



Humanitarian Aid

Support to the Emergency Management Department Rescue Base & Training Centre



Background

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

Georgia's fragile social, political and economic environment, rapid urbanization and the concentration of improperly maintained technical infrastructure increase the level of vulnerability and implicate a high risk related to natural and man-made disasters.

All efforts aimed at improving the situation of the population are jeopardised when a disaster hits. Georgia's institutional disaster management capacities are very limited in terms of disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response. Since the 2002 SDC actively supports the Emergency Management Department (EMD) under the Ministry of Internal Affairs in building up its preparedness system.

General Information

Project region:

Georgia

Project duration:

2002-2008

Total budget:

CHF 1'500'000

Project partner:

Emergency Management Department (EMD) under the Ministry of Internal affairs

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Objectives

The main goal of the project is the strengthening of the Georgian disaster management system focusing on the preparedness capacities:

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

Expected results and activities

The project aims an improved preparedness and response system. Therefore as a first step a central rescue base in Tbilisi was constructed and equipment and training material were delivered. Thereafter rescue experts of the Swiss Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport (DDPS) conducted practical and methodological USAR trainings. The training were based on the train-the-trainer principle and consisting in 4 parts:

- Acquaintance of know-how
- Consolidation of skills
- Application through practical exercises
- Evaluation and special trainings

The training in collaboration with the Swiss rescue experts concentrated on the Urban Search and Rescue skills which are particularly required in case of an earthquake event.

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