Project initiated by the “ProVention” programme of The World Bank and ISDR
Study performed by the International Centre for Geohazards / Norwegian Geotechnical Institute
Part of a broader programme at Columbia University where risks from all types of natural hazards are studied under a contract with ProVention

Landslides contribute to major disasters every year on a global scale, and the frequency of occurrence is on an upward trend. Major reasons:

- More extreme weather conditions
- Over-exploitation of natural resources and deforestation
- Increased urbanisation
- Uncontrolled use of land

Landslides are responsible for far greater socio-economic and human losses than is generally recognised.

Much landslide damage is not documented because it is considered to be a result of the triggering processes and is thus included by the news media in reports of earthquakes, floods, volcanic eruptions, or typhoons, even though the cost from landslides may exceed all other costs from the overall multiple-hazard disaster.

Vulnerability depends mainly on socio-economic factors. The vulnerability evaluation is performed in close cooperation with UNEP/Grid in Geneva.

Main input data for the assessment of landslide hazard are topography and slope angles, precipitation, seismic activity, soil type, hydrological condition, and vegetation cover.

Main objective: Perform a databased, first-order identification of geographic areas that form the global slide and avalanche risk disaster hotspots.