



THE WORLD BANK



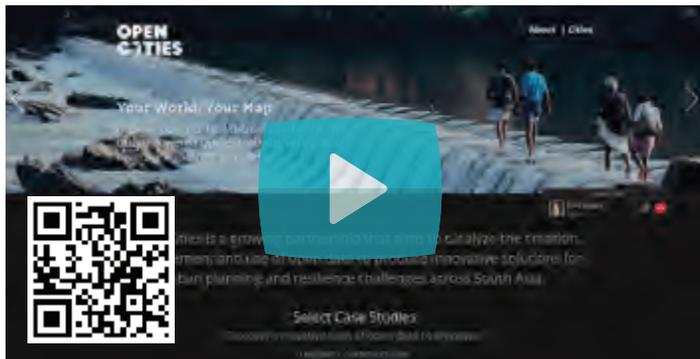
GFDRR

# Planning an Open Cities Mapping Project



## HISTORY OF OPEN CITIES AND THE OPEN DATA FOR RESILIENCE INITIATIVE

The World Bank, through its Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), launched the Open Cities Project in November 2012 to create open data ecosystems that will facilitate innovative, data-driven urban planning and disaster risk management in South Asian cities. Open Cities is one component of a broader World Bank and GFDRR program, the Open Data for Resilience Initiative (OpenDRI).



[HTTP://OPENCITIESPROJECT.ORG](http://OPENCITIESPROJECT.ORG)



## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide offers a comprehensive understanding of the design and implementation of an Open Cities mapping project—for both practitioners in the field and those interested in a higher-level understanding of the process. The guide’s content is based on experience in implementing the initial Open Cities projects in Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka as well as on previous mapping project experience. Where relevant, it provides relevant examples from those projects in the text and full case studies at the end of guide.

The Open Cities Project launched its efforts in three cities: Batticaloa, Sri Lanka; Dhaka, Bangladesh; and Kathmandu, Nepal. These cities were chosen for

- Their high levels of disaster risk;
- The presence of World Bank-lending activities related to urban planning and disaster management that would benefit from access to better data; and
- The willingness of government counterparts to participate in and help guide the interventions.



## CHAPTER 1

Open Cities drew from, and was inspired by, a number of projects involving community mapping, primarily the OpenStreetMap (OSM) response to the 2010 Haiti earthquake and the “Community Mapping for Exposure” effort by Australian and Indonesian governments with the Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team (HOT). Open Cities and the other projects used the OSM platform to harness the power of crowd and community to create accurate, up-to-date spatial data about locations and characteristics of the built and natural environments.

## CHAPTER 2

Describes the “Project Design and Preparation,” covers how a project design process begins: by identifying partners, clarifying a project’s objectives and scope, assembling a team of managers and mappers, and assessing the necessary resources for mapping.

## CHAPTER 3

“Getting Started,” then describes the steps after the initial planning stage: how to locate an appropriate workspace, assess equipment costs, and prepare staff training.

## CHAPTER 4

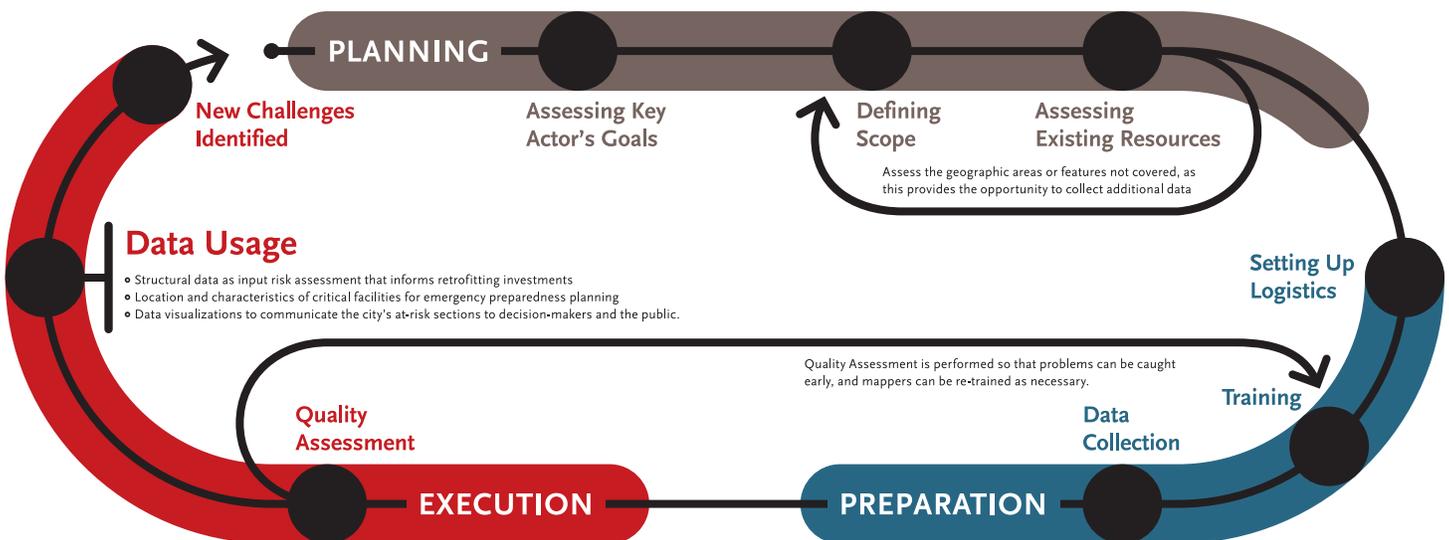
“Implementation and Supervision,” takes a practical look at data collection techniques from both the organizational and technical perspectives. It also addresses common challenges and mechanisms for quality control and reporting.

## CHAPTER 5

Examines the lessons learned from previous Open Cities projects and considers future improvements to the overall project design.

## OPEN CITIES PROCESS DIAGRAM

Designing and executing Open Cities projects is a complex task that involves a great deal of coordination with partners, technical and scientific work, team and volunteer coordination and management, and logistical work. While the format of this book necessarily presents these steps as linear, in practice these tasks are ongoing, iterative, and happening in parallel.



## PARTNERSHIPS

