

The "Reducing Vulnerability of School Children to Earthquakes" project

Through the project "Reducing Vulnerability of School Children to Earthquakes" promoted in the Asia-Pacific region by the UNCRD and the UN-Secretariat/Department of Economic and Social Affairs, three major aspects of the community empowerment in community disaster risk management (in the case of earthquakes) are highlighted: a) The projects include seismic vulnerability analysis of some selected schools in a project city of each country and retrofitting of some of them, which cover prominent construction typology in the region. This leads to the development of country-specific guidelines on the earthquake safe construction, which incorporates solutions to the practical problems experienced school retrofitting; b) Retrofitting of schools in communities serves as a demonstration of proper earthquake technology to them. Masons in the communities get on-job training during the retrofitting of schools. In addition, technicians in each project cities get training on earthquake design and construction of houses. Consideration is given to the local practice, material availability, indigenous knowledge and affordability in trainings on earthquake technology; c) The project includes development and wide distribution of educational booklets, posters and guidebooks on teachers training and students' drills for earthquake disaster preparedness and response. The guidebooks get verification and are updated through training and mock drills. The projects also develops an interactive educational tool for awareness raising on earthquake disaster and simple seismic risk assessment of buildings aiming to motivate households for planning seismic upgrading of their houses (Pandey B. and Okazaki K. 2004).

Note: See source document for full reference.

Applicable to:

Stakeholders: Ethnicity, Educational system

Disaster Phases: Prevention

Types of Actors Concerned: UN and other international organisations

Hazards: Natural hazards

Recommendations:

• Foster the adoption of a culture of disaster prevention and resilience by informing and motivating citizens to take action

Source

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