



**Global Platform for
Disaster Risk Reduction**
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Promoting Land Use Planning and
Spatial Planning for Disaster Risk
Reduction May 26, 2017

INTEGRATING DRR INTO THE PLANNING PROCESS: Potential Impacts and Considerations

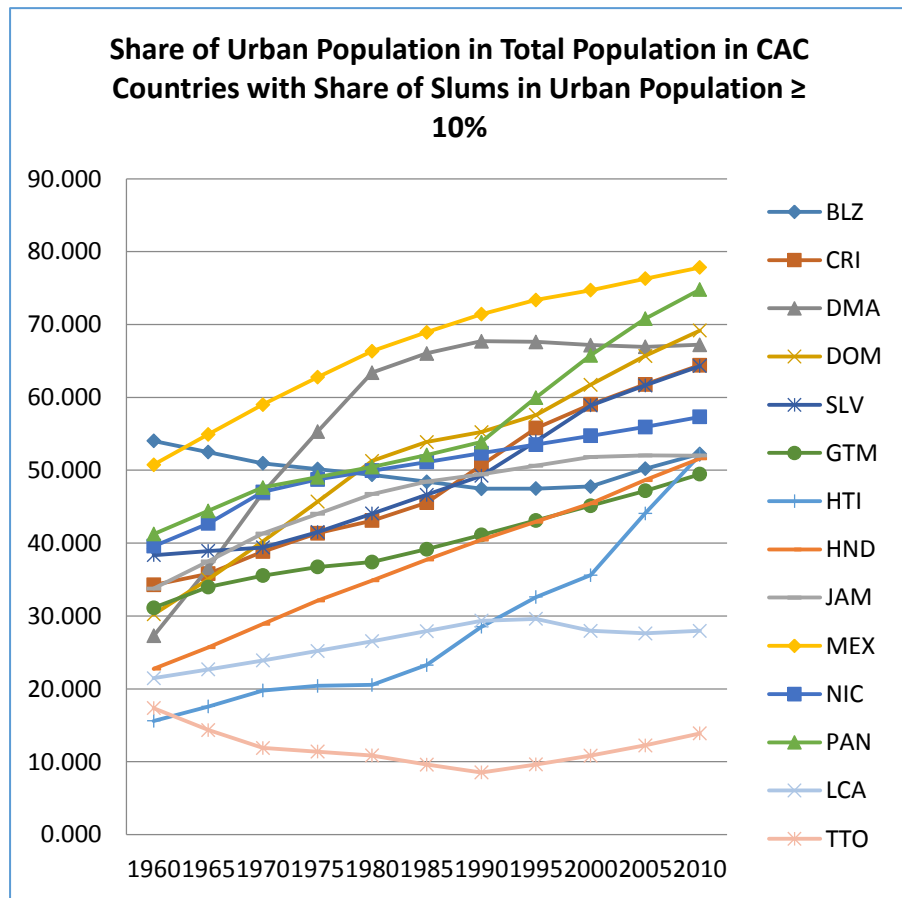
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center for urban disaster
risk reduction & resilience

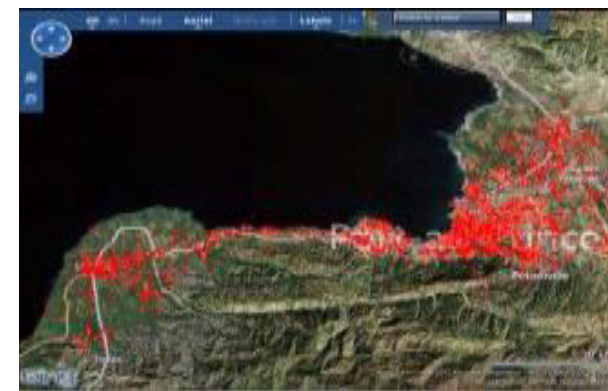
 **UPAG**
UNISDR Urban Planning Advisory Group

- Unplanned and rapid urban growth, substandard physical assets and infrastructure and type of terrain, geomorphology (Physical and Spatial Vulnerability)
- Poverty and inequality, social exclusion, lack of social empowerment (Socio-Economic Vulnerability)
- Weak institutional arrangements, poor land management and governance, limited implementation and enforcement capacity (Institutional Vulnerability)
- Climate change and environmental degradation (Environmental Vulnerability)

DRIVERS of URBAN RISK: Rapid Urbanization



CAC Countries	Slum population as percentage of urban, percentage
Belize	18.7 (07)
Costa Rica	10.9 (05)
El Salvador	28.9 (05)
Guatemala	38.7 (09)
Honduras	34.9 (05)
Mexico	14.4 (07)
Nicaragua	45.5 (05)
Panama	23 (05)
Anguilla	40.6 (90)
Antigua and Barbuda	6.9 (90)
Dominica	16.6 (90)
Dominican Republic	14.8 (09)
Grenada	6 (05)
Guadeloupe	5.4 (05)
Haiti	70.1 (09)
Jamaica	60.5 (05)
Martinique	2 (90)
Saint Lucia	11.9 (05)
Trinidad and Tobago	24.7 (05)



Figures: Gencer, Ebru. 2013 "An overview of Urban Vulnerability to Natural Disasters and Climate Change in Central America and the Caribbean Region," *FEEM Nota di Lavoro 78.2013*. Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (FEEM): Milan, Italy.

Image: Courtesy of VDV and EERI (Photos by Irfanoglu)

- Reduce existing risks by various planning land-use tools such as redevelopment or relocation and prevent future risks by risk-informed planning and zoning
- Facilitate climate mitigation and adaptation as well as the protection of ecosystems. Use innovative planning, environmental planning methods and urban design strategies such as blue-green infrastructure, public spaces and/or transport-oriented development.

- Reduce socio-economic vulnerability and increase empowerment by increasing legal, adequate, and resilient housing stock for the most vulnerable populations through a participatory process
- Facilitate good governance by developing linkages between different scales of responsibility, financing and institutional arrangements across sub-municipal, municipal, city-wide and regional levels as well as create linkages with community initiatives.

1- Complex legislative framework

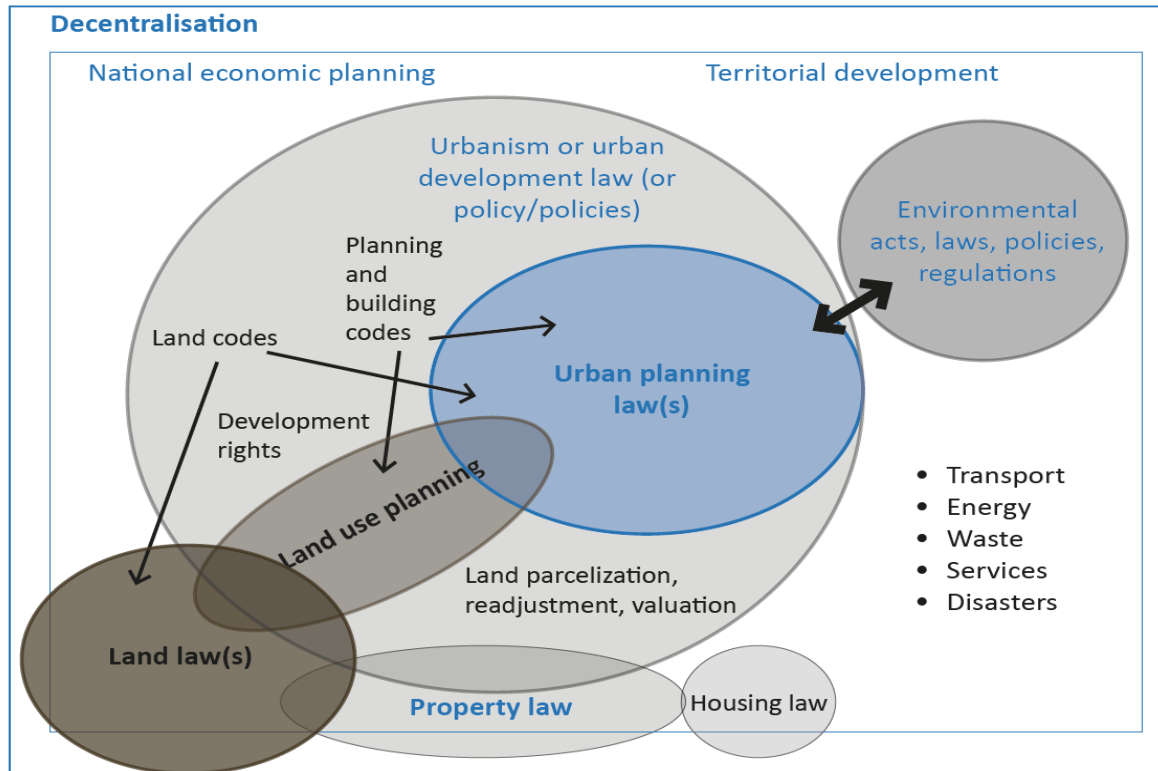


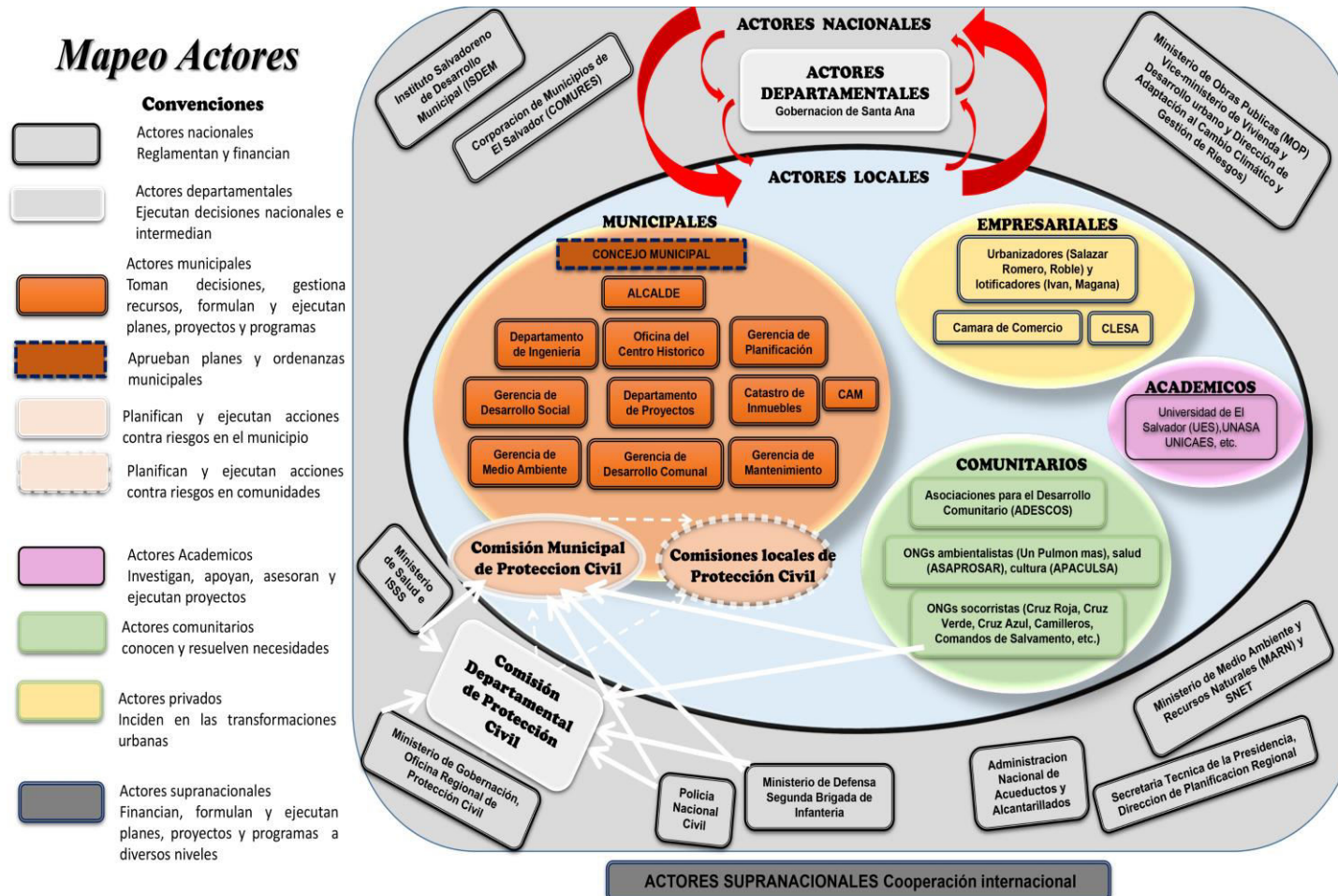
Figure: *Words Into Action Implementation Guide on Land Use and Urban Planning*, UNISDR 2017.

Urban planning and development occurs in a complex web of laws, regulations, and instruments such as codes and standards, which should be risk-informed.

2- Availability of local/urban and risk data

Creating and updating databases with evidence is key to planning decisions. Planning instruments, processes and decisions are informed by evidence collected through rigorous methods. The presence of key datasets are to be supplemented by clear procedures that will enable planners to analyze the information and integrate key issues into the planning instruments, processes and decisions.

3- Multi-stakeholder and interdisciplinary nature of planning



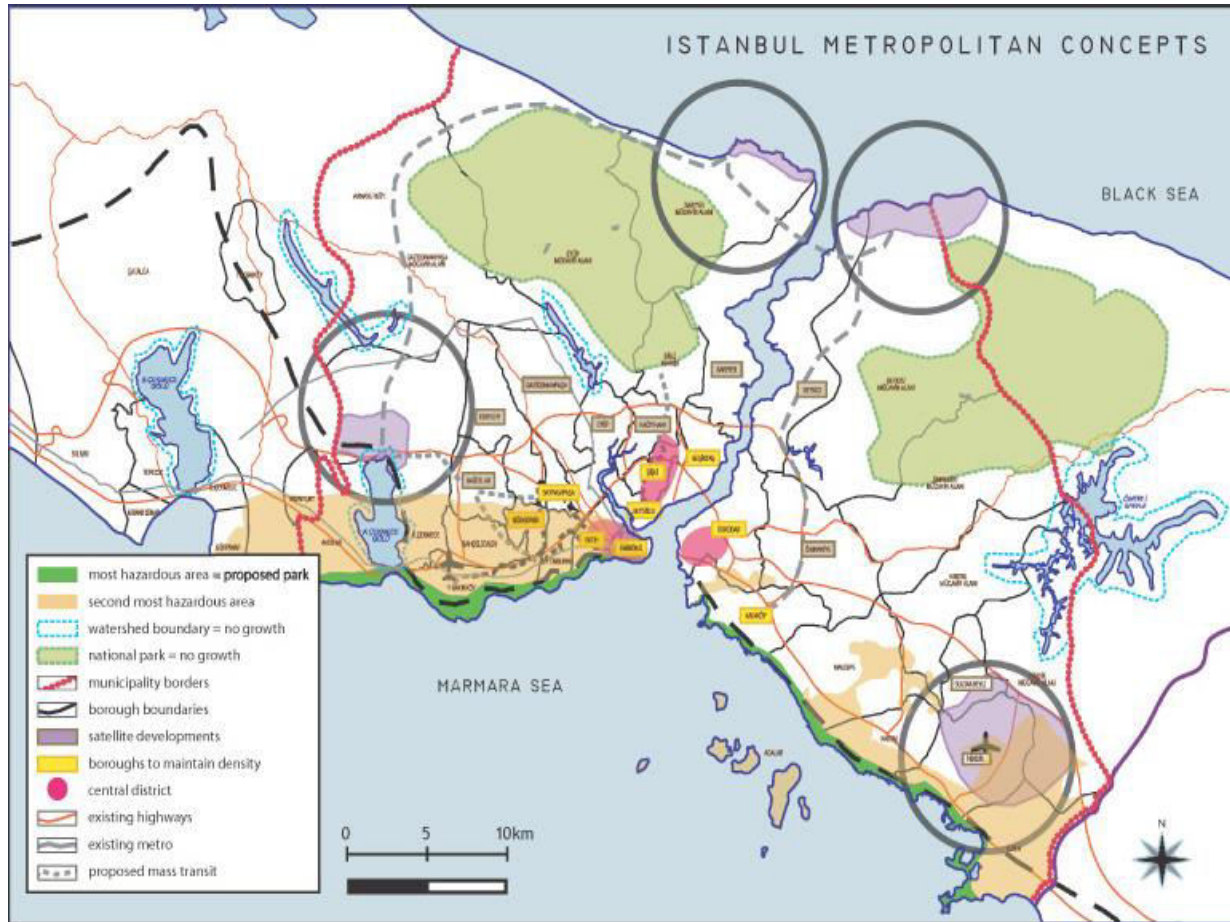
4- Financing for implementation

Some locally-based approaches to financing DRM seek to develop partnerships with other actors in the city or incentivize DRM processes amongst the city's multiple planning agents.

Complex web of actors that will/should be part of risk-informed planning and the necessity of participatory planning approach for effective implementation and success of resilience.

Figure: Iniciativa Ciudades Resilientes al Clima en America Latina.

5- Technical Capacity



Risk-informed Urban Planning Education should be integrated into education curricula in planning schools for future planners.

In addition, urban planners who have not received risk-informed planning education should attend certificate based continuing education classes that are developed in partnership with professional licensing bestowing associations such as Chamber or Association of Planners where available or by international planning associations, such as ISOCARP for planning certificate programs.

Figure: Grava, S.; Jacob, K.; Gencer, E. et al. 2002. Disaster Resilient Planning Studio. Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation.

CONCLUSIONS and FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Not every kind of planning builds resilience. All efforts must be made to ensure that planning visions have resilience and disaster risk reduction at their core, so that these elements become central to the purpose of planning.
- A “back to the basics” approach is central to resilience building. It implies keeping in mind that one of planning’s purpose is to promote social and spatial equity and justice. Taking a strategic approach, this means ensuring access to well-located land, flexibility in standards and regulations, maintaining and developing infrastructure, public service delivery and financing.
- DRR efforts must be mainstreamed throughout formal and informal planning processes and the entire planning cycle, and integrated into the planning system as such, including legal and regulatory frameworks, as well as financing arrangements.
- Planning is a multi-actor process that involves governmental as well as non-governmental actors. Not all planning - in fact, not much, in the developing world - is done by planners. The role of communities and the large/medium/small-scale private sector as well as professionals, must be acknowledged and supported if DRR is to be mainstreamed through all planning efforts.
- Policy-makers must look for context-specific models and good practices and explore how they can be scaled up, instead of applying one-size-fits-all solutions.

Words into Action Implementation Guide on Land Use Planning:

<http://www.preventionweb.net/drr-framework/sendai-framework/wordsintoaction/>

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Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient:

<https://www.unisdr.org/campaign/resilientcities/home/toolkit>

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