

# Cluster Cities Project Americas Megacities Forum 2007

A contribution to the local implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action

19-21 September 2007, Mexico City, Mexico

## SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

[www.emi-megacities.org](http://www.emi-megacities.org)

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### Objective Statement

The Earthquakes and Megacities Initiative (EMI) and the Ciudad Mexico, D.F., in partnership with El Colegio de Mexico, the ProVention Consortium, the United Nations Development Programme [UNDP/BCPR], the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN-ISDR) are organizing the **Americas Megacities Forum 2007**. The Forum is a contribution to the local implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

A number of local authorities and local government institutions are committed and engaged in the implementing disaster risk reduction in their cities and communities. The objective of EMI's Cluster Cities Project (CCP) is to build a coalition of informed leaders, promote peer-to-peer knowledge sharing, and support the implementation of sound DRR practices at the local level. The 2007 Americas Megacities Forum is undertaken to support that objective.

The **Americas Megacities Forum 2007** Forum will gather the members of EMI's Cluster Cities Project-Americas Cluster, partnering scientific and academic institutions, invited local government organizations, and a broad representation from international and regional organizations. More than a regional gathering, the Forum intends to serve as a platform to scale up and cascade down knowledge dissemination on evidence-based disaster risk reduction (DRR) among local government organizations, city managers, policy makers, local planners, and local officials. It will provide a venue for megacities to demonstrate knowledge of sound practices in DRR that other cities may validate, adapt, and apply to their own risk context. It aims to facilitate peer-to-peer learning exchange and empowerment among cities to benefit from each other's experiences and capabilities in implementing DRR sound practices and models that have proven successful in similar situations. The Forum also seeks to serve as a knowledge dissemination platform and a coalition building mechanism in favor of the local implementation of the principles and actions of the Hyogo Framework for Actions.

Demonstrations, showcases, Knowledge Fair, workshops, and site visits will be in place to achieve the objectives of the Forum. Part 1 of the Forum will focus on demonstration of knowledge and evidence-based DRR and peer-to-peer exchange. Part 2 will highlight mechanisms and methodologies through which evidence-based DRR, sound practices and models can be established among cities.

#### Participating Cities

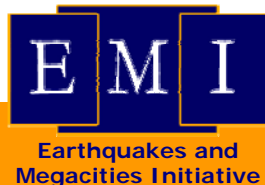
EMI Megacities Partners: Mexico City DF (Host City), Bogota, Lima, Los Angeles, Quito, Manila, Istanbul  
Invited Cities: La Paz, Caracas, and others

#### Contact Information

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## TENTATIVE AGENDA (as of 27 June 2007)

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19 September	20 September	21 September
<p>Inaugural ceremony Opening statements Introduction of "<i>Cities Partnership Declaration</i>"</p> <p><b>BREAK</b></p> <p>Session 1: Presentation and discussion of Mexico City disaster risk management programs</p> <p><i>Preview and explanation of afternoon field visit sites</i></p>	<p>Session 2: Workshop on topic selected by host Introduction and framing of the issue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation by Mexico City Officials</li> <li>• Immediate comments</li> </ul> <p><b>BREAK</b></p> <p>Perspective of partner cities Perspective of international organizations</p> <p>Facilitated discussion Summary and recommendations</p> <p><i>Preview and explanation of afternoon Knowledge Fair</i></p>	<p>Session 3: Workshop on strengthening cities networks, understanding priorities, and enhancing city-to-city sharing in the Americas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perspective of host city</li> <li>• Perspective of the partner cities</li> </ul> <p><b>BREAK</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional city-focused programs and contribution by international and multi-lateral organizations: UNDP, ISDR Secretariat, Provention, World Bank, Others</li> <li>• Contributions of local government networks, e.g. METROPOLIS, UCLG, ICLEI</li> </ul> <p>Facilitated discussion on strengthening networks and partnerships</p>

19 September	20 September	21 September
<p><b>WELCOME LUNCH</b> to be chaired by the host</p> <p><b>Field visits</b> and familiarization with local vulnerability assessment and risk reduction measures</p> <p><b>INFORMAL RECEPTION</b></p>	<p><b>EXTENDED INFORMAL LUNCH / KNOWLEDGE FAIR</b> (display of public education materials, research results, videos, etc.)</p> <p><b>Continuation of Knowledge Fair</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction of EMI Tools and Training Program</li> <li>• Panel and Structured Discussion and recommendations on knowledge and practice transfer</li> </ul> <p>Development of proposed Action Plan for knowledge sharing and knowledge implementation</p> <p><b>DINNER</b> to be tendered by the host</p>	<p><b>LUNCH</b></p> <p><b>Open forum discussion</b> Participant input and discussion on promoting and advancing disaster risk reduction in megacities' policy and practice</p> <p>Development of Policy Paper on Promoting and Advancing Disaster Risk Reduction in Megacities</p> <p>Plenary Session: <i>Declaration of agreements</i></p> <p><b>Closing ceremony</b> Closing Remarks by EMI, one of the sponsor organizations, and host</p>