

## FINAL CONFERENCE ON SASPARM 2.0

1<sup>ST</sup> OF DECEMBER 2016

**Multimedia Room, Regione Lombardia  
2, Place du Champ de Mars, Brussels**

### OVERVIEW

*SASPARM 2.0* was focused on the definition of seismic risk of residential buildings in Palestine. The project aims to increase the risk perception of citizens and strengthen the capacity building of local practitioners and building contractors.

Key point was the **engagement of local stakeholders, policy makers and international partners**. Since 2013 Nablus became the first Palestinian city to join the UNISDR's Making Cities Resilient Campaign. The evolution of this step required a great involvement from different stakeholders (such as students, citizens, practitioners, GOs and NGOs, UN organizations, research centres) in order to engage them in organizing prevention plans for an effective urban resilience strategy.

The work of **the project was split into 8 operative tasks**, which operate within the framework of a Web-Based Platform (WBP) for seismic risk mitigation. The WBP integrates a database (DB) to collect vulnerability data on buildings, self-assessment tools to allow common people and practitioners to understand potentially unsafe situations and how to mitigate the risk related to critical situations. Trainings played a fundamental role in the project activities and **the target groups were students, practitioners, citizens and stakeholders**.

The overall goal of the project, which had to be divided into several subtasks in order to better monitor the outcomes of each activity, was to strengthen the resilience of the city through the awareness of the community. The citizens became aware of their own risks and had the chance to monitor their properties themselves, to know if it needs retrofitting and how. The knowledge of seismic risk pending on individual properties will help them to be addressed towards policy for risk management aimed to mitigate the socio-economic losses such as insurance coverage.

The WBP will ultimately constitute the tool linking the different actors and policies throughout the disaster management cycle, which translates into operational the technical data provided for the risk assessment to be used for risk management governance. **Nablus city** represented a case-of-study for the implementation and calibration of the project actions. The latter will be then extended to the other Palestinian municipalities through the direct involvement of the above mentioned targeted groups. In addition, the tasks of project management (task A) and publicity (task H) were implemented.

Lastly, practitioners as well as GO and NGO stakeholders are now aware of the importance of the recently introduced *Seismic Building Code* and that is key to implement it and make it understandable.



The *SASPARM 2.0 Project* started in 2015 and has now come to an end. Therefore, a **Final Meeting was organized in Brussels to put together all those who were involved in the project in order to share the final outcomes of the research and define a path for future developments.**

On December 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 the *SASPARM 2.0 Final Meeting* took place, reviewing the completed actions of the project and introducing the future ones. The event was held in the Multimedia Room of *Regione Lombardia in Brussels* and attracted the attention of practitioners, students and governmental organizations, who were keen on providing constructive feedback and recommendations.

## THE MEETING

Dr. Barbara Borzi, from EUCENTRE, gave the first presentation illustrating the development of the new interactive Web Based Platform.

This presentation was followed by Prof. Jalal Dabbeek from An-Najah National University (ANNU), who came from Palestine, to report on the impact of the project in Nablus city and the response of the local stakeholders. It gave an explanation of the impact of the project giving first a general sum of the two years of work and describing then each activity in detail.

The last presentation before the break was held by Antonella Di Meo from EUCENTRE and it regarded the outcomes of the research related to composing a model to describe the vulnerability of buildings in Palestine. The research aimed to analyse the different typologies of buildings and their characteristics. It also described different methods to evaluate vulnerability and the results of the analysis run during the time of the project.

Dr. Ricardo Monteiro presented the results of the work concerning workshops and training courses in order to describe the improvements in terms of knowledge transfer and capacity building.

Iason Grigoratos from IUSS presented the different possible retrofitting techniques for each category depending on the deficiencies stressed in the main kinds of structures.

Dr. Paola Ceresa and Prof. Alberto Monti, from IUSS Pavia, presented the key aspects of the project regarding the outcomes of social vulnerability and social-economic impact questionnaires distributed to several individuals.

The afternoon session speakers list included representatives from DG-ECHO, UNISDR and Regione Lombardia, who are involved in several projects similar to SASPARM 2.0. As such, the final round table discussion was a very productive opportunity to exchange results and experiences on the possible improvements of projects related to the same topic and future outcomes and developments of SASPARM 2.0.



## AGENDA

10.00-10.20	<i>Opening and welcoming remarks</i>
10.20-13.00	<b>First session: Overview of the SASPARM2.0 project</b>
10.20-10.40	Development of the Web-Based Platform for seismic risk analysis and mitigation Dr. Barbara Borzi (Eucentre)
10.40-11.00	Dissemination activities on Seismic Risk management and development of a volunteer system on Emergency Response in Palestine Prof. Jalal Dabbeek (ANNU)
11.00-11.20	A model for structural vulnerability in Palestine Antonella di Meo (Eucentre)
11.20-11.40	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.40-12.00	Training courses on seismic risk and seismic risk mitigation Ricardo Monteiro (IUSS)
12.00-12.20	Tools and guidelines to quantify and reduce seismic risk in Palestine Iason Grigoratos (IUSS)
12.20-12.40	Social-economic impact - Questionnaire to stakeholders Alberto Monti (IUSS)
12.40-13.00	Social vulnerability Questionnaire Paola Ceresa (IUSS)
13.00-14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00-15.20	<b>Second session: Support actions by international stakeholders for strengthening Mediterranean and EU neighbouring countries capabilities for seismic risk mitigation</b>
14.00-14.20	Roberto Schiliro (DG Echo – Civil Protection Policy Unit)
14.20-14.40	Luca Rossi (UNISDR - Brussels)
14.40-15.00	Regione Lombardia
15.00-16.00	<b>Third session: Round table on issues and challenges, lessons learned and exploitation of project results</b>



