



APELL: Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies at Local Level

Ms. Johanna Suikkanen, Programme Officer, UNEP-DTIE
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Presentation Objective and Outline

- ▶ Objective: Present UNEP's perspective on the knowledge/action nexus on action at local level
- ▶ **Outline**:
 - ▶ Link to Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
 - ▶ Gaps and needs in local level disaster risk reduction
 - ▶ UNEP activities- APELL Programme
 - ▶ History
 - ▶ Publications
 - ▶ Goals and objectives, process
 - ▶ Lessons learned and recommendations for future



UNEP Activities on Industrial Risk Reduction



National Level: Flexible Framework Initiative

- Guidance for national policy development for chemical accident prevention and preparedness
<http://capp.eecentre.org/>

Local Level: APELL

- Local level preparedness for emergencies
<http://apell.eecentre.org/>



SMEs: Responsible Production

- Prevention of chemical accidents promoting risk communication along the value chain - aimed primarily at SMEs - sectoral approach
<http://www.unep.org/responsibleproduction/>



Strengthened call for local level action

- ▶ Post 2015 Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction (Zero Draft) recognizes the need for **multi-hazard approaches** and places emphasis on the need to act **at all levels**
- ▶ **Paragraph B.14. states:**
- ▶ *The present framework applies to the risk of small scale and large scale, frequent and infrequent and slow onset disasters caused by natural hazards and related environmental and technological hazards and risks and aims to guide the multi-hazard management of disaster risk in development at local, national, regional and global levels.*



UNEP activities at Local Level

- ▶ Respond to a need for improved ability of national and local authorities, the private sector and community leaders to prepare for disasters
- ▶ Typical challenges
 - ▶ Lack of awareness of hazards and emergency behaviour
 - ▶ Lack of community preparedness and insufficient coordination among stakeholders
 - ▶ Insufficient attention to prevention and mitigation, including attention to planning and enforcement of land-use with respect to industrial/residential development
- ▶ Local level vulnerabilities differ → Added value of action at local level



APELL Introduction

- ▶ UNEP programme with a focus on **Building Capacity for Awareness and Emergency Preparedness, at Local Level in Developing Countries.**
- ▶ Started with a focus on technological disasters:
 - ▶ Driven by technological failures, human error, natural disasters
 - ▶ Impacts are often localized
 - ▶ consequences on the environment, economies (communities, businesses, supply chains) and on populations





Three decades of APELL

- ▶ Programme launched in 1986
- ▶ Series of publications:
 - ▶ APELL Handbook published in 1988
 - ▶ Technical guidance (1990s→)
 - ▶ APELL for Mining, TransAPELL, Port Areas, Tourism, and Multi-Hazard Training Kit for Local Authorities, Community Risk Profile Tool (2000s→)
 - ▶ 2nd Edition of APELL Handbook in 2014-2015
- ▶ Introduced in 30 countries, and in approx. 80 communities worldwide



APELL Resources

- ▶ Global APELL Platform:
 - ▶ News & Events
 - ▶ Online Resources

- ▶ Guidance on APELL in different sectors:
 - ▶ Chemical, Mining, Transport, Port Areas, Multi-hazards, Tourism, Coastal Destinations



www.unep.org/apell
www.apell.eccentre.org



Goals and Objectives

- ▶ **Goal:** Help communities prevent loss of life, damage to health, well-being and livelihoods, minimize property damage, and protect the environment
- ▶ **Objectives:**
 - ▶ **Identify locally relevant risks** that relate to industrial operations, as well as multi-hazard risks
 - ▶ **Raise awareness**, communicate and educate the community
 - ▶ Improve emergency **preparedness planning**
 - ▶ Initiate measures for **risk reduction**, accident prevention and mitigation
 - ▶ Develop coordinated **preparedness** among local industry, local authorities and local population



Action-oriented participatory process

▶ **5 Phase, 10 Element Process:**

- ▶ A multi-stakeholder participatory approach involving **industry, the communities and local authorities**
- ▶ Working through a structured process that creates a multi-stakeholder dialogue
- ▶ Flexible, can be adapted by communities
- ▶ Builds on already existing preparedness or response plans
- ▶ Allows communities to focus on whatever elements are a priority for them



Lessons Learned and Future Needs

- ▶ Global, yet flexible and adaptable guidance is needed
- ▶ Multi-stakeholder approaches that spread responsibility across stakeholders are successful, including:
 - ▶ Involvement of all stakeholders in identifying risks
 - ▶ Identifying most adapted awareness raising means
 - ▶ Building on a local 'vision of success'
- ▶ Addressing the issue from a multi-hazard perspective facilitates interest and engagement of the community
- ▶ Sustainability of local programmes benefit from endorsement by government and local authorities
- ▶ Future needs:
 - ▶ Development of multi-hazard approaches for assessing and managing risks
 - ▶ Assessment and sharing best practice cases of participatory processes at the local level



Thank you for your attention!



Contact information

Johanna Suikkanen

Programme Officer

United Nations Environment Programme

Division of Technology, Industry and Economics

Sustainable Consumption and Production Branch

Business and Industry Unit

15, rue de Milan, 75441 Paris Cedex 09, France

E-mail : Johanna.Suikkanen@unep.org

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