



**COSIPLAN**  
Presidencia Pro Tempore  
Chile 2013 - 2014

---

## **MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE TECHNICAL GROUP ON RISK AND DISASTER PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE**

October 14, 2014  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

### **PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE MEETING**

On October 14, 2014, the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina, hosted the Meeting of the Executive Technical Group on Risk and Disaster Prevention and Management in Infrastructure, which was attended by delegations from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Venezuela as well as by representatives of the UNASUR General Secretariat and IIRSA Technical Coordination Committee. The meeting agenda and the list of participants are attached as Annexes 1 and 2, respectively.

The objectives of the meeting were the following:

- i. Present the preliminary version of the preliminary version of the User's Manual of the Methodology for Incorporating Disaster Risk Prevention and Management (DRM) into the COSIPLAN-IIRSA regional integration infrastructure projects.
- ii. Reach an agreement on the criteria and the minimum information needed to carry out a pilot application of the Methodology and the User's Manual.

The meeting was opened by Chile's Under-Secretary of Public Works, Mr. Sergio Galilea Ocón, on behalf of the COSIPLAN Presidency Pro Tempore 2013-2014, who made reference to the various natural disasters to which the South American territory is prone on account of its physical features and the impact of climate change, and which damage infrastructure and its lifetime. Against this background, Mr. Galilea Ocón stated that proper account should be taken of the following aspects to improve the capacity to respond to such events: (i) coordination among the institutions concerned with this topic at the local, national and regional levels; (ii) public budget allocation to respond to disasters; and (iii) the active participation of the citizens. He stressed the need to systematize and document these experiences and report them on risk maps that help ensure a better response. Lastly, he welcomed the fact that this issue is on the COSIPLAN agenda, emphasizing the importance of having a methodology as well as action guidelines to enhance the capacity to face natural disasters.

Subsequently, the working sessions began as scheduled in the meeting agenda. The first session included the presentation of the Risk Management Index (RMI), a performance indicator developed by the IDB that measures the gap between the actual losses and the losses that would result if investments to improve risk management public policy planning were not made. The RMI includes four components with six indicators each: risk identification, disaster management, financial protection, and risk reduction.

Performance as measured by this index gradually improved in all the countries from 1995 to 2013, and even though no country has attained a satisfactory level, significant improvement has been made, especially in risk identification and disaster management. The presentation is attached as Annex 3.

Next, the IDB presented the Index of Governance and Public Policy (iGOPP), which is a tool to (i) measure the quality of a country's governance of DRM; i.e. whether it has the right legal, institutional and budgetary conditions to promote comprehensive disaster risk management; and (ii) monitor and assess public policy reforms. This index, which is not a performance assessment or measurement tool but a research instrument, is made up of 241 binary indicators. The presentation is attached as Annex 4.

The countries emphasized the following aspects: (i) inclusion in the data collected for the iGOPP of the political configuration of federal countries, where the administration of the territory is the purview of provinces, regions and other national subunits; (ii) the good practice of having an agency in place to centrally coordinate and articulate risk management, located at the highest political level within the government structure; (iii) the importance of citizen participation in risk management, including the involvement of the citizens in the planning of public policies in this field; and (iv) the fact that the focus is not only on responding to an emergency but also on prevention and planning. For this purpose, land cover, land use, and territorial planning should be taken into account.

The second session included the presentation of experiences and lessons learned in the incorporation of risk management to infrastructure in Central America (Annex 5); a Chilean case of risk probability assessment (Annex 6); and an example of the incorporation of DRM into infrastructure development in Japan (Annex 7).

Next, the revised version of the Methodology for the Incorporation of DRM into the Integration Infrastructure Projects (Annex 8) and the preliminary version of the Methodology User's Manual (Annex 9) were presented.

The methodology simplifies the six original steps, proposing three phases: (i) phase 1, screening, which identifies the subject of study, i.e. the infrastructure or hazard whose risk wants to be determined for its subsequent management; (ii) phase 2, risk analysis, which includes four steps to identify the risk and its mitigation measures; and (iii) phase 3, risk management, which identifies the alternative actions once the risk involved in some infrastructure has been studied. The methodology also proposes the involvement of four advocacy groups in its different phases.

The representative of the General Secretariat stated that risk prevention and management is a cross-cutting issue in UNASUR, which includes other bodies addressing this subject from different perspectives: the Defense Council, the Health Council, the Council of Culture, and the High-Level Group. It is necessary to establish a dialogue and coordination to help attain a convergence of views in the future. The countries offered to collaborate with the Defense Council in the drawing of South American risk maps, taking into account the COSIPLAN experience with the Geo-referenced Information System and the fact that its work focuses on integration infrastructure planning.

Finally, the countries agreed to move forward in the following lines of action:

- (i) Conduct a pilot application in 2015 of the current version of the Methodology for the Incorporation of DRM into Integration Infrastructure Projects User's Manual to Project Group 5 of the Central Interoceanic Hub, "Connections of the Hub to the Pacific: Ilo / Matarani -

Desaguadero - La Paz + Arica - La Paz + Iquique - Oruro - Cochabamba - Santa Cruz,” which is a seism silent area, using IDB technical cooperation funds.

- (ii) Update the User’s Manual on the basis of the pilot application.
- (iii) Articulate and exchange information with other councils and COSIPLAN bodies currently working on disaster risks through the COSIPLAN PPT and the UNASUR General Secretariat.

## **List of Annexes:**

[Annex 1: Agenda of the Meeting](#)

[Annex 2: List of Participating Delegations](#)

[Annex 3: The Overall Risk Management Framework: Structure of the IDB Disaster Risk and Risk Management Indicators – Hori Tsuneki, Sector Specialist in Disaster Risk Management, IDB](#)

[Annex 4: iGOPP: A Tool to Support the Methodology for the Incorporation of DRM into Infrastructure Development – Sergio Lacambra, Sector Specialist in Disaster Risk Management, IDB](#)

[Annex 5: The Incorporation of DRM into Infrastructure and the Lessons Learned in its Application: The Case of Central America – César Castillo, Technical Consultant in Transportation, Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration \(SIECA\)](#)

[Annex 5a: The Incorporation of DRM into Infrastructure and the Lessons Learned in its Application: The Case of Central America – César Castillo, Technical Consultant in Transportation, Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration \(SIECA\) – Video](#)

[Annex 6: Risk Probability Assessment: The Chilean Case – Rubén Boroscchek, President and CEO, Rubén Boroscchek & Associates](#)

[Annex 7: Experiences in the Incorporation of DRM into Infrastructure Development: A Japanese Case Study – Masanobu Shimosaka, IDB Consultant](#)

[Annex 8: Presentation of the Methodology for the Incorporation of DRM into the Regional Integration Infrastructure Projects: Revision of the Instrument Developed in 2013 – Claudio Osorio, IDB Consultant](#)