

Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery

Disaster Reduction Unit (DRU)



Project title:

Local disaster risk reduction in mega-cities and other complex metropolises

Project number:

00048099

Programme components:

Urban disaster risk reduction

Estimated start date:	1/12/2005
Estimated end date:	30/11/2006
Implementing agency:	The Earthquakes and Megacities Initiative, Inc.
Partners:	Co-funded by ProVention Consortium; Manila, Philippines; Kathmandu, Nepal; Mumbai, India; Quito, Ecuador; Bogota, Colombia;
Total budget:	620,975 US\$
Beneficiary countries:	Philippines; Nepal; India; Ecuador; Colombia;

General background:

Mega-cities and major urban centers have little capacity for disaster risk management and their governments are overwhelmed by the management of day-to-day matters. Their resources are limited and the mandate of their policy-makers often does not explicitly include disaster risk management. Mechanisms for mainstreaming are deficient as current legislative and institutional arrangements often hinder local action because they do not recognize the importance of local implementation in the mainstreaming process of disaster risk reduction. The level of awareness and engagement of policy-makers, city managers and civil society in mega-cities is also frequently inadequate and does not create any momentum to initiate, support and sustain the mainstreaming process of disaster risk reduction in the development and management of their cities.

Project summary:

The project involves a strategic partnership with the ProVention Consortium and the Earthquakes and Megacities Initiative (EMI), an NGO that has pioneered efforts in disaster risk management for megacities. By taking a leading role in adopting, enhancing and mainstreaming EMI's tools and methods, and by playing a major role in developing a global platform for urban and mega-city disaster risk reduction, UNDP will improve the disaster risk reduction capacity of the world's largest, most at-risk cities and will make a significant contribution to the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

The benefits of this project are further enhanced by the partnership arrangements of EMI's programmes, with partners such as the Pacific Disaster Centre (PDC) in the USA, Kobe University and the Earthquake Disaster Mitigation Research Centre (EdM) in Japan, as well as contributions from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the U.N. International Strategy for Disaster Reduction secretariat (UN-ISDR) and several EMI in-country institutional partners and partner cities.

Overall and specific objectives:

- At the global level, to develop an operational framework and agenda for the establishment of a global forum for urban and mega-city disaster risk reduction;
- At the regional level, to strengthen and consolidate regional megacity networks;
- At the local level, to mainstream disaster risk management in mega-cities.

Expected results:

- A Disaster Risk Management Master Plan (DRMMP) schedule with focus on Manila, Kathmandu and Mumbai, and a related strategy for the implementation of mainstreaming agenda;
- Diagnosis of the disaster management practices in each city, data collection and documentation of current practices; scientific and technical bases for e-learning and other tools supporting the global forum;
- A risk communication methodology to engage stakeholders in risk ownership and to provide megacity-specific indicators for monitoring and tracking progress in the implementation of disaster risk reduction;
- A specialized training programme on the incorporation of risk parameters with land-use and urban planning with diagnosis.

Activities:

- Establish a global forum for urban and megacities disaster risk reduction;
- Develop a policy/advocacy paper and agenda for the platform;

- Prepare specifications, outlines and the overall structure of the tools concerning disaster management good practices and policies in megacities;
- Engage in coalition-building, partnerships and networking;
- Increase local capacities for disaster risk reduction;
- Develop a report for coalition strengthening and give feedback to the global forum;
- Develop a consensus DRMMP agenda for each participating city;
- Carry out a full analysis of the disaster management conditions in each city, with a related strategy for action, and a road map for implementation;
- Develop a risk communication policy and indicators for mega-cities;
- Develop a specialized training programme on the integration of risk factors with land-use management and urban planning.

Project manager:

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