian Peso (COP). Some relevant information about the currency in Colombia includes:

1. **Symbol:** \$ International code: COP
2. **Denominations:**
  - **Bills:** 1,000, 2,000, 5,000, 10,000, 20,000, 50,000 and 100,000 pesos
  - **Coins:** 50, 100, 200, 500 and 1,000 pesos
3. **Issue:** The Bank of the Republic of Colombia is responsible for the issuance and control of the currency.

#### Credit card usage:

- Credit and debit cards are widely accepted in urban and tourist areas.
- Visa and Mastercard are the most common.

#### Considerations for visitors and tourists:

- It is advisable to carry some cash, especially in rural areas or small businesses.
- Some prices for tourists may be in US dollars, but are paid in pesos.

### Exchange rate:

- The Colombian peso is a free floating currency.
- The exchange rate may vary daily.

### Restrictions:

- There are limits on the amount of money that can be brought into or out of the country without declaring.

### Tips:

- They are not included in the accounts. It is common to give between 10-15% in restaurants.

### *For currency exchange*

#### 1. Where to change:

- Exchange houses
- ATMs
- Hotels
- Airport

#### 2. General recommendations:

- Compare rates: Check multiple places before exchanging large amounts.
- Avoid exchanging on the street: It can be risky and prone to scams.
- Use ATMs from recognized banks
- Take some cash
- Inform your bank to avoid blocking your cards

#### 3. Easiest currencies to exchange:

- US dollar (USD)
- Euro (EUR)
- British pound (GBP)

#### 4. Additional Tips:

- Change small amounts initially and more as needed.
- Save currency exchange receipts.
- In tourist areas, some places accept dollars, but at less favorable rates.
- Consider using credit cards for large purchases to be safe.

## 5. Apps and online services:

- Use currency conversion apps to check rates in real time.

### *Electricity*

#### **Voltage:**

- 110 volts (V)
- Frequency: 60 Hertz (Hz)

#### **Most common types of plugs:**

##### **a) Type A:**

- Two parallel flat pins (most common)

##### **b) Type B:**

- Two parallel flat prongs and one round ground prong

#### **Considerations for travelers:**

- Most North American devices will work without an adapter.
- Travelers from Europe, Asia, Africa or Australia will probably need an adapter.
- Some hotels may have 220V sockets for electric shavers in the bathrooms.

#### **Recommendations:**

- Bring a universal adapter if you are coming from outside of America.
- Please check if your devices are dual voltage (110V-220V). If they are not, you will need a voltage converter.
- Modern electronic devices (laptops, phones, cameras) are usually compatible with 110V-220V.

#### **Precautions:**

- Do not use 220V appliances directly into 110V sockets without a suitable converter.
- In some rural areas, the power supply may be unstable.

### Visit Cartagena de Indias

Cartagena de Indias, founded in 1533, is one of the most emblematic cities of Colombia and a historical treasure in the Caribbean region. Known for its well-preserved Walled City, Cartagena has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site due to its impressive colonial architecture and rich history. The fortifications, including the imposing Castillo de San Felipe de Barajas, were built to protect the city from pirates and other invaders during the colonial era.

If you want to know more about this beautiful and captivating city, we invite you to download our City Guide provided by the Cartagena de Indias Bureau <https://idrim2024.com/es/cartagena-de-indias-2/> , also visit our conference webpage for more information on tours and sightseeing places at [www.idrim2024.com](http://www.idrim2024.com)