

Global Campaign “Making Cities Resilient: My City is Getting Ready!”

Thematic Platform on Urban Risk in the Americas

Call for good practices and innovation in the use of information systems to support development processes at the local level by integrating disaster risk management and adaptation to climate change

1. Introduction:

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) Global Campaign “Making Cities Resilient: My City is Getting Ready!” is an invitation to the leaders of local governments to strengthen their commitment to building prosperous, secure and resilient communities (for more information about the campaign, see <http://goo.gl/Lrrje> and <http://goo.gl/F4llvq>).

According to the Campaign, one of the “Ten Essentials” of the checklist to advance the construction of resilient cities and territories is the proper management and use of information to support decision-making processes at both the public and private level. Essential number 3 calls on local government to “*Maintain up-to-date data on hazards and vulnerabilities, prepare risk assessments and use these as the basis for urban development plans and decisions. Ensure that this information and the plans for your city’s resilience are readily available to the public and fully discussed with them.*”

The recent development of Information Communication Technologies (ICT) has opened enormous opportunities to advance the development and implementation of tools to efficiently and effectively manage the growing volume of data and information. In this regard, it is important to advance the identification and characterization of best practices, to promote an ongoing process of updating and improving the services offered. Similarly, it serves as a reference for those who are starting to take advantage of lessons learned and available resources.

The main purpose of this call is to contribute to the development of a catalogue of good practices in the use of information systems, which include a geographic component, to support local development planning processes, integrating risk management and adaptation to climate change.

The launch of the call is possible thanks to the generous contributions from UNISDR's partners.

The call will be open to both public and private actors, civil society, academic and research institutions based on experiences at the local and community level.

Information systems submitted to the call must refer to the thematic areas of the “Ten Essentials” of the Making Cities Resilient Campaign.

2. Objectives of the call

The objective of the call is to identify experiences in the use of information systems, which include the management of geographic data to support development planning processes at the local level, integrating disaster risk management and adaptation to climate change (hereinafter referred to as “IS Applications”).

3. Participation

Participants must submit the “IS Applications” developed using the format in Annex 1. Each participant will be responsible for providing the mechanism for the evaluation committee to test the functionality of the “IS Application” (Web access and/or copy of the “IS Application” for local installation).

4. Participation Criteria – Eligibility

- The “IS Applications” presented may correspond to developments for internal use (available only for authorized users) or public (available to anyone via the Web).
- “IS Applications” developed using free or proprietary “software” may be presented.
- All of the features of the “IS Application” must be fully operational.
- The “IS Application” should be in production, that is routinely used to support the activities for which it is designed. Application of unimplemented presentations (DEMO format) will not be accepted.

5. Procedure to participate in the call:

- 1- Complete the form included in Annex 1.
- 2- The experience may be submitted by one or more institutions (local government, academia, private sector, community organization, etc.). It should clearly specify the relationship between the organizations presenting the experience. Upon presenting an experience to the call, participants state that they own all legal rights to the “IS Application” submitted for consideration.
- 3- Send the nomination/applications form with the relevant annexes to the UNISDR Regional Office-The Americas by email to rvargas@eird.org.
- 4- Entries that are not submitted using the above-mentioned format or that do not include the required documentation to explain the functionality of the application will not be accepted.

6. Number of applications/nominations

- 5- A participant may submit up to 3 “IS Applications” to the call. Each should be presented separately (must complete an application form for each of the experiences presented).

7. Evaluation procedure

“IS Applications” will be evaluated by an expert committee appointed by UNISDR's Office of the Americas. The committee will assess the best practices received, taking into account the following criteria:

- Usability: refers to the ease with which people are able use the “IS Application”.
- Creativity: innovative use of available resources.
- Level of standardization: “IS Applications” that implement international standards for interoperability and Web services will be especially valued.
- Relevance of the “IS Application” in terms of support for the process of local development planning processes, integrating risk management and adaptation to climate change.

Two categories for the purpose and target audience of the “IS Application” will be considered:

- “IS Applications” for internal use: the purpose is to support institutional and/or inter-institutional management processes; your target audience is limited, for authorized users only.
- “IS Applications” for public or open access: addressed to the general public, available to anyone via the Web or as a “Stand Alone” version (may be installed locally by the user).



8. Awards-Recognition

- ❖ First place in each category will receive:
 - Preparation of a special note of recognition to be published through the communication channels available.
 - Participation of the responsible person or designated representative of the selected experience in the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction to be held from 14 to 18 March 2015 in Sendai, Japan (visa or other necessary travel documents, if required, shall be handled by the awardees).
 - A UNISDR innovative experience certificate of recognition.
- ❖ Second and third place in each category will receive:
 - Preparation of a special note of recognition to be published through the communication channels available
 - A UNISDR certificate of honourable mention.

The expert committee may declare the call void in one or both categories when, in its opinion, none of the applications received meets the criteria set out in paragraph 7. When applying for the programme, participants accept this possibility, without the right to appeal.

9. Important dates of the call:

Opening date of the call: October 7 2014

Closing date of the call: November 21 2014

The results of the call will be published as of December 5 2014

Annex 1

Global Campaign "Making Cities Resilient: My City is Getting Ready!"

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Application format

1 - Information of the institution presenting the experience (when applicable):	
Title of the experience	
Name of the institution	
Country	
City (if applicable)	
Type of institution (private, public)	
Main area of work	

1.1 - Contact information:	
First name	
Last name	
Position at the institution	
Work email	
Alternative email	
Telephone	

"IS Application" Description

2- What is the classification of the "IS Application"?
Select the most appropriate option (select only one): <p>A) Application for internal use (institutional - registration required for use) B) Application for public use (no registration required for use)</p>
3 – Provide a general description of the "IS Application":



4 – Describe the main functions/services offered by the "IS Application" to support local development planning processes, integrating risk management and adaptation to climate change:

5 – Provide at least 3 specific examples of situations in which the "IS Application" has been used to support decision-making processes

6 –Standardization / interoperability of the "IS Application": please briefly describe what standards are implemented in the "IS Application" (Web services standards)

7 - URL to access the "IS Application" ("IS Applications" may only be evaluated if they are operational and if their performance may be verified by the expert group)