

Humanitarian Aid, Disaster Risk Reduction

Support to the Emergency Management Department of Georgia



Background

Georgia is a highly disaster-prone country. In the past it has been frequently hit by major natural disasters like earthquakes, floods, droughts, landslides and avalanches. It is continuously exposed to a large number of technological and complex natural disasters.

Georgia's current fragile social, political and economic environment, rapid urbanization, and the concentration of improperly maintained technical infrastructures greatly increase the level of the country's vulnerability, in addition to contributing in great measure to the severe impact of disasters.

Georgia's institutional disaster management capacities are very limited in terms of disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response.

General Information

Project region:
Georgia

Project duration:
2002-2008

Total budget:
CHF 1'500'000

Project partner:
**Emergency Management Department
under Ministry of Internal Affairs**
Tel.: +995 32 750 491
Fax.: +995 32 752 161

Swiss Cooperation Office Georgia
Tel.: +995 32 253 682
Fax.: +995 32 253 683
tbilisi@sdc.net
www.swisscoop.ge

Objectives

The main goal of the Project is the strengthening of the Georgian disaster management system. This is done by:

- § Setting up a competent training centre in Urban Search and Rescue (USAR).
- § Strengthening the Rescue Base of the Emergency Management Department as an operational base for USAR missions.

Expected results and activities

Since 2002 SDC actively supports the Ministry of Internal Affairs in building the capacity to respond to disasters. Initial activities included construction of aid premises and the provision of equipment.

The experts of the Swiss Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sports provide practical and methodological courses to the rescue instructors.

The USAR training of the rescue instructors is based on a train-the-trainer approach.