

Karlstadt Municipality and MSB, Sweden



Karlstadt, Sweden, is built on a delta and an increasing number of its estimated 86,000 residents want to live near the water. The Klarälven River and Lake Vänern pose immense flood risks. Karlstad Municipality has been working to increase the awareness of property owners on the risks they need to consider when purchasing or building a home, pointing out that it is the homeowner's own insurance that has to cover any damages that might occur. The municipality has developed brochures and published magazine articles to inform individuals how they can reduce vulnerability. The city website (<http://karlstad.se/oversvanning>) carries the latest flood maps. Citizens can follow water levels on the website and take 'flood risk walks' around the city.

Karlstad Municipality, together with energy companies, telecommunications companies and private and public health care organizations, are taking inventories of objects vulnerable to flooding and what to do to protect them. The results will help produce future contingency planning for floods. Meanwhile, MSB, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency, has written regulations on risk and vulnerability assessments as well as guidelines for municipal risk management. Disaster risk reduction tools and methods developed by MSB and partners are being used by local governments such as Karlstad Municipality to strengthen flood management.

Links:

- [Reason for nomination \[DOCX 35.71 KB\]](#)
- [Candidates' presentation \[DOCX 71.29 KB\]](#)

For more information, visit:

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