

## GETI support Cities Resilience training in Armenia

On June 16 a three day training of trainers was held in Yerevan, Armenia in regard to “Making Cities Resilient; My city is getting ready” conception and ongoing Global Campaign. It was organized by the UNISDR GETI (Incheon, Korea) and UNDP Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Project in Armenia in cooperation with the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Emergency Situation (MTAES), DRR National Platform and Crisis Management State Academy (CMSA).

This training was the first attempt to train the trainers and create a database of the instructors in Armenia related to the “Making Cities Resilient” global campaign framework.

The CMSA undertook an obligation to improve and develop the trainers’ professional qualification. They will be included in Regional DRR teams as the City Resilience instructors /trainers to carry out the activities in promotion of the City Resilience concept and Global Campaign as well as to train new personnel. According to CMSA, the trainers’ capacity development process will last around one and half year.

The Armenia Disaster Risk Reduction National Platform will monitor the whole process and provide with the recommendations / consultancy and assistance if necessary.



**The opening speech was conducted by Movses Poghosyan, DRR NP Director.** He mentioned about the comprehensive and successful cooperation with the DRR key players / institutions, stakeholders and other interested partners (UNDP, UNISDR GETI, MTAES, CMSA, DRR Regional Teams, etc.). In particular, he referred to the MADRID programme where the basics of the cooperation with the UNDP, UNISDR GETI and BCPR have been established. In concern to ongoing City Resilience Global Campaign, he underlined the existing as well as the perspective collaboration with the UNISDR GETI, UNDP, MTAES and other players in resilience field of activities.

There are already 18 cities in Armenia that has joined the City Resilience Campaign. DRR NP will continue supportive and collaborative framework in regard to Resilience Campaign and make every effort to address the Campaign goals to other cities not yet involved in resilience framework. The DRR NP with UNDP and other partners will also support the cities to set up Resilience Plan of Action and add latter into the communities’ development 4 years plans.

**Closing speeches were conducted by Hamlet Matevosyan/CMSA Rector and Armen Chilingaryan/DRR Project coordinator at UNDP**



**Hamlet Matevosyan/CMSA Rector :** ‘This training once again highlighted the strong partnership between CMSA, UNISDR GETI, UNDP, DRR NP and MTAES “ said the CMSA Rector. We are working together for over a year in the frames of “Making Cities Resilient” global campaign and the outcomes are more than sufficient. The training of the trainers is very important initiative for Armenia; knowledgeable trainers are one of the guarantees to promote the resilience concept and Global Campaign. ”

Henceforth, the trained instructors will have the opportunity to develop their capacities at the CMSA as well as to be involved and work within the regional DRR teams and national subdivisions. The CMSA has already included the Resilience City concept and Campaign goals, tools and mechanisms in academy general study course as well as in study courses for the bachelor and master

degrees. There has already been a thesis (diploma work) topic at the academy in regard to city resilience; Stepanavan City Resilience model as the first successful experience in Armenia was taken as a basic for the thesis topic.

For this matter, the academy lecturers and the representatives of DRR Regional teams and DRR National Platform will be correspondingly retrained.



**At the closing speech Armen Chilingaryan, UNDP DRR programme coordinator** noted that the UNDP in Armenia is the nucleus in supporting of strong collaboration between key partners. There are very collaborative relationships between UNDP Armenia and UNISDR GETI. Thus, the city resilience international practice has been successfully adapted in Armenia (Stepanavan City Role Model) in cooperation with the main DRR partners in Armenia such as MTAES, CMSA, DRR NP, OCHA, UNICEF, World Vision Armenia, ARCS and OXFAM.

In fact, there are number of interested and initiating partners in Armenia, such as MTAES, CMSA and Armenia Disaster Risk Reduction National Platform competent to promote and develop the resilience concept as well as the Campaign. The sustainability of the collaboration between key partners is the guarantee of successful outcomes. He said that presently, we are capable to

organize trainings and study courses in Armenian, Russian and English languages in regard to City

Resilience, therefore provide with the opportunity to our national partners (MTAES, CMSA and Armenia DRR National Platform) to become a study / training resource for the Region and Central Asia.

He also stressed that for now, the most important issue is to establish and develop local professionals' capacities.

Armen Chilingaryan expressed his gratitude to UNISDR GETI, UNDP, MTAES, CMSA, Armenia DRR National Platform and all partners for their support and facilitation to establish the sustainable and productive collaboration as well as to act towards making cities resilient in Armenia.