DRR in Central America: Regional Experiences on Recovery

Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPREDENAC)

International Recovery Forum
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Kobe, Hyogo, Japan
GDP (millions US$) 2012

GDP P C (millions US$) 2012

Population Density 2013

Total Population 2012 / 2025

% Population Poverty Line 2012

Fuente: Elaboración propia, con información de la CEPAL y CELADE, 2013
CEPREDENAC
In charge of coordination of DRR in C.A. armonizing six national systems through the Central American Policy on Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management (PCGIR).
CEPREDENAC promotes multi-sector works with common guidelines. During 2015, CEPREDENAC held six national and one regional workshops on the Sendai Framework on DRR 2015-2030, initiating dissemination to over 40 institutions/450 regional, national and local personnel.
Since 2012, Central America has worked in developing National Recovery Frameworks, based on experiences of recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

CEPREDENAC promotes more effective and inclusive DRR planning with multiple sectors (Economy, Planning and Land Use, Construction) and Local-Municipal Governments.

Multi-sectorial and technical commissions coordinate the recovery process after the occurrence of disasters. Specific protocols of action follow a “transformation towards development” approach.
1. Las Colinas Landslide
   El Salvador 2001

2. Cinchona Landslide
   Costa Rica 2009

3. Cambray II Landslide
   Guatemala 2015
1. Las Colinas Landslide
El Salvador 2001
CONTEXT

- National event: Earthquake 7.6
- Local event: Landslide
- Victims: 604
- Household losses: 200

EARLY STAGES

- Ad-hoc multi-sector commission: response oriented
- Centralized response and coordination
- Search and Rescue; Relief and Assistance Actions
RECOVERY (4-18 months)

- Assessment stage: site off-limits; identification of affected families.
- Initial proposal: economic compensation on land loss; memorial monument on site.
- Municipality and Local association increase level of involvement.
- Ad-hoc coordination facilitates social, health and psychological support. No systematic previous mechanism.

(2-5 years)

- Municipality develops DRR management: EWS, coordination units, mapping tools.
- New assessment studies guide mitigation works on affected site.
- Lessons learned at technical and scientific level applied in metropolitan area.
- Re-open case on relocation of original Las Colinas residents.
Municipality and DRR System develop mitigation works and prevention measures: shift from response to management.
Research for land use and risk reduction; planning for development.

Cost-Benefit Analysis with DRR measures.
CURRENT SCENARIO

- Santa Tecla as Champion City on DRR.
- Permanent coordination structures and mechanisms for recovery.
- Consultation and technical input for establishing the NRF.
- Housing project for 150 affected families to follow completion of third major mitigation work.

Lessons during Timeline 2001-2016

- Ad-hoc response and emergent coordination structures delay recovery process.
- Lack of/ insufficient knowledge on legal and operative frameworks hinders coordination.
- DRR capacity generation is key to transform negative/slow results into lessons to promote development.
2. Cinchona Landslide
Costa Rica 2009

Respeto a la Ley 7000
CONTEXT

- National event: Earthquake 6.2
- Local event: Landslide
- Victims: 30
- Household losses: 93

EARLY STAGES

- Ad-hoc multi-sector commission: recovery oriented
- Inter-institutional coordination with local government and families
- Quick shift from response to recovery
RECOVERY (0-4 months)

- Assessment stage: site off-limits; identification of affected families.
- Initial proposal: relocation of 91 families, broad consultation.
- DRR authority leading the process with municipality and local association.
- Systematic process to ensure economy reactivation and basic services.

(5-20 months)

- Affected families and multi-sector technical commission establish new area for relocation.
- Site assessment and preparation with neighbor communities.
- Private sector and academia provide technical support.
- Design and construction of new Cinchona community and local production network.
DRR System proposed and implemented a recovery process with a comprehensive approach from the beginning.
Lessons during Timeline 2009-2011

- Inclusive participation contributes to efficient process.
- Local participation provides valuable input regarding cultural and social aspects.
- Multi-sector involvement and commitment demonstrated through technical and economic support ensures development continuity.

20-25 months

- 91 families receive new houses in New Cinchona.
- Recovery process includes yearly assessment of resinsertion.
CONTEXT

- Local event: Landslide
- Trigger Factors: Seasonal heavy rain / Precarious location
- Victims: 350
- Household losses: 73
- Affected population: 472

EARLY STAGES

- Activation of multi-sector Recovery Commission and NRF
- Search and Rescue; Evacuation; Relief and Assistance Actions
- Inter-institutional coordination with local government and families
RECOVERY (0-1 months)

- Assessment stage: site off limits, adjacent evacuations, identification of affected families.
- Initial proposal: Relocation process, on-going shelters until economic support is provided.
- DRR authority leading the Recovery Commission with local involvement.
- Immediate activation of basic services provision.

(2-3 months)

- Recovery commission, including affected families, establish new area for relocation.
- Site assessment and preparation with neighbor communities.
- Phase 1 Planning: construction of 30 houses of new community.
- Legal situation on house ownership delays planning for following phases.
Activation of NRF and establishment of Recovery Plan: inclusive process building on experiences of previous recovery plans
Research for land use and risk reduction: Planning for Development

**Deben salir**

Varías viviendas de una población cercana al desastre corre riesgo, y se debe evacuar a los habitantes según las autoridades.
**Current Situation**

- 1st phase to be completed with 30 new houses.
- Donations and emergency funds: first availability.
- Public funds: committed but yet to be used.
- Recovery process to assess measures in regarding economic/labor related needs.

**Lessons learned during Timeline 2015-2016**

- Existence of NRF and Recovery Plans highly increases timely results.
- Training on recovery protocols increases level of participation of sectors and governments.
- DRR authority’s assessments need to acquire stronger / binding influence on other development-related actors.
- Lack of fixed criteria to access recovery funds hinders fluent process.
- Alliance with private sector important as recovery actors.
Multi-Sector Recovery Commission

General Coordination

Strategic Coordination

Technical Coordination

MESAS TÉCNICAS SECTORIALES
- Solución Habitacional
- Reactivación de la Economía
- Infraestructura de Servicios
- Salud
- Seguridad Alimentaria
- Agua, Saneamiento e Higiene
- Educación
- Seguridad
GESTIÓN PARA LA REDUCCIÓN DEL RIESGO A LOS DESASTRES

PREPARACIÓN DE CAPACIDADES Y CONDICIONES
IDENTIFICACIÓN, ANÁLISIS Y VALORACIÓN
GESTIÓN (MITIGACIÓN, TRANSFERENCIA Y ADAPTACIÓN)
RECUERAPCIÓN POST DESASTRES

PROTOCOLO DE RECUPERACIÓN POST DESASTRES

MESAS TÉCNICAS SECTORIALES
- Establecimiento de líneas basales
- Determinación de protocolos
- Coordinación interinstitucional
- Otros

ORGANIZACIÓN TERRITORIAL
- Conformación y consolidación de Comisiones de Recuperación
- Fortalecimiento de capacidades
- Otros

PLANIFICACIÓN PARA LA RECUPERACIÓN

EVENTO

ACCIONES DE RESPUESTA INMEDIATA
- Alberques, agua, alimentos, acciones de rescate, otros

CUANTIFICACIÓN DE DAÑO Y PéRDIDA
- Establecimiento de necesidades y priorización de programas y proyectos

REPARACIONES MENORES
- Rehabilitación de líneas vitales

REHABILITACIÓN DE LÍNEAS VITALES

ACCIONES DE RECUPERACIÓN TEMPRANA

PLAN DE RECUPERACIÓN

PLANIFICACIÓN ORDINARIA DE DESARROLLO

NACIONAL
REGIONAL
DEPARTAMENTAL
MUNICIPAL
LOCAL

MARCO NACIONAL DE RECUPERACIÓN PARA LA REPÚBLICA DE GUATEMALA
CONCLUSIONS

- Multi-sector mechanisms and institutionalized action protocols increase the efficiency of the recovery process.
- Recovery time will reduce if legal aspects on land/housing/production assets are well defined previous to a disaster occurrence.
- Development continuity requires equally-responsible partners in DRR: economy (public and private), land use and planning, academia, local governments.
- Improved recovery in urban areas: previous joint work with Land Use & Planning.
- Improved recovery in rural areas: previous joint work with production sectors.
- DRR and other sectors must commit funds specifically to comprehensive recovery to avoid HIGH RISK of funding only RESPONSE.
- Research (technical aspects & cost-benefit analysis) increases multi-sector support and belief in “DRR ensures development continuity”.
- Common DRR guidelines promoted by CEPREDENAC/implemented by National Authorities allow for identifying and building up on good practices.