Ignite stage: Engaging the small business community in disaster risk reduction and business continuity

The Florida International University – Extreme Events Institute (FIU-EEI) in collaboration with the FIU Small Business Development Center (SBDC) has created a Small-and-Medium Enterprise (SME) application for disaster resiliency and recovery called “Bizaster App”.

Bizaster helps businesses better prepare themselves for a disaster, improve their response, and jump-start operations post-disaster. The application features a toolkit for risk assessments, customizable checklists, and other resources in a user-friendly format. The App was developed for iOS and Android mobile devices and tablets, and is available in both English and Spanish at no cost. This initiative was supported by the United States Agency for International Development’s Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID-OFDA).

For business owners, it is often difficult to “see the forest for the trees” – to identify critical and actionable information to help grow and protect their businesses. They either do not know where to start, do not believe that a disaster will impact them, or feel overwhelmed by navigating the multitude of available resources. Bizaster is intended to, quite literally, put user-friendly disaster preparedness resources into business owners’ hands.

Videos
English:  https://youtu.be/9xOFKkJDYkU
Spanish:  https://youtu.be/ePCVrVp6Pmw

Application

Juan Pablo Sarmiento M.D. M.P.H.
Director, Disaster Resilience in the Americas Program (DRCAP)
Associate Director for Research, Extreme Events Institute
Florida International University
11200 S. W. 8th Street, AHC5 - 250, Miami, FL 33199
Email: jsarmien@fiu.edu
http://eei.fiu.edu/