



Balvano, Italy

Local progress report on the implementation of the 10 Essentials for Making Cities Resilient (2013-2014)

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Essential 1

Put in place organization and coordination to understand and reduce disaster risk, based on participation of citizen groups and civil society. Build local alliances. Ensure that all departments understand their role to disaster risk reduction and preparedness.

How well are local organizations (including local government) equipped with capacities (knowledge, experience, official mandate) for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation?

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Description of Progress & Achievements:

The Municipality makes use of adequate resources as:

- Local Municipal Cartography (with different scales and in digital format);
- Documents on general Municipal Plans in force (regulation of the built-up area and of the whole municipal area on digital cartography, explicative report, technical regulations for implementation);
- Documents on general plans (Urban Development Plan or Master Plan) under redaction (regulation of the built-up area and of the whole municipal area on digital cartography, technical regulations for implementation, detailed regulation of the historical area);
- Urban Accounting (in case of approved Urban Development Plan or under redaction) and preliminary recommendations about delimitations in Urban Context, Peri-urban Context and Extra-urban Context as from law 23/99 and Implementation Regulations;
- Annual and multiannual report of the Public Works Schedule.

The Civil Protection Plan exists (5th May 2010).

To what extent do partnerships exist between communities, private sector and local authorities to reduce risk?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:



There are partnerships with Civil Protection Volunteers and security forces, with informal meetings.

At the moment there are no partnerships with privates, but efforts are being devoted to the creation of co-operations with private sectors.

There is collaboration with the Regional and in particular the Provincial local authorities.

The Municipality has established a formal cooperation with the Province of Potenza for the integration of environmental sustainability and territorial security themes in the urban and land-use government actions.

How much does the local government support vulnerable local communities (particularly women, elderly, infirmed, children) to actively participate in risk reduction decision-making, policy making, planning and implementation processes?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:

By involving students and various local associations.

To what extent does the local government participate in the national DRR planning?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

The Italian civil protection law requires that the local Disaster Management plan must be drawn up according to the criteria and the procedures of the guidelines adopted by the National Civil Protection System and the regional governments. Moreover, the

legislation requires the local Disaster Management plans to be sent to the Region, the Prefecture and the Province for wide information. According to the Italian regulations, the Municipality is a key actor of the National Civil Protection System – structured in National, regional and local levels - and has the task to highlight critical situations on the territory, also by assessing and integrating the disaster risk information at the local scale. Thanks to his territorial knowledge, the Mayor has also a stimulating role in higher-level programming and planning.

Essential 2

Assign a budget for disaster risk reduction and provide incentives for homeowners, low-income families, communities, businesses and public sector to invest in reducing the risks they face.

How far does the local government have access to adequate financial resources to carry out risk reduction activities?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

At the moment there is very limited access to adequate financial resources. During the last years there have been difficulties linked to financial constraints imposed by the Stability Pact and gradual reduction of national financial resources with serious repercussions also on disaster risk reduction. However, the Municipality is trying to set up tools to overcome the financial problem.

To what degree does the local government allocate sufficient financial resources to carry out DRR activities, including effective disaster response and recovery?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:

There is only routine maintenance of the rural and extra-urban road network, with an allocation corresponding to 10% of the budget.

What is the scope of financial services (e.g. saving and credit

schemes, macro and micro-insurance) available to vulnerable and marginalised households for pre- disaster times?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

There are no such allocation

To what extent are micro finance, cash aid, soft loans, lone guarantees etc available to affected households after disasters to restart livelihoods?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

There are no such benefits

How well established are economic incentives for investing in disaster risk reduction for households and businesses (e.g. reduced insurance premiums for households, tax holidays for businesses)?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:

Recently, within the O.P.C.M. (Prime Ministerial Order) 4007 - 29.02.2012, the Municipality has put in place the administrative procedures regarding the public

notice contained in the deliberation of the Regional Committee of Basilicata n. 1044 - 07.08.2012, for privates, aimed at the request for incentives for structural actions or seismic improvement, or demolition and reconstruction of private buildings. Moreover in order to obtain risks active mitigation, by means of its Territorial Coordination Plan (TCP), the Province is engaged in providing for a coordinating role in enhancing and facilitating the implementation of programs of extraordinary territorial maintenance by local governments, through the identification of possible financial solutions and procedural facilitation. Specific measures and solution encouraging private investments to be devoted to risk reduction and mitigation at the local level will be also explored and set up.

To what extent do local business associations, such as chambers of commerce and similar, support efforts of small enterprises for business continuity during and after disasters?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

At the moment they don't provide any tangible support

Essential 3

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.

To what degree does the local government conducted thorough disaster risk assessments for key vulnerable development sectors in your local authority?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:

The local territory undergoes risk assessments carried out by higher-level authorities, within their specific competencies (Province, Region, River Basin Authorities, etc).

To what extent are these risk assessments regularly updated, e.g. annually or on a bi-annual basis?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

Every six months.

How regularly does the local government communicate to the community, information on local hazard trends and risk reduction measures (e.g. using a Risk Communications Plan) including early warnings of likely hazard impact?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:

Sporadically, through public meetings. However, the Municipality is actively involved in the information campaigns conducted at local, regional and national level.

How well are local government risk assessments linked to, and supportive of, risk assessments from neighbouring local authorities and state or provincial government risk management plans?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

According to the subsidiarity principle, higher-level authorities (National government, Region, Province) support any actions made by municipalities, while cooperation with neighbouring local authorities is activated to face common issues when necessary. In particular, the Province is in charge of providing cognitive, methodological and procedural support to maximize common interest key issues, such as: analysis of major risks, planning of local actions, correct information for local decision-making, technical and methodological support in planning territorial safety activities, provision of information, best practices and experiences existing also at international level, that can be implemented locally, etc. Municipalities are required to deepen and integrate information about risks (especially the vulnerability and exposure data set), to assess the sustainability of the local land-use plans and interventions, to define specific requirements and risk-mitigation measures. The Province will assure the coordination of the specific actions providing for a wide area view and the strengthening of whole community resilience to risks and disasters.

How well are disaster risk assessments incorporated into all relevant local development planning on a consistent basis?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:

The local development is based on confined planning proposals that are produced for the purpose, also in variation of the existing old setting urban plans. In this framework, disaster risk assessment is preformed on purpose and with reference to some risks where specific national/regional regulations and enforcing higher-level planning tools exist. The Province of Potenza will coordinate the Municipalities in integrating risk assessments and analysis into local development planning on a consistent basis by means of the Territorial Coordination Structural Plan (TCP) and its interaction with local land-use planning and government actions

Essential 4

Invest in and maintain critical infrastructure that reduces risk, such as flood drainage, adjusted where needed to cope with climate change.

How far do land use policies and planning regulations for housing and development infrastructure take current and projected disaster risk (including climate related risks) into account?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Housing	Yes
Communication	No
Transportation	Yes
Energy	Yes

Description of Progress & Achievements:

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How adequately are critical public facilities and infrastructure located in high risk areas assessed for all hazard risks and safety?

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Description of Progress & Achievements:

The aforementioned structures have been rebuilt according to the anti-seismic regulations in force and in safe areas.

How adequate are the measures that are being undertaken to protect critical public facilities and infrastructure from damage during disasters?

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Description of Progress & Achievements:

The Municipal Operations Centre is placed at the municipal hall, which has been rebuilt according to the anti-seismic regulations.

Essential 5

Assess the safety of all schools and health facilities and upgrade these as necessary.

To what extent have local schools, hospitals and health facilities received special attention for "all hazard" risk assessments in your local authority?

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Schools	Yes
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Hospitals/ health facilities Yes

Description of Progress & Achievements:

The aforementioned structures have been rebuilt according to the anti-seismic regulations in force and in safe areas.

How safe are all main schools, hospitals and health facilities from disasters so that they have the ability to remain operational during emergencies?

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Schools	Yes
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Hospitals/ health facilities Yes

Description of Progress & Achievements:

The aforementioned structures have been rebuilt according to the anti-seismic regulations in force and in safe areas.

To what degree do local government or other levels of government have special programs in place to regularly assess schools, hospitals and health facilities for maintenance, compliance with building codes, general safety, weather-related risks etc.?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Schools	Yes
Hospitals/ health facilities	Yes

Description of Progress & Achievements:

With annual frequency.

How far are regular disaster preparedness drills undertaken in schools, hospitals and health facilities?

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Schools	Yes
Hospitals/ health facilities	No

Description of Progress & Achievements:

They are sporadic and in cooperation with the Regional Civil Protection. Schools, according to the regulations in force, carry out at least two evacuation drills a year, involving all the people who make use of the structure (professors, technical-administrative staff, students).

Essential 6

Apply and enforce realistic, risk compliant building regulations and land use planning principles. Identify safe land for low-income citizens and develop upgrading of informal settlements, wherever feasible.

How well are risk-sensitive land use regulations and building codes, health and safety codes enforced across all development zones and building types?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:

At the local scale, land use regulations, related building codes and other applicable safety codes are applied on an on-purpose basis, across development zones in and out of the built-up center and all building types, where specific national/regional regulations and enforcing higher-level planning tools exist.

How strong are existing regulations (e.g. land use plans, building codes etc) to support disaster risk reduction in your local authority?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:

At the local scale, existing regulations (land use plans, related building codes and other applicable regulations) are based on existing old setting urban plans. In these cases, disaster risk reduction is performed locally and when required (for example, for building new houses, etc), according to regional/national general regulations and enforcing higher-level planning tools. The urban planning tools, providing for a local planning framework, are currently being updated to include also disaster risk reduction as a structural content of the plan



Essential 7

Ensure education programmes & training on disaster risk reduction are in place in schools and communities.

How regularly does the local government conduct awareness-building or education programs on DRR and disaster preparedness for local communities?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Programs include cultural diversity issues	No
Programs are sensitive to gender perspectives	No

Description of Progress & Achievements:

With public meetings. However, the Municipality is actively involved in the information campaigns conducted at local, regional and national level.

To what extent does the local government provide training in risk reduction for local officials and community leaders?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:

The Municipality promotes the participation of its officials to specific risk reduction training, when financial resources are available.

To what degree do local schools and colleges include courses, education or training in disaster risk reduction (including climate related risks) as part of the education curriculum?

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Description of Progress & Achievements:

They do.

The Regional School Authority, starting from the national Civil Protection drill carried out in December 2012, promoted, in partnership with the National Civil Protection Department, the project "Multimedia school of Civil Protection" involving from 10 to 13-year-old young people. The project is aimed at fostering greater population awareness of risk prevention and safety and self-protection measures, which should be undertaken by everybody, both in time of peace and emergency. The creation of educational paths at school on the civil protection culture themes represents one of the most effective forms of cultural and social investment to convey the message of solidarity, participation, sharing, respect and safety. Furthermore, every family member, through the education of the kid, becomes an active subject of civil protection.

Specifically, the goals of the projects are:

- Knowledge of the different types of risk;
- Favouring behaviours respectful of the territory;
- Knowledge of preventive behavioural self-protection rules and to be undertaken in case of emergency, in order to reduce the possible consequences of risks.

How aware are citizens of evacuation plans or drills for evacuations when necessary?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:

Students and Civil Protection volunteers are well aware of them, while the remaining part of the community needs to be better informed.



Essential 8

Protect ecosystems and natural buffers to mitigate floods, storm surges and other hazards to which your city may be vulnerable. Adapt to climate change by building on good risk reduction practices.

How well integrated are local government DRR policies, strategies and implementation plans with existing environmental development and natural resource management plans?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

No they aren't, except in cases in which higher-level authorities provide for specific regulations (National/Regional Park authorities, Region, etc)

To what degree does the local government support the restoration, protection and sustainable management of ecosystems services?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Forests	Yes
Coastal zones	No
Wetlands	No
Water resources	Yes
River basins	Yes
Fisheries	No

Description of Progress & Achievements:

No specific measures

How much do civil society organizations and citizens participate in the restoration, protection and sustainable management of ecosystems services?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

No specific activities

How much does the private sector participate in the implementation of environmental and ecosystems management plans in your local authority?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

No specific activities

Essential 9

Install early warning systems and emergency management capacities in your city and hold regular public preparedness drills.

To what degree do local institutions have access to financial reserves to support effective disaster response and early recovery?

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Description of Progress & Achievements:

They are scarce.

Italian Civil Protection System requires that, at a local scale, Municipalities act first, being closer to citizens and communities, but, in case of severe disasters, higher-level authorities (Province, Prefecture, Region and State) have to contribute with a sort of subsidiary action, providing the necessary support, even financial, to the affected cities, populations and communities. The local institutions have access to extraordinary financial reserves to support effective disaster response and early recovery in case of “Declaration of State of Emergency”, provided by the National Government when particularly severe disasters occur.

To what extent are early warning centres established, adequately staffed (or on-call personnel) and well resourced (power back ups, equipment redundancy etc) at all times?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Description of Progress & Achievements:

They are not.

How much do warning systems allow for adequate community participation?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

There is adequate community participation.

To what extent does the local government have an emergency operations centre (EOC) and/or an emergency communication system?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

There is the COC (Municipal Operations Centre), the operational structure of the municipality organising, both in ordinary times and during emergencies, the activities of disaster risk reduction and response. The municipality is equipped with an emergency communication system.

How regularly are training drills and rehearsal carried out with the participation of relevant government, non-governmental, local leaders and volunteers?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

There are some drills and rehearsals.

This municipality participated, on December 2012, with all the others belonging to the province of Potenza, in the drill "Basilicata 2012", coordinated by the Province. An earthquake of magnitude 6.5 in the Agri River Valley has been simulated, affecting the whole Basilicata and the neighbouring regions of Campania and Calabria. The drill was part of national planning on seismic disaster management, aimed at testing the response of the National Civil Protection System at national, regional and local levels.

How available are key resources for effective response, such as emergency supplies, emergency shelters, identified evacuation routes and contingency plans at all times?

Level of Progress achieved: 1

Stockpiles of relief supplies	No
Emergency shelters	No
Safe evacuation routes identified	No
Contingency plan or community disaster preparedness plan for all major hazards	No

Description of Progress & Achievements:

There are no such resources available.

Essential 10

After any disaster, ensure that the needs of the survivors are placed at the centre of reconstruction with support for them and their community organizations to design and help implement responses, including rebuilding homes and livelihoods.

How much access does the local government have to resources and expertise to assist victims of psycho-social (psychological, emotional) impacts of disasters?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

By law, the municipality is provided with social services that, in case of disaster, are required to provide assistance to victims.

How well are disaster risk reduction measures integrated into post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation activities (i.e. build back better, livelihoods rehabilitation)?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

They are considered.

To what degree does the Contingency Plan (or similar plan) include an outline strategy for post disaster recovery and reconstruction, including needs assessments and livelihoods rehabilitation?

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Description of Progress & Achievements:

Yes, it includes a post disaster strategy.