

Central Asia Earthquake Safety Initiative, Urban Risk Reduction Framework

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GeoHazards International

Organisation

Since 1991, GeoHazards International (GHI) has worked in over 20 countries using advocacy, preparedness, prevention and mitigation to reduce death and suffering due to earthquakes and other natural hazards in the world's most vulnerable communities, particularly among children. GHI's vision is for a world of self-reliant communities that can continue their economic, political, and cultural development unimpeded by natural disasters.

Weblink: www.geohaz.org

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Abstract

This publication covers a five-step planning framework to assess, plan, implement and monitor community-based disaster risk reduction measures in large urban areas facing risks associated with natural hazards. The publication offers a methodology and tools for baseline assessment with community stakeholders and safety advocates, and includes templates for an annual report, action plan, and ongoing communication, and evaluation methods.

Intended end users

End users are **government staff, donors, international agency staff, non-governmental agencies, scientists, and citizen activists** in a large urban area who can work in small groups and are committed to making systematic and collaborative efforts to mitigate risk. The intention is to identify, mobilize and unite various stakeholders into becoming partners in a city-wide Earthquake Safety Initiative.

Geographical focus

This framework is intended to be applied in a **large urban centre** setting particularly in areas prone to seismic and natural disasters.

Type of Material

This publication is a five step-by-step framework for a **comprehensive** needs assessment and the steps necessary to include various stakeholders in disaster risk reduction of seismic and natural hazards in large urban settings. The steps include:

- ♦ Introduce a framework for a comprehensive needs assessment, and community-based planning
- ♦ Provide a baseline for reporting, recording, monitoring and communicating
- ♦ Share information to raise awareness, communicate risk and encourage collaboration
- ♦ Encourage stakeholders to identify and evaluate risks and resources to determine priorities, and select feasible and sustainable mitigation projects
- ♦ Work with a variety of stakeholders to contribute, recognize each other's assumptions, define their own roles and responsibilities within the larger context of comprehensive disaster mitigation, and become partners in the city-wide Earthquake Safety Initiative

Language

This manual is written in English and Russian.

Scale of assessment

The focus of the assessment is a **large urban** setting.

Type of assessment

This publication uses an **urban risk reduction** framework based on a comprehensive needs analysis with broad inputs from scientists, emergency managers and community stakeholders. It provides a framework for identifying and involving a wide range of stakeholders in the identification of both risks and resources, and bringing together stakeholders annually for information-sharing and priority-setting. The tools used in this assessment include examining secondary data, holding focus group discussion, designing surveys to assess knowledge and behaviours, and key informant interviews.

Analytical methods

Disaster Risk Assessment Methods mentioned are:

- ♦ **Assessment of Knowledge, Awareness and Practise (KAP)**

General Assessment methods include:

- ♦ **Hazard Analysis**
- ♦ **Comprehensive Needs Assessment**
- ♦ **Social and Institutional Network Analysis**

Tools

The participatory tools include:

- ◆ Stakeholder Meetings and **Focus Group Interviews**
- ◆ Concerns and Goals Matrix
- ◆ **Ranking**

Technical tools include:

- ◆ **Secondary Data** (Data Collection Review)
- ◆ **Key Informant Interviews**
- ◆ **Surveys**
- ◆ **Direct Observations**
- ◆ Annual Risk Reduction Report

Case studies / practical examples

Tables with examples of stakeholders in disaster risk reduction and intervention activities for mitigation are included in this publication as well as report templates for the annual report, and rolling workplan. Instructions on how to document case studies while implementing this framework are included. Annual reports utilizing these methods were written in 2004 in Almaty, Tashkent and Dushanbe and are available in English and Russian at www.geohaz.org.

Resource person

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Author of guidance note

The ProVention Consortium contracted Stephanie Bouris to author this guidance note.

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