

## **Tentative Kickoff Paper for a new Task Group (TG)**

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1. Name of the New Task Group (TG)  
TG XX: Engineering Approach to Non-engineered structures
2. Objectives and Scopes

“It remains something of a paradox that the failures of non-engineered buildings that kill most people in earthquakes attract the least attention from the engineering profession.”

We experienced Sichuan Earthquake May 2008, Central Java Earthquake 2006, Northern Pakistan Earthquake 2005. Japan also severely suffered from Kobe Earthquake 1995. The statement above by UNISDR (United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction: Living with risk 2004 version) clearly describes the exact situation concerning the above mentioned earthquakes and necessity of technical intervention to non-engineered structures. With this background the proposed task group aims to attract more attentions of researchers and practitioners, encourage them to work on non-engineered structures and identify possible working programs for next step activities.

The objectives of the Task Group are:

- to collect reports, data and information on non-engineered structures in the world including historical buildings to grasp actual design, material, construction practices and labor forces, and existing achievement concerning non-engineered structures and to share them among members of the TG
- to discuss and identify crucial issues to be explored by researchers and practitioners
- to encourage researchers and practitioners in all the relevant fields and countries/areas to work on non-engineered structures
- to elaborate possible working programs for the next step activities and propose them to researchers and practitioners communities
- to provide forum such as workshops, video conferences and web site, for exchange of information, knowledge and views

The TG covers wider scope as follows:

<structure type>

- masonry structures of brick, stone, concrete block etc
- confined masonry structures
- earthen constructions
- wood structures
- historical constructions
- any other structures which has no/little technical intervention

< countries/areas >

any country/area which has non-engineered structures which need further research and development (Japanese wood frame house will be one of the target type)

<expertise fields>

- structure engineering
- materials engineering
- construction/production engineering
- social studies on construction workers
- social science on dissemination of technologies both formal approach (technical guidelines, building codes etc) and informal approach (community based activities etc)
- any expertise field which need to be introduced

### 3. Current Work Program

The TG will stimulate the communities of researchers and practitioners and identify possible activities programs for the next steps. For the aim the TG will organize annual meetings/workshops and occasional meetings.

BRI has been working on non-engineered structures focusing on earthquake safety last three years, the proceedings of which are available at the web site of BRI at following addresses. And we organize a special session on non-engineered structure at 14<sup>th</sup> World Conference of Earthquake Engineering in Beijing (14WCEE) coming October.

<http://www.kenken.go.jp/english/information/information/event/ws2007/index.htm>

<http://www.kenken.go.jp/english/information/information/event/nepal-ws/index.htm>

<http://www.kenken.go.jp/english/information/information/event/tokyo-2007/index.htm>

<http://www.kenken.go.jp/english/information/information/event/tokyo-2006/index.htm>

<http://www.kenken.go.jp/english/information/information/event/shaeic/index.htm>

The TG will go forward on the line and also seek for expansion in wider scope such as rationalized construction, improvement of living conditions, development of relevant

industries on wider expertise fields.

#### 4. Planned Outputs

- 2008: Report on Preliminary Activities
- 2009: Proceedings of Kickoff Meeting
- 2010: Tentative Proposal on Activities Programs
- 2011: Final Task Group Report

#### 5. Internal Structure

#### 6. External Relations

The proposed TG is to collaborate with W114 (Earthquake Engineering and Buildings) as earthquake safety is the one of key issues of the new TG.

The TG aims for establishing links with international organizations interested in non-engineered structures such as UN Habitat, UNCRD, ADRC (Asian Disaster Reduction Center).

#### 7. Membership

Members of the TG have to be either a representatives of a CIB member organization or a individual CIB member. The TG invites guest participants to meetings/workshops from developing countries when it is necessary.

#### 8. Status

< Contact >

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