



Uscore2



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Civil Protection



AN INTERNATIONAL PEER REVIEW OF DISASTER RISK REDUCTION IN AMADORA, PORTUGAL

SUMMARY

The peer review was undertaken in April 2018 using the Uscore2 process.

What is Uscore2?

Uscore2 is a peer review process designed for cities by cities. Using funding from the European Commission, Uscore2 enables cities across the world to share their experience and learn from each other about good practice in disaster risk management.

2010 joined the UN's Making Cities Resilient campaign

2015 a partner in an international EU-funded UScore project piloting a UN Scorecard to measure the resilience of the city

2016 recognised by the UN as an international role model for disaster risk reduction

2017 Sasakawa Award winner

2017 started work in the Uscore2 project

Keen to lead the way in the peer review process, Amadora invited two other role model cities to review it - Salford in the UK and Viggiano in Italy.



This was only the second international city-to-city peer review for disaster risk reduction anywhere in the world!

What did the Review look at?

In discussion with people and institutions working on disaster risk reduction in Amadora, 2 priorities for the city's review were identified:

- Governance processes for addressing disaster risk
- Institutional capacity in the city for resilience.

What have we learnt?

Amadora can help global efforts to prepare for disasters, with the peer review team commenting: "Amadora is clearly living up to its recognition as a role model city within the UN's Making Cities Resilient campaign ... this review can help to showcase this city at the international level as an example of best practice in institutional resilience."

How was the peer review carried out?



Review

Duration:

3 Days (April 18-20, 2018)



Review Team:
5 international experts on disaster risk reduction



Methodology:

Presentations, interviews, analysis of documentation, site visits, participation in a school evacuation drill and observation of Amadora's emergency services rehearsing their response to a severe flood through a table top exercise (TTX).





Areas of strength and good practice on which the city can build

- The city has an effective programme of civil protection work.
- All city departments are becoming engaged in disaster risk reduction: understanding social needs, preparing to respond to emergencies, giving early warnings to communities, promoting volunteering and organising educational campaigns.
- There are strong relationships with a large number of stakeholders who bring skills and expertise in disaster risk reduction.
- Emergency plans have been developed with input from academics and other experts, ensuring a good understanding of the risks Amadora faces.
- Emergency drills are held and include public and private organisations, the emergency services and the city's civil protection service.
- Amadora has developed good relationships with other cities across the world and is keen to share its work as well as learn from others.

Further Information is available from:
www.Uscore2.eu

ISO22392 is being drafted and will contain further information about peer reviews

Areas to strengthen in Amadora

- Amadora could set up formal meetings for the many stakeholders involved in disaster risk reduction to come together, share information and take a more joined-up approach to preparing for disasters.
- Once the city's latest emergency plan is approved it should be tested against a wide range of scenarios through drills and exercises.
- The city should strengthen its education and prevention campaign on disaster risks to reach everyone in the city, including groups within the community who do not speak Portuguese.
- The city should fully implement its 2015 action plan for disaster risk reduction.
- As the city develops its master plan for urban development, the plan should include actions to further build resilience and reduce disaster risk.
- As road traffic accidents are the most probable risk in Amadora, a road safety campaign is a priority.

Has the review already made a difference?

An important part of the UScore2 process is assessing its impact and whether the investment of time and money in the review adds value to disaster risk reduction. Using the UScore2 impact evaluation methodology, Amadora was able to identify the immediate gains the review has given the city:

- Reinforcing the valuable contribution of the political leadership in this important area
- Heightened visibility, greater recognition and more confidence within Amadora about its work on disaster risk reduction and resilience
- An objective analysis of the work programmes and new perspectives in disaster risk reduction
- International recognition of the work all stakeholders in the city undertake to strengthen Amadora's resilience.



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