

1.5.0

SERIES 1

Establishing Resilience Principles



Contents of Set

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POLICY REVIEW

As you begin to adapt and apply the Climate Resilience Framework to your research guide your research on your city's vulnerability and climate risks, and identifying your policy and intervention options, it is often useful to do a scoping exercise to review the current situation in your city. As part of this scoping exercise, you will conduct a review of the policies, laws, and rules that might either support or hinder your city's climate resilience efforts.

IN THIS SET YOU WILL:

- ✓ Review existing policies that could relate to your city's climate resilience efforts;
- ✓ Identify the interaction and communication mechanisms between agencies at various governmental levels—national, provincial/state, city, and district/community/local levels;

- ✓ Identify which agencies are in charge of implementing and enforcing those policies at each level;
- ✓ Identify conflicts between policies or between implementing and enforcing agencies at different scales;
- ✓ Identify who is currently benefiting or being harmed by those policies;
- ✓ Identify the metrics that are currently used to determine whether a particular policy is effective or not.

Overview

Laws, rules, and policies issued by the national government, provincial and regional governments, and your city's government will all affect the options and courses of action your city can take to build resilience. Institutions such as these—related to areas like land use, building codes, environmental protection, or disaster risk reduction and response, among others—are critical components impacting your city's current functioning. They will also guide or constrain your city's resilience options now and in the future. For instance, suppose the national building code requires that buildings within flood zones must have foundations elevation 0.15–0.35m above street level, but no higher. Yet in your city flooding regularly exceeds 0.5m and climate change is likely to increase flood depths. In this case, it does not make sense to follow the national building codes. Instead, your city might have to find some way of getting permission to enact building codes better adapted to local conditions.

This policy exercise is designed to help you start to identify existing policies, laws, and rules that influence the core functions and services of your city and the surrounding peri-urban areas. Such rules also affect the ability of your citizens to adapt and be resilient against multiple stressors, not just climate change. It is NOT a full policy review. It is only meant to help you start thinking about how you might undertake a

full policy review. In Series 2: Understanding Vulnerability & Risk, you learn more about incorporating the results of your policy review into your vulnerability assessment.

1.5.1

SERIES 1

Establishing Resilience Principles



Policy Review

Activity 1.5.1

This policy exercise is designed to help you start to identify existing policies, laws, and rules that influence the core functions and services of your city and the surrounding peri-urban areas. Such rules affect the ability of your citizens to adapt and be resilient against multiple stressors, not just climate change.

IN THIS ACTIVITY YOU WILL:

- ✓ Review existing policies that could relate to your city's climate resilience efforts;
- ✓ Identify the interaction between policies instituted at various governmental levels (e.g. national, provincial/state, city, and district/community/local levels);

- ✓ Identify which agencies are in charge of implementing and enforcing those policies at each level;
- ✓ Identify the communication mechanisms between each implementing and enforcing agency;
- ✓ Identify conflicts between policies or between implementing and enforcing agencies at different scales;
- ✓ Identify who is currently benefiting or being harmed by those policies; and
- ✓ Identify the metrics that are currently used to determine whether a particular policy is effective or not.

ACTIVITY 1.5.1 : POLICY REVIEW

INSTRUCTIONS: For this exercise, you will begin filling out the blank matrix provided on the next pages. We have included a completed row as an example. The matrix is designed in the following way:

1. The six categories listed vertically on the left side of the matrix provide broad guidance on how to categorize relevant national, provincial/state, and city policies, laws, and rules. If you think there should be additional

categories, please add additional rows. One policy might be cross-listed under several categories, which is an important finding!

2. The categories listed horizontally across the top of the matrix help you to describe the policy's potential role in your city's current vulnerability and how it might be integrated into future resilience initiatives or how it might obstruct such initiatives. If you think there should be additional categories, please add additional columns.

ACTIVITY 1.5.1: POLICY REVIEW								
	Policy	Administrative Scale	National Agency(s) Responsible	Municipal Agency Responsible	Coordination Mechanisms	Who/ What Benefits	Conflicts w/ Other Policy	Metrics of Effectiveness
Hazards and Disasters	Policy XXX -Storm resistant building standards	National level down to parroquias	Ministry of the Environment (MoE)	Planning and Construction Department (PCD)	None for the moment. The MoE issues the policy and expects all lower level agencies to implement and enforce it. There is no communication from the PCD back to the MoE.	Residents and businesses in storm risk areas might be better protected and have fewer asset losses	Does not easily support poverty reduction policies because poor residents can't afford to build homes according to the code	Number of storm resistant buildings that survive a storm with minimal damage and the loss claims of building inhabitants as compared to non-storm resistant buildings

ACTIVITY 1.5.1: POLICY REVIEW

	Policy	Administrative Scale	National Agency(s) Responsible	Municipal Agency Responsible	Coordination Mechanisms	Who/ What Benefits	Conflicts w/ Other Policy	Metrics of Effectiveness
Hazards and Disasters								
Environmental Protection								

ACTIVITY 1.5.1: POLICY REVIEW

	Policy	Administrative Scale	National Agency(s) Responsible	Municipal Agency Responsible	Coordination Mechanisms	Who/ What Benefits	Conflicts w/ Other Policy	Metrics of Effectiveness
Energy								
Climate Change								

ACTIVITY 1.5.1: POLICY REVIEW

	Policy	Administrative Scale	National Agency(s) Responsible	Municipal Agency Responsible	Coordination Mechanisms	Who/ What Benefits	Conflicts w/ Other Policy	Metrics of Effectiveness
Water								
Poverty Reduction								

ACTIVITY 1.5.1: POLICY REVIEW

	Policy	Administrative Scale	National Agency(s) Responsible	Municipal Agency Responsible	Coordination Mechanisms	Who/ What Benefits	Conflicts w/ Other Policy	Metrics of Effectiveness
Transportation								
Other:								