

Analysis of the Learning Process of Governance in
Disaster Risk Management in the Health Sector

By Jahir Anicama Diaz

The main extreme weather events occurring in the Ucayali region of Peru are heavy rains, “friaie” (air mass of low temperatures) and floods for which it is necessary to develop a risk management strategy. In the 2013 Ucayali suffered thirteen warnings of “friaie” and this was linked to many cases of respiratory diseases. In 2012 Ucayali was declared an “emergency state” due to an outbreak of dengue where the rain played an important role in the diseases. In situations of abrupt changes (e.g. extreme weather events) appear some ways to adaptive governance and social learning of socio ecological systems. The objective of this study is to analyse the learning process in disaster risk management in the health sector in Loreto and Ucayali regions, specifically examining prevention and risk reduction from extreme weather events.

What does “Learning Process of Governance” mean?

This approach needs to distinguished between different types of learning according to the degree of critical self-reflection, the related system and the possible outcomes of the learning *per se*. It has been shown that learning requires conditions of deliberation and strategic efforts, given the need to generate "new spaces of communicative action" that can rebalance the horizontal and vertical linkages between organizations.

For our study we considered four dimensions for the analysis (national and regional level): Institutions, Networks of actors, Multi-level interactions and Modes of Governance.

Ethics approval was obtained from the Cayetano Heredia University in January 2014. In February 2014 the surveys and interviews were deisgned, and have been applied to representatives of different organizations that work in risk management in the health sector.

Execution of study in Lima and Ucayali

In order to reach the formal organizations which work in health and risk management in Lima, we worked with the Office of National Defence of the Ministry of Health. To reach the network of informal organizations, we collaborated with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. We currently have 20 interviews and surveys with organizations both in Lima and Ucayali.

For the work in Ucayali we are supported by the Regional Direction of Health and regional office of National Defence, Public Safety and Civil Defence Regional Government of Ucayali.



Interview with the director of National Defence and Civil Security of Ucayali Regional Government, Abog. Marcos Alejandro Lozano Oliart (Anicama, 2014).

Next activities

- Complete interviews and survey with more formal and informal organizations in Lima (March, 2014).
- Analysis of data of interviews and survey of Lima and Ucayali (March and April, 2014).