



## **Education and public awareness for Disaster Risk Reduction: findings from the SicuraMente 2.0 project.**

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Within the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), among the measures to be implemented to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk include those referred to the cultural and educational fields. The integration of different approaches (i.e. the combination of structural and non-structural measures) will increase the preparedness for response and recovery, strengthening the resilience of communities. In this perspective, the present project is developed around public awareness, training and education of young people.

The SicuraMente 2.0 project, whose main topic is safety and civil protection culture, is an evolution of a previous experimental project, started 3 years ago in Italy. The project design, management, and implementation are carried out by LARES Italia, a national civil protection association focused on prevention, preparedness, and emergency response activities. The SicuraMente 2.0 project, co-financed by the Italian Civil Protection Department, has received the patronage of the Association of Italian Municipalities ANCI. With the aim to ensure a high quality standard on the project contents, the main national research centers such as the National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology and the Research Institute for Geo-Hydrological Protection (National Research Council) are involved.

SicuraMente 2.0 is conceived as a multi-hazard project, concerning several natural phenomena such as earthquake, flood, landslide, fire events. Each risk is discussed with a global approach by means of 4 reading keys: knowing, facing, mitigating, and curiosity. Each risk is presented in four different contexts: home, school, town, and society. In particular, the project's activities consist of a training course that teaches skills and grants its participants specific toolset to increase the civic awareness and personal knowledge on actions to take in specific emergency situations. Additionally, special case study sessions, with open discussion and debate are programmed. The activities are performed on two levels: peer education lessons with "learning by doing" approach (e.g. simulation-based learning) under the coordination of LARES volunteers, and a further training stage at home in e-learning environment by means an appealing website: [www.sicuramentelab.it](http://www.sicuramentelab.it).

In 2017, SicuraMente 2.0 involved more than 1000 students from several schools and universities around Italy.

The results, obtained by means a constant monitoring with questionnaires and online tests, confirmed that the main goals are achieved: it is recorded a general increase of the safety awareness on students and people around them (e.g. family, friends).