Seismic risk perception in Italy

1. The Seismic Risk Perception Questionnaire

The questionnaire on seismic risk perception (SRP) has been conducted by the Institute of the Sciences of Perception. It consists of two parts: a) a self-reported questionnaire aimed at assessing the individual’s perception of seismic risk, and b) a test of knowledge about earthquakes and their consequences.

The questionnaire is designed to assess the following aspects:

- Knowledge of seismic risk
- Perception of the risk
- Self-assessment of preparedness
- Preparedness actions
- Perception of the national and local government
- Perception of the media

The questionnaire is composed of multiple-choice questions and is divided into two parts: a) a test of knowledge about earthquakes and their consequences, and b) the questionnaire on the perception of seismic risk.

2. The Barriers to the Sensitivity to Seismic Risk Perception in Italy

The seismic risk perception survey began on 1st January and ended on 30th November. The number of respondents was 1,000 from all Italian regions. The survey aimed to assess the level of knowledge and awareness about seismic risk, and to identify the main barriers to the sensitivity to seismic risk perception.

The survey included the following items:

- Level of knowledge about earthquakes and their consequences
- Perception of the risk
- Preparedness actions
- Perception of the national and local government
- Perception of the media

The survey revealed that:

- The majority of respondents (80%) have a good level of knowledge about earthquakes and their consequences.
- The level of perception of the risk is lower, with only 50% of respondents indicating a high level of concern.
- Preparedness actions are limited, with only 20% of respondents reporting to have taken any action.
- The perception of the national and local government is mixed, with 40% of respondents indicating a high level of trust in the national government and 30% in the local government.
- The perception of the media is also mixed, with 40% of respondents indicating a high level of trust in the media.

3. The Results

The survey revealed that:

- The level of knowledge about earthquakes and their consequences is high, with 80% of respondents indicating a good level of knowledge.
- The level of perception of the risk is lower, with only 50% of respondents indicating a high level of concern.
- Preparedness actions are limited, with only 20% of respondents reporting to have taken any action.
- The perception of the national and local government is mixed, with 40% of respondents indicating a high level of trust in the national government and 30% in the local government.
- The perception of the media is also mixed, with 40% of respondents indicating a high level of trust in the media.

4. Conclusions

The report concludes that the awareness of seismic risk needs to be improved, especially in regions with a low level of knowledge and awareness. The survey also highlights the need for targeted communication campaigns to improve public awareness and preparedness. The findings suggest that the government and the media play a crucial role in raising public awareness and promoting preparedness.

The survey concludes with recommendations for future research and policy actions, including:

- Improving public awareness through targeted communication campaigns
- Enhancing preparedness through education and awareness programs
- Strengthening the role of the government and the media in raising public awareness
- Conducting regular surveys to assess the level of knowledge and awareness about seismic risk

The report recommends that future research should focus on identifying the main barriers to the sensitivity to seismic risk perception and developing strategies to overcome them. The findings highlight the importance of targeted communication campaigns and the role of the government and the media in raising public awareness and promoting preparedness.