



Street and buildings in Quito, Ecuador. The building with balcony cantilever slabs (second from right side of photo) appears to be of a common construction type in which a reinforced concrete structural frame confines non-structural masonry walls and partitions. The building on the left appears to be of another type of construction common in Latin America, characterized by a wood frame covered with adobe for walls and partitions and wood-framed second floor and roof structure. Both types of construction have suffered severe earthquake damage in the past. (The integrity of these buildings, which depends on many factors, cannot be assessed from the photo alone.) (Photo by Oliver Davidson, Regional Preparedness Officer - Latin America and the Caribbean, US Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance.)

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