



Educating for Action: The World Bank Institute Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Learning Program

Katalin Demeter, WBI

World Conference on Disaster Reduction, Kobe,
January 18-22, 2005





Program Design

- **Objective**
 - Promote proactive disaster management practices
 - Raise awareness
 - Advance the analytical skills and professional knowledge in specific area of disaster risk management.
- **Resources** ProVention, WB Hazard Management Unit, ECLAC, IIASA, EMI, WBI, ISDR, EPC, NDCC, Participants' case studies, WB experts
- **Learning Products**
 - **Training programs:** comprehensive and specialized courses, global, regional and country specific offering
 - **Policy Services:** consensus building, awareness raising
 - **Knowledge Exchange** (website, publications, case studies, Toolkit)



Reaching out

- Distance learning: CD-ROM, web-based, video-conferences
- Languages: English, Spanish, French
- Partnerships: professional networks, associations, think tanks, research and training institutions, government agencies
- Dissemination: web-site, publications

Disaster Risk Management On-line Program: Design and Structure

- Five Courses
 - Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Framework
 - Financial Strategies for Managing the Economic Impacts of Disasters
 - Safe Cities
 - Community-based Disaster Risk Management
 - Damage and Reconstruction Needs Assessment
- Coverage
 - From Global to Local Agenda
 - From Pre-disaster to Post-disaster with Focus on Prevention, Mitigation and Preparedness
- Audience
- Communication and Interactions

Pilot Online Course: October 17 – November 22, 2004

- More than 200 applicants, 115 participants, 33 countries
- Participants' Profile: 85 males, 30 females

Region	Number of Participants	Country	Number of Participants
South East Asia	65	India	44
LAC	15	Bangladesh	9
Europe	13	Turkey	8
Africa	11	Iran	4
MENA	11	Pakistan	4

OCUPATION	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
Government/Civil Service	26
Academics/Educators	16
NGO/Research	47
Private Sector	12
International Organizations	14

Natural Disaster Risk Management Program

Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Framework

ENTER

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Promoting knowledge and learning for a better world

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Homepage and Structure of the Platform

Natural Disaster Risk Management - Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Framework

Place your mouse over the item to view its description.



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Course Modules



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- 7. Course Evaluation



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Natural Disaster Risk Management Program

Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Framework

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4. Learning Module: The Role of Local Actors

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4. Learning Module: The Role of Local Actors

Presentations

Session 1 – Safer Cities – F. Bendimerad

This session provides an introductory overview of "sound practice" in disaster risk management for local government policymakers, urban managers, planners and disaster management professionals. It discusses the impediments to disaster risk reduction in urban environments and presents the key concepts of disaster risk management and the role of local institutions. It emphasizes that disaster risk management only takes place when it is integrated within local government functions and proposes a model for such integration based on the development of a city-wide disaster risk management master plan. Finally, it establishes that disaster risk reduction stems from coherent policies that are based on a comprehensive understanding of risk, that promote preparedness and mitigation and incorporate the participation of active agents of the community.

[Power Point Presentation](#) [Transcript](#)
[Power Point Presentation with Audio](#)

Session 2 – Community-based Disaster Risk Management – K. Vatsa

The session focuses on the specifics of community-based disaster risk management. It begins by identifying the factors that exacerbate the vulnerability of the poor and the preconditions for improving communities' coping capacity to natural hazards. It emphasizes assets and access to resources as factors of resilience for communities, and the role of participatory methods in designing and implementing mitigation measures and policies. The session concludes that there is no unified methodology in community-based disaster risk mitigation; each community must follow the rules and methods that best suit its character. However, the responsibility to create an enabling environment for community initiatives in risk mitigation, and to design mechanisms that foster community involvement, lies with national and local authorities.

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4. Learning Module: The Role of Local Actors

Case Studies

Case Study 1 - [Empowered Individual: Caring Neighbors Make the Best Disaster Managers](#)

The main message of the Indian case study is that empowering individuals in communities threatened by disaster is key to successful mitigation. The paper describes the Patanka New Life Project which was part of the reconstruction efforts after the 2001 Gujarat earthquake. The project focused on disaster mitigation at the community level. The project's success proves that investing in people's knowledge, improving livelihood options, empowering individuals, strengthening local institutions and partnering with local governments are the most important components of successful disaster mitigation.

Case Study 2 - [Housing Reconstruction in Mexico City](#)

The case study examines one component of the complex rehabilitation and reconstruction program that followed the 1985 earthquake in Mexico City. The Popular Housing Reconstruction agency or RHP was set up to rebuild urban areas damaged by the disaster. RHP had rebuilt 48,000 dwelling units benefiting 260,000 people in one and a half years. More than 1200 companies participated in the program, and almost all federal and city development and management agencies contributed to reconstruction. But most importantly, the victims themselves were involved in the decision making and reconstruction process on a daily basis. The case study presents this success story in emergency reconstruction as a model for community involvement.



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4. Learning Module: The Role of Local Actors

Readings

[Local Administration and Risk Management in Turkey](#)

The paper gives a short overview of principles and approaches used in organizing disaster management systems worldwide, and then turns to description of Turkey's current system, with special emphasis on the role of local governments in disaster management. Referring to massive losses from recent disasters due to negligence in developing an appropriate disaster management, it outlines the necessary steps to reassess and reorganize the current system and emphasizes the need to empower local governments in risk management.

[What Emerged from Rubble](#)

The pamphlet reviews the main causes of the extraordinary losses caused by 1999 earthquake in Turkey. It writes that foremost was the lack of appropriate regulatory structures to govern the planning and construction of buildings, and the deficient enforcement of building code laws. Second was the increased number of poor in urban areas due to migration from rural areas. Third was the absence of a public housing program operating under inspected standard building requirements.

[Megacities, Megarisk](#)

The paper emphasizes the need for proper planning by local governments in order to reduce the human and financial losses from natural disasters in urban areas. According to the author, although disaster management programs increasingly contain national policies and initiatives, these initiatives very rarely deal with concerns related to cities. In most cases, central governments retain authority over disaster management programs and focus on developing response capacities, while leaving city governments without any authority or financial resources for disaster prevention and mitigation. The paper introduces the Disaster Management Master Plan, an essential tool for managing disasters in large metropolises.

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5. End of Course Project

Objective of the Project

The objective of the course project is to enable you to apply the newly acquired knowledge to specific conditions in your country. In the course project you should provide a critical assessment of your country's current national disaster management system. The evaluation should be presented in the context of a recent natural disaster event. The case study should draw upon information from the course materials, data specific to your country and the selected disaster event.

Project Description

The project should consist five (5) parts:

- 1) background information,
- 2) brief description of the selected disaster event,
- 3) overview of the national disaster management system,
- 4) strengths and weaknesses of the system in light of the catastrophic event, and
- 5) recommendations for improvement.

The entire case study shall not exceed 8 pages or 4,800 words.

1) Background Information

Basic data and statistics on your country: size, population, climate, geographical facts, economic and social characteristics such as GDP, growth rate, per capita income, sectoral distribution of national income, role of external sector, level of urbanization, rural sector contribution to national economy, etc.

Vulnerabilities to natural disasters: review of main natural hazards to which your country is vulnerable, through documented data of the last decade. The list may include such hazards as floods, droughts, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, land slides, forest fire, strong / severe winds.

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6. Course Resources

Reference List

[Bangladesh: Disasters and Public Finance, DMF, WPS No 6](#)

[Catastrophes and Development, DMF, WPS No 4](#)

[Catastrophe Insurance Market in The Caribbean Region, WB Policy Research WP2963](#)

[Dominica: Natural Disasters and Economic Development in a Small Island State, DMF, WPS No 2](#)

[Gujarat Earthquake Recovery Program: Assessment Report](#)

[Learning Lessons from Disaster Recovery: The Case of Honduras, HMU, WPS No 8](#)

[Malawi and Southern Africa: Climatic Variability and Economic Performance, DMF, WPS No 7](#)

[The Last Straw, DMF, WPS No 5](#)

[Managing Catastrophic Disaster Risks Using Alternative Risk Financing and Pooled Structures, WB Technical Paper No 495](#)

[Managing Disaster Risk in Emerging Economies, DMF, WPS No 2](#)

[Managing Disaster Risk in Mexico, DMF, WPS No 1](#)

[Microfinance and Disaster Risk Management Experiences and Lessons Learned, WB 2002](#)

[Natural Hazard Risk Management in the Caribbean, WB 2002](#)

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6. Course Resources

Glossary

Acceptable risk – Degree of human and material loss that is perceived by the community or relevant authorities as tolerable given existing social, economic, political, cultural, technical and environmental conditions.

Capacity – A combination of all the strengths and resources available within a community, society or organization that can reduce the level of risk, or the effects of a disaster. It may include physical, institutional, social or economic means as well as skilled personal or collective attributes such as leadership and management.

Climate Change – A statistically significant variation in either the mean state of the climate or in its variability, persisting for an extended period (typically decades or longer.)

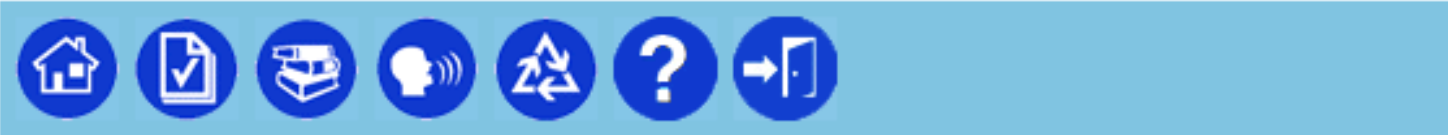
Contributions in kind – Non-cash assistance in materials or services offered or provided in case of disaster

Disaster management – The body of policy and administrative decisions and operational activities which pertain to the various stages of a disaster at all levels.

Disaster, natural – the occurrence of an abnormal or infrequent hazard that impacts on vulnerable communities or geographical areas, causing substantial damage, disruption and possible casualties and leaving the affected communities unable to function normally. From an economic perspective a disaster implies some combination of losses in terms of human, physical and financial capital, and a reduction in economic activity, such as income and investment, consumption, production and employment in the 'real' economy. There may also be severe impacts in terms of financial flows, such as revenue and expenditure of public and private bodies

Disaster risk management – The systematic management of administrative decisions, organization, operational skills and abilities to implement policies, strategies and coping capacities of the society and communities to lessen the impacts of natural disasters and related environmental and technological disasters. This comprises all forms of activities, including

Communication



Communication Tools



Bulletin Board



E-Mail



Discussion Forum



File Sharing

Communication



Bulletin Board

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[Tentative Schedule of Specialization Courses](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 12/01/2004, 07:23
[The Next Course is on Financial Strategies](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 12/01/2004, 06:41
[End of the Course Project and Certificates](#), posted by svetlana marjanovic, 11/23/2004, 16:41
[Question and request](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 11/22/2004, 06:51
[Specialization Courses in Disaster Risk Management](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 11/21/2004, 02:46
[Course Requirements](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 11/19/2004, 09:35
[Reminder - End of the Course Project is Due by November 22nd.](#), posted by svetlana marjanovic, 11/08/2004, 09:23
[Discussion Forum - Questions are on the Common Space](#), posted by svetlana marjanovic, 11/08/2004, 09:15
[Reminder - Assignment 3 is due by Wednesday, November 3rd.](#), posted by svetlana marjanovic, 10/31/2004, 21:24
[Course Requirements](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 10/30/2004, 06:03
[Common Space Discussion Forum](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 10/26/2004, 08:54
[First Week Discussion Summaries](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 10/26/2004, 08:50
[EM-DAT disaster event database - by country](#), posted by zoe trohanis, 10/25/2004, 20:58
[Reminder - Assignment 2 is due by Wednesday, October 27th.](#), posted by svetlana marjanovic, 10/25/2004, 05:25
[Please Follow the General Guidelines](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 10/23/2004, 17:03
[Reminder - Assignment 1 due on Wednesday, October 20th](#), posted by svetlana marjanovic, 10/18/2004, 23:56
[Question One now on the Discussion Forum](#), posted by svetlana marjanovic, 10/18/2004, 15:22
[Technical Problems?](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 10/15/2004, 08:09
[Module 1 Assignment is Due October 20](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 10/15/2004, 07:59
[Welcome](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 10/14/2004, 14:56
[Country of Reference](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 10/10/2004, 08:39
[Self Registration](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 10/09/2004, 19:41
[Your Group and Facilitator](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 10/09/2004, 09:34
[Arrangements During the Course](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 10/08/2004, 08:12
[Request](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 10/07/2004, 19:23
[First Assignment - Who We Are](#), posted by Katalin Demeter, 10/06/2004, 06:29

Communication



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- [Greetings](#), Hassane OUSALEM, 10/06/2004,
- [GREETINGS](#), REETH MONNAPPA, 10/07/2
- [Hi everyone](#), Burcak Basbug, 10/08/2004, 07:
- [Good Initiative](#), Katalin Demeter, 10/08/2004, 1
- [Submittal of first assignment](#), Jeremy Haslam, 1
- [Re: Re: Submittal of first assignment](#), Jeremy H
- [Hello! Greetings! Looking forward to have a mear](#)
- [Hello!](#), Gomathi S, 10/09/2004, 06:01
- [Hai, Nice to meeting you.](#), Chandra Sekhar Pa
- [Hai, Nice to meeting you.](#), Chandra Sekhar Pa
- [Assignment-1](#), Chandra Sekhar Pasala, 10/10/
- [Assignment-1](#), Chandra Sekhar Pasala, 10/10/
- [Natural Disaster Risk Management Programme.](#)
- [natural disaster risk management programme, r](#)
- [Natural Disaster Risk Manangement Programe.](#)
- [Natural Disaster Risk Management Program, rac](#)
- [First assignment](#), Vikas Goyal, 10/10/2004, 11
- [Assignment 1](#), valentin bartra, 10/11/2004, 01

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Author: Hassane OUSALEM
To: All Administrators; All Instructors; All Participants
Subject: Greetings
Created: 10/06/2004, 23:42

Hi everyone,

I had a look to the profile of those who already registered and I am sure we will benefit a lot from the experience of each other.

I would like to apologize for the attached photo. I did not expect it to be such big....it might bring discomfort to you....I am sorry.

Looking forward for the start of the course and best regards,

Hassane

Communication



Discussion Forum

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Topics (Group 1)

[Module 1](#) (21 total, 0 new)

[Module 2](#) (31 total, 0 new)

- [Discussion questions for this week](#), posted by zoe trohanis
- [key agencies involved in preparedness and post disaster response](#), posted by zoe trohanis
- [Agencies in India](#), posted by Abraham Varampath, 10/25/2004, 09:14
- [Economic Planning and Risk Reduction](#), posted by zoe trohanis
- [Key Disaster Agencies in Turkey](#), posted by DILEK KAYGUSUZ
- [Key agencies and economic development](#), posted by zoe trohanis
- [Key Agencies in INDIA](#), posted by Porag Shome, 10/25/2004, 09:14
- [Key Agencies in INDIA](#), posted by Porag Shome, 10/25/2004, 09:14
- [Key agencies in Haiti](#), posted by Jeremy Haslam, 10/25/2004, 09:14
- [Key agencies and Development Planning](#), posted by zoe trohanis
- [key agencies / economic planning Peru](#), posted by vale
- [economic growth and disaster management](#), posted by zoe trohanis
- [reply to the message of zoe](#), posted by MARIA MATILDE
- [proactive disaster management strategy](#), posted by zoe trohanis
- [Economic growth and disaster management in T](#), posted by zoe trohanis
- [Disaster management agencies, etc.](#), posted by zoe trohanis
- [Disaster Management Institutions](#), posted by Aslam
- [coordination and depth](#), posted by MARIA MATILDE

Topic: Module 2

Topic description: No description

[Post a message](#) [Reply to this message](#)

Author: [zoe trohanis](#)

Subject: Discussion questions for this week

Date: 10/25/2004, 09:14

In your country, what are the key agencies and people are charged with pre-disaster preparedness and post-disaster response?

Does economic planning, in your opinion, influence national disaster risk management strategy?


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Communication



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 [hazard profile of Iran](#) posted by kiarash naserasadi, 10/19/2004, 00:07

 [MEXICO](#) posted by Monica Gomez Maqueo Felix, 10/18/2004, 14:10

 [Turkey](#) posted by Burcak Basbug, 10/18/2004, 10:48

 [Turkey's Hazard Profile](#) posted by Salih Buđra Erdurmup, 10/18/2004, 03:06


By Salih B. Erdurmup


 [Chile](#) posted by JOSE VERGARA, 10/17/2004, 14:31

The Chile Hazard Profile Jose VERGARA

 [Module 1 Assignment is Due October 20](#) posted by Katalin Demeter, 10/15/2004, 08:15

The Assignment is attached. You should submit it via email within VLE to your Group Instructor/Facilitator

 [X Country Hazard Profile](#) posted by Katalin Demeter, 10/10/2004, 08:41

 [List of Participants' Groups](#) posted by Katalin Demeter, 10/09/2004, 09:25

Communication



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TURKEY HAZARD PROFILE*

Socio-Economic Indicators

Total Area	:780.580 km ²
Total Population	:68.893.918 (July 2004 estimate)
GDP per capita	:US\$6700 (2003 estimate)

Sectoral Distribution of GDP

GDP- agriculture	: 11,7 %
GDP- industry	: 29,8 %
GDP- service	: 58,5 %

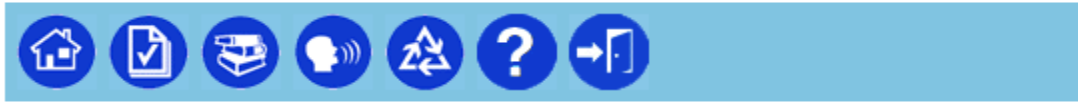
Overview

Turkey is one of the countries that is exposed to natural disasters because of geological conditions, topographic structure and climate. Besides the casualties they cause, natural disasters in Turkey are also causes of great economic losses. Direct economic loss due to natural disasters is expected 1% of GDP every year. Total loss is greater when indirect losses like market loss, production loss and unemployment are taken into account.

Through the categorization of collapsed buildings due to disasters between 1900 and 2003, the total comprises from 76% earthquakes, 10% landslides, 9% floods, 4% rock falls and 1% avalanches.

According to this categorization, the primary type of natural disasters causing damages in Turkey are earthquakes and 76% of collapsed buildings is the result of them. 96% of the land area of Turkey is at risk from earthquakes and 66% of this hazard area is within close range of active faults. Large-scale earthquakes can occur at any time in these areas where 70% of the country's population lives, including 11 cities with populations greater than one million, and where 75% of Turkey's industrial facilities lie within.

Administration



Participants

[Sourav Addy](#)

Soudabeh Ahmadzadeh

[Atinc Akdik](#)

[Md. Jobair Bin Alam](#)

[Mujeeb Alam](#)

[UMIT ALNIACIK](#)

jose alves

[YOHANNES ANTONYO](#)

[prabhakar awasthi](#)

[Elias Ndifor Ayanji](#)

[Elif Ayhan](#)

Md. Tariq Bin Aziz

[valentin bartra](#)

[Burcak Basbug](#)

[Mamoun Besaiso](#)

Pradeep Bharwad

[Sumesh Bhattarai](#)

[Roberto Carrillo](#)

[Sandra Charter-Rolle](#)

[Jibok Chatterjee](#)

radhika chintala

Jose Cieza

Babak Davarpanah

[Diego De Berduccy](#)

[Juan Díaz](#)

Jigme Dorji

priscilla duque

Administration

[User Individual Pages](#)

MARIA MATILDE GO



LAST NAME : GO
FIRST NAME : MARIA MATILDE
NICKNAME : MADEL
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN : REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
CURRENT EMPLOYMENT : GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS OFFICER
OFFICE : BUREAU OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
FUNCTIONS: POLICY REVIEW AND FORMULATION,
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING MANAGEMENT
CONTACT NOS. (632) 929-9215
Fax (632) 927-7852
OFFICE ADDRESS: 4F A. FRANCISCO GOLD COND. II,
EDSA COR MAPAGMAHAL STS., QUEZON CITY,
PHILIPPINES 1117

CURRENT AFFILIATIONS:
MEMBER, NATIONAL DISASTER COORDINATING
COUNCIL-TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT GROUP

Administration



01/05	01/04	01/03	01/02	01/01	12/31	12/30	12/29	12/28	12/27
12/26	12/25	12/24	12/23	12/22	12/21	12/20	12/19	12/18	12/17
12/16	12/15	12/14	12/13	12/12	12/11	12/10	12/09	12/08	12/07

User Activities - 01/05/2005

MARIA MATILDE GO

Date	Activity	IP Address
01/05/2005, 06:07	User logged out	202.57.66.90
01/05/2005, 06:01	Entered Mail	
01/05/2005, 05:59	Entered Bulletin Board	
01/05/2005, 05:59	User logged in	202.57.66.90

Burcak Basbug

Date	Activity	IP Address
01/05/2005, 08:20	User logged out	81.86.243.155
01/05/2005, 08:20	Entered Bulletin Board	
01/05/2005, 08:20	Entered Mail	
01/05/2005, 08:20	User logged in	81.86.243.155

JOSE VERGARA

Date	Activity	IP Address
01/05/2005, 07:01	User logged out	201.246.88.120



Strategy

- Centralized: Global and regional activities
 - Knowledge sharing
 - Content development
 - Hazard specific (earthquake, tsunamis, flood, drought)
 - Technical courses (early warning systems, mitigation....)
 - Training of trainers
 - Skills upgrading
 - Distance learning (course development, facilitation, VLE tools)
- Decentralized activities: consensus building, course customization and dissemination
 - Philippines model
 - India model



Customization - EPC

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5. Learning Module: Indian Context

Presentations

Session 1 – Disaster Vulnerability of India – Darshan V. Parikh, EPC

The presentation gives an overview of the disaster situation in India, the hazard prone areas and the disaster incidences in various states over the last century. It highlights why India is increasingly becoming vulnerable to disasters. The objective is to understand the various kinds of disaster and issues that pose a serious threat to India.

[Power Point Presentation](#) [Transcript](#)

Session 2 – National Disaster Management Framework– Darshan V. Parikh, EPC

The presentation highlights the disaster management system in India including the prime responsibility at various levels. It describes the vision, policy and the management mechanism, which has been adopted and brings forth various issues related to the system in India.

[Power Point Presentation](#) [Transcript](#)

Joint Offering - NDCC



Announcement



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Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Framework On-line Course

February 7 – March 14, 2005

*Joint offering of the National Disaster Coordination Council, Philippines and
the World Bank Institute*

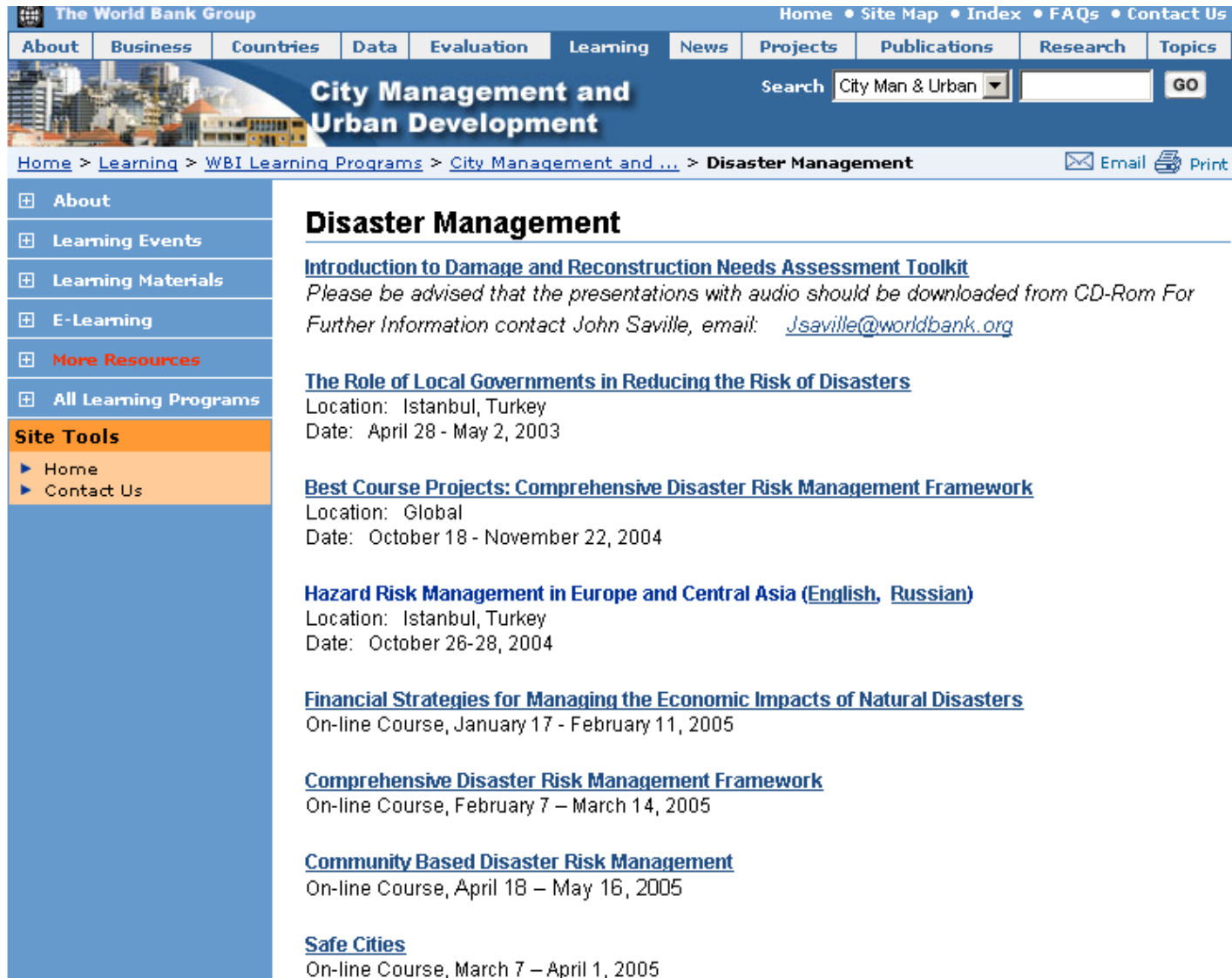
Course Overview

This course addresses basic questions such as "why are disasters a development issue?" and "what are the components of comprehensive disaster risk management?" The course reviews the institutional arrangements and financing mechanisms of disaster management systems, and identifies the role of national and local actors in the processes related to risk assessment, mitigation and financing. This course targets general development practitioners to raise their awareness and sensitivity in prevention of natural disasters, and consists 3 modules and an end of course exercise.

- **Module 1: Introduction to Natural Disaster Risk Management**

It is increasingly recognized worldwide that the devastating effects of natural disasters can be

Horizontal Knowledge Exchange: Participant's contribution to global resources –13 case studies posted



The screenshot shows the website for 'City Management and Urban Development' under 'The World Bank Group'. The navigation bar includes links for Home, Site Map, Index, FAQs, and Contact Us, as well as a search bar with 'City Man & Urban' entered. The breadcrumb trail is: Home > Learning > WBI Learning Programs > City Management and ... > Disaster Management. A left sidebar contains a menu with 'About', 'Learning Events', 'Learning Materials', 'E-Learning', 'More Resources', and 'All Learning Programs', followed by 'Site Tools' with 'Home' and 'Contact Us'. The main content area is titled 'Disaster Management' and lists several resources:

- Introduction to Damage and Reconstruction Needs Assessment Toolkit**
Please be advised that the presentations with audio should be downloaded from CD-Rom For Further Information contact John Saville, email: Jsaville@worldbank.org
- The Role of Local Governments in Reducing the Risk of Disasters**
Location: Istanbul, Turkey
Date: April 28 - May 2, 2003
- Best Course Projects: Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Framework**
Location: Global
Date: October 18 - November 22, 2004
- Hazard Risk Management in Europe and Central Asia (English, Russian)**
Location: Istanbul, Turkey
Date: October 26-28, 2004
- Financial Strategies for Managing the Economic Impacts of Natural Disasters**
On-line Course, January 17 - February 11, 2005
- Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Framework**
On-line Course, February 7 – March 14, 2005
- Community Based Disaster Risk Management**
On-line Course, April 18 – May 16, 2005
- Safe Cities**
On-line Course, March 7 – April 1, 2005

Sample End of Course Project

End of Course Project: The Disaster Management System in Switzerland
by Ulrike Kastrup

SWITZERLAND

1 - Background Information

Switzerland is situated in the center of Europe bordering Germany, Austria, Italy, and France. It occupies an area of 4'128'476 km² and has a population of approximately 7.451 million people (July 2004 est.) including about 1.5 million (19.3%) foreigners from 190 nations. Around 100'000 people are refugees. Most foreigners come from the former Yugoslavia (24%), Italy (22%), Portugal (9%), Germany (8%), and Turkey and Spain (6% each). 5% come from Asia and 2.4 % from Africa. 68% live in urban areas, 32% in rural areas. The population density is 182.94 per km². In Switzerland four official national languages are spoken: German (65%), French (18%), Italian (10%), and Rhaeto-Romanic (1%). 6% speak other languages. The main religion is Christianity.

Switzerland is a confederation that was founded in 1291. In 1848 it became a federal state. It consists of 26 cantons (Figure 1), which have the majority of responsibility. The form of government is a direct democracy; the capital is Bern; the currency is Swiss Francs (CHF) (1 CHF = 0.86 USD, November 2004)



From Course to Toolkit



Introduction to Damage and Reconstruction Needs Assessment Toolkit



Welcome

The consequences of natural disasters on human welfare, economic activities, property, and natural resources are devastating. As a result of disasters, scarce resources earmarked for development are diverted to relief and reconstruction. To achieve sustainable development, reconstruction should reduce vulnerabilities to future calamities. Our aim with this Toolkit is to contribute to this effort.

The Toolkit incorporates the materials of the World Bank Institute program in Disaster Risk Management. The program was developed with support of the Hazard Management Unit and ProVentum Consortium and based on the damage and reconstruction needs assessment methodology of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean. This comprehensive methodology estimates the broad range of disaster effects and their implications on the economic and social sectors, physical infrastructure, and environmental assets. These estimates allow identifying appropriate reconstruction programs and projects.

The Toolkit is designed for staff of government and international aid agencies dealing with natural disaster management and disaster relief and reconstruction activities.

Frannie Léautier, Vice President, World Bank Institute

Topics	Case Studies	Readings	Resources
Methodology and Basic Concepts	El Salvador	Damage to and Vulnerability of Industry in the 1999 Turkey Earthquake	Hands-on Exercise
Valuation of the Disaster Impact	Gujarat, India	Damage Overview	Glossary
Post-disaster Management		How to reduce Vulnerability in the Face of Natural Disasters	Online Manual
		Methodological and Conceptual Aspects of Damage Assessment	