

# BUILDING INCLUSIVE RISK MANAGEMENT: TRIGGERING CHANGE TOWARDS COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

### ACAPULCO, GUERRERO, MEXICO

#### Context

The city of Acapulco is highly vulnerable to the risk of disasters associated with hydrometeorological phenomena, exacerbated by climate change's effects. These phenomena affect people's lives differently: women, people with disabilities and low economic income.

However, most solutions to address these problems are conceived from a top-down approach, with little participation of social actors and without considering the multiple inequalities in the territory.

In this context, 2020, the Integral Institute for the Social Management of Disaster Risk and Climate Change (IIGSRDyCC) was formed to consolidate community initiatives for inclusive and resilient risk management from an intersectional approach in Acapulco.

The IIGSRDyCC is the result of a research and advocacy project in collaboration with a group of women in Palma Sola Fovissste, developed within the framework of the Masters in Sustainable Development Management of the Centre for Development Management of the Autonomous University of Guerrero (UAGRO).

#### Objectives

The project seeks to consolidate community risk management processes from an intersectional perspective that considers the intersection of different categories of domination (gender and class) for the creation of urban resilience in the colonies of Palma Sola Fovissste and Burócratas, Acapulco, Guerrero.

#### Lines of action

The first line of action was linked to disaster risk management in the Palma Sola colony and included two activities:

- Participatory construction of an inclusive protocol for the Palma Sola Fovissste neighborhood.
- 2. Implementation of art therapy workshops to address the psychological impacts of previous disasters and provide tools for dealing with future events.

The second line of action was linked to exploring the scalability of the mentoring process (exchange between academia and society) to identify future lines of research and



Training of the Resilient Community Committee of Palma Sola on first aid, evacuation protocol and using emergency equipment to promote effective risk management in a disaster or emergency. movement in a new territory, the Colonia Burócratas.

#### Approach

It was proposed to work on risk and resilience management from the perspective of gender and intersectionality, intertwining the following dimensions: risk, resilience, gender, and territory.

Likewise, the project was implemented from a knowledge co-production approach, which implied interweaving knowledge and practices, involving diverse actors and generating multiple products.

In line with the above, rather than the "application" of science, the project sought its impact on the territory and people's lives in Acapulco.

#### Results

An evacuation protocol was drawn up in the Palma Sola colony with a gender and inclusion approach that considers different populations such as women, people with disabilities, people with limited mobility or neurodivergent people.

IIGSRDyCC staff were trained to facilitate art therapy workshops to strengthen capacities and sustain accompaniment processes in the future.

Three art therapy sessions were held in Palma Sola, facilitated by people from the IIGSRDDDyCC, to generate spaces for containment, support, and resilience in the face of disaster risk experiences. Through mentoring, six lines of community action were identified to address risk management and resilience in Colonia Burócratas and other neighborhoods in Acapulco. These spaces also allowed for a process of articulation of local actors.

A commitment letter was signed in which various actors, including government authorities, commit themselves to follow up on the six lines of action defined in a participatory manner within six months.

#### Publications

Ramírez C. Becerril, H. (2019) Prevención del Riesgo a Escala Local y Sensible al Género: Experiencia y Aprendizajes desde Acapulco, México. Reder, 5(1) 13-27. Link

#### Social media

#### SIA Desarrollo

Instagram: <u>sia\_desarrollo</u> Web page: <u>www.siadesarrollo.com</u> LinkedIn: <u>SIA Consulting for development</u>

#### • IIGSRDyCC,

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/IIGSRDyCC

#### CGD- UAGRO

Web page: http://mgdesarrollosustentable.uagro.mx/

## Building inclusive risk management: triggering change for community resilience

#### **Organisations:**

- SIA Desarrollo
- Instituto Integral para la Gestión Social del Riesgo de Desastre y Cambio Climático (IIGSRDyCC)
- Centro de Gestión del Desarrollo, Universidad Autónoma de Guerrero (CGD-UAGRO)



• Newcastle University