

Author's Accepted Manuscript

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Based On The World Risk Index

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www.elsevier.com/locate/ijdr

PII: S2212-4209(16)30064-4
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdr.2016.04.007>
Reference: IJDRR342

To appear in: *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*

Received date: 12 February 2016
Revised date: 15 April 2016
Accepted date: 17 April 2016

Cite this article as: Lutiane Queiroz de Almeida, Torsten Welle and Jörn Birkmann, Disaster Risk Indicators In Brazil: A Proposal Based On The World Risk Index, *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdr.2016.04.007>

This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting galley proof before it is published in its final citable form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain

DISASTER RISK INDICATORS IN BRAZIL: A PROPOSAL BASED ON THE
WORLD RISK INDEX

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Abstract

The DRIB Index- Disaster Risk Indicators in Brazil - provides a tool to help assess, visualise and communicate different levels of exposure, vulnerability and risk in Brazil. The index may sensitise public and political decision-makers towards the important topic of disaster risk and climate change adaptation. This article aims to explore the feasibility and usefulness of such a national risk index that considers both natural hazard phenomena and social vulnerability. The exposure to natural hazards was assessed by using four indicators that describe the exposure of people towards landslides, floods, droughts and sea level rise. Whereas vulnerability dimension consists of susceptibility, coping capacity and adaptive capacity was calculated on the basis of 32 indicators which comprise social, economic and environmental conditions of a society. The county comparison provides an initial ranking of exposure and vulnerability. Specific analysis of coping and adaptation capacities also indicates that risk or vulnerability are not pre-defined conditions, but rather are constructed by societies exposed to natural hazards.

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