



Colombia

KEY PRIORITIES RELATED TO DRM IN THE COUNTRY

Colombia's commitment to disaster risk reduction dates back to 1983. In the aftermath of the Popayan earthquake, the Government of Colombia initiated the creation of a system for disaster preparedness and response. In 1989, the government established the National System for Disaster Management and Prevention (Sistema Nacional para la Prevención y Atención de Desastres [SNPAD]). Since the mid-1990s, Colombia has moved from disaster response towards disaster risk management

by: (i) strengthening actions in disaster risk prevention and mitigation; (ii) reducing fiscal vulnerability to natural hazards; and (iii) improving land use planning. However, damage to property, infrastructure and livelihoods continues to rise as a result of inadequate: (i) urban growth planning; (ii) land use planning; (iii) environmental management; and (iv) application of building codes.

GFDRR ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

GFDRR began its support to Colombia in 2008 with a project on risk modeling in the capital city of Bogotá. In 2010, GFDRR's support expanded to understanding risk and DRM problems at the national level. The Colombia Country Disaster Risk Management Analysis (CCDRMA) conducted by the World Bank, with GFDRR support, contributed significantly towards providing the Government with an analytical basis upon which to improve institutional organization and policies for DRM. The CCDRMA includes a review at regional and local levels of: (i) the status and development of investments in risk management; (ii) the inclusion of hazard and risk measures in land use

planning and watershed management; and (iii) the role of sectoral authorities in nine territories. At the local level GFDRR is supporting events with various cities in Colombia focused on mainstreaming DRM in all facets of public administration. In the housing sector, GFDRR has helped develop a methodology for creating a national inventory of settlements in high-risk areas. This methodology enables the government to assess the dimension of current challenges, measure and monitor settlements and target assistance to communities that most urgently need to integrate risk assessment into territorial planning.

LOOKING AHEAD

GFDRR intends to continue its support for Colombia's progress by assisting with: (i) the modernization of the national DRM system; (ii) improvements in the application of disaster risk analysis and management in policy-making at the sectoral and territorial levels; (iii) mainstreaming DRM in watershed management plans; (iv) developing a high risk settlement inventory and assessment to effectively target assistance to

municipalities; and (v) implementing the 2011-2014 World Bank Country Partnership Strategy, specifically the Second Disaster Risk Management DPL (US\$150 million), the Second National Disaster Vulnerability Reduction Project (US\$150 million) and the Barranquilla Urban Flood Management Project (US\$85 million).

Background

CLIMATE CHANGE & DISASTER RISK PROFILE

Colombia is vulnerable to floods, landslides, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and occasional Atlantic hurricanes. Over the last 40 years, 190,000 houses have been destroyed by natural disasters, with 1 million people affected. The associated cost has been estimated at US\$2.04 billion. The impact of the 2010–2011 La Niña rainy seasons reflects the complexity of hazard risk in Colombia and the gaps and deficiencies of DRM in the country. Recent flooding, for example, affected approximately 3.5 million people and resulted in unprecedented damages and losses, underscoring the need to strengthen the national system.

To address the impacts of climate change, Colombia has approved and implemented a range of measures in varying degrees, including: adopting the UN Framework Convention of Climate Change (1994), adopting the Kyoto Protocol (2000), establishing climate change adaptation (CCA) as a priority in the National Development Plan 2010-2014, and establishing a National Climate Change System (SNCC) to improve coordination among the institutions involved. While advances have been made in CCA and DRM, integrating both into planning and public investments remains a high priority.

GFDRR ENGAGEMENT

Source of Funding	MDTF, Spain, SDTF
Resources Awarded	US\$1,463,000
Resources Disbursed	US\$1,129,000
Number of projects	Ongoing: 2; Completed: 4

KEY INDICATORS

DRR Index¹	WDI: 3.8/5 DRI Class: 4/7
Income Group	Upper-Middle
Population	46.9 million
GDP	US\$7,104/capita
Poverty	34% of population
Urban Population	75% of total

DRM/CCA IN POLICY PAPERS

(as assessed by the DRM specialist)

Mainstreaming:	Low	High
PRSP		
WB-CAS		
UNDAF		
NAPA		
EU-CSP		

NATIONAL PLATFORM

National System for Disaster Risk Management. Declared to the UNISDR.

NATIONAL LEGISLATION

Law 1523 of April 24, 2012, recognized the central role in the development process of the National Policy on Disaster Risk Management and created a National System for Disaster Risk Management. Decree 4147 of November 3, 2011, created a national unit for the coordination of a national DRM system. Decree 3700 of the National Council for Economic and Social Policy (CONPES) for Climate Change established a model disaster response system.

1. The World Development Indicators (WDI) Disaster Risk Reduction progress score is an average of self-assessment scores, ranging from 1 to 5, submitted by countries under Priority 1 of the Hyogo Framework National Progress Reports (1-5 scale; 5=best). The Disaster Risk Index (DRI) is a mortality-based index developed in order to enable comparisons of countries hit by different hazard types (7 classes; 7=high mortality).

GFDRR KEY PARTNERS

National Services	National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (UNGRD), Ministry of Housing, Ministry of Finance, National Planning Department, Civil Protection, Ministry of Environment, Autonomous Regional Corporations Association (ASOCARS), Colombian Society of Farmers (SAC), Colombian Chamber of Construction (Camacol), National Business Association of Colombia (ANDI), Colombian Chambers of Infrastructure, National Hydro-Meteorological Agency (IDEAM)
International Organizations	World Bank, United Nations' Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Regional Organizations	Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), Andean Committee for Disaster Prevention and Response (CAPRADE)
NGOs/CSOs	The Colombian Federation of Municipalities, Autonomous Regional Corporations Association (ASOCARS), the Colombian Society of Farmers (SAC), Colombian Chamber of Construction (Camacol), Colombian Chamber of Infrastructure, National Business Association of Colombia (ANDI)
GFDRR Donors	European Union (EU), Spain, United States

Project

Description

PROJECTS AWARDED BY GFDRR 2007-2014

Consolidating Disaster Risk Management

US\$509,000 | Start date: 2012 (Ongoing)



Supports UNGRD and Ministry of Finance with: (i) better implementing disaster risk analysis, planning, and management at sectoral, territorial, watershed, and municipal levels (ii) establishing new instruments of inter-agency coordination and (iii) assisting Ministry of Housing with inventory of high risk settlements.

Reducing Flood Risk in Bogotá: Formulation of the Rio Bogotá Dynamic River Management Plan

US\$80,000 | Start date: 2012 (Ongoing)



Supports city of Bogotá to reduce flood risk through preparing a river management plan. Expected outputs include: maintenance and dike safety plans for river works protecting Bogotá, and stronger institutional capacity of the Rio Bogotá Flood Committee.

Barranquilla—Preparation for Integrated Urban Flood Prevention Investment Project

US\$113,000 | Start date: 2010 (Completed)



Assists Barranquilla to prepare climate-smart flood prevention projects. Expected outputs include: strengthened capacity to implement urban flood risk reduction activities, formulation of new investment operations, and better communication strategies on existing flood challenges.

Probabilistic Risk Assessment (CAPRA)

US\$500,000 | Start date: 2010 (Completed)



Strengthens the government's capacity to better design and prioritize investment programs. Expected outputs include: (i) analysis of expected damages to property and livelihood (ii) cost-benefit analysis of potential mitigation measures (iii) regional and national risk assessments in key sectors (iv) and training for stakeholders.

Colombia Country Disaster Risk Management Analysis (CCDRMA)

US\$161,000 | 2011–2012 (Completed)



Analyzed status of regional and local integration of hazard and risk in land use planning and watershed management. The project also analyzed the role of sectoral authorities through case studies in various sectors and geographic areas.

Disaster Risk Modeling for HRM: The Experience of Bogotá

US\$100,000 | 2007–2012 (Completed)



The objectives of this project were (i) to publish a reference book on the description and applications of probabilistic catastrophic risk models, using the case of Bogotá DC as an illustration; and (ii) to organize workshops in selected middle and low-income countries in Latin America to sensitize the countries on the potential applications of catastrophic risk modeling.

SYNERGIES WITH OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

PAHO/WHO	The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) provide training in health and disaster relief.
IOM	The International Organization for Migration (IOM) strengthens capacities of the National Unit for DRM in five areas.
CAPRADE	The Andean Committee for Disaster Prevention and Response (CAPRADE) implements the Andean Strategy for Disaster Prevention and Relief (EAPAD).
EU	The European Union (EU) supports DRM strengthening through the Disaster Preparedness Program of the Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department of the European Commission (DIPECHO).
USA	US agencies have updated a Plan of Action to strengthen capacities of the National Unit for DRM.
UNDP	The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) strengthens municipal capacity to reduce disaster risk.
OXFAM	OXFAM is working on capacity building for disaster management at national and regional levels in various areas.
World Bank	<p>Colombia Sovereign Disaster Risk Financing Project:</p> <p>Seeks to: (i) reduce financial vulnerability to natural disasters; (ii) improve financial response capacity; and (iii) protect long-term fiscal balance.</p> <p>National Disaster Vulnerability Reduction Project:</p> <p>Reduces fiscal vulnerability to natural events by supporting the four strategic lines of action identified in the National Plan for Disaster Prevention and Management.</p> <p>Bogotá Disaster Vulnerability Reduction Project:</p> <p>Reduces the vulnerability of the capital district of Bogota, by strengthening its capacity to manage disaster risks and reducing vulnerability in key sectors.</p> <p>Development Policy Loan with Catastrophe Deferred Drawdown Option:</p> <p>Allows Colombia to reduce exposure to catastrophe risk and access funds immediately after a natural disaster through a contingent line of credit.</p> <p>Second National Disaster Vulnerability Reduction Project:</p> <p>Strengthens DRM framework through the application of disaster risk analysis and management in policy-making and the strengthening of risk reduction at local levels.</p> <p>Barranquilla Urban Flood Management Project:</p> <p>Assists in increasing resilience to floods through preparation of the city's drainage master plan, specific hydraulic interventions, implementation of early warning system and enhancement of mobility during rain events.</p>