

Allan Lavell.

British. M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Economic Geography from the London School of Economics and Political Science (1967-71). Lecturer and researcher at University College London (1971-2), Middlesex Polytechnic (1972-74), El Colegio de Mexico (1976-80), the Autonomous Metropolitan University of Mexico (1974-76); Central American University Confederation (1980-1991) and the University of Costa Rica (1980-2004), Latin American Social Science Faculty (1991-2009). Has been member of the board of Directors of the Inter-American Planning Society and of the Research Committee on Disasters of the International Sociology Association. Founding member and coordinator for Central America and the Caribbean of the Latin American Network for the Social Study of Disaster Prevention-LA RED.

At present is member of the International Council for Sciences World Committee on Integrated Research on the Reduction of Disaster Risk. Author of more than 100 texts, books, chapters and articles of which more than 50 are on environmental risk and disaster themes; international consultant to more than 20 international agencies on 60 different missions, he has also given 139 conferences in 36 countries in four continents, and has worked in all Latin American countries and in some African (3) and Asian (6) nations. At present he coordinates the Programme for the Social Study of Disaster Risk at the Secretariat General's office for the Latin American Social Science Faculty-FLACSO- in San Jose, Costa Rica. Amongst the recent risk related research and action based work undertaken, he has coordinated a 7 country investigation of risk patterns and processes associated with El Niño, climate variability and climate change, for the Inter American Institute for Global Change and undertaken the systematization of 139 cases of local intervention in risk reduction and climate adaptation in the Andean countries for the European Union financed PREDECAN project, and is now beginning to coordinate a six country study of experiences of climate adaptation in Central America for the World Union for the Conservation of Nature-UICN.