



Uscore2



Funded by
European Union
Civil Protection



Summary of Uscore2: Step-by-Step Guide to City-to-City Peer Reviews for Disaster Risk Reduction

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. City-level peer reviews are a way for experts in disaster risk management from one city to suggest to another city how to reduce the risk of disasters and, in case they should happen, ways to prepare to respond quickly and effectively. The peer review process has been piloted by three cities Viggiano (Italy), Amadora (Portugal) and Salford (UK).

This document provides an overview of the peer review process, the Impact Evaluation Methodology (IEM) used to measure the impact of the peer review and the 11 modules for conducting city-to-city peer reviews for disaster risk reduction (DRR).



What are the benefits of cities undertaking a peer review?

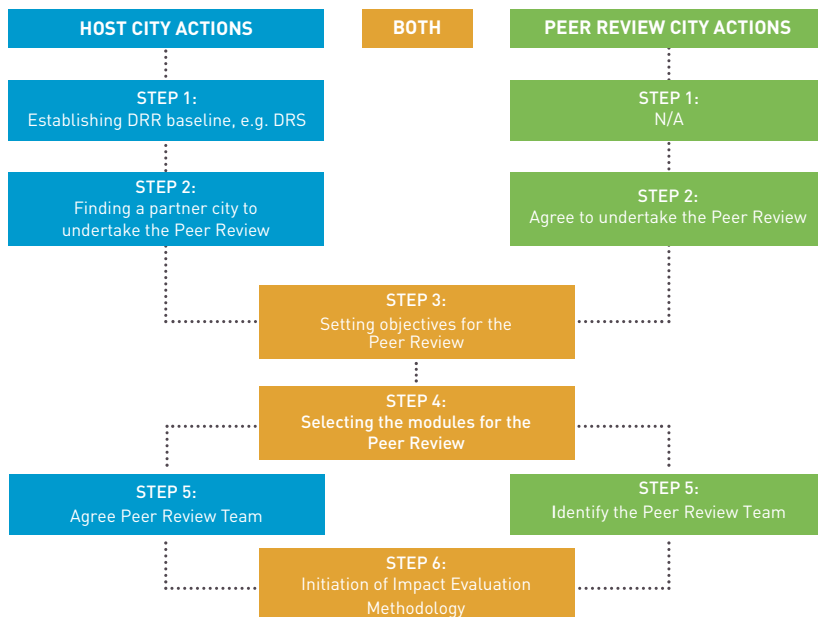
1. Demonstrate commitment to international and European frameworks and regulation
2. Create the opportunity to assess the current situation and identify actions that will further improve a city's approach to DRR
3. Receive challenge and support from a multi-disciplinary, cross-sector expert panel
4. Build confidence in and ownership of the DRR agenda by undertaking a facilitated exchange of good practice and suggested improvements
5. Initiate a policy dialogue helping to improve consistency in DRR
6. Incorporate a proven Impact Evaluation Methodology
7. Personal and professional development.



What is the Uscore2 process for peer reviews?

The Peer Review is a 3 phase process.

Phase 1: Planning The Peer Review



By the end of Phase 1:

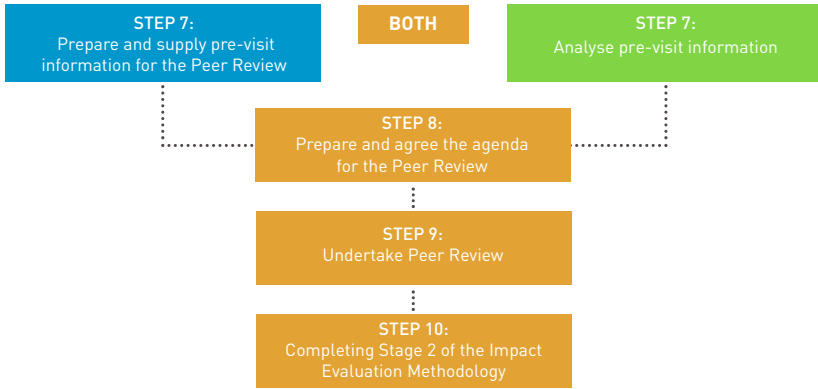
Host City will have

- set the baseline and secured funding
- engaged a Review City
- put contracts in place with the Review City
- identified and agreed objectives of review
- identified and agreed modules to review
- approved the suggested Review Team
- completed Stage 1 of the IEM self-assessment to determine the expected benefits and impacts of the peer review

Review Team will have

- secured key stakeholder commitment to the review
- agreed contracts on funding and rights
- agreed objectives for the review
- agreed modules to be reviewed
- engaged an appropriate Review Team
- completed Stage 1 of the IEM self-assessment to determine the expected benefits and impacts of the peer review

Phase 2: Undertaking The Peer Review



By the end of Phase 2:

Host City will have

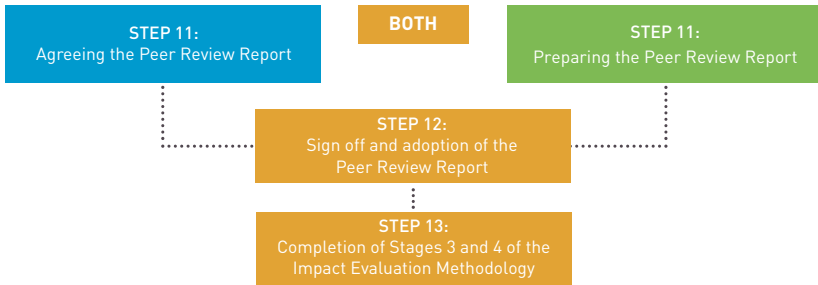
- agreed and distributed pre-review evidence pack
- identified and engaged those to be interviewed
- agreed review activities
- created and agreed a review timetable
- facilitated the Review Team visit
- completed Stage 2 of IEM

Review Team will have

- read and analysed the pre-review evidence pack
- requested and received any additional relevant information
- agreed review timetable
- conducted peer review visit and made comprehensive notes of the visit
- completed Stage 2 of IEM



Phase 3: After The Review



By the end of Phase 3:

Host City will have

- received, agreed and adopted the peer review report
- informed the wider Host City community of the outcome of the review
- considered creating a Resilience Strategy and an action plan to implement improvements in DRR identified in the review
- completed Stage 3 and 4 of the IEM to determine the realised benefits and impacts of the peer review

Review Team will have

- drafted and agreed the peer review report including recommendations for the Host City
- considered and captured any learning by the Review Team that could be recommended for implementation within the Review City
- completed Stage 3 and 4 of the IEM to determine the realised benefits and impacts of the peer review





The Impact Evaluation Methodology

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 DRR. Impact evaluation is therefore integral to the peer review and is integrated into the three phase process. The Impact Evaluation Methodology asks questions of both the Host City and Review Team that are designed to elicit information regarding the expected and realised value and impact of conducting the peer review.

Will the peer review make a difference?

Using the Uscore2 Impact Evaluation Methodology, the pilot cities were able to identify the immediate gains the peer reviews gave to their cities. These included:

- New knowledge and new perspectives in DRR
- Building of collaborative partnerships and engagement of stakeholders in a new way
- Developing disaster risk reduction and city resilience strategies
- Heightened visibility within the city of work on disaster risk reduction and resilience
- An external objective analysis of DRR work together with a level of self-assessment during the preparation for the review.



Further information is available from:

www.Uscore2.eu

IS022392 is being drafted and will contain further information about peer reviews

This document has been prepared as part of the Uscore2 - City-to-city local level peer review on Disaster Risk Reduction project. The sole responsibility for the content of this publication lies with the author(s). This document covers civil protection activities implemented with the financial assistance of the European Union's DG-ECHO Call for proposals 2016 for prevention and preparedness projects in the field of civil protection programme under, agreement number:

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