

City Council of Belo Horizonte, Brazil



Belo Horizonte is the capital of Minas Gerais State in Brazil with a population of 2.75 million. With its rolling hills and significant watersheds, the city has eighty danger points for flood and several landslide risk areas. During the year, the City Council of Belo Horizonte organizes inspections of all of the city's most vulnerable areas. Inspections are performed by area residents, local fire department, water, sewage and energy companies, and representatives of private businesses. In places of medium or low risk, small public works are carried out by residents, with building material and technical guidance from the Council.

In areas of high risk, the Council is working to relocate families to public housing in safer locations. In addition, Belo the 'Nuclei of Rainfall Alert' group, comprising networks of residents, issues alerts and strengthens preventive and mitigation measures. For instance, it marks risky locations on Google maps and indicates the best escape routes. Alerts are issued by telephone calls and SMS to city managers, community leaders and the press, and to the general public by e-mail, Facebook and Twitter. The motto for the city is: 'The Civil Defense is all of us.'

Links:

- [Candidate's presentation - Summary \[PDF 233.40 KB\]](#)
- [Candidate's presentation - Full report \[PDF 5.27 MB\]](#)
- [Candidate's presentation - Example of risk assessment \[PDF 682.96 KB\]](#)
- [Candidate's presentation - Weblinks \[PDF 56.65 KB\]](#)

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<http://www.unisdr.org/we/campaign/sasakawa/2013/>