
and the Local Government Self-Assessment Tool for Disaster Risk Reduction, an evaluation and feedback instrument

UNISDR and its partners developed a handbook for leaders following requests by mayors and local government authorities for a practical guide on the Ten Essentials of Making Cities Resilient. This Handbook for Local Government Leaders provides mayors, governors, councillors and others with a framework for reducing risk and points to good practices and tools that are already being applied in different cities for that purpose. It responds to the key questions WHY this is of benefit, WHAT kind of strategies and actions are required and HOW to go about the task.

To complement the handbook, an evaluation and feedback instrument called the Local Government Self-Assessment Tool, is available for local authorities to establish baselines, identify gaps and have comparable data across local governments, within the country and globally, to measure advancements over time.

“To meet the goals of building a resilient city, we will need to commit significant resources at the local level. To do so in the midst of the economic challenges and in the face of scarcity of resources, will not be easy. But we have no option, we have to do it.”
Keith Hinds, Mayor of Portmore, Jamaica, at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, Geneva, May 2011

http://www.unisdr.org
What’s in the Handbook?

- A working definition of a disaster-resilient city.
- An explanation of the drivers that put cities at risk.
- A compelling case for investing city resources in disaster risk reduction, including a discussion of the risks associated with not paying attention to these issues.
- Suggested options for policies that, if established, will give validity to and enable investment in disaster risk reduction.
- An overview of the Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient, a checklist of critical and interdependent steps for building resiliency.
- A chapter on how to implement the Ten Essentials, organized around five milestone phases that outline 14 steps you can take.

What is the Local Government Self-Assessment Tool?

- An online questionnaire requiring a city to map its progress against the Ten Essentials.
- A platform for engagement with different stakeholders to map and understand existing gaps and challenges in disaster risk reduction in their city or locality.
- Provides a basis for baseline-setting and developing a status report on making cities resilient.
- Allows for standardized results that can be shared with national disaster risk reduction focal points as part of the country-level reporting process, undertaken every two years.

Who should use the Handbook and Tool?

- All city officials, departments and public services who must address risk factors within development activities and control and monitoring mechanisms.
- The city council, which sets and approves a budget.
- Academia, university, research and hazard monitoring centers, the private sector, civil society and any member of society who can help document and assess past and potential hazards and risk scenarios.

Where to go for more Information?

To learn more visit: http://www.unisdr.org/campaign or email us at isdr-campaign@un.org.