

Note: These concept notes are as received from partner organizations



**Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction 2016
New Delhi, India
02-05 November 2016**

Concept Note for Thematic session

Event title	Reducing Disaster Risk by Managing Urban Land Use
Event code	THEM-3
Date and Time	Thursday, 3 rd November, 13.30-15.00
Venue/ Room no.	Exhibition Hall, First Floor
Organizers	<p>Lead: Asian Disaster Preparedness Center</p> <p>Collaborators: Asian Development Bank, Metro Manila (Arghya Sinha Roy Disaster Risk Management Specialist asinharoy@adb.org)</p> <p>Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management, Government of Germany (Stephan Huppertz Regional Coordinator, Asia stephan.huppertz@giz.de)</p> <p>Contact Details* (Coordinating Agency):</p> <p>Name: Irfan Maqbool Designation: Head of Department Email id and phone number: irfan@adpc.net Phone +66818403150 Organization name and address: Asian Disaster Preparedness Center SM Tower, Paya Thai, Bangkok 10400</p>
Session Objectives	<p>The objectives of the session are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To share experiences of specific cities/countries in integrating disaster and climate risk considerations in urban land use management;• To share national-level experience of public-sector investments for resilient infrastructure;• To discuss the enabling environment and options for enhancing the incorporation of disaster risk in urban land use management and

	resilient investment decision-making processes.
Background and context	<p>Urban areas in Asian and the Pacific continue to face significant disaster risk. While this is partly due to the interplay of economic and physical geography, which has resulted in many cities being located in natural hazard-prone areas, it is the rapid unplanned growth of cities – the alterations in the land use pattern, the location and choice of infrastructure, businesses, and housing - which is further increasing the exposure and vulnerability of urban populations and their physical assets to natural hazards. With the changing intensity and, in some cases, frequency of hazards with climate change, it is expected that urban areas in Asia will continue to be impacted by extreme climate events.</p> <p>However, this need not be the case. The current trend of growing disaster risk in cities can be reduced, halted, and even reversed, by adopting urban land use management processes which provide opportunities to better understand how natural hazards in and around urban areas interact with existing and future urban growth patterns and the types of investments that can be undertaken to promote development in a risk-sensitive manner. In many cases by incorporating disaster risk considerations in urban land use management processes, the chances of implementing risk-sensitive urban growth become more politically acceptably and economically viable.</p> <p>Similarly, resilient infrastructure is an imperative for sustainable and safe development, especially in the context of rapid urbanization. Much of the world is undergoing rapid urbanization, especially Asia and Africa. Linked to this there is a huge demand for infrastructure and services. Critical infrastructure deserves special attention in planning and development. Past disasters have shown that public buildings such as schools, hospitals, and critical government buildings have proved to be among the most vulnerable classes of structures. Yet in the aftermath of disasters, hospitals, as well as transportation, power, water systems, telecommunications network infrastructure, and buildings, housing emergency response services, are functionally critical. Previous disasters show that that direct damage to critical infrastructure and associated interruptions in services can account for more than 50 percent of the overall financial losses from a major earthquake in an urban area.</p> <p>With large investments in infrastructure and services expected over the next several decades in Asian and the Pacific countries, it would be critical for national governments and sectoral agencies to integrate disaster and climate risk in the overall development planning and investment decision-making processes including for land use management and public infrastructure.</p>
Session format and programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Session’s overview by the moderator (5 minutes)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by 3 cities/countries (30 min) • Panel Discussion (50 min) • Wrap-up (5 minutes)
<p>Intended main outcome and Key messages</p>	<p>Main Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge-sharing through countries’ practical experience on processes, and key standards, regulations and codes that are critical to integrating DRM in terms of road transport, irrigation, rural housing, and urban land use planning. • Exploring options and entry points for overcoming the challenges of risk integration in development planning processes. <p>Key Messages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing disaster risk caused by natural hazards in urban areas is largely a development issue and needs to be addressed within the context of a wider urban development framework. Reducing disaster risk will contribute to strengthening urban resilience and sustainable urban development. • Hazard considerations should be factored into the design and implementation of development control instruments, such as zoning, land subdivision, and building control. This will help reduce vulnerability and limit the exposure of development to hazards by controlling their location, density, and design characteristics. • Urban land use plans should incorporate knowledge of the potential effects of disasters caused by hazards, so that most disaster risks in the city can be addressed through measures such as risk-sensitive development/redevelopment policies, development control instruments and disaster risk reduction-related public investments. Implementing such measures by the government will create confidence among investors and citizens and encourage similar risk-informed private investments, thereby enhancing the overall resilience of the city. • Countries that ensure the quality of their infrastructure through both deliberate design and appropriate use and maintenance consistently demonstrate greater resilience to the shocks and stresses that disaster and climate risk pose.
<p>List of Speakers and their interventions</p>	<p>Tentative Presenters (tbc)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government/ Department of Interior and Local Government, Government of Philippines • Mr. Khondker Fowze Muhammed Bin Farid, Director, Urban Development Directorate, Bangladesh

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Government of Nepal <p>Panel Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Panelists will include public-sector experts, technical agencies, and development partners.
Technical Equipment	Projector, computer, microphones