

## 6.2 California Accidental Release Prevention (CalARP) Program (USA)

OECD GP Activity	UN SF Activity	UN SD Goals / Targets
6. Natech risk in emergency planning, preparedness, and response	4. Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response	3.D Strengthen the capacity of all countries ... for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks

Classification according to OECD Guiding Principles, UN Sendai Framework Priorities/Activities, and UN SDGs and Targets

Short Facts:	Natural Hazard(s) Considered:
<p><b>Governance approach:</b> Prevention program</p> <p><b>Source:</b> Government of California</p> <p><b>Entry into force:</b> 1 January 1997</p> <p><b>Targeted Stakeholders:</b> Facilities handling dangerous substances over a threshold quantity</p> <p><b>Scope of applicability:</b> Regional, enterprises, sites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Earthquakes</li> <li>• Floods</li> <li>• Fires</li> <li>• Extreme meteorological events</li> </ul> <p><b>Climate change:</b> Not considered</p>

**Description**

The Californian Accidental Release Prevention (CalARP) Program was implemented on 1 January 1997 to replace the federal Risk Management and Prevention Program. The CalARP program aims to: prevent the accidental release of dangerous substances that can cause severe harm to people and the environment; minimize the damage caused by such technological accidents; and ensure the public is best informed about the potential risks and knows what to do in the event of an emergency.

This is achieved by requiring establishments that handle dangerous substances listed in the regulations over a threshold quantity to develop a Risk Management Plan (RMP). There are 276 substances listed by the Californian Government; the federal list includes only 77 chemicals. The RMP is a detailed engineering analysis of potential accident factors and measures that can be taken to mitigate these. It must contain: safety information, a hazard review, operating procedures, training requirements, maintenance requirements, compliance audits, and incident investigation procedures. Since California is threatened mostly by earthquake hazards, some businesses in California must perform a seismic analysis in addition to federal requirements.

The CalARP is implemented by local Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPAs), which work directly with local establishments. The CUPAs determine the level of detail and integrity of RMPs, conduct facility inspections, and make sure the public is provided with the necessary information. Engineers from the CalARP Program: (1) review the risk management and safety plans, conduct and document facility inspections at least once every three years (including unannounced inspections), (2) follow-up with recommended action items and make sure potential hazard sources are adequately addressed, (3) review major chemical accidents or create root cause analysis and incident investigation reports, (4) perform or assist with incident investigations, and (5) perform hazard scoring for development projects associated with land-use applications.

### Link/Contact:

<https://cchealth.org/hazmat/calarp/>

<http://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/fire-rescue/hazardous-materials/california-accidental-release-prevention>

### Comments by the UN/OECD Natech-Steering Group:



In Contra Costa County this CalARP program is combined with the Adapting to Rising Tides (ART) Program.

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### Imprint

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