

LANDSLIDE HAZARD MAPPING APPLIED FOR INSURANCE POLICIES AS A MITIGATION MEASURE OF GEOLOGIC ACCIDENTS IN BRAZIL

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In the last ten years, the technician, the policy makers and the Brazilian community have achieved some progress in elaboration and implementation of mitigation programs for damages related to geologic accidents, and in particular case, those triggered by landslides. The most of Brazilian landslide hazard maps were produced at large scales and for specific urban regions, such as slums areas. Generally, these maps also used qualitative risk analysis and they were usually applied to support emergencies actions. The characteristics above are strongly related to the influence of social and economical aspects in the dynamic of the landslide and other natural accidents in the Brazilian territory, that affect mainly the most impoverished sector of the population, which occupies the areas with the worst geologic and topographic conditions. In Brazil, there is few experience related to the use of geological knowledge for insurance policies to mitigate geological accidents. But, considering the experiences in other countries in this matter and the end of the insurance monopoly in the Brazilian constitution, this kind of control measure may be applied in Brazil in the near future. This presents a short review about the worldwide methods of landslide hazard mapping, with a special attention to those used in Brazil. Some considerations about their needs and trends are made and it is also discussed the potential application of these hazard maps to insurance policies as an additional mitigation measure for landslide hazards in Brazil. These studies are part of a doctorate project. They include a preliminary bibliographic review and a short-term training in the United States Geological Survey - USGS, Colorado, Golden.