

Recent activities on School Safety

Following the Earthquake, SEEDS in collaboration with GeoHazards International, UNCRD and VIDE initiated activities on earthquake mitigation among urban communities.

The initiative had a special focus on schools. Over 160 schools were covered under a rapid visual survey carried out by engineers from SEEDS & Geo Hazard International.

Subsequently, with support from GSDMA, SEEDS, along with UNCRD & NGOs Kobe implemented a 'Sustainable Community Initiative' Programme focusing on disaster mitigation in 20 identified villages of District Porbandar.

Among various components, SEEDS worked with schools in the region to help them to prepare their own School Disaster Management Plans. The programme was very well received by the school communities. The team carried out public marches, school level drills, workshops.

A special game was developed of specifically targeted school children. The game is now undergoing modifications for wide distribution.

As part of the awareness programme, a rain water demonstration project was also implemented. School Children were shown and explained the merits of water conservation and harvesting.

As an organization SEEDS focuses on promoting community level resilience against natural disasters. Over the years it has developed partnerships with a number of National and International Organisations who are also working on School Safety

- Maiko High School, United Nations Centre for Regional Development, Japan
- International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology, Iran
- Geo Hazards International, USA & Turkey
- National Society for Earthquake Technology, Nepal

GUJARAT SCHOOL SAFETY INITIATIVE

During the course of the Gujarat School Safety Initiative, the project team would actively seek out inputs from these eminent organizations and based on its own experience, identify ways in which their experience can be suitably adapted in Gujarat.

www.reuters/yuesHerman, courtesy www.alertnet.org

