

Prof. Francesco Ballio
Politecnico di Milano, Italy

**Multi-Risk sciEnce for resilienT commUnities undeR a changiNg climate
(RETURN)**

June 26th, 2026, 11:30 -13:00

KIT, Bldg.10.81, Room 305

or online:

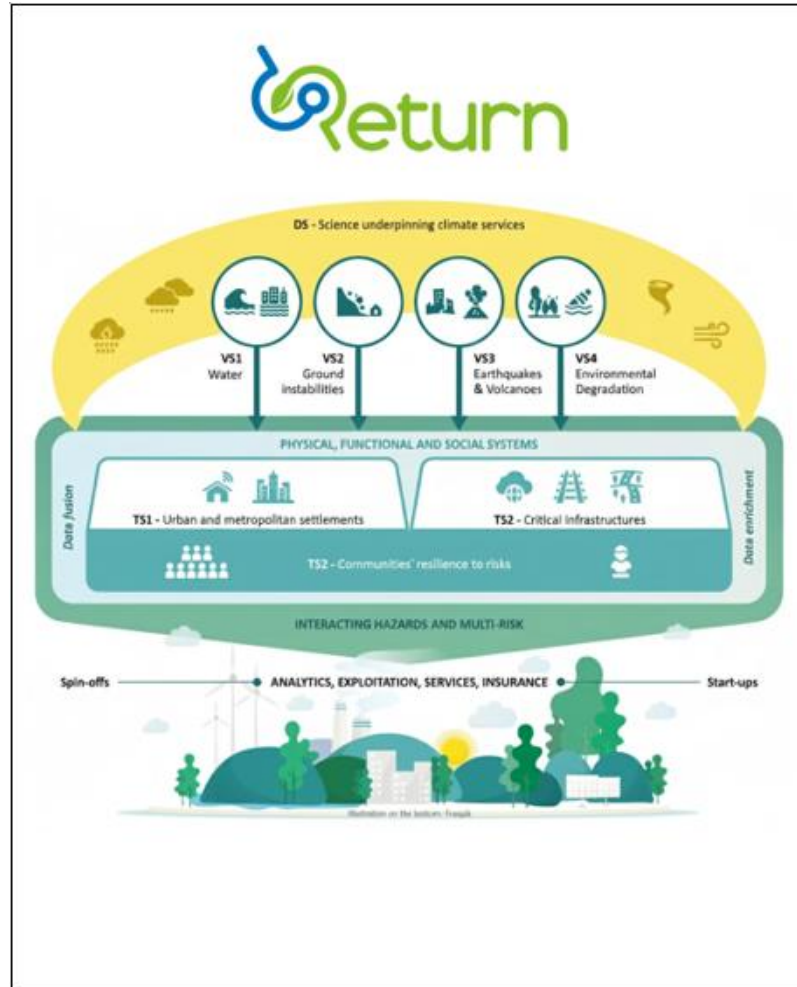
<https://kit-lecture.zoom-x.de/j/65343526031>

Meeting-ID: 653 4352 6031

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Multi-Risk sciEnce for resilientT commUnities underR a changiNg climate (RETURN), a national research project in Italy



Abstract

The RETURN project (2023–2026) is a €120 million research initiative funded by the Italian Ministry of Research through NextGenerationEU funds. This extended partnership between universities and private companies aims to strengthen research chains focused on environmental, natural, and anthropogenic risks at the national level, while promoting their integration into European and global strategic value chains.

This seminar will first provide a comprehensive overview of the project's objectives, organization, operational methodology, and primary results. We will also discuss the potential opportunities and critical challenges involved in managing such a large-scale research organization. The second part of the seminar will focus on the water-related risk research lines, with a specific emphasis on translating research findings into practical products for the technical community.

Biography



Born in 1966, Francesco Ballio is a Full Professor of Hydraulics at Politecnico di Milano and President of Poliedra, a consortium dedicated to environmental integration and sustainable mobility. He has been member of the IAHR Flood Risk Management Committee. His research focuses on bridge hydraulics, specifically scour phenomena and real-time risk monitoring. Additionally, he specializes in flood risk management, developing emergency models and damage assessment frameworks. His work also explores sediment transport mechanics, utilizing Lagrangian-Eulerian analysis and double-averaged approaches to understand flow-sediment interactions across various scales.