

Detailed Dissemination Plan of SASPARM Project

(Work Packages 5)

Introduction and Background

The vulnerability and seismic performance of typical building stock of the main Palestinian cities (Jerusalem, Hebron, Ramallah, Nablus, Jenin, Tulkarm and Jericho) have been assessed by the Earth Sciences and Seismic Engineering Center (ESSEC) at An-Najah University.

It is well known that the seismicity in Palestine is largely affected and controlled by the geodynamic processes acting along the Dead Sea Transform (DST). The intensity of historical earthquakes in the Dead Sea region reaches IX MMI (Modified Mercalli Scale), and the determinable magnitudes of the recorded earthquakes range between 1.0 and 7.0 on the local magnitude scale (Richter scale ML).

Knowledge of the high vulnerability of the building stock and hence of the related high seismic risk is essential for planners, decision makers, civil engineers and the insurance industry.

The problems related to earthquakes in Palestine can be summarized in, but not limited to, the following points:

- High vulnerability to earthquake damages and losses, as a direct result of a high percentage of weak buildings that do not comply with seismic resistant requirements. This situation is a result of the following factors: poor construction practices and common design mistakes (soft storey, short columns, irregular vertical distribution of stiffnesses and masses, non continuum vertical structural elements, very high eccentricity, bad quality of material and workmanship, etc).
- Lack of a national code for seismic design and construction.
- Absence of national regulations for protection against earthquakes. Little information is available on geology, soil classification, site effect and seismic hazard. There are almost no plans aimed to identify areas subjected to landslides, seismogenetic zones, etc.
- Absence of an effective control of design and construction practice to enforce measures of seismic risk mitigation. Weakness of national programs and public policies on preparedness, mitigation, and emergency response.
- Weak institutional capacity in disaster management and rescue operations.
- Lack of awareness by citizens on seismic risk matter.

- Insufficient professional capabilities of engineers and decision makers in the field of earthquake engineering.
- The SASPARM Project, aiming at increasing the awareness on seismic risk, will target the following three main groups: decision makers, professionals and citizens.

Objectives

The SASPARM Project implementation in Palestine includes the following main objectives:

1. To strengthen commitment for a comprehensive seismic disaster risk reduction plan and policy across all sectors.
2. To develop capacities to identify, assess and monitor risk disaster.
3. To increase building resilience through exchange of knowledge and training.
4. To improve accountability for seismic disaster risk management at the sub-national and local levels.

Ways and Methods of Dissemination

The following key methods will be used to disseminate project information:

- To conduct meetings, lectures, seminars, mini workshops and national workshops in cooperation with governmental and nongovernmental Palestinian organizations;
- To maintain networking between all stakeholders;
- To organize joint meetings and discussions concerning the ongoing results of the project, inviting Palestinian and EU representatives of the technical and scientific community, the public administration and other interested people;
- To conduct public awareness programs by using brochures, posters and other available dissemination media, including local newspapers, radio and TV stations;
- To perform training courses for engineers working in governmental organizations, practitioner engineering offices and nongovernmental organizations;
- To prepare required publications: catalogue to clarify seismic design rules (Architectural and Structural Configuration of Buildings, etc), brochures and posters for public awareness programs.

- To present all aspects of the projects on the website allowing visitors to download ongoing results and access to collected information to increase the visibility of the project and the exploitation of its results.
- To develop specifications for how the web site should facilitate dissemination efforts to a heterogeneous audience comprising scientists, policymakers and practitioners.
- The major items for discussions during the meetings with governmental and nongovernmental Palestinian organizations include:
 - Definition and orientation on SASPARM background and objectives;
 - Future cooperation with all stakeholders during and after the implementation of SASPARM towards achieving its targets and objectives;
 - Collection of all data of previous and ongoing research to enrich the program;
 - Planning workshops and other meetings with agenda items
 - Evolution of previous meetings and discussions
 - Results and the output of some specific work packages.

Regarding the Engineers Association, meetings and discussions cover the following topics:

- The required training courses with time frames.
- The need to cover all West Bank areas, i.e. North, Centre and South.
- The need to benefit as the most engineers as possible, particularly practicing engineers within engineering firms and the Line Ministries and Municipalities.
- The design of a mechanism to implement the training courses within the time frames.

The time table of the dissemination plan for the first and the second year of the project are reported below.

The following channels, radio and newspaper that have been intersected so far and in the future to dedicate space to the project:

- Newspapers: Al Quds, Al Ayyam and Al Haya aljadeda
- TVs: Palestine TV, Maan TV (Mix), Nablus Tv, and others
- Radio: Palestine voice, An Najah voice, Ajial, Amwaj, Al-sharq, alam, Alkhaleel, Tariq Al mahabe, Palestine Polytechnic voice.
- Others

List of stakeholders:

To implement the project objectives, the UPDRR centre managed a comprehensive time frame for meetings with stakeholders. The list of these stakeholders comprises several governmental and nongovernmental Palestinian organizations, including:

- Ministry of Local Government,
- Ministry of Education,
- Ministry of Public Works and Housing,
- Engineering Association,
- High Council of Civil Defence,
- Civil Defence Directorate,
- National Agency for Disaster Risk Mitigation,
- General Contractors Union,
- Ministry of Planning,
- Ministry of Health,
- Nablus, Ramallah, Jericho, Hebron, Jenin and other Municipalities,
- Other ministries and organizations.

Note: starting from December 2012 several meetings have been completed with part of the above mentioned ministries and organizations and other meetings have been planned, see Annex for more details about the meetings and the timing schedule of the SASPARM detailed dissemination plan.

Timing schedule of the SASPARM detailed dissemination plan

WP5 Networking and dissemination	First year											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Month Number	Oct/2012	Nov/2012	Dec/2012	Jan/2013	Feb/2013	Mar/2013	Apr/2013	May/2013	June/2013	July/2013	Aug/2013	Sep/2013
Task 5.1 Definition of a strategy for networking												
Task 5.2 Definition of dissemination plan			D5.1		D5.3			MS3				
Task 5.3 Promotion public awareness		1M	2M	3M	3M ,NW, TR & C	2M & 1MW	1M & TR	TR & L	2M ,PB, TRpe & Wm		1M, TRpe & Wea	PB
Task 5.4 External dissemination					D5.4			D5.4				
Task 5.5 Regional workshops for knowledge exchange									D5.6	MS4		

Note: All the project activities including the promotion of public awareness will be covered by the Palestinian media.

M: Meeting with Palestinian Organizations (Governmental and Nongovernmental)

W: Workshop (p: with public m: with media ea: with engineering association dm: with decision makers)

MW: Mini workshop (p: with public m: with media ea: with engineering association dm: with decision makers)

NW: National workshop

C: Conference

TR: Training courses for engineers, technicians and young scientists. (pe: for practitioner engineers)

L: Public Lecture on vulnerability and seismic performance of Palestinian common buildings.

PB: Publishing brochure / bulletin and newsletter (c: for individual citizens P: for professionals dm: for decision makers)

MS: Milestone of the project (i.e., MS3 refers to the SASPARM web site)

Timing schedule of the SASPARM detailed dissemination plan

WP5 Networking and dissemination	Second Year											
	13 Oct/2013	14 Nov/2013	15 Dec/2013	16 Jan/2014	17 Feb/2014	18 Mar/2014	19 Apr/2014	20 May/2014	21 June/2014	22 July/2014	23 Aug/2014	24 Sep/2014
Task 5.1 Definition of a strategy for networking												
Task 5.2 Definition of dissemination plan		D5.2										
Task 5.3 Promotion public awareness Task 5.4 External dissemination	2M & MW _{dm}	2L & TR _{pe}		Wea	1M & PB	2M	MW _{dm}	2M & PB	MWea		M & PB	NW & C
Task 5.5 Regional workshops or knowledge exchange						D5.5					D5.7	MS5

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