

Engaging Indigenous Peoples in Disaster Risk Reduction

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John C. Scott & Patricia Bittner
Center for Public Service Communications
(jcscott@cpssc.com)

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- CPSC is working with ISDR, PAHO/WHO and the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on a process of collaboration with indigenous communities throughout the Americas, and globally, aimed at improving disaster risk reduction/management.
- An early activity will be establishing a framework for the discussion that will take place over the next several months.
- For this discussion we want to make sure we are asking the right questions and asking them in a way that all who may participate understand their meaning.

Question 1

- Are indigenous communities vulnerable to natural hazards or events of public health consequence in ways that are unique to them and different from other racial and ethnic minorities or vulnerable individuals in the majority community?
- If so, in what ways?

Question 2

- Is linguistically and culturally appropriate information about disaster risk reduction/management adequately available?
 - Is the terminology (of DRR, for example) Inclusive of or adapted to the views of indigenous peoples?
 - How can existing disaster risk reduction/management materials (including national disaster plans, “best practices”) be adapted to take into account the variety of cultural perspectives?

Question 3

- Who is working in the field(s) of disaster risk reduction and management within indigenous communities or on behalf of indigenous communities?
 - Within community and national governing bodies and agencies as well as community organizations and international institutions

Question 4

- What are the protocols in use, or what should the protocols be, for engaging non-indigenous individuals and organizations in relief efforts in indigenous/tribal communities after disasters and events of public health consequence?

Question 5

- What are (or should be) the most important recommendations that could be aimed at encouraging national/community authorities to create, legislation, services and other initiatives to improve disaster risk reduction and management?

Question 6

- What are some of examples of indigenous community success stories dealing with disaster risk reduction and management
 - i.e., legislation/codes, best practices?