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**Swiss Cooperation Office
 South Caucasus**

Provision of expertise to strengthen the Disaster Risk Reduction capacity in Georgia (phase I)

**WHO DOES WHAT WHERE
 IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION
 IN GEORGIA
 First Edition
 September 2009**



2009

გაერთიანებული ერების
 ორგანიზაციის კატასტროფის
 შემცირების საერთაშორისო
 სტრატეგიის სააგენტოს (ISDR)
 ტერმინოლოგია

კატასტროფის რისკის
 შემცირების შესახებ

Project title	Provision of expertise to strengthen the Disaster Risk Reduction capacity in Georgia (phase I) [Domain Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)]
General information	Region: Georgia Duration: June 2008 - August 2010 Budget: CHF 550'000
Project partners	UNDP Georgia, UN Resident coordinator's office, UN Country Team (UNCT), UN Disaster Management Team (project co-funder) Government of Georgia (GoG), particularly the Emergency Management Department (EMD) under the Ministry of Internal Affairs.
Project objectives	The overall objective is to increase the capacities within the GoG to reduce the country's disaster risks and to align the activities of the international stakeholders with the national DRR priorities. In the frame of this project, SDC provides expertise by funding a senior DRR advisor at UNDP Georgia. The DRR advisor supports the national partners, particularly the EMD, by providing technical assistance and policy advice, to adopt and implement relevant policies at the national and regional level. The project aims the following two outcomes: a) DRR as an established topic on the political agenda and relevant institutions are capable to fulfil their DRR mandate in Georgia. b) Integration of DRR standards in development projects to increase the sustainability.
Background	Georgia is exposed to a wide range of natural and man-made disasters, including earthquakes, floods, droughts, landslides, avalanches and tech-

nological disasters. Combined with the country's vulnerability, due to the fragile economical and political situation, improper natural resources management and poor infrastructure maintenance this implies high risks and severe impacts in case a disaster strikes.

Despite having signed the international DRR framework (Hyogo Framework of Action/ HFA), Georgia's disaster risk management system shows fundamental gaps. In 2005 a UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) mission disclosed limited institutional capacities in disaster management (prevention/mitigation, preparedness/ response) at the central as well as at the local level due to a lack of human, financial and material resources. Thereafter the legal framework was revised and a law on "Protecting Population and Territory from natural and man-made Emergency Situations by the GoG, 2007" was adopted, tasking the EMD to elaborate a National Emergency Response Plan (NERP). Additionally to the NERP relevant action plans and complementary DRR projects need to be adopted in order to improve the country's overall disaster risk management in alignment with the HFA.

Through past DRR projects SDC supported Georgia's disaster management system at the central level, by setting up the rescue base / training centre in Tbilisi, and at the local level by supporting the municipal authorities of Tsageri through various prevention and response activities.

Project activities

- a) Coordination and promotion of DRR at the national agenda:
 - Appointment of a Senior DRR Advisor,
 - Technical support to relevant partners of GoG,
 - Organisation of coordination meetings (DRR Think-tanks),
 - Advocacy and policy dialogue to mainstream DRR issues.
- b) DRR mainstreaming and capacity building:
 - Countrywide inventory of all organisations active in DRR ("Who Does What Where in DRR in Georgia"),
 - Organisation DRR trainings, knowledge management and awareness building events for relevant national and international stakeholders,
 - Policy and mainstreaming works on DRR issues among relevant national and international stakeholders,
 - Improvement of contingency planning within UNCT and larger humanitarian community.

Expected results (outputs)

- a) Promotion of DRR at the national agenda and coordination:
 - The GoG has adopted relevant DRR policies.
 - UNCT has set up a coordination and information shearing mechanism with national and international stakeholders.
- b) DRR mainstreaming and capacity building:
 - UN's and other international stakeholders' activities are in line with DRR standards.



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