Rural Disaster Resilience Planning Guide Resources
Resource Summaries

Mapping

This resource provides communities with helpful information and guidance for approaching community-based mapping for the benefit of building a Disaster Resilience Plan. It can also be used as an independent resource on its own for communities that may undertake mapping for any other reason.

More specifically, this resource helps communities:

- Identify community boarders, including social, geographic, and political borders;
- Establish zones, including geographic, ecological, land-use, and transit-based zones;
- Identify basic resources for map making, for example mylar, common scales of measurement, and examples of what to map;
- Identify types of maps that might be useful, including thematic, economic, resource-based, transit-based and inventory maps;
- Find existing maps and free mapping tools available through provincial and territorial government websites, Google Earth, Natural Resources Canada, provincial and territorial geological organizations, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, MapQuest, and Carleton University.
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Collecting Information

This resource provides communities with helpful guidance for collecting community-based information for the benefit of building a Disaster Resilience Plan. Two popular innovative approaches are provided. It can also be used as an independent resource on its own for communities that may collect community-based information for any other reason.

More specifically, this resource helps communities:

- Develop approaches for organizing information in order to use the information more effectively and to complete associated processes in a more timely manner;
- Utilize innovative techniques for collecting community-based information, including visual methods and assessments of land use and community characterization via walking or driving along a pre-determined path in a specified area. These techniques are commonly referred to as Transect Walks/Transect Drives and PhotoVoice.

Working Together

This resource provides communities with helpful information and guidance for working collectively for the benefit of building a Disaster Resilience Plan. It can also be used as an independent resource on its own for communities that may undertake collective work for any other reason.

More specifically, this resource helps communities:

- Identify various options for collectively building a community-based Disaster Resilience Plan.
- Identify the pros and cons involved in using either: Advisory Committees, Sponsoring Organizations, or Working Groups;
- By providing resources for working as a team, including letter templates for gaining community support;
- By providing tips on securing community buy-in, including political support for building a Disaster Resilience Plan;
- By providing tips on holding community meetings so that you can better tap into diverse community-based perspectives regarding local hazards and assets, including specific suggestions for facilitation techniques, meeting promotion, materials and equipment, room set-up, instructions for recorders, report writing and drafting meeting agendas.
- Generating ideas, feedback and information from the community through Visioning Exercises; and generating ideas, feedback and information from the community through Appreciative Inquiry.

Skills and Knowledge Inventory

This resource provides communities with a helpful template for collecting information regarding local skills and knowledge. This can be surprisingly useful within the context of disaster and in the face of local hazards, especially if communities are cut off from outside assistance for a period of time following a crisis. It can also be used as an independent resource on its own for communities that may conduct a Skills and Knowledge Inventory for any other reason.

More specifically, this resource helps communities:

- By providing a template addressing skills and knowledge pertaining to health, office work, construction, maintenance, food preparation, child care, transportation, heavy equipment operation, machine repair, sales, supervisory experience, music, art, security, language capacity and more.

Community Profile

This resource provides communities with guidance and a helpful template for completing a Community Profile. It can also be used as an independent resource on its own for communities that may complete a Community Profile for any other reason.

More specifically, this resource helps communities by providing a template addressing:

- History, population, businesses and services, community businesses, economic development and economic sectors, community and recreational services, financial services, government services, employment related services, health services, educational services, geography and land use, vegetation and wildlife, climate, community infrastructure, communication and information technology, electricity, water, sewage, landfill, gas and oil, transportation, food, community-based Organizations (CBOs), community events, capacity inventories, fire services, police services, ambulance, Provincial and Territorial Emergency Acts and associated response organizations, hazards information, and recent community changes.