

HOW TO DESIGN A COMMUNITY CONSULTATION WORKSHOP ON LOCALLY RISK PERCEPTION?



Why is it considered necessary to develop Community Consultation Workshops on hazards risk perception associated to extreme weather events?

The development and consolidation of a transdisciplinary approach of institutions and government agencies in municipalities, together with the establishment of organized participation levels of communities in decision-making for updating knowledge and application of instruments for local management risk, with emphasis on studies of hazard, vulnerability and risk, ensure an efficient and effective local management of these hydro-meteorological hazards. Workshops are one of the Means to achieve such Purpose.



What is recommended to do in Community Consultation Workshops?

To promoting knowledge acquisition and skills development, in leaders of the population and representatives of institutions and government agencies with high incidence in the territory, for a comprehensive risk management of hydro-meteorological hazards, through the use of active methods and the use of tools and procedures consistent with transdisciplinary approach and participation.



How can be structured the development of Community Consultation Workshops?

INTRODUCTORY BLOCK

Presentation of participants / Strategic and methodological fixation / Background / Objectives and expected results with the workshop.

1ST PHASE. Specification of the Local Situation

Introduction of the Systems, Instruments and /or Tools implementation for the local comprehensive management of hydrometeorological hazards: Environmental Strategy, Studies of Hazard, Vulnerability and Risk (HVRs), Land Use Plan, Disaster Reduction Plan, Early Warning System.



2ND PHASE. Conceptual and Methodological targeting

Plenary Master Lecture: Adopted concepts and trends associated to the Comprehensive Strategic Management of Risks. Description of the methodological tools that will be used to facilitate the achievement of objectives. Formation of the working groups.



3RD PHASE. Individual work, in groups or in plenary to obtain the expected results

- Application of Individual Survey. No group responses are excluded.
- Preparation of Matrixes by Specialized or Base Groups.
- Plenary Presentation and discussion of Summary Matrix by each Specialized Group.
- Preparation of Matrixes by Crossed Groups or Integral Groups.
- Plenary Presentation and discussion of Summary Matrix by each Crossed Group or Integral Group.
- Preparation in Plenary of selected Matrixes to facilitate the Coordination process.
- Assessment in Plenary about Integration and reached consensus.
- Elucidation and clarification in Plenary about the reached Consensus.



CONCLUSIONS BLOCK

Workshop Evaluation / Acknowledgements / Identification of possible points of continuity / Workshop Conclusions / Farewell to participants

Who could form working groups for community consultation?

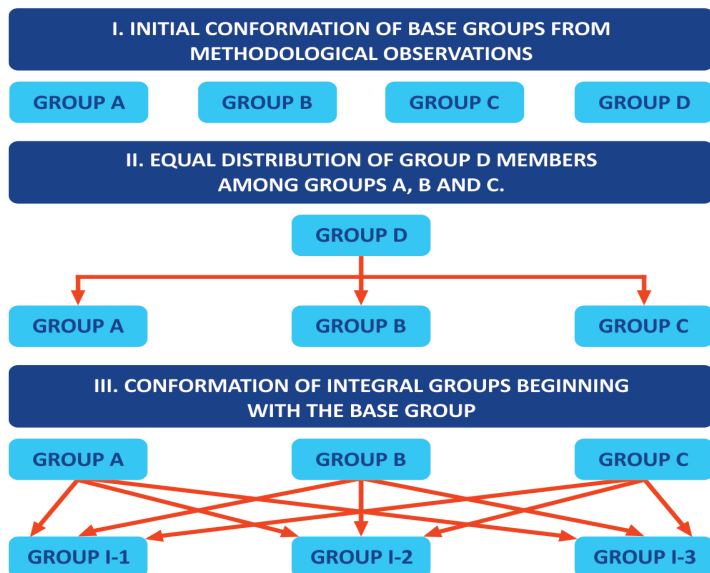
GROUP A. Government agencies and institutions with high incidence in the provincial and municipal levels are included, in relation to forecasts and decision-making in risk management (Government, Civil Defense, Environment, Weather, Water Resources, Center for Management Risk Reduction, Department of Physical Planning). In abbreviated form it was called as Decision-Makers Group. They are also the technical and methodological guiding of the main instruments for risk management.

GROUP B. They include the institutions with high incidence in risk management at the level of the selected municipalities (Communal, Health, Education, Media Networks, Agriculture and Forestry, Housing, Physical Planning). They are directly responsible for the comprehensive territorial diagnosis with a risk approach, and for the implementation of the budget. In abbreviated form, they are called as Municipal Group or just Diagnose Group.

GROUP C. Local government authorities along with representatives of institutions located within the communities, different associations, resident population and no formal leaders are included. In abbreviated form, they are called as Community Group, whose significant impact is at the People's Council level.

GROUP D. (Research and Development Group): It includes representatives from universities, research centers and scientific and technical societies, all with academic and research incidence affecting the territory. It consolidates the joint college - institutions - community.

How is recommended to organize groups work?



Application of the proposed methodology for the development of community consultation workshops on risks perception associated to hydro-meteorological hazards

Provinces	Municipalities	Popular Councils	Settlement type
Santiago de Cuba	Palma Soriano	La Ceiba	Urbano
Granma	Bartolomé Maso	Canabacoa	Rural / Montaña
Holguín	Rafael Freyre	Sta. Lucia y Fray Benito	Urbano / Costero
Las Tunas	Puerto Padre	Malecón	Urbano / Costero

What were the main lessons learned from the implementation of the methodological approach proposed in the 4 community consultation workshops held in the eastern provinces?

- The proposed methodological approach allowed a comprehensive systematization of the following methodological tools:
 - Methodological procedures proposed by the Environment Agency to update the studies of hazard, vulnerability and risk in Havana.
 - Methodologies, contributions, results and lessons learned from recent processes developed by UN-HABITAT in Cuba, emphasizing in the Local Agenda21.
 - Methodological Experiences of community work, the implementation of the strategic direction to the management of human settlements and the Comprehensive Risk Management in Havana; obtained in over 25 years of work of the Group for the Comprehensive Development of the Capital.
- The matrixes used can evaluate the high significance that the interinstitutional work has with the incorporation of population in the updating of HVRS to the local level, and in building a consensus for priority setting and decision-making in a participatory way.
- The individualization of the questionnaires into two groups of target population, allowed comparisons between the dual roles of a key institution as resident and as representative in a same area of identified risks.
- The proposed methodological approach allowed complementing the procedures established by the Environment Agency (AMA), assuming that these are the main components of its genesis.
- The matrix component of the proposed methodological approach has been enriched and adjusted according to the specific demands of the analyzed territories under risk.