Group Activity (20-30 minutes)

II. HAZARD PROFILE WORKSHEET

The second step of a hazard assessment is to create a Hazard Profile. Working with other community members, use this sample Hazard Profile Worksheet to develop a profile for one of the hazards identified in the previous activity: I. Hazard Identification Worksheet. Ideally, you would create a profile for each hazard that poses a threat to your community.

<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">HAZARD PROFILE WORKSHEET</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">COMMUNITY NAME:</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">HAZARD:</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">POTENTIAL MAGNITUDE (Percentage of the community that can be affected):

☐ Catastrophic: More than 50%.
☐ Critical: 25 to 50%.
☐ Limited: 10 to 25%.
☐ Negligible: Less than 10%.</td></tr>
<tr><td>FREQUENCY OF OCCURRENCE:

☐ Highly likely: Near 100% probability in next year.
☐ Likely: Between 10 and 100% probability in next year, or at least one chance in next 10 years.
☐ Possible: Between 1 and 10% probability in next year, or at least one chance in next 100 years.
☐ Unlikely: Less than 1% probability in next 100 years.</td><td>SEASONAL PATTERN:</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">AREAS LIKELY TO BE MOST AFFECTED (BY GEOGRAPHIC REGION or SECTOR):</td></tr>
</table>

DESCRIBE EFFECTS TO MAJOR SECTORS (e.g., Communications, Transportation, Utilities, Agriculture, Vulnerable Populations, etc.):

PROBABLE DURATION:

POTENTIAL SPEED OF ONSET (Probable amount of warning time):

- ☐ Minimal (or no) warning.
- ☐ 6 to 12 hours warning.
- ☐ 12 to 24 hours warning.
- ☐ More than 24 hours warning.

EXISTING WARNING SYSTEMS:

Some considerations to keep in mind when conducting research for hazard profiles:

- Have all possible hazards been considered?
- Is any type of information missing from the hazard profiles?
- Have the characteristics of any of the hazards changed since any previous analyses were done?

When possible, hazard profiles should include the following information about each hazard:

- Frequency of Occurrence (how often the hazard is likely to occur).
- Probability of occurrence of particular event magnitudes (e.g., Category 5 hurricane).
- Maximum Likely Magnitude and Potential Intensity (how severe the hazard might be).
- Location (where the hazard is likely to occur).
- Probable Spatial Extent of particular event magnitudes (how large an area is likely to be affected).
- Duration (how long the hazard is expected to last).
- Seasonal Pattern (time of year during which the hazard is more likely to occur – remember, not all hazards have seasonal patterns).
- Speed of Onset (how fast the hazard is likely to occur).

In addition, you would ideally want to obtain some information about the losses associated with each hazard. You will need to compile and analyze the data from individual historical events in order to produce these general hazard profiles. Models can help you estimate some of this information as well. The quality of your profiles depends on the quantity and quality of your data. Your results will never exactly represent reality.