

## **“Disaster Prevention for Schools”**

**Presented by:**

**Marla Petal**

**Ph.D. UCLA**

**Date: Friday, January 9, 2009**

**Presentations (click to view):**

- [Disaster Prevention for Schools](#)
- [School Disaster Risk Reduction: Think Globally, Act Globally](#)

The presentation covers the broad scope of safe schools with examples drawn from international sources:

**1. Disaster Impacts and Disaster Prevention for Schools**

**2. Creating Safe Learning Environments:**

- Assessment, school construction, prioritizing and financing retrofit

**3. Maintaining Safe School Environments**

- Building use and maintenance, school disaster management, protecting educational access with continuity planning

**4. Teaching and Learning Disaster Prevention and Preparedness**

- In the curriculum, outside the curriculum, educational materials development, teacher training, adaptation of materials

**5. Developing a Culture of Safety**

- Children as disaster reduction catalysts, thinking globally - acting locally, scaling up, national leadership and policy-setting, knowledge-sharing, research and evaluation

**The Speaker:**

Marla Petal holds a Ph.D. from UCLA in Urban Planning. She brings 30 years of experience in community organization, planning and administration in social programs including 7 years in urban community-based disaster risk reduction. She has lived and/or worked in Turkey, England, Japan and the USA and has also worked throughout Central Asia and in India. Petal initiated and managed the Istanbul Community Impact Project and Basic Disaster Awareness Program in Turkish Schools project for Bogaziçi University, and coordinated the Central Asia Earthquake Safety Initiative for GeoHazards International. Her commitment to community-based disaster mitigation is reflected in the broad range of public, non-profit and corporate stakeholders engaged in these programs. She has led participatory development of dozens of curricula and public education materials, and published and presented widely. Volunteer work includes two terms as a California School Board Member and active member of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute.