

## Participant Information Leaflet

**Study Title:** URBE Latam: **Understanding Risks and Building Enhanced Capabilities in Latin American cities**

**Principal and named Co-Investigators:** Principal Investigator: Professor João Porto de Albuquerque (University of Glasgow, UK)

Co-Investigators:

Professor Jon Coaffee (University of Warwick, UK)

Professor Camilo Ernesto Restrepo-Estrada (University of Antioquia, Colombia)

Dr Alejandro Builes-Jaramillo (Institución Universitaria Colegio Mayor, Colombia)

Professor Edna Margarita Rodríguez-Gaviria (Institución Universitaria Colegio Mayor, Colombia)

Professor Henrique Cukierman (Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)

Dr Victor Marchezini (CEMADEN, Brazil)

Dr Marcio Andrade, CEMADEN, Brazil

Emma Bee, (British Geological Survey, UK)

Dr Claire Foster (British Geological Survey, UK)

Julio Lana (Geological Survey of Brazil, CPRM, Brazil)

### Introduction

You are invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide, please take the time to read the following information carefully to understand why the research is being done and what it would involve for you. Talk to others about the study if you wish.

Please ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part.

### Who is organising and funding the study?

This study is taking place in the framework of the project entitled '*URBE Latam: Understanding Risks and Building Enhanced Capabilities in Latin American cities*'. The project is coordinated by the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Glasgow, UK, with the participation of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, University of Antioquia, Institución Universitaria Colegio Mayor, the Brazilian National Early Warning and Monitoring Centre for Natural Disasters (Cemaden), the Geological Survey Brazil, and the British Geological Survey. The project URBE Latam is financially supported by UK Research and Innovation, and particularly its Global Challenges Research Fund.

### What is the study about?

This project seeks to expand and refine the understanding of risks, vulnerabilities and potentialities associated with rain-related geohazards in Latin America by rethinking how environmental risk data is produced, how it is used, and how it can bring about delivering

equitable resilience for marginalised communities. The project is based on two case studies focusing on specific areas of Rio Janeiro and Medellin; however, the findings and methods developed during the research will be widely transferable to other places and environmental contexts.

To do this end:

- 1) we will engage residents in marginalised communities to promote awareness and generate data about local vulnerabilities and potentialities of resilience;
- 2) co-create with the residents a digital platform and mobile app that will underpin the processing and analysis of the data emerging from the interactions with the residents through workshops;
- 3) Understand the ways in which local government authorities, and other agencies involved in the management of environmental risk, currently collect and monitor data to enhance resilience
- 4) Integrate the new forms citizen-generated data with conventional data sources to recalibrate risk management practices, in ways that enable pathways for transition to sustainable development whilst also supporting more equitable decision- making and policy-making on development and resilience; and
- 5) Develop and promote communication and knowledge exchange between stakeholders of various agencies - both governmental and non-governmental - that are currently working to improve local development of marginalised neighbourhoods in these major Latin American cities and their resilience to rain-related geohazards.

These methodological interventions will enable the sustainable transformation of practices, improve knowledge among a diverse range of stakeholders and enhance capacity to promote equitable resilience, with the aim of reducing unequal exposure to risks and accounting for community-driven resilience.

### **What would taking part involve?**

If you decide to take part in this study, you agree to share some personal information with the investigators. The information you share will be anonymised, encrypted and stored in encrypted laptops and servers owned by the University of Glasgow. It will also be accessed ONLY by the investigators as presented in the beginning of this document. The meetings with the researchers, or participation in the focus groups will be clearly explained by the investigators prior to the visit and will not be recurring. Interviews and focus groups will be audio recorded.

### **What are the possible benefits of taking part in this study?**

Your participation in this study will provide tangible benefits for the local community in the attempt to mitigate the impacts of urban flooding and enhance flood resilience.

### **What are the possible disadvantages, side effects or risks, of taking part in this study?**

No particular disadvantages, side effects or risk from participating in this study can be identified.

## Expenses and payments

Participation in this study does not involve reimbursement of any monetary type.

## Will my taking part be kept confidential?

This study uses several methods for data collection, including paper formed questionnaires, in person interviews and webforms. All the data collected will be used ONLY for research purposes in the framework of this study, and will be de-identified, as none of the participants will be asked to provide their name. Where home address and other sensitive data such as age, gender, income status and height are required, they will only be collected as a range, without any way of linking the data back to the participant.

All the collected data will be preserved in Glasgow's data repository, stored on encrypted laptops and on the IT infrastructure of the partner universities; after the project's end, new open data will be incorporated into the existing open data repositories of partners (CRPM, CEMADEN, Glasgow, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, University of Antioquia, and Institución Universitaria Colegio Mayor de Antioquia), whilst sensitive data will be securely preserved in Glasgow's institutional repository. Collected data is also going to be backed up daily both to an off-site server and to an external hard drive and handled in accordance with ethical and security regulations of the University of Glasgow under the supervision of Prof João Porto de Albuquerque. Access to the data will be ONLY provided to the investigators presented in the beginning of this document.

## What will happen to the data collected about me?

As a publicly-funded organisation, we have to ensure that it is in the public interest when we use personally-identifiable information from people who have agreed to take part in research. This means that when you agree to take part in a research study, such as this, we will use your data in the ways needed to conduct and analyse the research study.

We will be using information from you in order to undertake this study and will act as the data controller for this study. We are committed to protecting the rights of individuals in line with data protection legislation. The University of Glasgow will keep identifiable information about you for 4 years after the study has finished (October 2026).

- 1) Research data collected will be **anonymised** as quickly as possible after data collection and it will not be possible to withdraw your data after two weeks from your participation to this study. If you share your email address with us, this will be ONLY used to provide you access to software and tools that will be used in the activities involved in the project. *(please specify when this will be. If email addresses are being collected for the purposes of arranging interviews etc. make it clear what this data will be used for and at what point this will be deleted.)*
- 2) Research data will be **pseudonymised** as quickly as possible after data collection. This means all direct and indirect identifiers will be removed from the research data and will be replaced with a participant number. The key to identification will be stored separately and securely to the research data to safeguard your identity. You will be able to withdraw your data from this study for up to two weeks after this activity. After the passing of that day, no data withdrawal will be possible.

Some of the data gathered as part of this study will be shared outside the EEA, and in particular within Brazil and Colombia and among collaborating institutions in both countries.

Your rights to access, change or move your information are limited, as we need to manage your information in specific ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate. The University of Glasgow has in place policies and procedures to keep your data safe.

This data may also be used for future research following review and approval by an independent Research Ethics Committee and subject to your consent at the outset of this research project.

### **What will happen if I don't want to carry on being part of the study?**

Participation in this study is entirely voluntary, for all of the data collection activities involved. Choosing to withdraw from the study, at any stage, would not affect you in any way. If you would like to withdraw, just inform the respective researcher that and without providing any additional reason you will be free to do so.

To safeguard your rights, the research team will use the minimum personally identifiable information possible and keep the data secure in line with the Glasgow University's Information and Data Compliance policies. If you withdraw from the study you will be able to withdraw your data and for up to two weeks following the implementation of this activity, under the supervision of Principal Investigator of this study, Prof. João Porto de Albuquerque.

### **What will happen to the results of the study?**

Results of this study will be used by the researchers in future publications to scientific journals, as outcomes of the project. Project results will be communicated back to the community by the researchers.

### **Who has reviewed the study?**

This study has been reviewed and given favourable opinion by the University of Glasgow's Ethics Committee.

### **Who should I contact if I want further information?**

The Principal investigator should be contacted for any further information required. The contact details are as follows:

João Porto de Albuquerque; joao.porto@glasgow.ac.uk;

### **Who should I contact if I wish to make a complaint?**

Any complaint about the way you have been dealt with during the study or any possible harm you might have suffered will be addressed. To pursue any complaint about the conduct of the research please contact the College of Social Sciences Lead for Ethical Review, email [socsci-ethics-lead@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:socsci-ethics-lead@glasgow.ac.uk)

**Thank you for taking the time to read this Participant Information Leaflet**