Dear CG Members,

Far too often, natural disasters damage or destroy school infrastructure, threatening the lives and educational opportunities of children all over the world. In this issue, we take a deep dive into ongoing efforts to build more resilient schools under the Global Program for Safer Schools (GPSS).

Best,
Julie

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**News & Views**

**Drawing on global lessons, the Kyrgyz Republic builds a resilient education sector**

The Kyrgyz Republic is taking the lead in modernizing and retrofitting its educational infrastructure to ensure that school buildings are more resilient to natural disasters. The Kyrgyz government is using a risk-based framework to enable risk-informed selection and prioritization of interventions. These efforts draw upon lessons learned from education projects in other countries including Colombia, the Philippines, and Turkey.

**How risk information is making schools more resilient in Afghanistan**

Afghanistan’s education sector has been key to the country’s development progress over the past two decades. Against the backdrop of climate change, however, there are increasing concerns about the vulnerability of Afghan schools to intensifying natural hazards. Buoyed by recent progress in enhancing the country’s risk information, Afghanistan is now seizing this opportunity to advance the resilience agenda in the country’s education sector.

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**Knowledge**

**The Roadmap for Safer and Resilient Schools**

The recently updated Roadmap for Safer and Resilient Schools, an initiative of GPSS, is a step-by-step guide on how to design intervention strategies and investment plans for making schools safer and resilient at scale. Tailored for the needs of governments of developing countries exposed to natural hazards, the guide encompasses the recovery and reconstruction of school facilities affected by disasters. View the roadmap.

**Global Library of School Infrastructure (GLOSI)**

Featured in the new GPSS website, the Global Library of School Infrastructure (GLOSI) is a comprehensive global repository of evidence-based knowledge and data about school infrastructure and its performance against natural hazard events. Using a systematic taxonomy, the GLOSI includes a catalog of typical school building types found in different countries, with the respective vulnerability data which is needed to conduct quantitative risk assessments.
Knowledge

Disaster Recovery Guidance Series: Education Sector Recovery
This guidance note provides practical guidance to national governments about how to manage education sector recovery following a major disaster or crisis. It specifies a set of considerations and actions to help ensure that the education sector can maintain its core functions in the midst of a crisis, allow for streamlined recovery from shocks, and improve the sector’s adaptation and resilience to future crises. Read the blog.

Videos

Virtual reality: how safer schools are protecting children from disaster risks in Peru
Virtual reality (VR) is rapidly gaining notice as a vital tool for communicating disaster risk. By simulating the impacts of the 2007 earthquake in Peru on school infrastructure, this virtual reality film paints a vivid picture of how the earthquake retrofitting of schools over the past decade has helped put a resilient future within reach for schoolchildren across the country.

The Roadmap for Safer and Resilient Schools: In Action in Cali, Colombia
Putting the Roadmap for Safer and Resilient Schools into practice, the municipality of Cali, Colombia is enhancing the resilience of its school infrastructure as part of a twelve-year master plan for school infrastructure. Responding to the vulnerability of Cali’s school infrastructure to seismic events, a key priority for authorities is the design and implementation of a seismic risk reduction strategy.

Central Asia Regional Forum on Safer and Resilient Learning Environments
The Central Asia Regional Forum on Safer and Resilient Learning Environments, held in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic, brought together high-level government officials, policymakers, and disaster risk management experts from across Central Asia to promote and strengthen dialogue and engagement on the safer schools agenda. View the presentations.

Improving education infrastructure for Syrian refugees in Turkey
Turkey has welcomed millions of displaced individuals as a result of the protracted crisis in Syria. Almost one-third of these people are of school age, creating unprecedented demands on the country’s school system. In response to this challenge, Turkey is building some 1,500 disaster-resilient classrooms through 2021, ensuring access to formal education for more than 43,000 school-aged Syrians each year. Read the blog.