



# APELL

## AWARENESS AND PREPAREDNESS FOR EMERGENCIES AT LOCAL LEVEL

### A LOCAL TOOL FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme  
Division of Technology, Industry and Economics





# UNEP

- UNEP is the United Nations Environment Programme

Division of Technology, Industry and Economics –  
APELL and IETC

- prevention and preparedness of industrial accidents
- prevention and preparedness of natural disasters
  - relationship between environmental conservation and disaster reduction
  - disaster preparedness





# What is APELL?

- APELL stands for Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies at Local Level
- It was launched in 1988 by UNEP to raise awareness of local communities that live close to industrial activities on how to react if an accident happens.
- It is a multi-stakeholder dialogue tool that establishes adequate coordination and communication in situations where the public might be affected by accidents and disasters.





# APELL in practice

**Hazard prone area**

**Community exposed to risks**

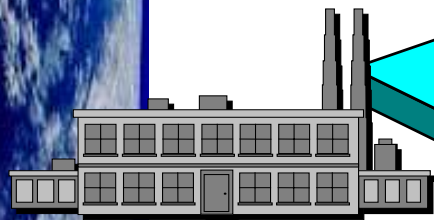
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- Inform the community about the risks they are exposed to
- Educate the community on how to react to accidents/disasters
- Promote the coordination between representatives from the industry, the local level institutions and the public
- Prepare an integrated community preparedness plan – prepare the community for early warnings

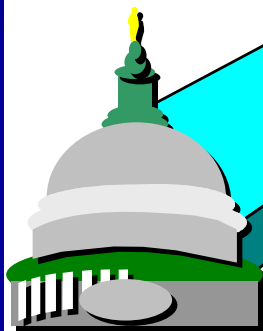




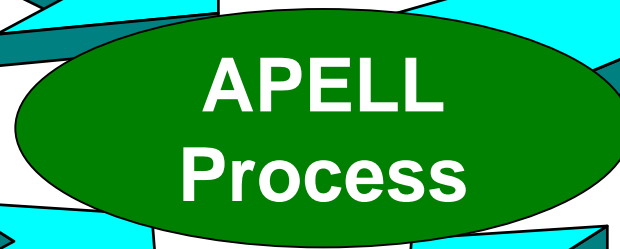
# The APELL Process



**Private Sector**



**Local level institutions**



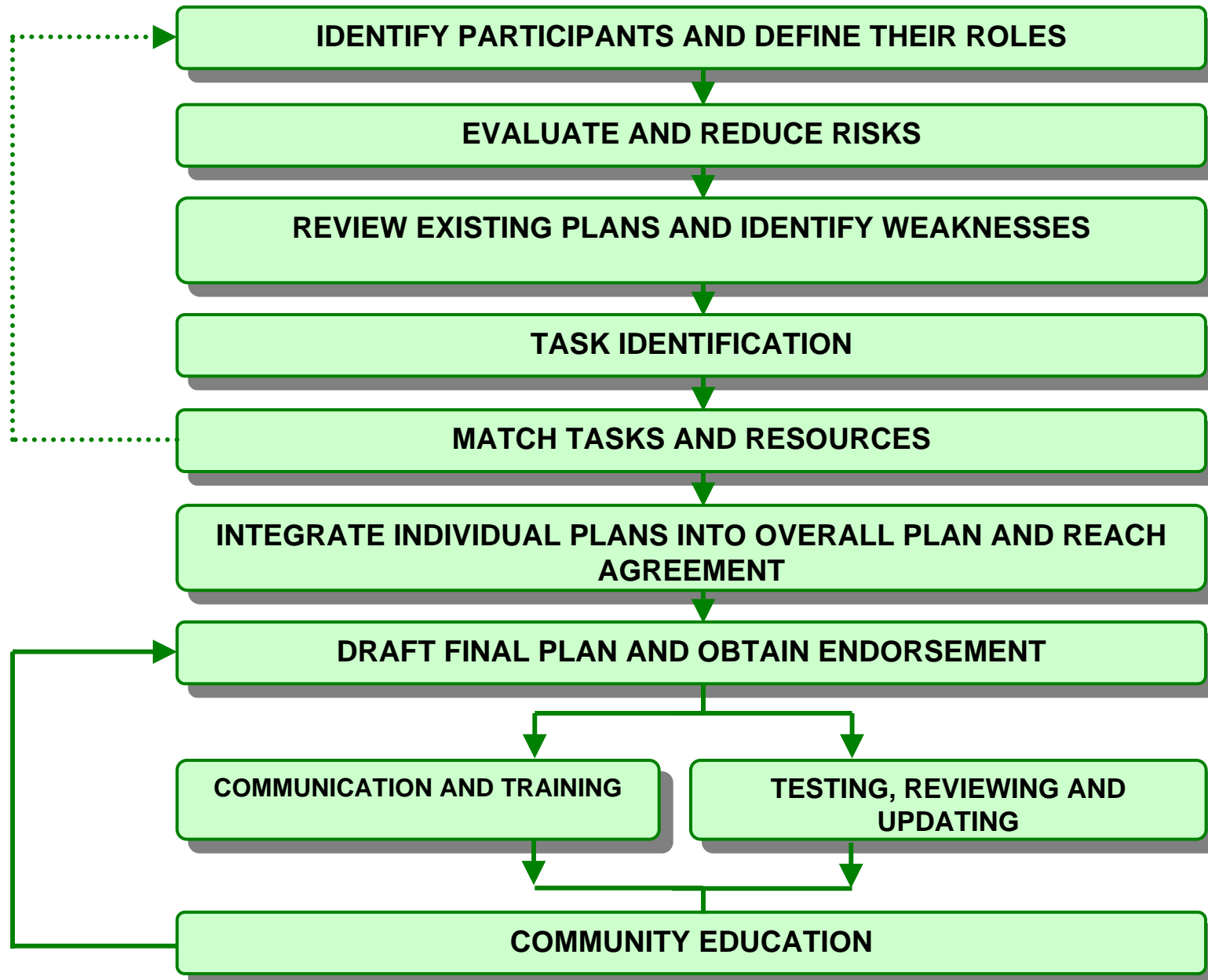
**Integrated  
Emergency  
Preparedness  
Plan**



**Community**



# APELL 10-STEP PROCEDURE







# APELL and Early Warning and Communication Systems

- Sophisticated early warning systems based on high-tech can alert national focal points of impending disasters, but are rarely linked directly to community alert mechanisms.
- Disaster Early Warning system needs to have three components that have to be operational at the same time and on a continuous basis 24hs/24hs. The three components are:
  - the scientific component of the system that will identify the hazard and will transmit the warning to a national focal point in an exposed country;
  - the national internal component that is a communication system within the country that will immediately transmit the alert to the exposed communities, and
  - the local level component that is the preparedness of a community that once receives the alert, knows exactly what should be done.





# APELL and Early Warning and Communication Systems

- At community level, APELL tries to build a local-level alert and alarm mechanism that complements and adds to the national system.
- The APELL process will help at supporting and preparing the exposed communities to be linked to the national communication systems, so that their reaction will be timely and effective. A fully aware, well informed and properly trained population is the best guarantee of safety and of successful response to any disaster.
- Effective communication systems at the local level will play a very important role in this regard. Cell phones and call centres with crisis information will also be needed.







# APELL – Key Features

- AWARENESS raising
  - Focus on the community exposure
- Preparedness of all involved agencies
- Stakeholder involvement
  - Community, Industry, Media, Local Government
- Emergency response planning
- Local warning systems
- Coordination of emergency response capabilities (industry, fire brigade, civil defence)
- Preparedness covering all risk types
- Clear definition of command lines
- Regular update of the plan
- Exercises involving stakeholders



# Results

- **Local community is aware of potential risks and impacts and prepared to respond correctly in the event of an accident, and**
- **Emergency services become coordinated and prepared to respond to any disasters and are able to provide coordination and information systems**





# How APELL operates?

APELL is the process that will help to organize and empower the local people to act together and to overcome barriers to successful community action.

- National level workshops
- Local capacity building (training)
- Demonstrations





# APELL Worldwide

- Capacity Building in more than 30 Countries
  - India, Russia, Baltics, Czech Republic, Thailand, China, France, Qatar, Tunisia, Peru, Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Equator, Venezuela, Chile, Morocco
- Industrial Parks/Zones: Thailand, China, Argentina, Sri Lanka



# APELL in different sectors

- Industrial Accidents
- TransAPELL
- APELL for Port Areas
- APELL for Mining
- **New training kit on APELL for multi-hazards (being developed)**





## APELL Activities by Country







APELL



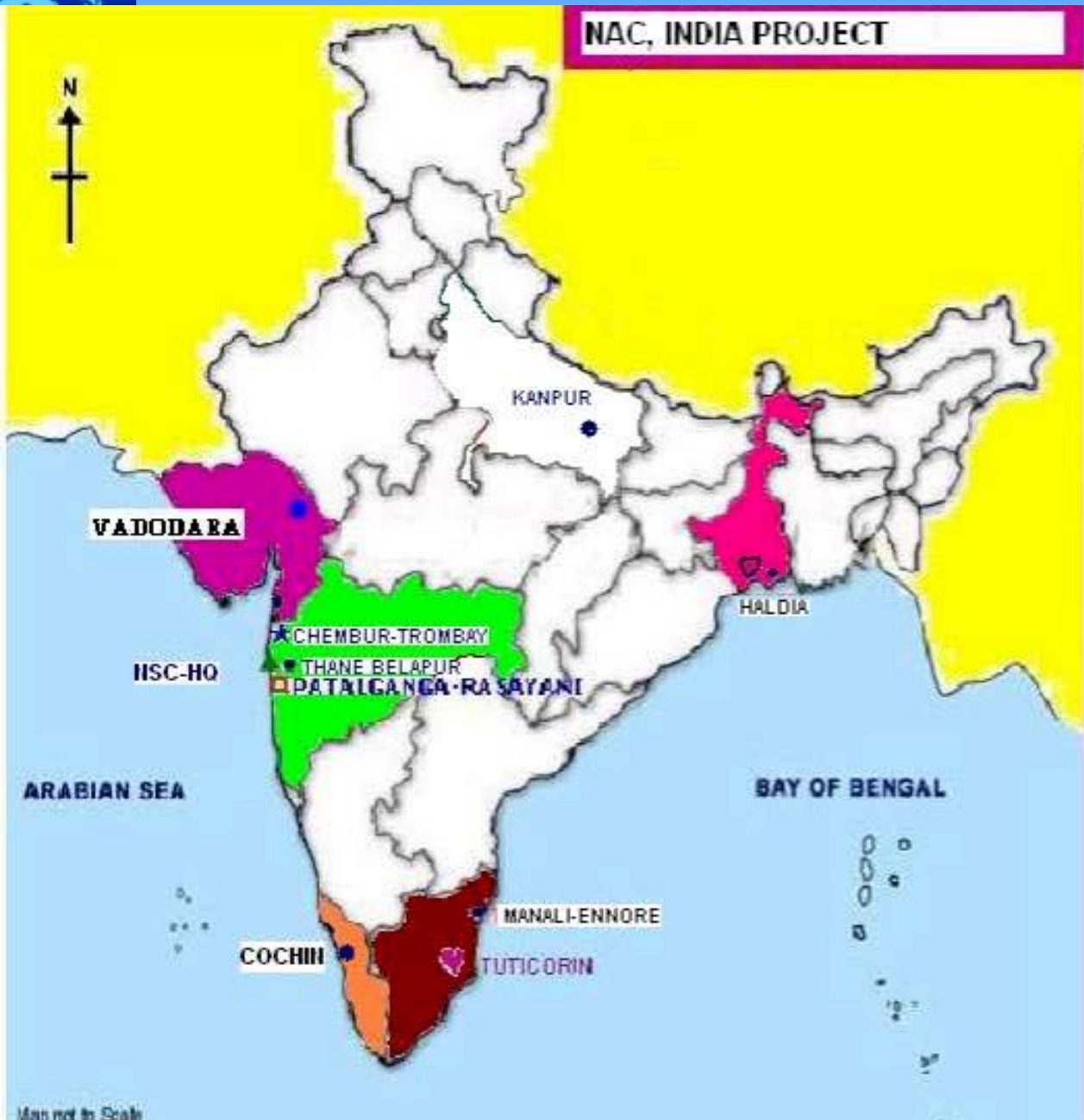
*PETROBRAS TRANSPORTE S.A.*  
**TRANSPETRO**

**SÃO PAULO PORT AREAS**



# NAC, INDIA PROJECT

## LEGEND



- IAC, headquartered in HSCI, MUMBAI.
- Six high-risk industrial areas- Vadodara, Cochin, Thane-Belapur, Manali-Ennore, Haldia & Kanpur
- Tuticorin & Haldia Areas where off-site emergency plans have been developed
- Chembur-Trombay Area where Demonstration Project was implemented
- Patalganga-Rasayani Area which has contributed to Emergency Response Van Case Study







# APELL promotion

The collage features several promotional materials for APELL (Asia-Pacific Environmental Planning and Education for Local Level) in various languages:

- English:**
  - "APELL in Action" brochure with photos of projects in Mexico, China, and Bangladesh.
  - "Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies at Local Level" brochure with a world map and the text "APELL Worldwide".
  - "The industrial zone as a central place" brochure with a photo of an industrial site.
  - "APELL and Industrial" brochure with a green circular logo.
  - "Explicando o Programa APELL" brochure with a large green circular logo.
- Chinese:**
  - "APELL 在行动" brochure.
  - "提高地方层面的应急意识和准备" brochure.
  - "工业园区作为中心地带" brochure.
  - "APELL 与工业园区" brochure.
  - "解释 APELL 计划" brochure.
- Spanish:**
  - "APELL en Acción" brochure.
  - "Conciencia y Preparación para Emergencias a Nivel Local" brochure.
  - "La zona industrial como un espacio central" brochure.
  - "APELL e Industrial" brochure.
  - "Explicando el Programa APELL" brochure.
- Other Languages:**
  - Portuguese, Hindi, and other regional languages are also present in smaller brochures.

Logos for UNEP, UNEP DTIE, and various national agencies are visible throughout the materials.





# Partnership/Cooperation

- OECD – Working Group on Chemicals Accidents
- EC – DG Environment – Seveso –CCA Meetings,
- ECE – UNECE Convention on Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents
- OCHA – Joint UNEP/OCHA Unit, AGEE-APELL meetings, Iran/Yemen workshops/seminars
- WHO – PAHO – IPCA and meetings
- IMO – APELL for Port Areas
- SRSA – Swedish Rescue Services Agency – TransAPELL – Hazard Identification, joint project proposals, APELL promotion in the Baltics, Russia
- ISDR – participation in the IATF DR and proposal on Early Warning (Tsunami Flash Appeal)
- **ICLEI – some joint projects ?? – inclusion of APELL in the ICLEI resilience project -**
- INERIS – to develop a Training Kit (APELL – integrated approach)
  - Assessing the vulnerability of local communities to disasters - *An interactive guide and methodology – new tool*





## Assessing the vulnerability of local communities to disasters - *An interactive guide and methodology*

A comprehensive graphic guide-methodology to assess quickly and in an easy and practical way the risk related to a community with regards to the disaster potential they have (taking into account landscape, industrial activity, natural disaster exposure - earthquakes, tsunamis, flooding, hurricanes, landslides, etc, vulnerability of the environment/public and resilience potential) and attribute the community an index.





# UNEP's role

- APELL strategy and co-ordination
- catalytic role, not intervention
- information support - documents, internet
- initiates demonstration projects at local level
- assists in national training seminars/workshops
- supports creation of national APELL centres
- maintain a regional/international APELL network







# Contacts

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