



HOJA DE RUTA

TIPO DE REVISION:	PROYECTO NUEVO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FONDOS	70200
	GENERAL <input type="checkbox"/>	DONANTE/S	AECID
	MANDATORIA <input type="checkbox"/>	AGENCIA/S IMPLEMENTADORA/S	SNGR
	SUSTANTIVA <input type="checkbox"/>	# ACTIVIDADES	5
		MONTO TOTAL	230.176,00

PROYECTO NUMERO: AWARD: 00057495 P/00071052  
 NOMBRE: UNVs DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

- presentado por:  
 formato AWP  
 cuadro de responsabilidades  
 plan de compras  
 plan de trabajo  
 cronograma de actividades  
 aprobación Finanzas Programa  
 revisión Unidad Asistencia Programa  
 aprobación Coordinador Programa  
 aprobación Representante Residente

JF  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
 EB  
 RG  
 CP  
 JMH

FECHA:   
 FECHA:   
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 FECHA:

1. PROPOSAL- APROBACION LUEGO DE PREPAC /CLEARING HOUSE

MINUTA PREPAC: 27/01/2009  
 OFICIAL DE PROGRAMA:  APROBADO:   
 ASISTENTE A CARGO:  MFM

CONTROL RECURSOS REGULARES TRAC					
APL		EB			
AÑO	APROBADO	AUMENTO/ DISMINUCIO N EN ESTA REVISION	TOTAL INCLUIDA ESTA REVISION	% DE UTILIZACION	
2003	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
2004	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
2005	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
2006	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

Variación Presupuesto NO  SI   
 Monto anterior US \$ 230.176,00  
 Variación  
 Total de presupuesto US \$ 230.176,00

2 AWARD

FIRMADO POR CONTRAPARTE: FECHA: 03/04/09  
 FIRMADO POR RR: FECHA: 21/09/09  
 APROBADO/AWARD MOVED: EB

3 PROYECTO /PRESUPUESTO AL MODULO KK

ENVIADO: EB 02/10/2009

4 COMUNICACIÓN

RESPONSABLE OP

A. AGENCIA:   
 B. CONTRAPARTE:

PNUD QUITO: FILE PRODOC   
 OFICIAL DE PROGRAMA   
 FINANZAS PROGRAMA

COMENTARIOS:

INFO:       
 ACTION:       
 07 ENE. 2010  
 FILE: P/00071052/gf/prodoc  
 LOG No. 10E-00136



Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo  
Ecuador – Quito

**Título:** UNVs DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

**Award:** 00057495

**Proyecto:** 00071052

**Año de Inicio:** 2009

**Año de Fin:** 2011

**Modalidad de Ejecución NEX**

**Agente Implementador:** SNGR

**Tipo de Revision:** Inicial

ORIGEN	AÑO	VALOR
<b>A. Presupuesto:</b>		
70200 SPA	2009	\$ 13.300,00
70200 SPA	2010	\$ 122.498,00
70200 SPA	2011	\$ 94.378,00
<b>A. Total Presupuesto</b>		<b>\$ 230.176,00</b>
<b>B. Gasto:</b>		
ATLAS		
ATLAS		
ATLAS		
<b>B. Total Gasto</b>		<b>\$ 0,00</b>
<b>C. Total Proyecto (A+B)</b>		<b>\$ 230.176,00</b>
<b>D. Contribuciones:</b>		
AECID		\$ 230.176,00
<b>D. Total Contribuciones</b>		<b>\$ 230.176,00</b>
<b>E. Gran Total (C-D)</b>		<b>\$ 0,00</b>

**Justificación:**

Revisión inicial para aperturar las actividades.

**Aprobado por:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lorena Cajas  
Secretaría Técnica  
Secretaría Nacional de Gestión e Riesgos

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fecha

\_\_\_\_\_  
José Manuel Hermida  
Representante Residente UNDP

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fecha



**Annual Work Plan**

Ecuador - Quito

Award Id: 00057495

Award Title: UNVs DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Year: 2009

Report Date: 30/9/2009

Project ID	Expected Outputs	Key Activities	Timeframe		Responsible Party	Planned Budget			Amount US\$
			Start	End		Fund	Donor	Budget Descr	
00071052	UNVs DISASTER RISK REDUCTION	1VULNERABILITIES REDU			SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	71500 UN Volunteers	11,000.00
		5TECHNICAL ASISTANCE			SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	71600 Travel	800.00
					SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	73500 Reimbursement Costs	1,500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>									<b>13,300.00</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>									<b>13,300.00</b>



## Annual Work Plan

Ecuador - Quito

**Award Id:** 00057495 **Report Date:** 1/10/2009  
**Award Title:** UNVs DISASTER RISK REDUCTION  
**Year:** 2010

Project ID	Expected Outputs	Key Activities	Timeframe		Responsible Party	Planned Budget				
			Start	End		Fund	Donor	Budget Descr	Amount US\$	
00071052	UNVs DISASTER RISK REDUCTION	1VULNERABILITIES REDU			SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	71500	UN Volunteers	45,500.00
					SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	71600	Travel	1,500.00
		2EDUCATIONAL MATERIA			SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	71600	Travel	1,500.00
					SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	72500	Supplies	2,000.00
					SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	9,000.00
		3EMERGENCY MANAGME			SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	75700	Training, Workshops and Confel	9,000.00
					SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	71600	Travel	1,500.00
					SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	72600	Grants	30,000.00
					SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	4,205.00
		5TECHNICAL ASISSTANCE			SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	2,500.00
			SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	75700	Training, Workshops and Confel	3,793.00		
<b>TOTAL</b>						70200	SPA	73500	Reimbursement Costs	12,000.00
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>										<b>122,498.00</b>



## Annual Work Plan

Ecuador - Quito

**Award Id:** 00057495 **Report Date:** 1/10/2009  
**Award Title:** UNVs DISASTER RISK REDUCTION  
**Year:** 2011

Project ID	Expected Outputs	Key Activities	Timeframe		Responsible Party	Planned Budget				
			Start	End		Fund	Donor	Budget Descr	Amount US\$	
00071052	UNVs DISASTER RISK REDUCTION	1VULNERABILITIES REDU			SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	71500	UN Volunteers	35,448.00
		2EDUCATIONAL MATERIA			SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	71600	Travel	830.00
		3EMERGENCY MANAGME			SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	71600	Travel	600.00
		4MONITORING AND FINAL			SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	72500	Supplies	1,500.00
		5TECHNICAL ASISTANCE			SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	3,500.00
					SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	75700	Training, Workshops and Conf	3,500.00
					SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	71600	Travel	800.00
					SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	72600	Grants	27,000.00
					SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	11,700.00
					SECRETARIA TECNICA DE GES	70200	SPA	73500	Reimbursement Costs	9,500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>										<b>94,378.00</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>										<b>94,378.00</b>

Project: 00071052

Description: UNVs DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

**Details** Find | View All First 1 of 1 Last

**Justification Type:** INI **Reason:** INICIO DE ACTIVIDADES **Date:** 29/09/2009

**Employee Name:** 478227 AGUSTO, José

**Comments:** - Apertura de presupuesto en el sistema para dar inicio a las actividades del Proyecto.

Save as Template | Copy Project

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Save | Return to Search | Refresh | Add | Update/Display | Include History | Correct History

Project: 00071052

Description: UNVs DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Details

Find | View All | First | 1 of 1 | Last

**Justification Type:** INI   **Reason:** INICIO DE ACTIVIDADES   **Date:** 29/09/2009

**Employee Name:** 478227   AGUSTO, José

**Comments:** - Apertura de presupuesto en el sistema para dar inicio a las actividades del Proyecto.

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[Save](#) | [Return to Search](#) | [Refresh](#) | [Add](#) | [Update/Display](#) | [Include History](#) | [Correct History](#)

Project: 00071052

Description: UNVs DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Details

Find	View All	First	1 of 1	Last
Justification Type: INI		Reason: INICIO DE ACTIVIDADES	Date: 29/09/2009	
Employee Name: 478227	AGUSTO, José			
Comments: - Apertura de presupuesto en el sistema para dar inicio a las actividades del Proyecto.				

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**SIGNATURE PAGE**

UNDAF Outcome(s): 2.3. National and local governments have Natural Disaster Reduction and Mitigation plans

CPAP Outcome(s): 7. National and local governments have capacities to manage, prevent and mitigate natural disasters

Project Outcome(s)/Indicator (s): Local capacities are increased for Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level.

Expected Output(s)/Annual Targets

- 1) Hazards and vulnerabilities are identified at the local level to reduce people's vulnerabilities in the regions of intervention
- 2) Educational materials on risk prevention and management are produced and utilized by volunteer organizations and local communities.
- 3) Emergency management plans and climate change adaptation measures are designed, piloted and implemented at the local level with the support of volunteering organizations.

Implementing partner: Secretaría Técnica de Gestión de Riesgo  
*(designated institution)*

Responsible Parties: UNDP, SGP, UNV  
*(formerly implementing agencies)*

<p>Programme Period: November 2008 to October 2010</p> <p>Programme Component: <i>(SRF goal and service line)</i> _____</p> <p>Project Title: "Strengthening Ecuador VIOs to support better Disaster Risk Reduction strategies and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level"</p> <p>Project Code: _____</p> <p>Project Duration: 24 months</p>
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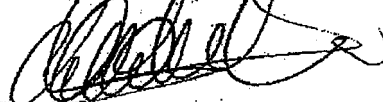
<p>Total budget: 295,176 USD</p> <p>Allocated UNV resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 230,176 USD (AECID)</li> <li>o UNDP 50,000 USD</li> <li>o SGP: 15,000 USD</li> </ul> <p>Other: _____</p> <p>Unfunded budget: _____</p>
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**Agreed by:**

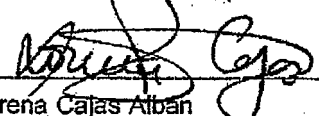
**Date:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Flavia Pansieri/ Executive Coordinator, UNV

03/04/09

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
José Manuel Hermida, RR + CR

21/09/2008

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lorena Cajas Alban  
Secretaría Técnica de Gestión de Riesgos



## “Proposal for the Integration Programme” ARLAC

**Title:** Strengthening Ecuador VIOs to support better Disaster Risk Reduction strategies and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level

**Type of proposal** Full Project document

**Duration** 24 months

**Proposed budget:** 230,245 USD UNV-AECID  
50,000 USD PNUD  
15,000 USD SGP  
**Total:** 295,176 USD

**Contribution to the Integration Programme:**

This proposal will facilitate the integration of volunteerism in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) initiatives in Ecuador. The project aims at increasing capacities of local VIOs to reduce people’s vulnerability and mitigate the consequences of natural hazards. It complements current efforts of UNDP and Ecuadorian Government in the area of DRR by involving civil society through volunteering efforts. It also complements on-going projects by focusing on integrating VIOs not only in the response phase but also in the larger disaster reduction strategies.

This project will be included as part of the ARLAC Integration Programme. It contributes to the following Programme Output and Indicator:

**Output:** Increased the presence of Volunteerism in the programming of development partners

**Indicators:**

1 – Number of partner’s development operational programmes that actually engage in volunteerism through UNV’s technical assistance.

**Contribution to countries programme:**

UNDAF Development objective 2.3: National and local governments have Natural Disaster Reduction and Mitigation plans.

CPAP Direct effect 7: National and local governments have capacities to manage, prevent and mitigate natural disasters.



United Nations Development Programme  
United Nations Volunteers

Strengthening Ecuador VIOs to support better Disaster Risk Reduction strategies and  
Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level

Brief description

The present project aims at increasing the **capacities of Ecuadorian Volunteering Involving Organizations (VIOs)** to participate in Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies (DRR). Volunteers have participated actively in the response phase of natural disaster. However, those efforts have not materialized in their involvement in larger DRR strategies and they lack the capacities and the expertise to mobilize more effectively communities when disasters occur.

The project complements on-going efforts of UNDP and the Ecuadorian Government in the area of DRR. The recent floods that affected the country earlier this year evidenced the lack of capacities to respond to emergency situations. Involving civil society efforts through VIOs proved to be necessary to complement government response mechanisms.

The project will be implemented in three provinces: Chimbarazo, Manabí and Guayas. **Natural hazards will be mapped** in the three provinces and mitigation measures will be identified. Based on this, **local VIOs will be trained** on disaster reduction and mitigation strategies for later replication among vulnerable communities. **Emergency management plans will be designed and piloted** in the three regions. These activities will contribute to increase awareness among stakeholders about their actual vulnerability and on the capacities needed to better manage natural disasters.

## **PART 1**

### **Situation Analysis**

#### **1. Background**

Ecuador is a lower-middle-income country that ranks 89 in the Human Development Index 2007/2008. With approximately 13,1 million inhabitants, 46% of the population lives below the national poverty line; the economic growth is still low (0,8% period 1990-2005); and inequality remains being a serious threat for national human development<sup>12</sup>.

Ecuador is located in the Equatorial line and in the so-called "Fire belt" of the Pacific. With a rugged topography, it is a disaster-prone developing country that has been affected by various natural disasters: volcanic activity, earthquakes, and a number of climate-related hazards like floods, landslides or prolonged dry seasons. El Niño Phenomena flooded the Ecuadorian lowlands in 1983 and 1997 causing massive devastation and destruction to an already weak infrastructure. In 1987, an earthquake struck the northeastern part of the country, damaging Ecuador's only oil pipeline and preventing oil exportation for several months. In 1993 a giant landslide occurred upstream of Paute, the largest and most important hydroelectric dam in Ecuador. In 1998, a 7-magnitude earthquake produced severe damage in houses and buildings, showing the high vulnerability of buildings. During the same period, the gross national product and other economic indicators showed either negative growth or significant reductions. In 2007, volcanic activity in Mount Tungurahua has impacted a densely populated area, displacing peasants and slowing a very active local tourism industry in the city of Baños. These are just some examples of the most catastrophic natural disasters that have affected the country in the last years.

The impact of all these hazards has seriously eroded Ecuador development efforts during at least the last 20 years<sup>3</sup>. The above examples have shown how natural disasters have caused both economic and human losses, affecting people's quality of life, especially among the most vulnerable. As a result of this, country's growth has become more unequal and environmental degradation has increased. International data, beyond the case of Ecuador, alert about the serious long-term consequences of natural disasters, the so-called "persistent or permanent effect"<sup>4</sup>. These long-term consequences result in lost of human, physical and social capital. Lower food consumption or lower levels of education will reduce disaster-affected people's chances (quality of employment, health...), especially for affected children. Sustainable development efforts, therefore, need to include strategies that minimize the risk of natural hazards and mitigate its impact.

This year, January and February 2008 surprised the country with an abnormally intense rainy season that flooded an important area of the country, particularly (but not limited to) the lowlands of the Ecuadorian coast. 13 out of 24 provinces were affected and the state of emergency was declared in 6 of them. It caused important social and economic losses, showing once again that the country is not prepared to manage these crises. It has also opened the discussion on what should be the institutional arrangements needed for a comprehensive disaster risk management strategy. National development actors are highlighting the need of shifting paradigms and practices, focusing more on prevention, mitigation and preparedness beyond the traditional approach, focused on the immediate response.

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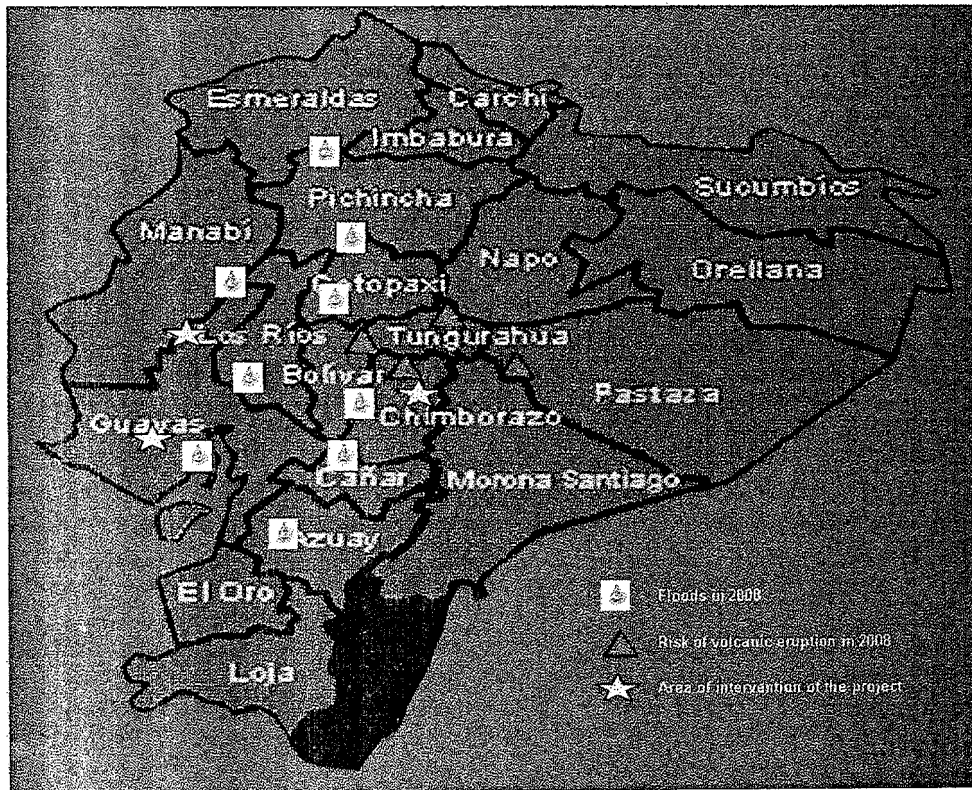
<sup>1</sup> Data from HDR 2007/2008

<sup>2</sup> Gini index 53,6 (HDR 2007-2008).

<sup>3</sup> For more information about actual impact of these natural disasters, see Annex II

<sup>4</sup> "Fate and fear: risk, vulnerability and poverty", 2008 Stefan Dercon

## Map of Ecuador



## PART 2 Justification

Volunteering is a spontaneous response, a type of social reciprocity that emerges when natural disasters happen. Volunteers can be considered a "de facto" resource that becomes a critical actor during the emergency phase of a natural disaster. Strengthening these capacities that respond voluntarily is essential to increase the efficiency of their participation during response phases. Moreover, involving them in prevention and mitigation plans, beyond the actual response to the emergency, reinforce their sense of participation and bridge the gap between national plans policy-makers and affected communities. Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strategies need to consider these resources that volunteers invest. It is essential to involve community-based organizations and local Volunteering Involving Organizations (VIO) in the prevention-mitigation plans. These organizations may play a key role to strengthen the capacities at the local level to prevent and reduce the impact of natural disasters and therefore must become partners of these strategies.

To contribute to these strategies, UNV and UNDP have developed jointly this project, in liaison with national VIOs. It aims at increasing people's awareness about natural hazards and to develop peoples' capacities to respond more efficiently to them. Local volunteers organizations shall act as entry point to reach out communities at the municipal level. They will be trained on disaster prevention and mitigation as "training of trainers". They will replicate further these methodologies with the communities. They will also be involved in the design of emergency management municipal plans.

In May 2008, representatives of UNDP/BCPR and UNV met to decide on a strategy on how to involve civil society organizations and VIOs within existing DRR initiatives. 3 provinces were

selected: Manabí, Guayas and Chimborazo. Criteria for selection was: a) current presence of UNDP' projects, to create synergies and complementarities with on-going efforts; b) strong volunteers coordination bodies; c) vulnerability to natural disasters.

Manabí and Guayas were selected for their high vulnerability to floods. Chimborazo was identified due to its vulnerability to volcanic eruptions.

It is important to mention that Ecuador is undertaking a major institutional reform, and a new Constitution, that recognizes the role of volunteers for country's development, has been recently approved. A Technical Secretariat for Risk Management has just been created. It hosts the former Civil Defense and aims at overcoming the emphasis placed on emergency response to promote and facilitate mainstreaming risk reduction at all levels. Regional Ministries and local authorities must incorporate DRR into their work. Increasing national and local capacities is key to the success of these strategies. This project will mainly coordinate with governments at the local level. Municipalities will be consulted for mapping hazards and municipalities and involved in the design of municipal emergency management plans.

### **Role of National VIOs on DRR Strategies and Adaptation to Climate Change at the community level**

The recent study "El Voluntariado en el Ecuador y su inserción en las políticas públicas", (published in collaboration with UNV in March 2008) estimates that there are around 500,000 volunteers serving in Ecuador and more than 500 Volunteer Involving Organizations (VIOs). The numbers have experienced a sustained growth since the 90s and there seems to be an increasing tendency to focus more on development-oriented activities, beyond the traditional charitable approach: "volunteerism efforts take into account communities' needs based on participatory processes, unlike previous approaches in which organizations would impose their visions about needs"<sup>5</sup>.

Despite this increasing tendency, there are challenges that still need to be considered. Most VIOs (72%) concentrate their activities in the urban areas. Organized forms of volunteerism remain scarce in the rural areas. And with regard to disaster reduction and sustainable environment strategies, only around 2 % of national VIO's focus on that<sup>6</sup>.

There are of course spontaneous groups of volunteers that have supported emergency response activities. But their actions are limited to this first phase of response to the emergency. They do not become organized groups of action after the emergency phase finishes. Therefore, they are not considered actors to be part of DRR strategies planning process. Thus, it is essential to increase awareness of the existing local VIOs of the vulnerabilities they face and of their role to overcome them. Local VIOs need to be involved and contribute actively to Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate change – related activities. They need to become key partners in reaching out communities and increase local capacities to mitigate natural risks.

UNV brings to this project its past experience in working on early recovery initiatives in coastal areas affected by floods. In 2006 UNV supported UNDP's project "Recuperación y desarrollo zonas afectadas por inundaciones provincia de Los Ríos". 3 National UNV volunteers were mobilized for project implementation. Guidelines for early recovery were published "Cuaderno guía para la formulación de agendas de recuperación temprana" and were used for training purposes. Furthermore, there are currently 3 International UNV volunteers working with UNDP in the area of Disaster Reduction. 2 of them are serving in Guayas, one of the provinces selected for this project. Another UNV Volunteer is also working with the UNETE group (the inter-agency UN system for emergency situations).

Moreover, UNV has been supporting during the last years the establishment of a national body to coordinate volunteer efforts among civil society organizations. The so-called "Mesa de

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<sup>5</sup> Sonia de Baquerizo, President of ACORVOL (Asociación Coordinadora del Voluntariado), 2007.

<sup>6</sup> Data from the above mentioned study "El voluntariado en Ecuador y su inserción en las políticas públicas"

Voluntariado en Ecuador" (MVE)<sup>7</sup> was set up in 2004. It is composed of around 21 national and international umbrella VIOs, representing a total of over 500 associated organizations from all provinces of the country. MVE is coordinated by UNV and its objectives are to strengthen and to promote volunteerism in the country. Its work is framed within the relevant guidelines of the UN General Assembly on post IYV and reflects the current situation of volunteerism in Ecuador.

The work that UNV has done with VIOs from civil society all over the country is definitely an important added value to reach out the organizations working at the local and community level and will benefit directly this project. In 2007 and 2008, UNV has supported a participatory process to design a Volunteering legislation. 185 VIOs have been consulted from all provinces of the country. Discussions about volunteerism have been very rich and they have led to strengthening coordination mechanisms.

- FETV, "Federación Ecuatoriana del Trabajo Voluntario"<sup>8</sup>, facilitated the organization of three provincial workshops on volunteerism in the three selected provinces: Manabí, Guayas and Chimborazo. And two regional meetings were also organized in Chimborazo and Guayas bringing representatives from different provinces. VIOs working on the area of DRR and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level like Red Cross and Civil Defense participated actively in the discussion.

FETV is one of the most active and important members of the MVE network. It is an organization with 25 years of experience. They count on representation in 13 provinces of the country and it is best positioned to reach out VIOs at the local level. FETV counts with local coordination systems in the 3 provinces. It is also important to mention that in the three selected provinces there are some existing initiatives that shall benefit strongly this project:

- ACORVOL in Guayas. With 85 affiliated NGOs, it is one of the strongest members of the FETV and MVE in Ecuador. They have shown interest in getting training on disaster preparedness for their member organizations during the last two years. This is the first initiative that ACORVOL undertakes in the area of Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level. UNV has recently mobilized a Spanish University Volunteer to strengthen the coordination mechanisms of ACORVOL.
- In Manabí, the provincial coordination of the FETV has 49 member NGOs. These organizations include the Civil Engineer Association and Red Cross, already actively involved in activities of disaster reduction. However the other members have no specific activities in Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change apart from fund raising. Training these organizations will have a long lasting impact in the province.
- In Chimborazo the provincial coordination of the FETV counts with 13 affiliated NGOs. Damas Salesianas, Crusado Social and Rotary Club were involved in 2007 in disaster relief activities related to the Tungurahua volcano eruption (distribution of masks, training on breathing ailments and the use of masks in schools). In the capital, Riobamba, the municipality is involved in food distribution programmes and field visits to affected families. The volcanic eruption caused temporary displacement of people and health problems. These projects are conducted with the collaboration of university young volunteers and the Ministry of health.

This project aims at strengthening local capacities to respond better to natural hazards. Capacities of local VIOs will be increased to mobilize their communities more effectively. The participatory process undertaken by UNV during the last year with organizations from the provinces shall facilitate the identification of relevant partners at the community level and will therefore benefit project implementation.

### **Complementary on-going efforts**

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<sup>7</sup> Ecuador Volunteerism Roundtable

<sup>8</sup> Ecuadorian Federation of Volunteer Work

The project will tackle vulnerability by adopting a comprehensive, holistic approach. Social, economic, environmental and cultural aspects that render communities vulnerable or resilient to the impacts of natural hazards will be considered. Significant literature shows the often times disproportionate effect of natural disasters on the poorest and most vulnerable, including women, children and the elderly. Local practices will be analyzed and adapted to reduce risks. Efforts will include analyzing gender-sensitive local planning exercises, improving management of natural resources, understanding risks through consultative processes, and promoting the full participation of both women and men in decision-making affecting the definition of DRR strategies.

UNDP, SGP, BCPR and UNV will share their respective expertise, including possible best practices on gender and DRR, to ensure this integral approach. As mentioned above, this project complements existing on-going efforts in the area of DRR strategies. Project's added value is to bring on board civil society and, more specifically, volunteering efforts, to larger DRR initiatives.

Both national offices of UNDP and UNV in Ecuador have accumulated a relevant experience in areas like poverty alleviation, risk and vulnerability evaluation, disaster risk reduction and emergency management. UNDP brings also its extensive experience in sustainable development and climate change mitigation and adaptation activities, especially at the policy level. SGP counts with their experience at the local and community level. Specific technical expertise on DRR will be provided by BCPR.

UNDP is currently implementing two projects to mitigate climate change effects:

- a) "Adaptation to Climate Change through Effective Water Governance in Ecuador" aims at reducing Ecuador's vulnerability to climate change through effective water resource management. The project is executed by the Ministry of the Environment and is implemented by UNDP. It mainstreams climate change adaptation into water management practices and national/ local development plans. The project is being implemented in four provinces, including Manabi, which have critical watersheds and which are subject to a series of climatic hazards.
- b) Second National Communication on Climate Change to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). UNDP supports the Ecuadorian Government in the process of consultations and data gathering needed to prepare the report. This process is seen as an instrument to mainstream climate change into the formulation of policies and development strategies at the national level.

UNDP looks at Disaster Risk Management from the area of Democratic Governance. They focus on strengthening local capacities to design comprehensive DRR strategies. These Programmes integrate a risk-sensitive planning perspective into local development plans, to prevent and mitigate vulnerability and they have on-going activities in Guayas and Chimborazo. Also, UNDP is supporting efforts to develop relevant Information and Communication Technologies and early warning systems for local stakeholders<sup>9</sup>.

UNDP acts as the co-leading agency for emergency situations within the UN System through the inter-agency group called UNETE.

The SGP bases its work in the voluntary commitment of community members for interventions devoted to the sustainable conservation and management of biodiversity, strategies and local answers to land degradation and climate change, education campaigns to avoid the Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). Since 1994 SGP has supported 184 community based projects with very good results, the organizations that have been part of SGP portfolio in the area of intervention already have experience in development projects, strategic alliances, gender mainstreaming and sustainable livelihoods. This project will help to strengthen their capacities and allow the organizations to be an active part of local and regional networks that are working in risk management, local adaptations to climate change impacts.

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<sup>9</sup> To see a full list of UNDP portfolio of Projects in the area of Disaster Reduction and Mangement, see Annex 3



UNDP has focused mostly on the national and sub national level and they work at the municipal level working in coordination with local authorities. Joint initiatives on DRR strategies with local authorities have been tested in 7 municipalities, in which local authorities assign coordinators to the project. The same approach will be applied in this new project.

All these on-going UNDP's projects will also benefit from the involvement and training of VIOs that this project has planned.

## Summary main challenges and opportunities

The recent flooding episode in the coastal region of Ecuador has raised the question of how prepared communities are to face such devastating events, and the readiness of local, regional and national organizations to protect and provide humanitarian assistance in crisis situations. It has raised awareness of people and authorities on the need of more comprehensive DRR strategies that involves all relevant actors.

The needs go beyond the phase of emergency management and resources need focus on the overall Disaster Risk Management perspective. The need of a switch in the paradigm of sole emergency response vis à vis the prevention and mitigation phase is what the country urgently needs to link these strategies with sustainable development initiatives.

The main challenges are:

- **Lack of training:** local organizations mobilize volunteers when disasters actually happen. However, they do not necessarily have the expertise and the knowledge to maximize the efficiency of their mobilization. It is therefore essential to increase capacities at the local level. Not only limited to VIOs members but also reaching out community members, so that capacities remain after project finalization.
- **Lack of awareness:** there are numerous VIOs in the country. However, they do not have the tradition of working on DRR strategies. It is important to increase their awareness on the role they can play to reach out communities to get better trained for disaster response, beyond the non-organized response volunteers actually provide.
- **Strengthen the link between municipalities and VIOs:** So far, municipalities do not systematically include risk prevention strategies on their local development plans. As a result, relief actions have shown important deficiencies. Therefore, local planning exercises must integrate a DRR perspective. By increasing the capacities of civil society organizations to contribute to those, the project will contribute to more participatory and effective local governance practices.
- **Country's institutional reform:** the government counterpart, former Civil Defense, has been recently created. Its focus on DRR strategies beyond the relief plans shall benefit current efforts on this area. Increasing national and local capacities to implement its mandate is essential to ensure sustainability of DRR plans.

Based on these challenges, the project proposes to contribute to reduce natural vulnerabilities through volunteerism and civic participation. It will concentrate on three specific areas of intervention:

- Identifying natural hazards in the three selected provinces
- Increasing capacities at the community level
- Piloting emergency management plans

**PART 3**  
**Strategy**

**Proposed Description**

This national initiative, together with two other national projects in Dominican Republic and Peru, are going to be linked to a regional volunteering initiative implemented by BCPR and UNV.

UNDP/Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery-BCPR and the United Nations Volunteers programme have designed a project that will serve as "regional umbrella" for these three national projects<sup>10</sup>. The objective of this regional approach is to recognize the role of volunteerism into disaster risk management by: a) providing training and technical assistance on DRR strategies; b) exchanging experiences among the three countries; c) document lessons learned and disseminate how to integrate effectively volunteerism into Disaster Risk Reduction strategies.

This regional strategy was developed during a meeting with UNDP PO/BCPR focal points in the region, BCPR and UNV in El Salvador in May 2008. This meeting was organized to channel UNV and BCPR's common interest to develop comprehensive strategies to integrate Volunteerism in DRR initiatives. UNV and BCPR have been in contact over the last two years to define this common approach. The recently launched "UNV's Facility on Natural Disaster Reduction"<sup>11</sup> was the opportunity to elaborate further these common interest and bring together interested partners. In that meeting, Programme Officers representing different Country Officers showed their interest in integrating volunteerism in their national DRR efforts. Moreover, all partners showed their interest in taking this opportunity of having different countries working on this area to generate knowledge based on actual different practices. During the meeting with representative of all countries, it came out clearly that a regional initiative should combine:

- Independence of national initiatives: different scenarios/needs/different (complementary) approaches: VIOs; Community-based organizations; Government.
- Value added of the regional umbrella as:
  - A tool to build knowledge, analyzing regional lessons learned.
  - An opportunity to build capacities in the region on DRR and Early Recovery.

For UNV this is an opportunity to strengthen local volunteer capacities in disaster prevention and recovery but also to foster better recognition and integration of volunteerism into disaster risk management strategies at the regional level. The partnership with BCPR will bring:

- a) the expertise on DRR that BCPR will bring to the Volunteering national initiatives.
- b) three complementary focuses from each national initiative: VIOs (ECU), CBOs (PERU) and Government (DR) which can be further analyzed and compiled from a regional perspective.
- c) the capacity of BCPR and its regional office to replicate further this integration of volunteerism in their DRR strategies.

A separate project document has been elaborated for this regional umbrella.

This Ecuador project will be implemented in the provinces of Guayas, Manabí and Chimborazo. The purpose of the project is to strengthen the capacities of a number of selected communities<sup>12</sup> to know better what vulnerabilities they are facing and how they can respond better to them. To do so, the strategy is grounded on a series of partnerships that range from the International to the community level so that lessons learned from previous projects can be adjusted and applied within vulnerable communities.

- BCPR and other International organizations shall provide technical expertise on DRR strategies and on how volunteerism can contribute to these.

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<sup>10</sup> National initiatives are: Ecuador, "Strengthening Ecuador VIOs to support better Disaster Risk Reduction strategies and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level"; Peru, "Volunteers for the reconstruction after the earthquake in the region of Ica"; Dominican Republic, "Support to mobilising volunteers for Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation in Dominican Republic.

<sup>11</sup> UNV Rapid Facility launched in April 2008 and funded by AECID (Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo).

<sup>12</sup> Criteria for selection are explained below

- At the national level, UNDP and the Small Grants Programme bring the link with on-going projects with the Ecuador Government in the area of Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change.
- At the municipal level, community-based organizations (part of SGP initiatives), VIOs and municipalities will participate in the plans to identify hazards and better respond to them.

3 National UNV volunteers will be recruited to support project implementation in each province (TORs in Annex 1). They will work under UNDP and will report to the project manager, and International UNV volunteer himself currently working with UNDP on DRR projects. This national team will also receive guidance and training as needed from BCPR<sup>13</sup> and will feed the regional initiative by extracting lessons learned and best practices. They will become an asset for a regional network of trained persons that could be later mobilized by BCPR to support further initiatives.

This national team will map vulnerabilities and hazards at the provincial level. This mapping exercise will serve as basis to select the communities in which the training component and the pilot emergency management plans will be later developed.

The project has a strong focus enhancing capacities at the community level. Local organizations that involve volunteers will serve as an entry point to reach out the vulnerable communities. National UNV volunteers will train local VIOs on disaster risk reduction and management. They will provide them with the tools and methodologies that can be replicated later on with the communities to reduce their vulnerability and better respond when a disaster occurs.

Volunteer Organizations at the local level will be targeted through the provincial committees of Federación Ecuatoriana del Trabajo Voluntario (FETV).

The project will design pilot disaster reduction initiatives in which local VIOs will participate in order to increase their capacities to use relevant tools/ methodologies. They will also participate with local stakeholders to map natural hazards, design risks maps, assess needs and define action plans involving all relevant stakeholders.

By increasing their awareness and strengthening their skills, and designing participatory municipal plans on this sector, the present proposal aims at **reaching out the population** so that at a personal and institutional level, citizens can be in a better position to protect themselves against natural disasters.

This project is the first initiative in which UNDP mainstreams volunteerism as part of DRR strategies in Ecuador. It is based on UNV's collaboration with the MVE and its capacities to coordinate VIOs nationwide. Project implementation in the three selected provinces has a pilot nature. Based on the lessons learned, UNDP will explore its replication in other regions of the country. They have already identified the provinces of Los Ríos and Santa Elena as two areas in which a replication might be needed, considering their vulnerability.

Expected outputs and outcomes of the project are summarized as follows:

- 1) Hazards and vulnerabilities are identified at the local level to reduce people's vulnerabilities in the regions of intervention
- 2) Educational materials on risk prevention and management are produced and utilized by volunteers and volunteer organizations and local communities
- 3) Emergency management plans and climate change adaptation measures are designed, piloted and implemented at the local level with the support of volunteering organizations.

The project will be implemented within a period of 24 months.

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<sup>13</sup> An International UNV Volunteer will be recruited for the umbrella regional volunteering initiative. This IUNV will be in close contact with national teams to provide training as needed and extract lessons learned.

## Outcome and outputs

**Outcome:** Local capacities are increased for Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level

**Output 1:** Hazards and vulnerabilities are identified at the local level to reduce people's vulnerabilities in the regions of intervention

**Activity 1:** Identify most hazardous communities based on a mapping of vulnerabilities, responses and organizations.

The three provinces will have a map of hazards, vulnerabilities and adaptive capacities to the most important natural risks, climatic, seismic or volcanic.

Extensive knowledge exists on Gender and DRR strategies. It will be reviewed and applied in the production of gender sensitive maps.

**Activity 2:** Partnerships and collaborations with relevant stakeholders

To scale up the impact of the project, this initiative will establish partnerships with other programs, projects and specific activities that are already taking place in the area of implementation. Public and private institutions with roles in disaster response will be identified to participate in the mapping, especially NGOs with experience in capacity building for Disaster Risk Management at the provincial level.

Partnerships with women's groups will be key to ensure that all interventions look at both men and women's specific needs. Also, community based organizations that are part of the SGP portfolio in the areas of intervention will be considered as strategic partners to implement the methodologies. Municipalities will be represented through project's focal points.

**Activity 3:** Selection of intervention sites

The communities of intervention will be selected based on the results of the natural hazards mapping exercise. Selection criteria will also consider:

- Provinces of intervention of UNDP / SGP /UNV projects
- Settings with the potentiality of developing risk management capacities regarding a wide range of hazards, from climate-related to volcanic and seismic.
- Provinces or regions prioritized by AECID

**Output 2:** Educational materials on risk prevention and management are produced and utilized by volunteers and volunteer organizations and local communities

**Activity 1:** Selection, Adaptation and production of training and educational materials

Methodologies, tools and resources that can be of use to the project will be evaluated, adapted or adopted to specific local conditions of the communities where the project will be implemented.

Contents will be provided by BCPR, international and local NGOs with previous experience in risk management at the local level (such as Comitato Internazionale per lo sviluppo del popolo – CISP, COPI, World Vision, CRIC). UNDP and SGP already have existing relations with these organizations. The presence of gender-sensitive components of these tools will be assessed and applied as relevant.

**Activity 2:** Training of trainers

National and local VIOs (identified under Output 1) and UNV volunteers serving in the project will be trained as trainers in aspects related to emergency management, prevention, mitigation and other basic concepts related to disaster risk management

and reduction, including management of volunteers. They will also be given a good understanding of the different hazards that may impact the country with particular emphasis to those most probable in the area of influence of the project.

**Activity 3: Training of communities**

Volunteers trained under activity 2 will replicate their trainings at the local level with the communities. To do so, a training needs assessment will be undertaken for the communities to ensure skills are adapted to the vulnerabilities they face.

**Output 3:** Emergency management plans, climate change adaptation and sustainable livelihoods measures are designed, piloted and implemented at the local level with the support of volunteering organizations

**Activity 1: Selection of intervention sites**

Intervention sites in the provinces will be selected based upon several criteria: previous experience working with volunteer organizations; UNDP implemented projects, Small Grants Programme and other stakeholders; important hazards threatening livelihoods; access; etc.

**Activity 2: Design emergency management, recovery and adaptation plans**

Local emergency plans will be designed, mainstreaming mobilization and effective participation of communities for further piloting exercises and implementation with relevant stakeholders.

**Activity 3: Civil society and municipalities pilot the designed plans and are trained for its implementation**

The designed plans for emergency management, recovery and adaptation will be tested and piloted involving all relevant stakeholders. A training needs assessment will be undertaken to provide VIOs with the relevant skills they need to disseminate the plan principles with the larger community members.

**Activity 4: Document experiences for its inclusion within BCPR/UNV regional initiative.**

Lessons learned and best practices identify during project implementation will be shared with the regional volunteering initiative that UNV is implementing at the regional level. The objective is to contribute to generate and disseminate knowledge on how to mainstream civil society involvement in DRR strategies.

**PART 4**  
**Management Arrangements**

This project will be implemented following the National Execution Modality (NEX), with the National Secretariat for DRM (STGR) acting as the main coordinating and implementing agency. Complexities in the implementation phase have been identified due to the number and different partners from the national, regional (coastal region), local level (municipalities), and the scientific organizations that have been engaged. Nevertheless, National Execution, NIM modality, under the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT), will be applied. Under this arrangement, UNDP will be the responsible for the fund administration and expenditure, therefore UNDP norms and standards will be used.

Further, STGR and UNDP will sign a Letter of Agreement for the Provision of the Support Services required. UNDP will be in charge of the payments for the provision of goods, services and specialized consultancy required for the implementation of the project. Project

administration will be carried following standard procedures provided by specific guidelines and in strict application of the budget reflected in the Annual Work Plan (AWP), which will be uploaded in the ATLAS or global administration system used by UNDP.

UNDP's areas of Democratic Governance and Sustainable Development (that includes Small Grants Programme) will be responsible for effective implementation and coordination of program activities. UNDP Country Office's Programme Support Units will establish required monitoring work plans and targets, and monitor resource and financial management. A team of 3 national UNV volunteers will support project implementation and will serve under the supervision of UNDP's Project Manager.

Partners include local, national and International VIOs, former Civil Defense, and municipalities. Roles and responsibilities of the diverse partner institutions will be defined through management arrangements as applicable following UNDP's rules and regulation for DEX projects.

Under the direction of the Project Manager based in Guayaquil, the 3 National UNV volunteers will be assigned to each province. In Guayas, he/she will be hosted by the FETV. As for Manabí and Chimborazo, UNDP's local counterpart will host the National UNV volunteers. At the local level, the activities will have the support of the partner organizations. Involved organizations (both municipalities and CSOs) will appoint a representative, who will participate in project implementation.

UNDP CO will be responsible for:

- Implementing all activities agreed in this project document
- Assigning a Project Manager
- Supervise all national UNV volunteers serving in the project
- Monitoring project implementation
- Presenting bi-annual progress reports and final reports to UNV (technical and financial) following POPP
- Participating in the selection process for recruiting all National UNV volunteers
- Coordinating with BCPR regional volunteering initiative to facilitate training and document lessons learned as well as facilitate implementation of BCPR regional activities
- Ensure and coordinate final external project evaluation and mid-term review according to UNDP's rules and procedures
- Design detailed AWP's with annual targets
- Providing relevant information from national initiative to BCPR regional umbrella for their progress and final reports

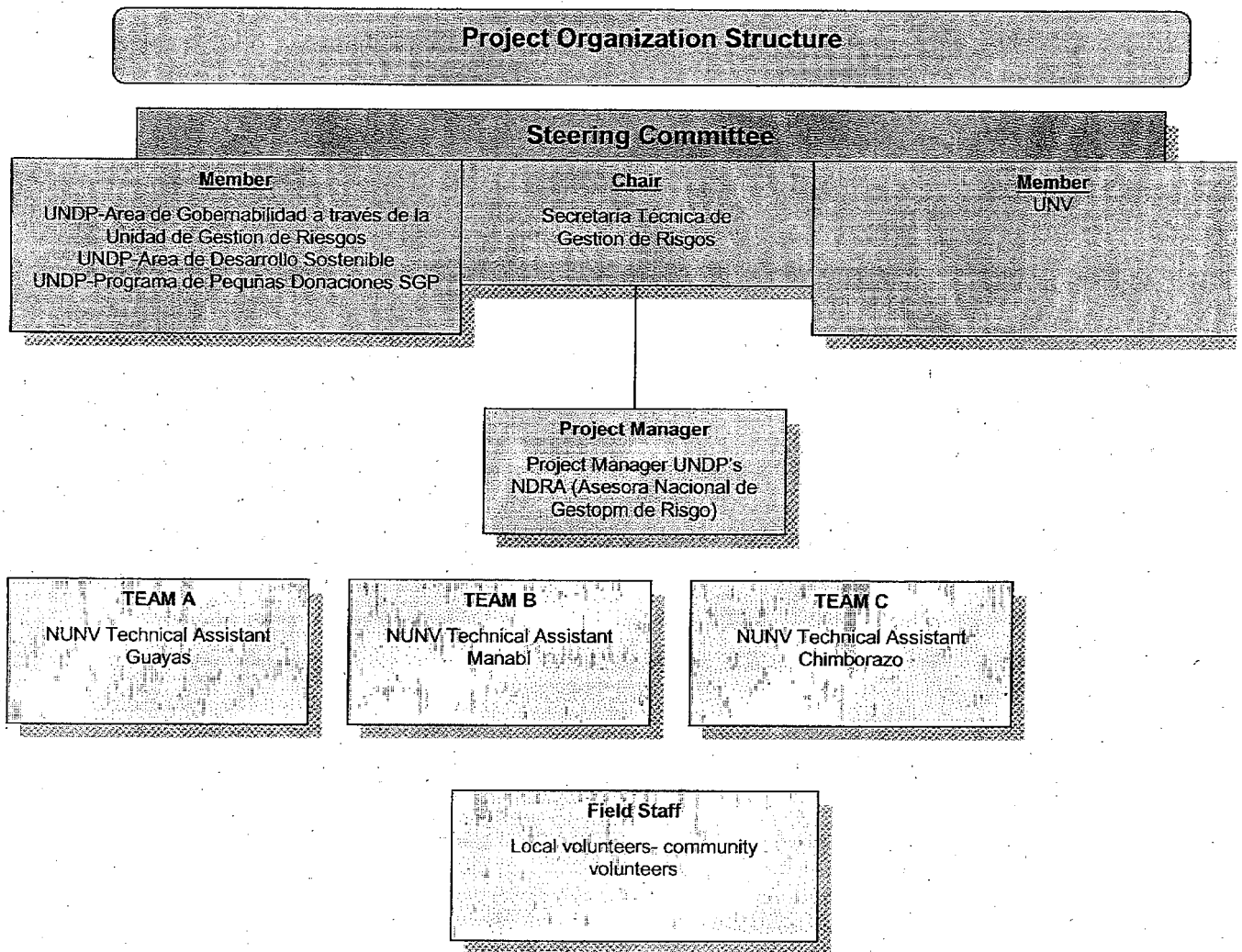
UNV will be responsible for:

- Providing technical support in the area of volunteerism for development
- Monitoring project implementation as part of the UNV's ARLAC Integration Programme
- Leading the selection process of national UNV volunteers
- Managing contractual issues of the national UNV volunteers selected
- Acting as liaison between UNDP and VIOs through the National UNV volunteers
- Promote volunteerism among stakeholders, including the On-line Volunteers modality
- Reviewing and providing inputs for the TORs and Reports of final external evaluation and mid-term review
- Reviewing and providing inputs for Progress and Final Reports

Small Grants Programme will be responsible for:

- Implementing and design the emergency management plans described under Output 3
- Selecting the community-based organizations that will implement the pilot emergency management plans
- Contribute to document this experience through participatory exercises at the local level
- Disseminate lessons learned to facilitate scaling up this initiative.

A Steering Committee will be set up representing the three main responsible parties: UNDP, UNV (PO) and SGP, that will represent the community-based organizations. This committee will facilitate project coordination. It will be chaired by UNDP and will review project implementation. The Project Manager will report to this committee.



## Risk analysis

RISKS IDENTIFIED	MITIGATION MEASURES
Institutional: the country is undergoing a constitutional reform, which will bring about deep changes at the policy and institutional level. This might affect government's response and ownership over this project.	Local structures (community based organizations, volunteer networks and municipalities) are stable and will provide sustainability to the process.
Political: the country will go through political elections during year 2009. This will influence local and national agendas.	Activities will be programmed taking in consideration major political events.
New disasters occurs in intervention zone	In that case, if possible and needed UNVs could be shifted into a response mode and still work under UNDPs coordination.

## Sustainability Strategy

The project has been conceptualized to empower and transfer capacities to the most vulnerable people. It aims at improving the effectiveness of their mobilization when natural disaster happens as well as to increase their awareness on how to reduce their vulnerability to risks. The rationale followed is that by involving in this process the actual vulnerable people, they will become more empowered actors when disasters happen and therefore capacities will remain after project implementation.

More specifically, the project aims at ensuring sustainability of project efforts by:

- a) Involving from the beginning of the projects all relevant stakeholders: VIOs, actual vulnerable population and municipalities; this comprehensive approach shall ensure further and more effective coordination of activities towards natural disasters;
- b) Handing over the emergency management plans to these stakeholders, establishing clear roles.

## Legal Context

This Project Document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article I of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Ecuador and the UNDP, signed by the parties on January 19, 2005. The host country implementing agency shall, for the purpose of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement, refer to the government co-operating agency described in that Agreement.

The UNDP Resident Representative in Ecuador is authorized to effect in writing the following types of revision to this Project Document, provided that he/she has verified the agreement thereto by the UNDP-GEF Unit and is assured that the other signatories to the Project Document have no objection to the proposed changes:

- Revision of, or addition to, any of the annexes to the Project Document;
- Revisions which do not involve significant changes in the immediate objectives, outputs or activities of the project, but are caused by the rearrangement of the inputs already agreed to or by cost increases due to inflation;
- Mandatory annual revisions which re-phase the delivery of agreed project inputs or increased expert or other costs due to inflation or take into account agency expenditure flexibility; and
- Inclusion of additional annexes and attachments only as set out here in this Project Document.



## **Monitoring and evaluation**

The UN Resident Coordinator will be in charge of overall programme oversight, in consultation with the national counterparts through regular meetings to discuss the programme implementation and assess its progress. UNDP and UNV will ensure monitoring and evaluation of the Programme, in accordance with UNDP's DEX and Results Management Guidelines and will directly monitor the respective programme components.

In order to facilitate the monitoring and evaluation process Annual Work Plans will be designed in each province, with clear indicators and targets.

A Mid-Term Review will be undertaken at the end of the first year of implementation. The Mid-Term Review will determine progress being made towards the achievement of outcomes and will identify course correction if needed. It will focus on the effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of project implementation; will highlight issues requiring decisions and actions; and will present initial lessons learned about project design, implementation and management. Findings of this review will be incorporated as recommendations for enhanced implementation during the final half of the project's term. The organization, terms of reference and timing of the mid-term evaluation will be validated with all responsible parties as specified in this project document. The ToR for this Mid-term review will be prepared by MoE based on guidance from UNDP's Office of Evaluation.

An independent Final Evaluation will take place three months prior to the terminal tripartite review meeting, and will focus on the same issues as the mid-term evaluation. The final evaluation will also look at impact and sustainability of results, including the contribution to capacity development and the achievement of global environmental goals. The Final Evaluation should also provide recommendations for follow-up activities. The ToR for this evaluation will be prepared by MoE based on guidance from UNDP's Office of Evaluation.

## **Gender Perspective**

Adequate gender sensitive approach will be provided to the program, from its design to implementation and especially through its pilot applications. This approach will be based on SGP's Gender Mainstreaming Manual for Community Based Environmental Projects and on the UNDP's Eight-Point Agenda for Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality in Crisis Prevention and Recovery will be incorporated with emphasis in two major elements:

### **To promote gender equality in disaster risk reduction.**

- Incorporate gender analysis in the assessment of disaster risks, impacts and needs.
- Address women's unique needs and value women's knowledge in disaster reduction and recovery policies, plans and programs.
- Strengthen women's networks and organizations to facilitate women's active engagement.

### **To ensure Gender-Responsive Recovery.**

- Infuse gender analysis into all post-disaster planning tools and processes.
- Ensure recovery efforts provide equal economic opportunities for women including access to assets, such as land and credit.
- Promote social protection and sustainable livelihoods.
- Prioritize women's needs in key sectors such as transportation, shelter and health care
- Promote inclusion of women in recover decision making process

Intended Outcome: Local capacities are increased for Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level			
Outputs and Indicators	Indicators	Indicative activities	Responsible parties
<p><b>Output:</b> Hazards and vulnerabilities are identified at the local level to reduce people's vulnerabilities in the regions of intervention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gender-sensitive mapping of hazards, vulnerabilities, responses and organizations prepared</li> <li>Number of local partners with which the project has established alliances</li> <li>Number of communities selected</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify most hazardous communities (provincial mapping of vulnerabilities, responses and organizations)</li> <li>Partnerships and collaborations with relevant stakeholders, including women's groups</li> <li>Selection of intervention sites</li> </ul>	<p>UNDP UNV SGP</p> <p>Existing work and networks of UNDP, UNV and SGP in the selected provinces</p>
<p><b>Output:</b> Educational materials on risk prevention and management are produced and utilized by volunteers and volunteer organizations and local communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of training and educational materials designed, printed and distributed</li> <li>Number of VIOs trained in project workshops</li> <li>Number of community members trained</li> <li>Level of satisfaction of participants in community trainings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Select, adapt and produce locally-adapted training and educational materials</li> <li>Training of trainers</li> <li>Replication of training with the larger communities, based on a training needs assessment</li> </ul>	

<p><b>Output:</b> Emergency management plans and climate change adaptation measures are designed, piloted and implemented at the local level with the support of volunteering organizations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of emergency plans established in the three provinces</li> <li>• Number of people trained on the pilot emergency plans; percentage of which are women</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selection of intervention sites</li> <li>• Design emergency management, recovery and adaptation plans</li> <li>• Pilot the designed plans with local stakeholders</li> <li>• Document experiences for its inclusion within BCPR/JUNV regional initiative</li> </ul>		
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Outputs	Key activities	Timeframe (months) 2008-2009				PLANNED BUDGET (USD)		Co financing UNDP
		1-6	7-12	13-18	19-24	Budget description (UNV)	Amount	
1 Hazards and vulnerabilities are identified at the local level to reduce people's vulnerabilities in the regions of intervention	Identify most hazardous communities, mapping of vulnerabilities, responses and organizations	X				3 National UNVs	29,938 (1)	15,000
	Partnerships and collaborations with relevant stakeholders	X	X	X	X	Traveling expenses (100)	2,500	
	Selection of intervention sites	X	X					
<b>Subtotal 1</b>							<b>32,438</b>	<b>15,000</b>

2. Educational materials on risk prevention and management are produced and utilized by volunteers and volunteer organizations and local communities	Selection, Adaptation and production of training and educational materials,	X	X			3 National UNVs	29,938 (1)	Co financing UNDP
	Training of trainers	X	X			Traveling expenses (100)	2,500	
	Replication of training with larger communities, based on a training needs assessment			X		Training workshops (100)	15,000	
						Publications (100)	15,000	
<b>Subtotal 2</b>							<b>5,000</b>	<b>67,438</b>

3. Emergency management plans and climate change adaptation measures are designed, piloted and implemented at the local level with the support of volunteering organizations	Selection of intervention sites				X	X	X	Responsibility of the 3 national UNVs	29,938 <sup>(1)</sup>	Co financing PPD /UNDP
	Design emergency management, recovery and adaptation plans						X	Response measures (basic inputs, physical adaptation, equipments) <sup>(2)</sup>	64,000	50,000
	Pilot designed plans with local stakeholders						X			
	Document experiences for its inclusion within BCP/UNV regional initiative			X			X			
<b>Subtotal 3</b>									<b>96,438</b>	<b>50,000</b>

<b>Subtotal 4 Monitoring and Final Evaluation</b>		<b>13,000</b> ✓
<b>UNV support cost of 10% of which US\$14,000 for UNDP Ecuador (off-the-top)</b>		<b>20,931</b>

<b>Total</b>		<b>230,245</b>	<b>65,000</b>
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(1) Corresponds to the VLA for 3 NUNVs over 2 years divided by 3 outputs (14,969 USD x 3 x 2 /3).

(2) Corresponds to basic equipment for the implementation of practical projects with the communities, such as reforestation, basic protection measures (construction of a small wall), agricultural or husbandry inputs...



**ANNEX 1**  
**Terms of Reference for National UNV**  
**volunteers**

**ANNEX I: TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR NATIONAL UNV VOLUNTEERS**  
**(3) UNV VOLUNTEER TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Preamble:** The United Nations Volunteers is the UN organization that supports sustainable human development globally through the promotion of volunteerism, including the mobilization of volunteers. It serves the causes of peace and development through enhancing opportunities for participation by all peoples. It is universal, inclusive and embraces volunteer action in all its diversity.

This post is a UNV volunteer assignment based on the values of free will, commitment, engagement and solidarity, which are the foundations of volunteerism. Volunteering brings benefit to the individual volunteer as well as the society at large. It enhances social cohesion and enriches communities.

In most cultures volunteerism is deeply embedded in long-established, ancient traditions of sharing and support within the communities. In this context, UNV volunteers take part in various forms of volunteerism and play a role in development and peace together with co-workers, host agencies and local communities.

In all assignments, UNV volunteers promote volunteerism through their action and conduct. Engaging in volunteer activity can effectively and positively enrich your understanding of local and social realities, as well as create a bridge between yourself and the people in your host community. This will make the time you spend as UNV volunteer even more rewarding and productive.

1. **UNV Post Title:** National UNV Volunteer: Technical assistant
2. **Project Title:** Strengthening Ecuador VIOs to support better Disaster Risk Reduction strategies and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level
3. **Duration:** 1 year (renewable)
4. **Location, Country:** Guayaquil (for Guayas), Riobamba (for Chimborazo) and Manta (for Manabí), Ecuador
5. **Expected starting date:** 01/11/2008

**6. Brief Project Description:**

The present project aims at increasing the capacities of Ecuadorian Volunteering Involving Organizations (VIOs) to participate in Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies (DRR). Volunteers have participated actively in the response phase of natural disaster. However, those efforts have not materialized in their involvement in larger DRR strategies and they lack the capacities and the expertise to work mobilize more effectively communities when disasters occur.

The project complements on-going efforts of UNDP and the Ecuadorian Government in the area of DRR. The recent floods that affected the country earlier this year evidenced the lack of capacities to respond to emergency situations. Involving civil society efforts through VIOs proved to be necessary to complement government response mechanisms.

The project will be implemented in three provinces: Chimbarazo, Manabí and Guayas. Natural hazards will be mapped in the three provinces and mitigation measures will be identified. Based on this, local VIOs will be trained on disaster reduction and mitigation strategies for later replication among vulnerable communities. Emergency management plans will be designed and piloted in the three regions. These activities will contribute to increase awareness among



stakeholders about their actual vulnerability and on the capacities needed to better manage natural disasters.

This project will be included as part of the ARLAC Programme contributing to Programme Outputs (Increased the presence of Volunteerism in the programming of development partners).

**7. Host Agency/Host Institute:** UNDP-Ecuador/ FETV's Provincial Committees

**8. Description of Duties:**

**The UNV volunteer will be responsible for:**

**Promote the concept of Volunteerism for Development:** As a UNV volunteer, you are expected to promote volunteerism and engage in volunteering activities. As such you are encouraged to:

- A first step is to strengthen your knowledge and understanding of the concept of volunteerism by reading relevant UNV and other publications and taking active part in UNV activities and also to get acquainted with traditional and/or local forms of volunteerism in the host community.

**Main activities:**

**Under the supervision of UNDP's International Project Manager, the UNV will be responsible for:** ensuring implementation of project activities in the selected province. More specifically,

- Review existing literature on DRR and on role of volunteerism of DRR strategies
- Liaise with local VIOs, including women's groups, to involve them in the three project Outputs
- Identify other relevant stakeholders that need to be involved in comprehensive DRR strategies
- Contribute to map existing hazards, vulnerabilities and adaptation capacities in the region together with local stakeholders
- Contribute to identify and select intervention communities
- Produce educational materials on risks prevention and mitigation
- Provide training to local VIOs on risk prevention and mitigation measures
- Provide technical assistance to VIOs for effective management of volunteers
- Monitor replication of training with local communities
- Contribute to design emergency management plans, climate change and adaptation measures at the local level
- Select areas of intervention to pilot these plans
- Contribute to implement the plans
- Liaise with the regional volunteering initiative with BCPR to provide lessons learned and contribute to document this national initiative as needed
- Mainstream the gender perspective in the implementation of the project, especially involving women's groups and involving both women and men on the mapping exercises and the trainings.
- Networking and building relationships with local organizations, groups or individuals and support and/or participate in local volunteering initiatives;
- Encouraging and mobilizing co-workers, fellow UNV volunteers and members of the local community to play an active part in the development of their community;

- Contributing articles/write-ups on field experiences and submit for UNV publications/websites, newsletters, press releases, etc.;
- Initiating and/or participate in local volunteer groups. Assist them in submitting stories, experiences to the World Volunteer Web site;
- Promoting or advising local groups in the use of OV (online volunteering), or encourage relevant local individuals and groups to use OV whenever technically possible.

## 9. Qualifications/Requirements:

University title in engineering, architecture, geography, urban planning or social sciences. A Masters degree in disaster management will be appreciated.

- **Professional experience**
- Experience in humanitarian help, post disaster or disasters management
- Experience in international organizations or in NGOs or in governmental organizations working in the area of disaster management
- Experience in managing volunteers teams
- **Aptitudes**
- 1. Available immediately
- 2. Available to live in the Project area
- 3. Available to participate in workshops
- 4. Ability to write technical documents in a clear manner
- 5. Excellent interpersonal skills
- 6. Ability to work in a team and under pressure

**Date: 14/10/2008**

**ANNEX 2**  
**Impact of Natural Disasters on**  
**Ecuador: economic growth and**  
**human losses**

### IMPACT OF RECENT EVENTS IN ECUADOR

Year	Event	Impact
1982 1983	El Niño	GDP dropped in 2,8%
1987	Napo Eq.	Losses of \$ 1 billion GDP drops 6%
1997 1998	El Niño	Direct loss \$2,882 millions aprox. 15% GDP of year 1997
2006	Volcanic Eruption	Loss estimates 60' million Emergency attention 30'
2008	Heavy Rain in the costal reagon	Losses account for 2.5% of the GDP

### Losses due to 2008 Floods in the Coastal Region of Ecuador

<b>Total number of people affected</b>	<b>275000</b>
Number of provinces affected	13/24
Total number of cantons affected in the 13 provinces	66/149
Number of deaths	64
Number of persons disappeared	6
Population affected (UNOSAT estimated 233870 affected persons only in the Provinces of Guayas and Los Rios)	275000
Number of Shelters, many people refused to leave their homes and was attended there	375
Number of displaced persons in shelters	15000
Affected persons not in shelters	260000
Bridges	15
Roads	2841 km
Schools severely damaged	1681
Dwellings damaged	1804
Loss of agricultural fields (hectares)	97870 ha
Agricultural fields with some kina of impact	83269 ha
Number of farmers that lost their crops	33961
Productores/as que perdieron sus actividades pecuarias	1457

The diagnostic that was prepared to design the recovery plan suggest losses for 1200 millions dollars (2,5% od 2008 GDP)

**ANNEX 3**  
**Disaster Reduction and Management**  
**UNDP's Portfolio of projects**

**DRM portafolio for Ecuador implemented by UNDP**

**Year 2008-2011**

<b>Name of the Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Sources of Funding</b>	<b>Implementing Partners</b>
Implementation of a Multimodal early warning system for floods in the coastal region of Ecuador	€130.000	ECHO DIPECHO	CIIFEN - INAMHI
Strengthening National and Local Capabilities for DRM in Ecuador	USD 327.000	BCPR	Secretaria Tecnica de Gestion de Riesgos (STGR) and several local governments
Urban Risk Reduction Program for Quito	USD 861.000	WB	City of Quito
Assisting the national government of Ecuador to manage the emergency and recovery process after the 2008 floods	USD 190.000	BCPR	Min. Litoral, Senplades, STGR
Supporting early recovery in Ecuador	USD 110.000	BCPR	Min. Litoral, Senplades, STGR

**MINUTA FECHA :** 27 de enero de 2009

**REUNION :** PAC – “Strengthening Ecuador VIOs to support better disaster risk reduction strategies and adaptation to climate change at the community level “ **LUGAR:** Quito – Ecuador, PNUD

**ASISTENTES :** Claudio Providas, Rep. Res. Adjunto PNUD **COPIA:** PRO/300/PIPELINE  
 José Augusto, Gerente Area de Gobernabilidad PRO/300/UNV  
 Verónica Quintero, Gerente Area de Pobreza  
 José Vicente Troya, Gerente Area de Desarrollo Sostenible  
 Rosicler Gómez, Gerente de Operaciones  
 Jeannette Fernández, Oficial de Programa  
 Enriqueta Baquero, Asociada de Planificación Estratégica

**Informaciones compartidas**

Iniciales de persona que informa	Información/Discusión
JA	El 2 de diciembre de 2008, la Gerencia del Area de Gobernabilidad invita a un PAC virtual para revisar la propuesta “ <i>Strengthening Ecuador VIOs to support better disaster risk reduction strategies and adaptation to climate change at the community level</i> ”
EB	Se recibió únicamente la observación de Enriqueta Baquero, respecto de la inclusión del GMS en el presupuesto del proyecto.
JF	Se trató el tema del GMS con Violaine Amerigo, quien consultó a la Sede de Voluntarios. Dicha Sede respondió que de acuerdo a los acuerdos corporativos existentes, no es posible el cobro de GMS entre la Agencia de Voluntarios y el PNUD. Sin embargo, el 15 de diciembre UNV-Bonn manifestó estar de acuerdo en incluir en el presupuesto general del proyecto una línea de “Asistencia Técnica PNUD” que incluya el 7% del valor total del presupuesto del proyecto. Adicionalmente, realizó una consulta con la Asociada de Programación Estratégica para definir la mejor manera de registrar el cobro del GMS, según lo aprobado por Bonn.
EB	Indicó que se cobrará el GMS directamente, a través de un asiento contable interno.

Acción cumplida o para tomar	Iniciales de la persona responsable	Nivel de prioridad (A, B o C)	Fecha a la cual debe cumplirse	Fecha a la cual se cumplió
Autorización de Claudio Providas.	JF	A	27.1.09	



## **“Proposal for the Integration Programme” ARLAC**

**Title:** Strengthening Ecuador VIOs to support better Disaster Risk Reduction strategies and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level

**Type of proposal** Full Project document

**Duration** 24 months

**Proposed budget:** 227,176 USD UNV-AECID  
50,000 USD PNUD  
15,000 USD SGP  
**Total:** 292,176 USD

**Contribution to the Integration Programme:**

This proposal will facilitate the integration of volunteerism in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) initiatives in Ecuador. The project aims at increasing capacities of local VIOs to reduce people’s vulnerability and mitigate the consequences of natural hazards. It complements current efforts of UNDP and Ecuadorian Government in the area of DRR by involving civil society through volunteering efforts. It also complements on-going projects by focusing on integrating VIOs not only in the response phase but also in the larger disaster reduction strategies.

This project will be included as part of the ARLAC Integration Programme. It contributes to the following Programme Output and Indicator:

**Output:** Increased the presence of Volunteerism in the programming of development partners

**Indicators:**

1 – Number of partner’s development operational programmes that actually engage in volunteerism through UNV’s technical assistance.

**Contribution to countries programme:**

UNDAF Development objective 2.3: National and local governments have Natural Disaster Reduction and Mitigation plans.

CPAP Direct effect 7: National and local governments have capacities to manage, prevent and mitigate natural disasters.





United Nations Volunteers  
UNDP

Strengthening Ecuador VIOs to support better Disaster Risk Reduction strategies and  
Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level

Brief description

The present project aims at increasing the **capacities of Ecuadorian Volunteering Involving Organizations (VIOs)** to participate in Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies (DRR). Volunteers have participated actively in the response phase of natural disaster. However, those efforts have not materialized in their involvement in larger DRR strategies and they lack the capacities and the expertise to mobilize more effectively communities when disasters occur.

The project complements on-going efforts of UNDP and the Ecuadorian Government in the area of DRR. The recent floods that affected the country earlier this year evidenced the lack of capacities to respond to emergency situations. Involving civil society efforts through VIOs proved to be necessary to complement government response mechanisms.

The project will be implemented in three provinces: Chimbarazo, Manabí and Guayas. **Natural hazards will be mapped** in the three provinces and mitigation measures will be identified. Based on this, **local VIOs will be trained** on disaster reduction and mitigation strategies for later replication among vulnerable communities. **Emergency management plans will be designed and piloted** in the three regions. These activities will contribute to increase awareness among stakeholders about their actual vulnerability and on the capacities needed to better manage natural disasters.

## SIGNATURE PAGE

UNDAF Outcome(s): 2.3 National and local governments have Natural Disaster Reduction and Mitigation plans

CPAP Outcome(s): 7 National and local governments have capacities to manage, prevent and mitigate natural disasters

Project Outcome(s)/Indicator (s): Local capacities are increased for Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level.

Expected Output(s)/Annual Targets

- 1) Hazards and vulnerabilities are identified at the local level to reduce people's vulnerabilities in the regions of intervention
- 2) Educational materials on risk prevention and management are produced and utilized by volunteer organizations and local communities.
- 3) Emergency management plans and climate change adaptation measures are designed, piloted and implemented at the local level with the support of volunteering organizations.

Implementing partner: UNDP  
*(designated institution)*

Responsible Parties: UNDP, SGP, UNV  
*(formerly implementing agencies)*

Programme Period: November 2008 to October 2010  
 Programme Component: *(SRF goal and service line)* \_\_\_\_\_  
 Project Title: "Strengthening Ecuador VIOs to support better Disaster Risk Reduction strategies and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level"  
 Project Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Project Duration: 24 months

Total budget: 292,176 USD  
 Allocated UNV resources:  
 Other:           o 227,176 USD (AECID)  
                   o UNDP 50,000 USD  
                   o SGP: 15,000 USD  
 Unfunded budget: \_\_\_\_\_

**Agreed by:**

UNV:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Flavia Pansieri, Executive Coordinator

UNDP:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 José Manuel Hermida, RR - CR

## **PART 1**

### **Situation Analysis**

#### **1. Background**

Ecuador is a lower-middle-income country that ranks 89 in the Human Development Index 2007/2008. With approximately 13,1 million inhabitants, 46% of the population lives below the national poverty line; the economic growth is still low (0,8% period 1990-2005); and inequality remains being a serious threat for national human development<sup>12</sup>.

Ecuador is located in the Equatorial line and in the so-called “Fire belt” of the Pacific. With a rugged topography, it is a disaster-prone developing country that has been affected by various natural disasters: volcanic activity, earthquakes, and a number of climate-related hazards like floods, landslides or prolonged dry seasons. El Niño Phenomena flooded the Ecuadorian lowlands in 1983 and 1997 causing massive devastation and destruction to an already weak infrastructure. In 1987, an earthquake struck the northeastern part of the country, damaging Ecuador’s only oil pipeline and preventing oil exportation for several months. In 1993 a giant landslide occurred upstream of Paute, the largest and most important hydroelectric dam in Ecuador. In 1998, a 7-magnitude earthquake produced severe damage in houses and buildings, showing the high vulnerability of buildings. During the same period, the gross national product and other economic indicators showed either negative growth or significant reductions. In 2007, volcanic activity in Mount Tungurahua has impacted a densely populated area, displacing peasants and slowing a very active local tourism industry in the city of Baños. These are just some examples of the most catastrophic natural disasters that have affected the country in the last years.

The impact of all these hazards has seriously eroded Ecuador development efforts during at least the last 20 years<sup>3</sup>. The above examples have shown how natural disasters have caused both economic and human losses, affecting people’s quality of life, especially among the most vulnerable. As a result of this, country’s growth has become more unequal and environmental degradation has increased. International data, beyond the case of Ecuador, alert about the serious long-term consequences of natural disasters, the so-called “persistent or permanent effect”<sup>4</sup>. These long-term consequences result in lost of human, physical and social capital. Lower food consumption or lower levels of education will reduce disaster-affected people’s chances (quality of employment, health...), especially for affected children. Sustainable development efforts, therefore, need to include strategies that minimize the risk of natural hazards and mitigate its impact.

This year, January and February 2008 surprised the country with an abnormally intense rainy season that flooded an important area of the country, particularly (but not limited to) the lowlands of the Ecuadorian coast. 13 out of 24 provinces were affected and the state of emergency was declared in 6 of them. It caused important social and economic losses, showing once again that the country is not prepared to manage these crises. It has also opened the discussion on what should be the institutional arrangements needed for a comprehensive disaster risk management strategy. National development actors are highlighting the need of shifting paradigms and practices, focusing more on prevention, mitigation and preparedness beyond the traditional approach, focused on the immediate response.

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<sup>1</sup> Data from HDR 2007/2008

<sup>2</sup> Gini index 53,6 (HDR 2007-2008).

<sup>3</sup> For more information about actual impact of these natural disasters, see Annex II

<sup>4</sup> “Fate and fear: risk, vulnerability and poverty”, 2008 Stefan Dercon

## Map of Ecuador



### **PART 2** **Justification**

Volunteering is a spontaneous response, a type of social reciprocity that emerges when natural disasters happen. Volunteers can be considered a “de facto” resource that becomes a critical actor during the emergency phase of a natural disaster. Strengthening these capacities that respond voluntarily is essential to increase the efficiency of their participation during response phases. Moreover, involving them in prevention and mitigation plans, beyond the actual response to the emergency, reinforce their sense of participation and bridge the gap between national plans policy-makers and affected communities. Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strategies need to consider these resources that volunteers invest. It is essential to involve community-based organizations and local Volunteering Involving Organizations (VIO) in the prevention-mitigation plans. These organizations may play a key role to strengthen the capacities at the local level to prevent and reduce the impact of natural disasters and therefore must become partners of these strategies.

To contribute to these strategies, UNV and UNDP have developed jointly this project, in liaison with national VIOs. It aims at increasing people’s awareness about natural hazards and to develop peoples’ capacities to respond more efficiently to them. Local volunteers organizations shall act as entry point to reach out communities at the municipal level. They will be trained on disaster prevention and mitigation as “training of trainers”. They will replicate further these methodologies with the communities. They will also be involved in the design of emergency management municipal plans.

In May 2008, representatives of UNDP/BCPR and UNV met to decide on a strategy on how to involve civil society organizations and VIOs within existing DRR initiatives. 3 provinces were selected: Manabí, Guayas and Chimborazo. Criteria for selection was: a) current presence of UNDP' projects, to create synergies and complementarities with on-going efforts; b) strong volunteers coordination bodies; c) vulnerability to natural disasters.

Manabí and Guayas were selected for their high vulnerability to floods. Chimborazo was identified due to its vulnerability to volcanic eruptions.

It is important to mention that Ecuador is undertaking a major institutional reform, and a new Constitution, that recognizes the role of volunteers for country's development, has been recently approved. A Technical Secretariat for Risk Management has just been created. It hosts the former Civil Defense and aims at overcoming the emphasis placed on emergency response to promote and facilitate mainstreaming risk reduction at all levels. Regional Ministries and local authorities must incorporate DRR into their work. Increasing national and local capacities is key to the success of these strategies. This project will mainly coordinate with governments at the local level. Municipalities will be consulted for mapping hazards and municipalities and involved in the design of municipal emergency management plans.

### **Role of National VIOs on DRR Strategies and Adaptation to Climate Change at the community level**

The recent study "El Voluntariado en el Ecuador y su inserción en las políticas públicas", (published in collaboration with UNV in March 2008) estimates that there are around 500,000 volunteers serving in Ecuador and more than 500 Volunteer Involving Organizations (VIOs). The numbers have experienced a sustained growth since the 90s and there seems to be an increasing tendency to focus more on development-oriented activities, beyond the traditional charitable approach: "volunteerism efforts take into account communities' needs based on participatory processes, unlike previous approaches in which organizations would impose their visions about needs<sup>5</sup>".

Despite this increasing tendency, there are challenges that still need to be considered. Most VIOs (72%) concentrate their activities in the urban areas. Organized forms of volunteerism remain scarce in the rural areas. And with regard to disaster reduction and sustainable environment strategies, only around 2 % of national VIO's focus on that<sup>6</sup>.

There are of course spontaneous groups of volunteers that have supported emergency response activities. But their actions are limited to this first phase of response to the emergency. They do not become organized groups of action after the emergency phase finishes. Therefore, they are not considered actors to be part of DRR strategies planning process. Thus, it is essential to increase awareness of the existing local VIOs of the vulnerabilities they face and of their role to overcome them. Local VIOs need to be involved and contribute actively to Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate change – related activities. They need to become key partners in reaching out communities and increase local capacities to mitigate natural risks.

UNV brings to this project its past experience in working on early recovery initiatives in coastal areas affected by floods. In 2006 UNV supported UNDP's project "Recuperación y desarrollo zonas afectadas por inundaciones provincia de Los Ríos". 3 National UNV volunteers were mobilized for project implementation. Guidelines for early recovery were published "Cuaderno guía para la formulación de agendas de recuperación temprana" and were used for training purposes. Furthermore, there are currently 3 International UNV volunteers working with UNDP in the area of Disaster Reduction. 2 of them are serving in Guayas, one of the provinces selected for this project. Another UNV Volunteer is also working with the UNETE group (the inter-agency UN system for emergency situations).

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<sup>5</sup> Sonia de Baquerizo, President of ACORVOL (Asociación Coordinadora del Voluntariado), 2007.

<sup>6</sup> Data from the above mentioned study "El voluntariado en Ecuador y su inserción en las políticas públicas"

Moreover, UNV has been supporting during the last years the establishment of a national body to coordinate volunteer efforts among civil society organizations. The so-called “Mesa de Voluntariado en Ecuador” (MVE)<sup>7</sup> was set up in 2004. It is composed of around 21 national and international umbrella VIOs, representing a total of over 500 associated organizations from all provinces of the country. MVE is coordinated by UNV and its objectives are to strengthen and to promote volunteerism in the country. Its work is framed within the relevant guidelines of the UN General Assembly on post IYV and reflects the current situation of volunteerism in Ecuador.

The work that UNV has done with VIOs from civil society all over the country is definitely an important added value to reach out the organizations working at the local and community level and will benefit directly this project. In 2007 and 2008, UNV has supported a participatory process to design a Volunteering legislation. 185 VIOs have been consulted from all provinces of the country. Discussions about volunteerism have been very rich and they have led to strengthening coordination mechanisms.

- FETV, “Federación Ecuatoriana del Trabajo Voluntario”<sup>8</sup>, facilitated the organization of three provincial workshops on volunteerism in the three selected provinces: Manabí, Guayas and Chimborazo. And two regional meetings were also organized in Chimborazo and Guayas bringing representatives from different provinces. VIOs working on the area of DRR and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level like Red Cross and Civil Defense participated actively in the discussion.

FETV is one of the most active and important members of the MVE network. It is an organization with 25 years of experience. They count on representation in 13 provinces of the country and it is best positioned to reach out VIOs at the local level. FETV counts with local coordination systems in the 3 provinces. It is also important to mention that in the three selected provinces there are some existing initiatives that shall benefit strongly this project:

- ACORVOL in Guayas. With 85 affiliated NGOs, it is one of the strongest members of the FETV and MVE in Ecuador. They have shown interest in getting training on disaster preparedness for their member organizations during the last two years. This is the first initiative that ACORVOL undertakes in the area of Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level. UNV has recently mobilized a Spanish University Volunteer to strengthen the coordination mechanisms of ACORVOL.
- In Manabí, the provincial coordination of the FETV has 49 member NGOs. These organizations include the Civil Engineer Association and Red Cross, already actively involved in activities of disaster reduction. However the other members have no specific activities in Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change apart from fund raising. Training these organizations will have a long lasting impact in the province.
- In Chimborazo the provincial coordination of the FETV counts with 13 affiliated NGOs. Damas Salesianas, Crusado Social and Rotary Club were involved in 2007 in disaster relief activities related to the Tungurahua volcano eruption (distribution of masks, training on breathing ailments and the use of masks in schools). In the capital, Riobamba, the municipality is involved in food distribution programmes and field visits to affected families. The volcanic eruption caused temporary displacement of people and health problems. These projects are conducted with the collaboration of university young volunteers and the Ministry of health.

This project aims at strengthening local capacities to respond better to natural hazards. Capacities of local VIOs will be increased to mobilize their communities more effectively. The participatory process undertaken by UNV during the last year with organizations from the provinces shall facilitate the identification of relevant partners at the community level and will therefore benefit project implementation.

### **Complementary on-going efforts**

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<sup>7</sup> Ecuador Volunteerism Roundtable

<sup>8</sup> Ecuadorian Federation of Volunteer Work

The project will tackle vulnerability by adopting a comprehensive, holistic approach. Social, economic, environmental and cultural aspects that render communities vulnerable or resilient to the impacts of natural hazards will be considered. Significant literature shows the often times disproportionate effect of natural disasters on the poorest and most vulnerable, including women, children and the elderly. Local practices will be analyzed and adapted to reduce risks. Efforts will include analyzing gender-sensitive local planning exercises, improving management of natural resources, understanding risks through consultative processes, and promoting the full participation of both women and men in decision-making affecting the definition of DRR strategies.

UNDP, SGP, BCPR and UNV will share their respective expertise, including possible best practices on gender and DRR, to ensure this integral approach. As mentioned above, this project complements existing on-going efforts in the area of DRR strategies. Project's added value is to bring on board civil society and, more specifically, volunteering efforts, to larger DRR initiatives.

Both national offices of UNDP and UNV in Ecuador have accumulated a relevant experience in areas like poverty alleviation, risk and vulnerability evaluation, disaster risk reduction and emergency management. UNDP brings also its extensive experience in sustainable development and climate change mitigation and adaptation activities, especially at the policy level. SGP counts with their experience at the local and community level. Specific technical expertise on DRR will be provided by BCPR.

UNDP is currently implementing two projects to mitigate climate change effects:

- a) "Adaptation to Climate Change through Effective Water Governance in Ecuador" aims at reducing Ecuador's vulnerability to climate change through effective water resource management. The project is executed by the Ministry of the Environment and is implemented by UNDP. It mainstreams climate change adaptation into water management practices and national/ local development plans. The project is being implemented in four provinces, including Manabi, which have critical watersheds and which are subject to a series of climatic hazards.
- b) Second National Communication on Climate Change to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). UNDP supports the Ecuadorian Government in the process of consultations and data gathering needed to prepare the report. This process is seen as an instrument to mainstream climate change into the formulation of policies and development strategies at the national level.

UNDP looks at Disaster Risk Management from the area of Democratic Governance. They focus on strengthening local capacities to design comprehensive DRR strategies. These Programmes integrate a risk-sensitive planning perspective into local development plans, to prevent and mitigate vulnerability and they have on-going activities in Guayas and Chimborazo. Also, UNDP is supporting efforts to develop relevant Information and Communication Technologies and early warning systems for local stakeholders<sup>9</sup>.

UNDP acts as the co-leading agency for emergency situations within the UN System through the inter-agency group called UNETE.

The SGP bases its work in the voluntary commitment of community members for interventions devoted to the sustainable conservation and management of biodiversity, strategies and local answers to land degradation and climate change, education campaigns to avoid the Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). Since 1994 SGP has supported 184 community based projects with very good results, the organizations that have been part of SGP portfolio in the area of intervention already have experience in development projects, strategic alliances, gender mainstreaming and sustainable livelihoods. This project will help to strengthen their capacities and allow the organizations to be an active part of local and regional networks that are working in risk management, local adaptations to climate change impacts.

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<sup>9</sup> To see a full list of UNDP portfolio of Projects in the area of Disaster Reduction and Mangement, see Annex 3

UNDP has focused mostly on the national and sub national level and they work at the municipal level working in coordination with local authorities. Joint initiatives on DRR strategies with local authorities have been tested in 7 municipalities, in which local authorities assign coordinators to the project. The same approach will be applied in this new project. All these on-going UNDP's projects will also benefit from the involvement and training of VIOs that this project has planned.

### Summary main challenges and opportunities

The recent flooding episode in the coastal region of Ecuador has raised the question of how prepared communities are to face such devastating events, and the readiness of local, regional and national organizations to protect and provide humanitarian assistance in crisis situations. It has raised awareness of people and authorities on the need of more comprehensive DRR strategies that involves all relevant actors.

The needs go beyond the phase of emergency management and resources need focus on the overall Disaster Risk Management perspective. The need of a switch in the paradigm of sole emergency response vis à vis the prevention and mitigation phase is what the country urgently needs to link these strategies with sustainable development initiatives.

The main challenges are:

- **Lack of training:** local organizations mobilize volunteers when disasters actually happen. However, they do not necessarily have the expertise and the knowledge to maximize the efficiency of their mobilization. It is therefore essential to increase capacities at the local level. Not only limited to VIOs members but also reaching out community members, so that capacities remain after project finalization.
- **Lack of awareness:** there are numerous VIOs in the country. However, they do not have the tradition of working on DRR strategies. It is important to increase their awareness on the role they can play to reach out communities to get better trained for disaster response, beyond the non-organized response volunteers actually provide.
- **Strengthen the link between municipalities and VIOs:** So far, municipalities do not systematically include risk prevention strategies on their local development plans. As a result, relief actions have shown important deficiencies. Therefore, local planning exercises must integrate a DRR perspective. By increasing the capacities of civil society organizations to contribute to those, the project will contribute to more participatory and effective local governance practices.
- **Country's institutional reform:** the government counterpart, former Civil Defense, has been recently created. Its focus on DRR strategies beyond the relief plans shall benefit current efforts on this area. Increasing national and local capacities to implement its mandate is essential to ensure sustainability of DRR plans.

Based on these challenges, the project proposes to contribute to reduce natural vulnerabilities through volunteerism and civic participation. It will concentrate on three specific areas of intervention:

- Identifying natural hazards in the three selected provinces
- Increasing capacities at the community level
- Piloting emergency management plans

<b>PART 3</b> <b>Strategy</b>
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<b>Proposed Description</b>
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This national initiative, together with two other national projects in Dominican Republic and Peru, are going to be linked to a regional volunteering initiative implemented by BCPR and UNV.

UNDP/Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery-BCPR and the United Nations Volunteers programme have designed a project that will serve as “regional umbrella” for these three national projects<sup>10</sup>. The objective of this regional approach is to recognize the role of volunteerism into disaster risk management by: a) providing training and technical assistance on DRR strategies; b) exchanging experiences among the three countries; c) document lessons learned and disseminate how to integrate effectively volunteerism into Disaster Risk Reduction strategies.

This regional strategy was developed during a meeting with UNDP PO/BCPR focal points in the region, BCPR and UNV in El Salvador in May 2008. This meeting was organized to channel UNV and BCPR’s common interest to develop comprehensive strategies to integrate Volunteerism in DRR initiatives. UNV and BCPR have been in contact over the last two years to define this common approach. The recently launched “UNV’s Facility on Natural Disaster Reduction<sup>11</sup>” was the opportunity to elaborate further these common interest and bring together interested partners. In that meeting, Programme Officers representing different Country Officers showed their interest in integrating volunteerism in their national DRR efforts. Moreover, all partners showed their interest in taking this opportunity of having different countries working on this area to generate knowledge based on actual different practices. During the meeting with representative of all countries, it came out clearly that a regional initiative should combine:

- Independence of national initiatives: different scenarios/needs/different (complementary) approaches: VIOs; Community-based organizations; Government.
- Value added of the regional umbrella as:
  - A tool to build knowledge, analyzing regional lessons learned.
  - An opportunity to build capacities in the region on DRR and Early Recovery.

For UNV this is an opportunity to strengthen local volunteer capacities in disaster prevention and recovery but also to foster better recognition and integration of volunteerism into disaster risk management strategies at the regional level. The partnership with BCPR will bring:

- a) the expertise on DRR that BCPR will bring to the Volunteering national initiatives.
- b) three complementary focuses from each national initiative: VIOs (ECU), CBOs (PERU) and Government (DR) which can be further analyzed and compiled from a regional perspective.
- c) the capacity of BCPR and its regional office to replicate further this integration of volunteerism in their DRR strategies.

A separate project document has been elaborated for this regional umbrella.

This Ecuador project will be implemented in the provinces of Guayas, Manabí and Chimborazo. The purpose of the project is to strengthen the capacities of a number of selected communities<sup>12</sup> to know better what vulnerabilities they are facing and how they can respond better to them. To do so, the strategy is grounded on a series of partnerships that range from the International to the community level so that lessons learned from previous projects can be adjusted and applied within vulnerable communities.

- BCPR and other International organizations shall provide technical expertise on DRR strategies and on how volunteerism can contribute to these.

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<sup>10</sup> National initiatives are: Ecuador, “Strengthening Ecuador VIOs to support better Disaster Risk Reduction strategies and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level; Peru, “Volunteers for the reconstruction after the earthquake in the region of Ica”; Dominican Republic, “Support to mobilising volunteers for Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation in Dominican Republic.

<sup>11</sup> UNV Rapid Facility launched in April 2008 and funded by AECID (Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo).

<sup>12</sup> Criteria for selection are explained below

- At the national level, UNDP and the Small Grants Programme bring the link with on-going projects with the Ecuador Government in the area of Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change.
- At the municipal level, community-based organizations (part of SGP initiatives), VIOs and municipalities will participate in the plans to identify hazards and better respond to them.

3 National UNV volunteers will be recruited to support project implementation in each province (TORs in Annex 1). They will work under UNDP and will report to the project manager, and International UNV volunteer himself currently working with UNDP on DRR projects. This national team will also receive guidance and training as needed from BCPR<sup>13</sup> and will feed the regional initiative by extracting lessons learned and best practices. They will become an asset for a regional network of trained persons that could be later mobilized by BCPR to support further initiatives.

This national team will map vulnerabilities and hazards at the provincial level. This mapping exercise will serve as basis to select the communities in which the training component and the pilot emergency management plans will be later developed.

The project has a strong focus enhancing capacities at the community level. Local organizations that involve volunteers will serve as an entry point to reach out the vulnerable communities. National UNV volunteers will train local VIOs on disaster risk reduction and management. They will provide them with the tools and methodologies that can be replicated later on with the communities to reduce their vulnerability and better respond when a disaster occurs.

Volunteer Organizations at the local level will be targeted through the provincial committees of Federación Ecuatoriana del Trabajo Voluntario (FETV).

The project will design pilot disaster reduction initiatives in which local VIOs will participate in order to increase their capacities to use relevant tools/ methodologies. They will also participate with local stakeholders to map natural hazards, design risks maps, assess needs and define action plans involving all relevant stakeholders.

By increasing their awareness and strengthening their skills, and designing participatory municipal plans on this sector, the present proposal aims at **reaching out the population** so that at a personal and institutional level, citizens can be in a better position to protect themselves against natural disasters.

This project is the first initiative in which UNDP mainstreams volunteerism as part of DRR strategies in Ecuador. It is based on UNV's collaboration with the MVE and its capacities to coordinate VIOs nationwide. Project implementation in the three selected provinces has a pilot nature. Based on the lessons learned, UNDP will explore its replication in other regions of the country. They have already identified the provinces of Los Ríos and Santa Elena as two areas in which a replication might be needed, considering their vulnerability.

Expected outputs and outcomes of the project are summarized as follows:

- 1) Hazards and vulnerabilities are identified at the local level to reduce people's vulnerabilities in the regions of intervention
- 2) Educational materials on risk prevention and management are produced and utilized by volunteers and volunteer organizations and local communities
- 3) Emergency management plans and climate change adaptation measures are designed, piloted and implemented at the local level with the support of volunteering organizations.

The project will be implemented within a period of 24 months.

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<sup>13</sup> An International UNV Volunteer will be recruited for the umbrella regional volunteering initiative. This IUNV will be in close contact with national teams to provide training as needed and extract lessons learned.

## Outcome and outputs

**Outcome:** Local capacities are increased for Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level

**Output 1:** Hazards and vulnerabilities are identified at the local level to reduce people's vulnerabilities in the regions of intervention

**Activity 1:** Identify most hazardous communities based on a mapping of vulnerabilities, responses and organizations.

The three provinces will have a map of hazards, vulnerabilities and adaptive capacities to the most important natural risks, climatic, seismic or volcanic.

Extensive knowledge exists on Gender and DRR strategies. It will be reviewed and applied in the production of gender sensitive maps.

**Activity 2:** Partnerships and collaborations with relevant stakeholders

To scale up the impact of the project, this initiative will establish partnerships with other programs, projects and specific activities that are already taking place in the area of implementation. Public and private institutions with roles in disaster response will be identified to participate in the mapping, especially NGOs with experience in capacity building for Disaster Risk Management at the provincial level.

Partnerships with women's groups will be key to ensure that all interventions look at both men and women's specific needs. Also, community based organizations that are part of the SGP portfolio in the areas of intervention will be considered as strategic partners to implement the methodologies. Municipalities will be represented through project's focal points.

**Activity 3:** Selection of intervention sites

The communities of intervention will be selected based on the results of the natural hazards mapping exercise. Selection criteria will also consider:

- Provinces of intervention of UNDP / SGP / UNV projects
- Settings with the potentiality of developing risk management capacities regarding a wide range of hazards, from climate-related to volcanic and seismic.
- Provinces or regions prioritized by AECID

**Output 2:** Educational materials on risk prevention and management are produced and utilized by volunteers and volunteer organizations and local communities

**Activity 1:** Selection, Adaptation and production of training and educational materials

Methodologies, tools and resources that can be of use to the project will be evaluated, adapted or adopted to specific local conditions of the communities where the project will be implemented.

Contents will be provided by BCPR, international and local NGOs with previous experience in risk management at the local level (such as Comitato Internazionale per lo sviluppo del popolo – CISP, COPI, World Vision, CRIC). UNDP and SGP already have existing relations with these organizations. The presence of gender-sensitive components of these tools will be assessed and applied as relevant.

**Activity 2:** Training of trainers

National and local VIOs (identified under Output 1) and UNV volunteers serving in the project will be trained as trainers in aspects related to emergency management, prevention, mitigation and other basic concepts related to disaster risk management

and reduction, including management of volunteers. They will also be given a good understanding of the different hazards that may impact the country with particular emphasis to those most probable in the area of influence of the project.

**Activity 3: Training of communities**

Volunteers trained under activity 2 will replicate their trainings at the local level with the communities. To do so, a training needs assessment will be undertaken for the communities to ensure skills are adapted to the vulnerabilities they face.

**Output 3:** Emergency management plans, climate change adaptation and sustainable livelihoods measures are designed, piloted and implemented at the local level with the support of volunteering organizations

**Activity 1: Selection of intervention sites**

Intervention sites in the provinces will be selected based upon several criteria: previous experience working with volunteer organizations, UNDP implemented projects, Small Grants Programme and other stakeholders; important hazards threatening livelihoods; access; etc.

**Activity 2: Design emergency management, recovery and adaptation plans**

Local emergency plans will be designed, mainstreaming mobilization and effective participation of communities for further piloting exercises and implementation with relevant stakeholders.

**Activity 3: Civil society and municipalities pilot the designed plans and are trained for its implementation**

The designed plans for emergency management, recovery and adaptation will be tested and piloted involving all relevant stakeholders. A training needs assessment will be undertaken to provide VIOs with the relevant skills they need to disseminate the plan principles with the larger community members.

**Activity 4: Document experiences for its inclusion within BCPR/UNV regional initiative.**

Lessons learned and best practices identify during project implementation will be shared with the regional volunteering initiative that UNV is implementing at the regional level. The objective is to contribute to generate and disseminate knowledge on how to mainstream civil society involvement in DRR strategies.

<b>PART 4</b> <b>Management Arrangements</b>
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The project will be implemented by the direct implementation modality (former DEX). UNDP will be implementing agency, with the assistance of the BCPR team and through the participation of local partners from the areas where the project is to be implemented. Following DEX execution modality arrangements, RR/RC office will provide overall guidance and supervision.

UNDP's areas of Democratic Governance and Sustainable Development (that includes Small Grants Programme) will be responsible for effective implementation and coordination of program activities. UNDP Country Office's Programme Support Units will establish required monitoring work plans and targets, and monitor resource and financial management. A team of 3 national UNV volunteers will support project implementation and will serve under the supervision of UNDP's Project Manager.

Partners include local, national and International VIOs, former Civil Defense, and municipalities. Roles and responsibilities of the diverse partner institutions will be defined through management arrangements as applicable following UNDP's rules and regulation for DEX projects.

Under the direction of the Project Manager based in Guayaquil, the 3 National UNV volunteers will be assigned to each province. In Guayas, he/she will be hosted by the FETV. As for Manabí and Chimborazo, UNDP's local counterpart will host the National UNV volunteers. At the local level, the activities will have the support of the partner organizations. Involved organizations (both municipalities and CSOs) will appoint a representative, who will participate in project implementation.

UNDP CO will be responsible for:

- Implementing all activities agreed in this project document
- Assigning a Project Manager
- Supervise all national UNV volunteers serving in the project
- Monitoring project implementation
- Presenting bi-annual progress reports and final reports to UNV (technical and financial) following POPP
- Participating in the selection process for recruiting all National UNV volunteers
- Coordinating with BCPR regional volunteering initiative to facilitate training and document lessons learned as well as facilitate implementation of BCPR regional activities
- Ensure and coordinate final external project evaluation and mid-term review according to UNDP's rules and procedures
- Design detailed AWP's with annual targets
- Providing relevant information from national initiative to BCPR regional umbrella for their progress and final reports

UNV will be responsible for:

- Providing technical support in the area of volunteerism for development
- Monitoring project implementation as part of the UNV's ARLAC Integration Programme
- Leading the selection process of national UNV volunteers
- Managing contractual issues of the national UNV volunteers selected
- Acting as liaison between UNDP and VIOs through the National UNV volunteers
- Promote volunteerism among stakeholders, including the On-line Volunteers modality
- Reviewing and providing inputs for the TORs and Reports of final external evaluation and mid-term review
- Reviewing and providing inputs for Progress and Final Reports

Small Grants Programme will be responsible for:

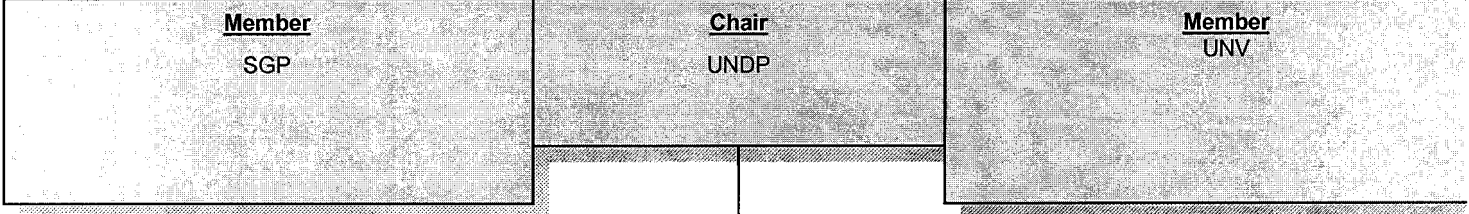
- Implementing and design the emergency management plans described under Output 3
- Selecting the community-based organizations that will implement the pilot emergency management plans
- Contribute to document this experience through participatory exercises at the local level
- Disseminate lessons learned to facilitate scaling up this initiative.

A Steering Committee will be set up representing the three main responsible parties: UNDP, UNV (PO) and SGP, that will represent the community-based organizations. This committee will facilitate project coordination. It will be chaired by UNDP and will review project implementation. The Project Manager will report to this committee.

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**Project Organization Structure**

**Steering Committee**



**Project Manager**  
Project Manager UNDP  
(Takashi Kamishiro)

**TEAM A**  
NUNV Technical Assistant  
Guayas

**TEAM B**  
NUNV Technical Assistant  
Manabí

**TEAM C**  
NUNV Technical Assistant  
Chimborazo

**Field Staff**  
Local volunteers- community  
volunteers

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## Risk analysis

RISKS IDENTIFIED	MITIGATION MEASURES
Institutional: the country is undergoing a constitutional reform, which will bring about deep changes at the policy and institutional level. This might affect government's response and ownership over this project.	Local structures (community based organizations, volunteer networks and municipalities) are stable and will provide sustainability to the process.
Political: the country will go through political elections during year 2009. This will influence local and national agendas.	Activities will be programmed taking in consideration major political events.
New disasters occurs in intervention zone	In that case, if possible and needed UNVs could be shifted into a response mode and still work under UNDPs coordination.

## Sustainability Strategy

The project has been conceptualized to empower and transfer capacities to the most vulnerable people. It aims at improving the effectiveness of their mobilization when natural disaster happens as well as to increase their awareness on how to reduce their vulnerability to risks. The rationale followed is that by involving in this process the actual vulnerable people, they will become more empowered actors when disasters happen and therefore capacities will remain after project implementation.

More specifically, the project aims at ensuring sustainability of project efforts by:

- a) Involving from the beginning of the projects all relevant stakeholders: VIOs, actual vulnerable population and municipalities; this comprehensive approach shall ensure further and more effective coordination of activities towards natural disasters;
- b) Handing over the emergency management plans to these stakeholders, establishing clear roles.

## Monitoring and evaluation

The UN Resident Coordinator will be in charge of overall programme oversight, in consultation with the national counterparts through regular meetings to discuss the programme implementation and assess its progress. UNDP and UNV will ensure monitoring and evaluation of the Programme, in accordance with UNDP's DEX and Results Management Guidelines and will directly monitor the respective programme components.

In order to facilitate the monitoring and evaluation process Annual Work Plans will be designed in each province, with clear indicators and targets.

A Mid-term review (CLARIFY) will be carried out before the end of the first year. The objective is to analyze the progress towards the expected results and to help resolve possible problems that might arise during the implementation. The mid-term review will involve the interested parties most important to the project. **BUDGET**

An external final evaluation will be conducted nationally at the end of the Project. This will involve the participation of UN agencies involved and key strategic counterparts in order to assess the achievement of expected outputs and contribution to relevant outcomes.

## Gender Perspective

Adequate gender sensitive approach will be provided to the program, from its design to implementation and especially through its pilot applications. This approach will be based on SGP's Gender Mainstreaming Manual for Community Based Environmental Projects and on the UNDP's Eight-Point Agenda for Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality in Crisis Prevention and Recovery will be incorporated with emphasis in two major elements:

**To promote gender equality in disaster risk reduction.**

- Incorporate gender analysis in the assessment of disaster risks, impacts and needs.
- Address women's unique needs and value women's knowledge in disaster reduction and recovery policies, plans and programs.
- Strengthen women's networks and organizations to facilitate women's active engagement.

**To ensure Gender-Responsive Recovery.**

- Infuse gender analysis into all post-disaster planning tools and processes.
- Ensure recovery efforts provide equal economic opportunities for women including access to assets, such as land and credit.
- Promote social protection and sustainable livelihoods.
- Prioritize women's needs in key sectors such as transportation, shelter and health care
- Promote inclusion of women in recover decision making process



<b>Intended Outcome:</b> Local capacities are increased for Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level				
<b>Outputs and Indicators</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Indicative activities</b>	<b>Responsible parties</b>	<b>Inputs</b>
<p><b>Output:</b> Hazards and vulnerabilities are identified at the local level to reduce people's vulnerabilities in the regions of intervention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender-sensitive mapping of hazards, vulnerabilities, responses and organizations prepared</li> <li>• Number of local partners with which the project has established alliances</li> <li>• Number of communities selected</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify most hazardous communities (provincial mapping of vulnerabilities, responses and organizations)</li> <li>• Partnerships and collaborations with relevant stakeholders, including women's groups</li> <li>• Selection of intervention sites</li> </ul>	<p>UNDP UNV SGP</p>	<p>Existing work and networks of UNDP, UNV and SGP in the selected provinces</p>
<p><b>Output:</b> Educational materials on risk prevention and management are produced and utilized by volunteers and volunteer organizations and local communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of training and educational materials designed, printed and distributed</li> <li>• Number of VIOs trained in project workshops</li> <li>• Number of community members trained</li> <li>• Level of satisfaction of participants in community trainings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select, adapt and produce locally-adapted training and educational materials</li> <li>• Training of trainers</li> <li>• Replication of training with the larger communities, based on a training needs assessment</li> </ul>		

<p><b>Output:</b> Emergency management plans and climate change adaptation measures are designed, piloted and implemented at the local level with the support of volunteering organizations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of emergency plans established in the three provinces</li> <li>• Number of people trained on the pilot emergency plans, percentage of which are women</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selection of intervention sites</li> <li>• Design emergency management, recovery and adaptation plans</li> <li>• Pilot the designed plans with local stakeholders</li> <li>• Document experiences for its inclusion within BCPR/UNV regional initiative</li> </ul>		
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Outputs	Key activities	Timeframe (months 2008-2009)				PLANNED BUDGET (USD)		Co financing UNDP
		1-6	7-12	13-18	19-24	Budget description	Amount	
1 Hazards and vulnerabilities are identified at the local level to reduce people's vulnerabilities in the regions of intervention	Identify most hazardous communities, mapping of vulnerabilities, responses and organizations	X				3 National UNVs	29,938 <sup>(1)</sup>	15,000 APD
	Partnerships and collaborations with relevant stakeholders	X	X	X	X	Traveling expenses	2,500	
	Selection of intervention sites	X	X					
<b>Subtotal 1</b>								<b>15,000</b>
<b>32,438</b>								<b>15,000</b>

2. Educational materials on risk prevention and management are produced and utilized by volunteers and volunteer organizations and local communities	Selection, Adaptation and production of training and educational materials,	X	X			3 National UNVs	29,938 <sup>(1)</sup>	Co financing UNDP
	Training of trainers	X	X			Traveling expenses	2,500	
	Replication of training with larger communities, based on a training needs assessment			X		Training workshops	15,000	
						Publications	15,000	
					Dissemination	5,000		
<b>Subtotal 2</b>								<b>67,438</b>

3. Emergency management plans and climate change adaptation measures are designed, piloted and implemented at the local level with the support of volunteering organizations	Selection of intervention sites		X	X	X	Responsibility of the 3 national UNVs	29,938 <sup>(1)</sup>	Co financing PPD /UNDP
	Design emergency management, recovery and adaptation plans		X	X	X	Traveling expenses	2,500	
	Pilot designed plans with local stakeholders			X	X	Response measures (basic inputs, physical adaptation, equipments) <sup>(2)</sup>	70,000	50,000
	Document experiences for its inclusion within BCPR/UNV regional initiative	X	X	X	X			
<b>Subtotal 3</b>							<b>102,438</b>	<b>50,000</b>
<b>Subtotal 4 Final Evaluation</b>							<b>10,000</b>	
<b>Subtotal 5 GMS</b>							<b>14,862</b>	
<b>Total</b>							<b>227,176</b>	<b>65,000</b>

(1) Corresponds to the VLA for 3 NUNVs over 2 years divided by 3 outputs (14,969 USD x 3 x 2/3).

(2) Corresponds to basic equipment for the implementation of practical projects with the communities, such as reforestation, basic protection measures (construction of a small wall), agricultural or husbandry inputs...



**ANNEX 1**  
**Terms of Reference for National UNV**  
**volunteers**

**ANNEX I: TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR NATIONAL UNV VOLUNTEERS**  
**(3) UNV VOLUNTEER TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Preamble:** The United Nations Volunteers is the UN organization that supports sustainable human development globally through the promotion of volunteerism, including the mobilization of volunteers. It serves the causes of peace and development through enhancing opportunities for participation by all peoples. It is universal, inclusive and embraces volunteer action in all its diversity.

This post is a UNV volunteer assignment based on the values of free will, commitment, engagement and solidarity, which are the foundations of volunteerism. Volunteering brings benefit to the individual volunteer as well as the society at large. It enhances social cohesion and enriches communities.

In most cultures volunteerism is deeply embedded in long-established, ancient traditions of sharing and support within the communities. In this context, UNV volunteers take part in various forms of volunteerism and play a role in development and peace together with co-workers, host agencies and local communities.

In all assignments, UNV volunteers promote volunteerism through their action and conduct. Engaging in volunteer activity can effectively and positively enrich your understanding of local and social realities, as well as create a bridge between yourself and the people in your host community. This will make the time you spend as UNV volunteer even more rewarding and productive.

**1. UNV Post Title:** National UNV Volunteer: Technical assistant

**2. Project Title:** Strengthening Ecuador VIOs to support better Disaster Risk Reduction strategies and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level

**3. Duration:** 1 year (renewable)

**4. Location, Country:** Guayaquil (for Guayas), Riobamba (for Chimborazo) and Manta (for Manabí). Ecuador

**5. Expected starting date:** 01/11/2008

**6. Brief Project Description:**

The present project aims at increasing the capacities of Ecuadorian Volunteering Involving Organizations (VIOs) to participate in Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies (DRR). Volunteers have participated actively in the response phase of natural disaster. However, those efforts have not materialized in their involvement in larger DRR strategies and they lack the capacities and the expertise to work mobilize more effectively communities when disasters occur.

The project complements on-going efforts of UNDP and the Ecuadorian Government in the area of DRR. The recent floods that affected the country earlier this year evidenced the lack of capacities to respond to emergency situations. Involving civil society efforts through VIOs proved to be necessary to complement government response mechanisms.

The project will be implemented in three provinces: Chimbarazo, Manabí and Guayas. Natural hazards will be mapped in the three provinces and mitigation measures will be identified. Based on this, local VIOs will be trained on disaster reduction and mitigation strategies for later replication among vulnerable communities. Emergency management plans will be designed and piloted in the three regions. These activities will contribute to increase awareness among

stakeholders about their actual vulnerability and on the capacities needed to better manage natural disasters.

This project will be included as part of the ARLAC Programme contributing to Programme Outputs (Increased the presence of Volunteerism in the programming of development partners).

#### **7. Host Agency/Host Institute:** UNDP-Ecuador/ FETV's Provincial Committees

#### **8. Description of Duties:**

**The UNV volunteer will be responsible for:**

**Promote the concept of Volunteerism for Development:** As a UNV volunteer, you are expected to promote volunteerism and engage in volunteering activities. As such you are encouraged to:

- A first step is to strengthen your knowledge and understanding of the concept of volunteerism by reading relevant UNV and other publications and taking active part in UNV activities and also to get acquainted with traditional and/or local forms of volunteerism in the host community.

#### **Main activities:**

**Under the supervision of UNDP's International Project Manager, the UNV will be responsible for:** ensuring implementation of project activities in the selected province. More specifically,

- Review existing literature on DRR and on role of volunteerism of DRR strategies
- Liaise with local VIOs, including women's groups, to involve them in the three project Outputs
- Identify other relevant stakeholders that need to be involved in comprehensive DRR strategies
- Contribute to map existing hazards, vulnerabilities and adaptation capacities in the region together with local stakeholders
- Contribute to identify and select intervention communities
- Produce educational materials on risks prevention and mitigation
- Provide training to local VIOs on risk prevention and mitigation measures
- Provide technical assistance to VIOs for effective management of volunteers
- Monitor replication of training with local communities
- Contribute to design emergency management plans, climate change and adaptation measures at the local level
- Select areas of intervention to pilot these plans
- Contribute to implement the plans
- Liaise with the regional volunteering initiative with BCPR to provide lessons learned and contribute to document this national initiative as needed
- Mainstream the gender perspective in the implementation of the project, especially involving women's groups and involving both women and men on the mapping exercises and the trainings.
- Networking and building relationships with local organizations, groups or individuals and support and/or participate in local volunteering initiatives;
- Encouraging and mobilizing co-workers, fellow UNV volunteers and members of the local community to play an active part in the development of their community;



- Contributing articles/write-ups on field experiences and submit for UNV publications/websites, newsletters, press releases, etc.;
- Initiating and/or participate in local volunteer groups. Assist them in submitting stories, experiences to the World Volunteer Web site;
- Promoting or advising local groups in the use of OV (online volunteering), or encourage relevant local individuals and groups to use OV whenever technically possible.

## 9. Qualifications/Requirements:

University title in engineering, architecture, geography, urban planning or social sciences. A Masters degree in disaster management will be appreciated.

- **Professional experience**
- Experience in humanitarian help, post disaster or disasters management
- Experience in international organizations or in NGOs or in governmental organizations working in the area of disaster management
- Experience in managing volunteers teams
- **Aptitudes**
- 1. Available immediately
- 2. Available to live in the Project area
- 3. Available to participate in workshops
- 4. Ability to write technical documents in a clear manner
- 5. Excellent interpersonal skills
- 6. Ability to work in a team and under pressure

Date: 14/10/2008

**ANNEX 2**  
**Impact of Natural Disasters on**  
**Ecuador: economic growth and**  
**human losses**

### IMPACT OF RECENT EVENTS IN ECUADOR

Year	Event	Impact
1982 1983	El Niño	GDP dropped in 2,8%
1987	Napo Eq.	Losses of \$ 1 billion GDP drops 6%
1997 1998	El Niño	Direct loss \$2,882 millions aprox. 15% GDP of year 1997
2006	Volcanic Eruption	Loss estimates 60' million Emergency attention 30'
2008	Heavy Rain in the coastal region	Losses account for 2.5% of the GDP

### Losses due to 2008 Floods in the Coastal Region of Ecuador

<b>Total number of people affected</b>	<b>275000</b>
Number of provinces affected	13/24
Total number of cantons affected in the 13 provinces	66/149
Number of deaths	64
Number of persons disappeared	6
Population affected (UNOSAT estimated 233870 affected persons 275000 only in the Provinces of Guayas and Los Ríos)	
Number of Shelters, many people refused to leave their homes and 375 was attended there	
Number of displaced persons in shelters	15000
Affected persons not in shelters	260000
Bridges	15
Roads	2841 km
Schools severely damaged	1681
Dwellings damaged	1804
Loss of agricultural fields (hectares)	97870 ha
Agricultural fields with some kina of impact	83269 ha
Number of farmers that lost their crops	33961
Productores/as que perdieron sus actividades pecuarias	1457
The diagnostic that was prepared to design the recovery plan suggest losses for 1200 millions dollars (2,5% od 2008 GDP)	

**ANNEX 3**  
**Disaster Reduction and Management**  
**UNDP's Portfolio of projects**

**Subject:** RE: consulta urgente  
**From:** Violaine Amerigo <violaine.amerigo@undp.org>  
**Date:** Thu, 07 May 2009 09:17:47 -0500  
**To:** 'Jeannette Fernandez' <jeannette.fernandez@undp.org>  
**CC:** 'Sandra Endara' <sandra.endara@undp.org>

Estimadas,

Estos son los codigos que me habian enviado desde Bonn :  
Fund: 70200 (UNV cost sharing - residual FF AECID)  
Donor: AECID (00220)

Esta bien asi o faltaria algo mas ?

Saludos,

Violaine

-----Mensaje original-----

De: Violaine Amerigo [mailto:violaine.amerigo@undp.org]  
Enviado el: Miércoles, 06 de Mayo de 2009 16:09  
Para: 'Jeannette Fernandez'  
CC: 'Sandra Endara'  
Asunto: RE: consulta urgente

Querida Jeannette,

Voy a hacer la consulta con mi sede. Hoy es un poco tarde, espero obtener una respuesta mañana y comunicártela.

Saludos,

Violaine

-----Mensaje original-----

De: Jeannette Fernandez [mailto:jeannette.fernandez@undp.org]  
Enviado el: Miércoles, 06 de Mayo de 2009 15:38  
Para: Violaine Amerigo  
CC: Sandra Endara  
Asunto: consulta urgente

Querida Violaine,

queria comentarte que Sandy nos está apoyando el Work Plan para el proyecto con los voluntarios, siguiente informacion que nos debe ser proporcionada por el sponsor y donante tienen un código, requiero se constar como AECID o UNV, lo mismo que para el Inglés son los que están a continuación:

sponsor  
donor  
institution

Muchas gracias Violaine

Jeannette

--

Maybe puede que  
este el proyecto de  
voluntarios.  
El Alto, lo presupuesto  
es el # 57495 + el  
No se ha pensado aun  
el presupuesto  
Wobsluws 82

57383  
submits

**SIGNATURE PAGE**

UNDAF Outcome(s): 2.3. National and local governments have Natural Disaster Reduction and Mitigation plans

CPAP Outcome(s): 7. National and local governments have capacities to manage, prevent and mitigate natural disasters

Project Outcome(s)/Indicator (s): Local capacities are increased for Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level.

Expected Output(s)/Annual Targets

- 1) Hazards and vulnerabilities are identified at the local level to reduce people's vulnerabilities in the regions of intervention
- 2) Educational materials on risk prevention and management are produced and utilized by volunteer organizations and local communities.
- 3) Emergency management plans and climate change adaptation measures are designed, piloted and implemented at the local level with the support of volunteering organizations.

Implementing partner: *(designated institution)* Secretaría Técnica de Gestión de Riesgo

Responsible Parties: *(formerly implementing agencies)* UNDP, SGP, UNV

Programme Period: November 2008 to October 2010

Programme Component: *(SRF goal and service line)* \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title: "Strengthening Ecuador VIOs to support better Disaster Risk Reduction strategies and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level"

Project Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Duration: 24 months

Total budget: 295,176 USD

Allocated UNV resources:

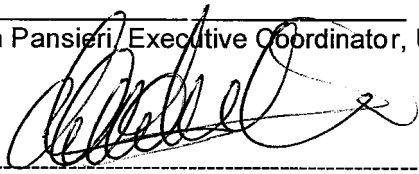
- o 230,176 USD (AECID)
- o UNDP 50,000 USD
- o SGP: 15,000 USD

Unfunded budget: \_\_\_\_\_

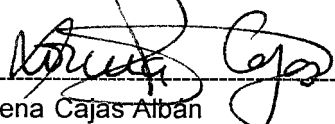
**Agreed by:**

**Date:**

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Flavia Pansieri, Executive Coordinator, UNV

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José Manuel Hermida, RR – CR

  
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Lorena Cajas Albán  
Secretaría Técnica de Gestión de Riesgos

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*21/07/2008*  
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## **PART 1**

### **Situation Analysis**

#### **1. Background**

Ecuador is a lower-middle-income country that ranks 89 in the Human Development Index 2007/2008. With approximately 13,1 million inhabitants, 46% of the population lives below the national poverty line; the economic growth is still low (0,8% period 1990-2005); and inequality remains being a serious threat for national human development<sup>12</sup>.

Ecuador is located in the Equatorial line and in the so-called "Fire belt" of the Pacific. With a rugged topography, it is a disaster-prone developing country that has been affected by various natural disasters: volcanic activity, earthquakes, and a number of climate-related hazards like floods, landslides or prolonged dry seasons. El Niño Phenomena flooded the Ecuadorian lowlands in 1983 and 1997 causing massive devastation and destruction to an already weak infrastructure. In 1987, an earthquake struck the northeastern part of the country, damaging Ecuador's only oil pipeline and preventing oil exportation for several months. In 1993 a giant landslide occurred upstream of Paute, the largest and most important hydroelectric dam in Ecuador. In 1998, a 7-magnitude earthquake produced severe damage in houses and buildings, showing the high vulnerability of buildings. During the same period, the gross national product and other economic indicators showed either negative growth or significant reductions. In 2007, volcanic activity in Mount Tungurahua has impacted a densely populated area, displacing peasants and slowing a very active local tourism industry in the city of Baños. These are just some examples of the most catastrophic natural disasters that have affected the country in the last years.

The impact of all these hazards has seriously eroded Ecuador development efforts during at least the last 20 years<sup>3</sup>. The above examples have shown how natural disasters have caused both economic and human losses, affecting people's quality of life, especially among the most vulnerable. As a result of this, country's growth has become more unequal and environmental degradation has increased. International data, beyond the case of Ecuador, alert about the serious long-term consequences of natural disasters, the so-called "persistent or permanent effect"<sup>4</sup>. These long-term consequences result in lost of human, physical and social capital. Lower food consumption or lower levels of education will reduce disaster-affected people's chances (quality of employment, health...), especially for affected children. Sustainable development efforts, therefore, need to include strategies that minimize the risk of natural hazards and mitigate its impact.

This year, January and February 2008 surprised the country with an abnormally intense rainy season that flooded an important area of the country, particularly (but not limited to) the lowlands of the Ecuadorian coast. 13 out of 24 provinces were affected and the state of emergency was declared in 6 of them. It caused important social and economic losses, showing once again that the country is not prepared to manage these crises. It has also opened the discussion on what should be the institutional arrangements needed for a comprehensive disaster risk management strategy. National development actors are highlighting the need of shifting paradigms and practices, focusing more on prevention, mitigation and preparedness beyond the traditional approach, focused on the immediate response.

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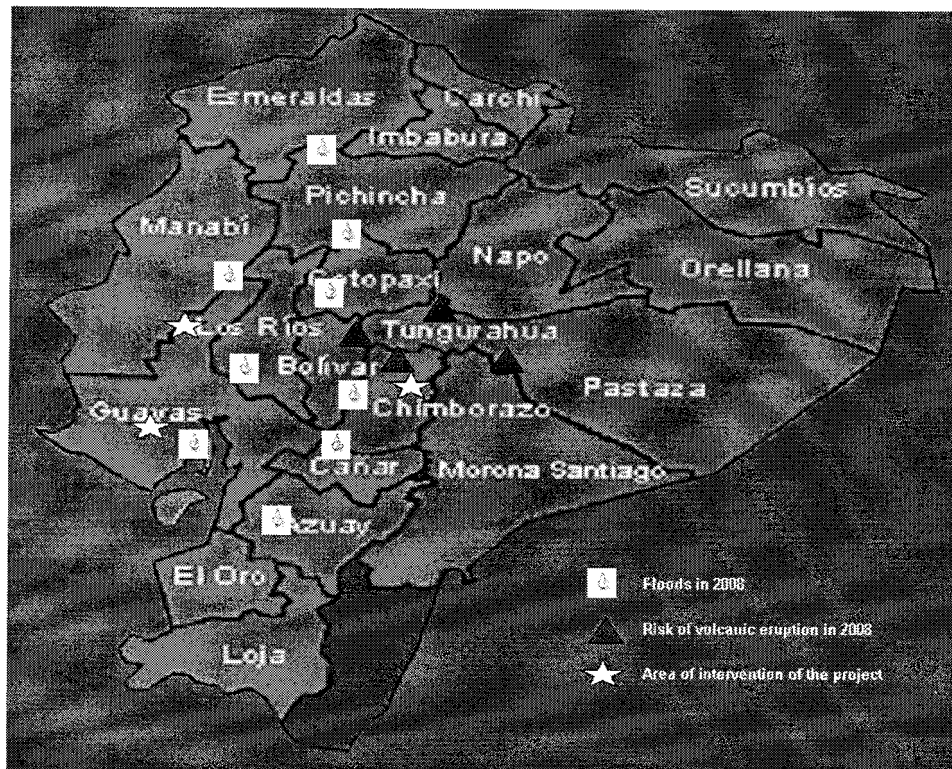
<sup>1</sup> Data from HDR 2007/2008

<sup>2</sup> Gini index 53,6 (HDR 2007-2008).

<sup>3</sup> For more information about actual impact of these natural disasters, see Annex II

<sup>4</sup> "Fate and fear: risk, vulnerability and poverty", 2008 Stefan Dercon

## Map of Ecuador



### **PART 2** **Justification**

Volunteering is a spontaneous response, a type of social reciprocity that emerges when natural disasters happen. Volunteers can be considered a “de facto” resource that becomes a critical actor during the emergency phase of a natural disaster. Strengthening these capacities that respond voluntarily is essential to increase the efficiency of their participation during response phases. Moreover, involving them in prevention and mitigation plans, beyond the actual response to the emergency, reinforce their sense of participation and bridge the gap between national plans policy-makers and affected communities. Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strategies need to consider these resources that volunteers invest. It is essential to involve community-based organizations and local Volunteering Involving Organizations (VIO) in the prevention-mitigation plans. These organizations may play a key role to strengthen the capacities at the local level to prevent and reduce the impact of natural disasters and therefore must become partners of these strategies.

To contribute to these strategies, UNV and UNDP have developed jointly this project, in liaison with national VIOs. It aims at increasing people’s awareness about natural hazards and to develop peoples’ capacities to respond more efficiently to them. Local volunteers organizations shall act as entry point to reach out communities at the municipal level. They will be trained on disaster prevention and mitigation as “training of trainers”. They will replicate further these methodologies with the communities. They will also be involved in the design of emergency management municipal plans.



In May 2008, representatives of UNDP/BCPR and UNV met to decide on a strategy on how to involve civil society organizations and VIOs within existing DRR initiatives. 3 provinces were selected: Manabí, Guayas and Chimborazo. Criteria for selection was: a) current presence of UNDP' projects, to create synergies and complementarities with on-going efforts; b) strong volunteers coordination bodies; c) vulnerability to natural disasters.

Manabí and Guayas were selected for their high vulnerability to floods. Chimborazo was identified due to its vulnerability to volcanic eruptions.

It is important to mention that Ecuador is undertaking a major institutional reform, and a new Constitution, that recognizes the role of volunteers for country's development, has been recently approved. A Technical Secretariat for Risk Management has just been created. It hosts the former Civil Defense and aims at overcoming the emphasis placed on emergency response to promote and facilitate mainstreaming risk reduction at all levels. Regional Ministries and local authorities must incorporate DRR into their work. Increasing national and local capacities is key to the success of these strategies. This project will mainly coordinate with governments at the local level. Municipalities will be consulted for mapping hazards and municipalities and involved in the design of municipal emergency management plans.

### **Role of National VIOs on DRR Strategies and Adaptation to Climate Change at the community level**

The recent study "El Voluntariado en el Ecuador y su inserción en las políticas públicas", (published in collaboration with UNV in March 2008) estimates that there are around 500,000 volunteers serving in Ecuador and more than 500 Volunteer Involving Organizations (VIOs). The numbers have experienced a sustained growth since the 90s and there seems to be an increasing tendency to focus more on development-oriented activities, beyond the traditional charitable approach: "volunteerism efforts take into account communities' needs based on participatory processes, unlike previous approaches in which organizations would impose their visions about needs<sup>5</sup>".

Despite this increasing tendency, there are challenges that still need to be considered. Most VIOs (72%) concentrate their activities in the urban areas. Organized forms of volunteerism remain scarce in the rural areas. And with regard to disaster reduction and sustainable environment strategies, only around 2 % of national VIO's focus on that<sup>6</sup>.

There are of course spontaneous groups of volunteers that have supported emergency response activities. But their actions are limited to this first phase of response to the emergency. They do not become organized groups of action after the emergency phase finishes. Therefore, they are not considered actors to be part of DRR strategies planning process. Thus, it is essential to increase awareness of the existing local VIOs of the vulnerabilities they face and of their role to overcome them. Local VIOs need to be involved and contribute actively to Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate change – related activities. They need to become key partners in reaching out communities and increase local capacities to mitigate natural risks.

UNV brings to this project its past experience in working on early recovery initiatives in coastal areas affected by floods. In 2006 UNV supported UNDP's project "Recuperación y desarrollo zonas afectadas por inundaciones provincia de Los Ríos". 3 National UNV volunteers were mobilized for project implementation. Guidelines for early recovery were published "Cuaderno guía para la formulación de agendas de recuperación temprana" and were used for training purposes. Furthermore, there are currently 3 International UNV volunteers working with UNDP in the area of Disaster Reduction. 2 of them are serving in Guayas, one of the provinces selected for this project. Another UNV Volunteer is also working with the UNETE group (the inter-agency UN system for emergency situations).

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<sup>5</sup> Sonia de Baquerizo, President of ACORVOL (Asociación Coordinadora del Voluntariado), 2007.

<sup>6</sup> Data from the above mentioned study "El voluntariado en Ecuador y su inserción en las políticas públicas"

Moreover, UNV has been supporting during the last years the establishment of a national body to coordinate volunteer efforts among civil society organizations. The so-called "Mesa de Voluntariado en Ecuador" (MVE)<sup>7</sup> was set up in 2004. It is composed of around 21 national and international umbrella VIOs, representing a total of over 500 associated organizations from all provinces of the country. MVE is coordinated by UNV and its objectives are to strengthen and to promote volunteerism in the country. Its work is framed within the relevant guidelines of the UN General Assembly on post IYV and reflects the current situation of volunteerism in Ecuador.

The work that UNV has done with VIOs from civil society all over the country is definitely an important added value to reach out the organizations working at the local and community level and will benefit directly this project. In 2007 and 2008, UNV has supported a participatory process to design a Volunteering legislation. 185 VIOs have been consulted from all provinces of the country. Discussions about volunteerism have been very rich and they have led to strengthening coordination mechanisms.

- FETV, "Federación Ecuatoriana del Trabajo Voluntario"<sup>8</sup>, facilitated the organization of three provincial workshops on volunteerism in the three selected provinces: Manabí, Guayas and Chimborazo. And two regional meetings were also organized in Chimborazo and Guayas bringing representatives from different provinces. VIOs working on the area of DRR and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level like Red Cross and Civil Defense participated actively in the discussion.

FETV is one of the most active and important members of the MVE network. It is an organization with 25 years of experience. They count on representation in 13 provinces of the country and it is best positioned to reach out VIOs at the local level. FETV counts with local coordination systems in the 3 provinces. It is also important to mention that in the three selected provinces there are some existing initiatives that shall benefit strongly this project:

- ACORVOL in Guayas. With 85 affiliated NGOs, it is one of the strongest members of the FETV and MVE in Ecuador. They have shown interest in getting training on disaster preparedness for their member organizations during the last two years. This is the first initiative that ACORVOL undertakes in the area of Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level. UNV has recently mobilized a Spanish University Volunteer to strengthen the coordination mechanisms of ACORVOL.
- In Manabí, the provincial coordination of the FETV has 49 member NGOs. These organizations include the Civil Engineer Association and Red Cross, already actively involved in activities of disaster reduction. However the other members have no specific activities in Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change apart from fund raising. Training these organizations will have a long lasting impact in the province.
- In Chimborazo the provincial coordination of the FETV counts with 13 affiliated NGOs. Damas Salesianas, Crusado Social and Rotary Club were involved in 2007 in disaster relief activities related to the Tungurahua volcano eruption (distribution of masks, training on breathing ailments and the use of masks in schools). In the capital, Riobamba, the municipality is involved in food distribution programmes and field visits to affected families. The volcanic eruption caused temporary displacement of people and health problems. These projects are conducted with the collaboration of university young volunteers and the Ministry of health.

This project aims at strengthening local capacities to respond better to natural hazards. Capacities of local VIOs will be increased to mobilize their communities more effectively. The participatory process undertaken by UNV during the last year with organizations from the provinces shall facilitate the identification of relevant partners at the community level and will therefore benefit project implementation.

### **Complementary on-going efforts**

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<sup>7</sup> Ecuador Volunteerism Roundtable

<sup>8</sup> Ecuadorian Federation of Volunteer Work

The project will tackle vulnerability by adopting a comprehensive, holistic approach. Social, economic, environmental and cultural aspects that render communities vulnerable or resilient to the impacts of natural hazards will be considered. Significant literature shows the often times disproportionate effect of natural disasters on the poorest and most vulnerable, including women, children and the elderly. Local practices will be analyzed and adapted to reduce risks. Efforts will include analyzing gender-sensitive local planning exercises, improving management of natural resources, understanding risks through consultative processes, and promoting the full participation of both women and men in decision-making affecting the definition of DRR strategies.

UNDP, SGP, BCPR and UNV will share their respective expertise, including possible best practices on gender and DRR, to ensure this integral approach. As mentioned above, this project complements existing on-going efforts in the area of DRR strategies. Project's added value is to bring on board civil society and, more specifically, volunteering efforts, to larger DRR initiatives.

Both national offices of UNDP and UNV in Ecuador have accumulated a relevant experience in areas like poverty alleviation, risk and vulnerability evaluation, disaster risk reduction and emergency management. UNDP brings also its extensive experience in sustainable development and climate change mitigation and adaptation activities, especially at the policy level. SGP counts with their experience at the local and community level. Specific technical expertise on DRR will be provided by BCPR.

UNDP is currently implementing two projects to mitigate climate change effects:

- a) "Adaptation to Climate Change through Effective Water Governance in Ecuador" aims at reducing Ecuador's vulnerability to climate change through effective water resource management. The project is executed by the Ministry of the Environment and is implemented by UNDP. It mainstreams climate change adaptation into water management practices and national/ local development plans. The project is being implemented in four provinces, including Manabi, which have critical watersheds and which are subject to a series of climatic hazards.
- b) Second National Communication on Climate Change to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). UNDP supports the Ecuadorian Government in the process of consultations and data gathering needed to prepare the report. This process is seen as an instrument to mainstream climate change into the formulation of policies and development strategies at the national level.

UNDP looks at Disaster Risk Management from the area of Democratic Governance. They focus on strengthening local capacities to design comprehensive DRR strategies. These Programmes integrate a risk-sensitive planning perspective into local development plans, to prevent and mitigate vulnerability and they have on-going activities in Guayas and Chimborazo. Also, UNDP is supporting efforts to develop relevant Information and Communication Technologies and early warning systems for local stakeholders<sup>9</sup>.

UNDP acts as the co-leading agency for emergency situations within the UN System through the inter-agency group called UNETE.

The SGP bases its work in the voluntary commitment of community members for interventions devoted to the sustainable conservation and management of biodiversity, strategies and local answers to land degradation and climate change, education campaigns to avoid the Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). Since 1994 SGP has supported 184 community based projects with very good results, the organizations that have been part of SGP portfolio in the area of intervention already have experience in development projects, strategic alliances, gender mainstreaming and sustainable livelihoods. This project will help to strengthen their capacities and allow the organizations to be an active part of local and regional networks that are working in risk management, local adaptations to climate change impacts.

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<sup>9</sup> To see a full list of UNDP portfolio of Projects in the area of Disaster Reduction and Management, see Annex 3

UNDP has focused mostly on the national and sub national level and they work at the municipal level working in coordination with local authorities. Joint initiatives on DRR strategies with local authorities have been tested in 7 municipalities, in which local authorities assign coordinators to the project. The same approach will be applied in this new project. All these on-going UNDP's projects will also benefit from the involvement and training of VIOs that this project has planned.

### Summary main challenges and opportunities

The recent flooding episode in the coastal region of Ecuador has raised the question of how prepared communities are to face such devastating events, and the readiness of local, regional and national organizations to protect and provide humanitarian assistance in crisis situations. It has raised awareness of people and authorities on the need of more comprehensive DRR strategies that involves all relevant actors.

The needs go beyond the phase of emergency management and resources need focus on the overall Disaster Risk Management perspective. The need of a switch in the paradigm of sole emergency response vis à vis the prevention and mitigation phase is what the country urgently needs to link these strategies with sustainable development initiatives.

The main challenges are:

- **Lack of training:** local organizations mobilize volunteers when disasters actually happen. However, they do not necessarily have the expertise and the knowledge to maximize the efficiency of their mobilization. It is therefore essential to increase capacities at the local level. Not only limited to VIOs members but also reaching out community members, so that capacities remain after project finalization.
- **Lack of awareness:** there are numerous VIOs in the country. However, they do not have the tradition of working on DRR strategies. It is important to increase their awareness on the role they can play to reach out communities to get better trained for disaster response, beyond the non-organized response volunteers actually provide.
- **Strengthen the link between municipalities and VIOs:** So far, municipalities do not systematically include risk prevention strategies on their local development plans. As a result, relief actions have shown important deficiencies. Therefore, local planning exercises must integrate a DRR perspective. By increasing the capacities of civil society organizations to contribute to those, the project will contribute to more participatory and effective local governance practices.
- **Country's institutional reform:** the government counterpart, former Civil Defense, has been recently created. Its focus on DRR strategies beyond the relief plans shall benefit current efforts on this area. Increasing national and local capacities to implement its mandate is essential to ensure sustainability of DRR plans.

Based on these challenges, the project proposes to contribute to reduce natural vulnerabilities through volunteerism and civic participation. It will concentrate on three specific areas of intervention:

- Identifying natural hazards in the three selected provinces
- Increasing capacities at the community level
- Piloting emergency management plans

<b>PART 3</b> <b>Strategy</b>
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<b>Proposed Description</b>
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This national initiative, together with two other national projects in Dominican Republic and Peru, are going to be linked to a regional volunteering initiative implemented by BCPR and UNV.

UNDP/Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery-BCPR and the United Nations Volunteers programme have designed a project that will serve as “regional umbrella” for these three national projects<sup>10</sup>. The objective of this regional approach is to recognize the role of volunteerism into disaster risk management by: a) providing training and technical assistance on DRR strategies; b) exchanging experiences among the three countries; c) document lessons learned and disseminate how to integrate effectively volunteerism into Disaster Risk Reduction strategies.

This regional strategy was developed during a meeting with UNDP PO/BCPR focal points in the region, BCPR and UNV in El Salvador in May 2008. This meeting was organized to channel UNV and BCPR’s common interest to develop comprehensive strategies to integrate Volunteerism in DRR initiatives. UNV and BCPR have been in contact over the last two years to define this common approach. The recently launched “UNV’s Facility on Natural Disaster Reduction<sup>11</sup>” was the opportunity to elaborate further these common interest and bring together interested partners. In that meeting, Programme Officers representing different Country Officers showed their interest in integrating volunteerism in their national DRR efforts. Moreover, all partners showed their interest in taking this opportunity of having different countries working on this area to generate knowledge based on actual different practices. During the meeting with representative of all countries, it came out clearly that a regional initiative should combine:

- Independence of national initiatives: different scenarios/needs/different (complementary) approaches: VIOs; Community-based organizations; Government.
- Value added of the regional umbrella as:
  - A tool to build knowledge, analyzing regional lessons learned.
  - An opportunity to build capacities in the region on DRR and Early Recovery.

For UNV this is an opportunity to strengthen local volunteer capacities in disaster prevention and recovery but also to foster better recognition and integration of volunteerism into disaster risk management strategies at the regional level. The partnership with BCPR will bring:

- a) the expertise on DRR that BCPR will bring to the Volunteering national initiatives.
- b) three complementary focuses from each national initiative: VIOs (ECU), CBOs (PERU) and Government (DR) which can be further analyzed and compiled from a regional perspective.
- c) the capacity of BCPR and its regional office to replicate further this integration of volunteerism in their DRR strategies.

A separate project document has been elaborated for this regional umbrella.

This Ecuador project will be implemented in the provinces of Guayas, Manabí and Chimborazo. The purpose of the project is to strengthen the capacities of a number of selected communities<sup>12</sup> to know better what vulnerabilities they are facing and how they can respond better to them. To do so, the strategy is grounded on a series of partnerships that range from the International to the community level so that lessons learned from previous projects can be adjusted and applied within vulnerable communities.

- BCPR and other International organizations shall provide technical expertise on DRR strategies and on how volunteerism can contribute to these.

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<sup>10</sup> National initiatives are: Ecuador, “Strengthening Ecuador VIOs to support better Disaster Risk Reduction strategies and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level”; Peru, “Volunteers for the reconstruction after the earthquake in the region of Ica”; Dominican Republic, “Support to mobilising volunteers for Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation in Dominican Republic.

<sup>11</sup> UNV Rapid Facility launched in April 2008 and funded by AECID (Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo).

<sup>12</sup> Criteria for selection are explained below

- At the national level, UNDP and the Small Grants Programme bring the link with on-going projects with the Ecuador Government in the area of Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change.
- At the municipal level, community-based organizations (part of SGP initiatives), VIOs and municipalities will participate in the plans to identify hazards and better respond to them.

3 National UNV volunteers will be recruited to support project implementation in each province (TORs in Annex 1). They will work under UNDP and will report to the project manager, and International UNV volunteer himself currently working with UNDP on DRR projects. This national team will also receive guidance and training as needed from BCPR<sup>13</sup> and will feed the regional initiative by extracting lessons learned and best practices. They will become an asset for a regional network of trained persons that could be later mobilized by BCPR to support further initiatives.

This national team will map vulnerabilities and hazards at the provincial level. This mapping exercise will serve as basis to select the communities in which the training component and the pilot emergency management plans will be later developed.

The project has a strong focus enhancing capacities at the community level. Local organizations that involve volunteers will serve as an entry point to reach out the vulnerable communities. National UNV volunteers will train local VIOs on disaster risk reduction and management. They will provide them with the tools and methodologies that can be replicated later on with the communities to reduce their vulnerability and better respond when a disaster occurs.

Volunteer Organizations at the local level will be targeted through the provincial committees of Federación Ecuatoriana del Trabajo Voluntario (FETV).

The project will design pilot disaster reduction initiatives in which local VIOs will participate in order to increase their capacities to use relevant tools/ methodologies. They will also participate with local stakeholders to map natural hazards, design risks maps, assess needs and define action plans involving all relevant stakeholders.

By increasing their awareness and strengthening their skills, and designing participatory municipal plans on this sector, the present proposal aims at **reaching out the population** so that at a personal and institutional level, citizens can be in a better position to protect themselves against natural disasters.

This project is the first initiative in which UNDP mainstreams volunteerism as part of DRR strategies in Ecuador. It is based on UNV's collaboration with the MVE and its capacities to coordinate VIOs nationwide. Project implementation in the three selected provinces has a pilot nature. Based on the lessons learned, UNDP will explore its replication in other regions of the country. They have already identified the provinces of Los Ríos and Santa Elena as two areas in which a replication might be needed, considering their vulnerability.

Expected outputs and outcomes of the project are summarized as follows:

- 1) Hazards and vulnerabilities are identified at the local level to reduce people's vulnerabilities in the regions of intervention
- 2) Educational materials on risk prevention and management are produced and utilized by volunteers and volunteer organizations and local communities
- 3) Emergency management plans and climate change adaptation measures are designed, piloted and implemented at the local level with the support of volunteering organizations.

The project will be implemented within a period of 24 months.

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<sup>13</sup> An International UNV Volunteer will be recruited for the umbrella regional volunteering initiative. This IUNV will be in close contact with national teams to provide training as needed and extract lessons learned.

## Outcome and outputs

**Outcome:** Local capacities are increased for Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level

**Output 1:** Hazards and vulnerabilities are identified at the local level to reduce people's vulnerabilities in the regions of intervention

**Activity 1:** Identify most hazardous communities based on a mapping of vulnerabilities, responses and organizations.

The three provinces will have a map of hazards, vulnerabilities and adaptive capacities to the most important natural risks, climatic, seismic or volcanic.

Extensive knowledge exists on Gender and DRR strategies. It will be reviewed and applied in the production of gender sensitive maps.

**Activity 2:** Partnerships and collaborations with relevant stakeholders

To scale up the impact of the project, this initiative will establish partnerships with other programs, projects and specific activities that are already taking place in the area of implementation. Public and private institutions with roles in disaster response will be identified to participate in the mapping, especially NGOs with experience in capacity building for Disaster Risk Management at the provincial level.

Partnerships with women's groups will be key to ensure that all interventions look at both men and women's specific needs. Also, community based organizations that are part of the SGP portfolio in the areas of intervention will be considered as strategic partners to implement the methodologies. Municipalities will be represented through project's focal points.

**Activity 3:** Selection of intervention sites

The communities of intervention will be selected based on the results of the natural hazards mapping exercise. Selection criteria will also consider:

- Provinces of intervention of UNDP / SGP /UNV projects
- Settings with the potentiality of developing risk management capacities regarding a wide range of hazards, from climate-related to volcanic and seismic.
- Provinces or regions prioritized by AECID

**Output 2:** Educational materials on risk prevention and management are produced and utilized by volunteers and volunteer organizations and local communities

**Activity 1:** Selection, Adaptation and production of training and educational materials

Methodologies, tools and resources that can be of use to the project will be evaluated, adapted or adopted to specific local conditions of the communities where the project will be implemented.

Contents will be provided by BCPR, international and local NGOs with previous experience in risk management at the local level (such as Comitato Internazionale per lo sviluppo del popolo – CISP, COPI, World Vision, CRIC). UNDP and SGP already have existing relations with these organizations. The presence of gender-sensitive components of these tools will be assessed and applied as relevant.

**Activity 2:** Training of trainers

National and local VIOs (identified under Output 1) and UNV volunteers serving in the project will be trained as trainers in aspects related to emergency management, prevention, mitigation and other basic concepts related to disaster risk management

and reduction, including management of volunteers. They will also be given a good understanding of the different hazards that may impact the country with particular emphasis to those most probable in the area of influence of the project.

**Activity 3: Training of communities**

Volunteers trained under activity 2 will replicate their trainings at the local level with the communities. To do so, a training needs assessment will be undertaken for the communities to ensure skills are adapted to the vulnerabilities they face.

**Output 3:** Emergency management plans, climate change adaptation and sustainable livelihoods measures are designed, piloted and implemented at the local level with the support of volunteering organizations

**Activity 1: Selection of intervention sites**

Intervention sites in the provinces will be selected based upon several criteria: previous experience working with volunteer organizations, UNDP implemented projects, Small Grants Programme and other stakeholders; important hazards threatening livelihoods; access; etc.

**Activity 2: Design emergency management, recovery and adaptation plans**

Local emergency plans will be designed, mainstreaming mobilization and effective participation of communities for further piloting exercises and implementation with relevant stakeholders.

**Activity 3: Civil society and municipalities pilot the designed plans and are trained for its implementation**

The designed plans for emergency management, recovery and adaptation will be tested and piloted involving all relevant stakeholders. A training needs assessment will be undertaken to provide VIOs with the relevant skills they need to disseminate the plan principles with the larger community members.

**Activity 4: Document experiences for its inclusion within BCPR/UNV regional initiative.**

Lessons learned and best practices identify during project implementation will be shared with the regional volunteering initiative that UNV is implementing at the regional level. The objective is to contribute to generate and disseminate knowledge on how to mainstream civil society involvement in DRR strategies.

<b>PART 4</b> <b>Management Arrangements</b>
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This project will be implemented following the National Execution Modality (NEX), with the National Secretariat for DRM (STGR) acting as the main coordinating and implementing agency. Complexities in the implementation phase have been identified due to the number and different partners from the national, regional (coastal region), local level (municipalities), and the scientific organizations that have been engaged. Nevertheless, National Execution, NIM modality, under the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (**HACT**), will be applied. Under this arrangement, UNDP will be the responsible for the fund administration and expenditure, therefore UNDP norms and standards will be used.

Further, STGR and UNDP will sign a Letter of Agreement for the Provision of the Support Services required. UNDP will be in charge of the payments for the provision of goods, services and specialized consultancy required for the implementation of the project. Project



administration will be carried following standard procedures provided by specific guidelines and in strict application of the budget reflected in the Annual Work Plan (AWP), which will be uploaded in the ATLAS or global administration system used by UNDP.

UNDP's areas of Democratic Governance and Sustainable Development (that includes Small Grants Programme) will be responsible for effective implementation and coordination of program activities. UNDP Country Office's Programme Support Units will establish required monitoring work plans and targets, and monitor resource and financial management. A team of 3 national UNV volunteers will support project implementation and will serve under the supervision of UNDP's Project Manager.

Partners include local, national and International VIOs, former Civil Defense, and municipalities. Roles and responsibilities of the diverse partner institutions will be defined through management arrangements as applicable following UNDP's rules and regulation for DEX projects.

Under the direction of the Project Manager based in Guayaquil, the 3 National UNV volunteers will be assigned to each province. In Guayas, he/she will be hosted by the FETV. As for Manabí and Chimborazo, UNDP's local counterpart will host the National UNV volunteers. At the local level, the activities will have the support of the partner organizations. Involved organizations (both municipalities and CSOs) will appoint a representative, who will participate in project implementation.

UNDP CO will be responsible for:

- Implementing all activities agreed in this project document
- Assigning a Project Manager
- Supervise all national UNV volunteers serving in the project
- Monitoring project implementation
- Presenting bi-annual progress reports and final reports to UNV (technical and financial) following POPP
- Participating in the selection process for recruiting all National UNV volunteers
- Coordinating with BCPR regional volunteering initiative to facilitate training and document lessons learned as well as facilitate implementation of BCPR regional activities
- Ensure and coordinate final external project evaluation and mid-term review according to UNDP's rules and procedures
- Design detailed AWP's with annual targets
- Providing relevant information from national initiative to BCPR regional umbrella for their progress and final reports

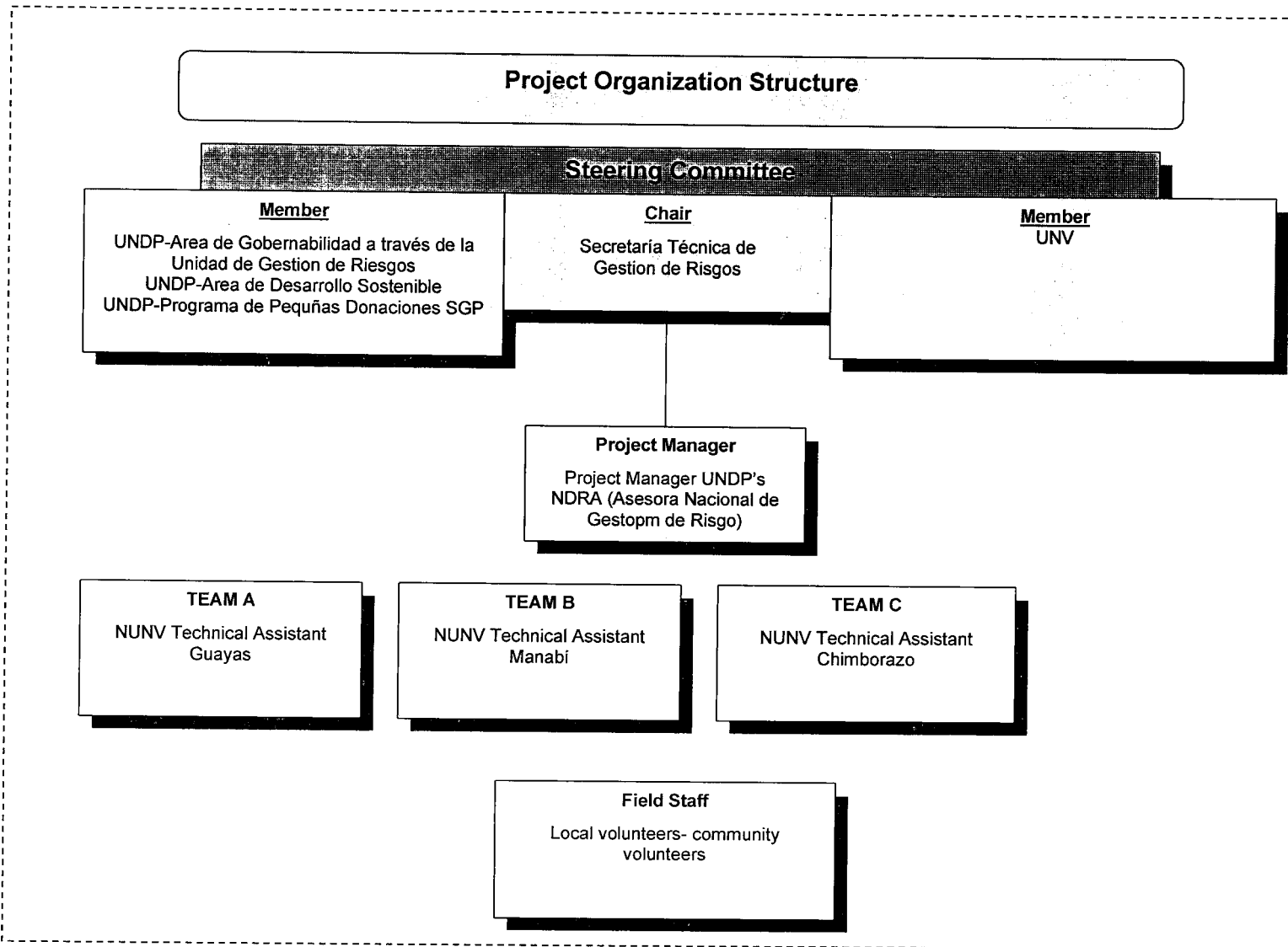
UNV will be responsible for:

- Providing technical support in the area of volunteerism for development
- Monitoring project implementation as part of the UNV's ARLAC Integration Programme
- Leading the selection process of national UNV volunteers
- Managing contractual issues of the national UNV volunteers selected
- Acting as liaison between UNDP and VIOs through the National UNV volunteers
- Promote volunteerism among stakeholders, including the On-line Volunteers modality
- Reviewing and providing inputs for the TORs and Reports of final external evaluation and mid-term review
- Reviewing and providing inputs for Progress and Final Reports

Small Grants Programme will be responsible for:

- Implementing and design the emergency management plans described under Output 3
- Selecting the community-based organizations that will implement the pilot emergency management plans
- Contribute to document this experience through participatory exercises at the local level
- Disseminate lessons learned to facilitate scaling up this initiative.

A Steering Committee will be set up representing the three main responsible parties: UNDP, UNV (PO) and SGP, that will represent the community-based organizations. This committee will facilitate project coordination. It will be chaired by UNDP and will review project implementation. The Project Manager will report to this committee.



## Risk analysis

RISKS IDENTIFIED	MITIGATION MEASURES
Institutional: the country is undergoing a constitutional reform, which will bring about deep changes at the policy and institutional level. This might affect government's response and ownership over this project.	Local structures (community based organizations, volunteer networks and municipalities) are stable and will provide sustainability to the process.
Political: the country will go through political elections during year 2009. This will influence local and national agendas.	Activities will be programmed taking in consideration major political events.
New disasters occurs in intervention zone	In that case, if possible and needed UNVs could be shifted into a response mode and still work under UNDPs coordination.

## Sustainability Strategy

The project has been conceptualized to empower and transfer capacities to the most vulnerable people. It aims at improving the effectiveness of their mobilization when natural disaster happens as well as to increase their awareness on how to reduce their vulnerability to risks. The rationale followed is that by involving in this process the actual vulnerable people, they will become more empowered actors when disasters happen and therefore capacities will remain after project implementation.

More specifically, the project aims at ensuring sustainability of project efforts by:

- a) Involving from the beginning of the projects all relevant stakeholders: VIOs, actual vulnerable population and municipalities; this comprehensive approach shall ensure further and more effective coordination of activities towards natural disasters;
- b) Handing over the emergency management plans to these stakeholders, establishing clear roles.

## Legal Context

This Project Document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article I of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Ecuador and the UNDP, signed by the parties on January 19, 2005. The host country implementing agency shall, for the purpose of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement, refer to the government co-operating agency described in that Agreement.

The UNDP Resident Representative in Ecuador is authorized to effect in writing the following types of revision to this Project Document, provided that he/she has verified the agreement thereto by the UNDP-GEF Unit and is assured that the other signatories to the Project Document have no objection to the proposed changes:

- Revision of, or addition to, any of the annexes to the Project Document;
- Revisions which do not involve significant changes in the immediate objectives, outputs or activities of the project, but are caused by the rearrangement of the inputs already agreed to or by cost increases due to inflation;
- Mandatory annual revisions which re-phase the delivery of agreed project inputs or increased expert or other costs due to inflation or take into account agency expenditure flexibility; and
- Inclusion of additional annexes and attachments only as set out here in this Project Document."

## **Monitoring and evaluation**

The UN Resident Coordinator will be in charge of overall programme oversight, in consultation with the national counterparts through regular meetings to discuss the programme implementation and assess its progress. UNDP and UNV will ensure monitoring and evaluation of the Programme, in accordance with UNDP's DEX and Results Management Guidelines and will directly monitor the respective programme components.

In order to facilitate the monitoring and evaluation process Annual Work Plans will be designed in each province, with clear indicators and targets.

A Mid-Term Review will be undertaken at the end of the first year of implementation. The Mid-Term Review will determine progress being made towards the achievement of outcomes and will identify course correction if needed. It will focus on the effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of project implementation; will highlight issues requiring decisions and actions; and will present initial lessons learned about project design, implementation and management. Findings of this review will be incorporated as recommendations for enhanced implementation during the final half of the project's term. The organization, terms of reference and timing of the mid-term evaluation will be validated with all responsible parties as specified in this project document. The ToR for this Mid-term review will be prepared by MoE based on guidance from UNDP's Office of Evaluation.

An independent Final Evaluation will take place three months prior to the terminal tripartite review meeting, and will focus on the same issues as the mid-term evaluation. The final evaluation will also look at impact and sustainability of results, including the contribution to capacity development and the achievement of global environmental goals. The Final Evaluation should also provide recommendations for follow-up activities. The ToR for this evaluation will be prepared by MoE based on guidance from UNDP's Office of Evaluation.

## **Gender Perspective**

Adequate gender sensitive approach will be provided to the program, from its design to implementation and especially through its pilot applications. This approach will be based on SGP's Gender Mainstreaming Manual for Community Based Environmental Projects and on the UNDP's Eight-Point Agenda for Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality in Crisis Prevention and Recovery will be incorporated with emphasis in two major elements:

### **To promote gender equality in disaster risk reduction.**

- Incorporate gender analysis in the assessment of disaster risks, impacts and needs.
- Address women's unique needs and value women's knowledge in disaster reduction and recovery policies, plans and programs.
- Strengthen women's networks and organizations to facilitate women's active engagement.

### **To ensure Gender-Responsive Recovery.**

- Infuse gender analysis into all post-disaster planning tools and processes.
- Ensure recovery efforts provide equal economic opportunities for women including access to assets, such as land and credit.
- Promote social protection and sustainable livelihoods.
- Prioritize women's needs in key sectors such as transportation, shelter and health care
- Promote inclusion of women in recover decision making process

<b>Intended Outcome:</b> Local capacities are increased for Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level				
<b>Outputs and Indicators</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Indicative activities</b>	<b>Responsible parties</b>	<b>Inputs</b>
<p><b>Output:</b> Hazards and vulnerabilities are identified at the local level to reduce people's vulnerabilities in the regions of intervention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender-sensitive mapping of hazards, vulnerabilities, responses and organizations prepared</li> <li>• Number of local partners with which the project has established alliances</li> <li>• Number of communities selected</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify most hazardous communities (provincial mapping of vulnerabilities, responses and organizations)</li> <li>• Partnerships and collaborations with relevant stakeholders, including women's groups</li> <li>• Selection of intervention sites</li> </ul>	UNDP UNV SGP	Existing work and networks of UNDP, UNV and SGP in the selected provinces
<p><b>Output:</b> Educational materials on risk prevention and management are produced and utilized by volunteers and volunteer organizations and local communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of training and educational materials designed, printed and distributed</li> <li>• Number of VIOs trained in project workshops</li> <li>• Number of community members trained</li> <li>• Level of satisfaction of participants in community trainings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select, adapt and produce locally-adapted training and educational materials</li> <li>• Training of trainers</li> <li>• Replication of training with the larger communities, based on a training needs assessment</li> </ul>		

<p><b>Output:</b> Emergency management plans and climate change adaptation measures are designed, piloted and implemented at the local level with the support of volunteering organizations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of emergency plans established in the three provinces</li> <li>• Number of people trained on the pilot emergency plans, percentage of which are women</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selection of intervention sites</li> <li>• Design emergency management, recovery and adaptation plans</li> <li>• Pilot the designed plans with local stakeholders</li> <li>• Document experiences for its inclusion within BCPR/UNV regional initiative</li> </ul>	
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Outputs	Key activities	Timeframe (months 2008-2009)				PLANNED BUDGET (USD)		Co financing UNDP
		1-6	7-12	13-18	19-24	Budget description (UNV)	Amount	
1 Hazards and vulnerabilities are identified at the local level to reduce people's vulnerabilities in the regions of intervention	Identify most hazardous communities, mapping of vulnerabilities, responses and organizations	X				3 National UNVs	29,938 (3)	15,000
	Partnerships and collaborations with relevant stakeholders	X	X	X	X	Traveling expenses	2,500	
	Selection of intervention sites	X	X					
<b>Subtotal 1</b>							<b>32,438</b>	<b>15,000</b>

2. Educational materials on risk prevention and management are produced and utilized by volunteers and volunteer organizations and local communities	Selection, Adaptation and production of training and educational materials,	X	X			3 National UNVs	29,938 (3)	Co financing UNDP
	Training of trainers	X	X			Traveling expenses	2,500	
	Replication of training with larger communities, based on a training needs assessment			X		Training workshops	15,000	
						Publications	15,000	
						Dissemination	5,000	
<b>Subtotal 2</b>							<b>67,438</b>	

3. Emergency management plans and climate change adaptation measures are designed, piloted and implemented at the local level with the support of volunteering organizations	Selection of intervention sites			X	X	X	Responsibility of the 3 national UNVs	29,938 <sup>(1)</sup>	Co financing PPD /UNDP
	Design emergency management, recovery and adaptation plans			X	X	X	Traveling expenses	2,500	50,000
	Pilot designed plans with local stakeholders				X	X	Response measures (basic inputs, physical adaptation, equipments) <sup>(2)</sup>	70,000	
	Document experiences for its inclusion within BCP/UNV regional initiative	X		X	X	X			
<b>Subtotal 3</b>									
<b>Subtotal 4 Monitoring and Final Evaluation</b>								<b>13,000</b>	
<b>Subtotal 5 UNDP Technical assistance</b>								<b>14,862</b>	
<b>Total</b>								<b>230,176</b>	<b>65,000</b>

(1) Corresponds to the VLA for 3 NUNVs over 2 years divided by 3 outputs (14,969 USD x 3 x 2 /3).

(2) Corresponds to basic equipment for the implementation of practical projects with the communities, such as reforestation, basic protection measures (construction of a small wall), agricultural or husbandry inputs...





**ANNEX 1**  
**Terms of Reference for National UNV**  
**volunteers**

**ANNEX I: TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR NATIONAL UNV VOLUNTEERS**  
**(3) UNV VOLUNTEER TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Preamble:** The United Nations Volunteers is the UN organization that supports sustainable human development globally through the promotion of volunteerism, including the mobilization of volunteers. It serves the causes of peace and development through enhancing opportunities for participation by all peoples. It is universal, inclusive and embraces volunteer action in all its diversity.

This post is a UNV volunteer assignment based on the values of free will, commitment, engagement and solidarity, which are the foundations of volunteerism. Volunteering brings benefit to the individual volunteer as well as the society at large. It enhances social cohesion and enriches communities.

In most cultures volunteerism is deeply embedded in long-established, ancient traditions of sharing and support within the communities. In this context, UNV volunteers take part in various forms of volunteerism and play a role in development and peace together with co-workers, host agencies and local communities.

In all assignments, UNV volunteers promote volunteerism through their action and conduct. Engaging in volunteer activity can effectively and positively enrich your understanding of local and social realities, as well as create a bridge between yourself and the people in your host community. This will make the time you spend as UNV volunteer even more rewarding and productive.

**1. UNV Post Title:** National UNV Volunteer: Technical assistant

**2. Project Title:** Strengthening Ecuador VIOs to support better Disaster Risk Reduction strategies and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Community Level

**3. Duration:** 1 year (renewable)

**4. Location, Country:** Guayaquil (for Guayas), Riobamba (for Chimborazo) and Manta (for Manabí). Ecuador

**5. Expected starting date:** 01/11/2008

**6. Brief Project Description:**

The present project aims at increasing the capacities of Ecuadorian Volunteering Involving Organizations (VIOs) to participate in Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies (DRR). Volunteers have participated actively in the response phase of natural disaster. However, those efforts have not materialized in their involvement in larger DRR strategies and they lack the capacities and the expertise to work mobilize more effectively communities when disasters occur.

The project complements on-going efforts of UNDP and the Ecuadorian Government in the area of DRR. The recent floods that affected the country earlier this year evidenced the lack of capacities to respond to emergency situations. Involving civil society efforts through VIOs proved to be necessary to complement government response mechanisms.

The project will be implemented in three provinces: Chimbarazo, Manabí and Guayas. Natural hazards will be mapped in the three provinces and mitigation measures will be identified. Based on this, local VIOs will be trained on disaster reduction and mitigation strategies for later replication among vulnerable communities. Emergency management plans will be designed and piloted in the three regions. These activities will contribute to increase awareness among

stakeholders about their actual vulnerability and on the capacities needed to better manage natural disasters.

This project will be included as part of the ARLAC Programme contributing to Programme Outputs (Increased the presence of Volunteerism in the programming of development partners).

**7. Host Agency/Host Institute:** UNDP-Ecuador/ FETV's Provincial Committees

## **8. Description of Duties:**

**The UNV volunteer will be responsible for:**

**Promote the concept of Volunteerism for Development:** As a UNV volunteer, you are expected to promote volunteerism and engage in volunteering activities. As such you are encouraged to:

- A first step is to strengthen your knowledge and understanding of the concept of volunteerism by reading relevant UNV and other publications and taking active part in UNV activities and also to get acquainted with traditional and/or local forms of volunteerism in the host community.

### **Main activities:**

**Under the supervision of UNDP's International Project Manager, the UNV will be responsible for:** ensuring implementation of project activities in the selected province. More specifically,

- Review existing literature on DRR and on role of volunteerism of DRR strategies
- Liaise with local VIOs, including women's groups, to involve them in the three project Outputs
- Identify other relevant stakeholders that need to be involved in comprehensive DRR strategies
- Contribute to map existing hazards, vulnerabilities and adaptation capacities in the region together with local stakeholders
- Contribute to identify and select intervention communities
- Produce educational materials on risks prevention and mitigation
- Provide training to local VIOs on risk prevention and mitigation measures
- Provide technical assistance to VIOs for effective management of volunteers
- Monitor replication of training with local communities
- Contribute to design emergency management plans, climate change and adaptation measures at the local level
- Select areas of intervention to pilot these plans
- Contribute to implement the plans
- Liaise with the regional volunteering initiative with BCPR to provide lessons learned and contribute to document this national initiative as needed
- Mainstream the gender perspective in the implementation of the project, especially involving women's groups and involving both women and men on the mapping exercises and the trainings.
- Networking and building relationships with local organizations, groups or individuals and support and/or participate in local volunteering initiatives;
- Encouraging and mobilizing co-workers, fellow UNV volunteers and members of the local community to play an active part in the development of their community;

- Contributing articles/write-ups on field experiences and submit for UNV publications/websites, newsletters, press releases, etc.;
- Initiating and/or participate in local volunteer groups. Assist them in submitting stories, experiences to the World Volunteer Web site;
- Promoting or advising local groups in the use of OV (online volunteering), or encourage relevant local individuals and groups to use OV whenever technically possible.

## 9. Qualifications/Requirements:

University title in engineering, architecture, geography, urban planning or social sciences. A Masters degree in disaster management will be appreciated.

### - **Professional experience**

- Experience in humanitarian help, post disaster or disasters management
- Experience in international organizations or in NGOs or in governmental organizations working in the area of disaster management
- Experience in managing volunteers teams

### - **Aptitudes**

1. Available immediately
2. Available to live in the Project area
3. Available to participate in workshops
4. Ability to write technical documents in a clear manner
5. Excellent interpersonal skills
6. Ability to work in a team and under pressure

**Date: 14/10/2008**

**ANNEX 2**  
**Impact of Natural Disasters on**  
**Ecuador: economic growth and**  
**human losses**

### IMPACT OF RECENT EVENTS IN ECUADOR

Year	Event	Impact
1982 1983	El Niño	GDP dropped in 2,8%
1987	Napo Eq.	Losses of \$ 1 billion GDP drops 6%
1997 1998	El Niño	Direct loss \$2,882 millions aprox. 15% GDP of year 1997
2006	Volcanic Eruption	Loss estimates 60' million Emergency attention 30'
2008	Heavy Rain in the coastal reagon	Losses account for 2.5% of the GDP

### Losses due to 2008 Floods in the Coastal Region of Ecuador

Number of provinces affected	13/24
Total number of cantons affected in the 13 provinces	66/149
Number of deaths	64
Number of persons disappeared	6
Population affected (UNOSAT estimated 233870 affected persons only in the Provinces of Guayas and Los Ríos)	275000
Number of Shelters, many people refused to leave their homes and was attended there	375
Number of displaced persons in shelters	15000
Affected persons not in shelters	260000
Bridges	15
Roads	2841 km
Schools severely damaged	1681
Dwellings damaged	1804
Loss of agricultural fields (hectares)	97870 ha
Agricultural fields with some kina of impact	83269 ha
Number of farmers that lost their crops	33961
Productores/as que perdieron sus actividades pecuarias	1457
The diagnostic that was prepared to design the recovery plan suggest losses for 1200 millions dollars (2,5% od 2008 GDP)	

**ANNEX 3**  
**Disaster Reduction and Management**  
**UNDP's Portfolio of projects**



**DRM portafolio for Ecuador implemented by UNDP  
Year 2008-2011**

<b>Name of the Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Sources of Funding</b>	<b>Implementing Partners</b>
Implementation of a Multimodal early warning system for floods in the coastal region of Ecuador	€130.000	ECHO DIPECHO	CIIFEN - INAMHI
Strengthening National and Local Capabilities for DRM in Ecuador	USD 327.000	BCPR	Secretaria Tecnica de Gestion de Riesgos (STGR) and several local governments
Urban Risk Reduction Program for Quito	USD 861.000	WB	City of Quito
Assisting the national government of Ecuador to manage the emergency and recovery process after the 2008 floods	USD 190.000	BCPR	Min. Litoral, Senplades, STGR
Supporting early recovery in Ecuador	USD 110.000	BCPR	Min. Litoral, Senplades, STGR