

# Kyrgyzstan

## National progress report on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action

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Reporting period : 2007-2009

Last updated on : 5 May 2009

Print date : 09 Jun 2009

Reporting language : English

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An HFA Monitor update published by PreventionWeb

<http://www.preventionweb.net/english/countries/asia/kgz/>



# Strategic goals 1

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## Area 1

*The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.*

### **Strategic Goal Statement:**

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic integrates disaster risk reduction in the national legislation, strategies and programs, for preventing and minimizing human and economic loss related to natural and man-made hazards. All sectors of the society, central and local government structures, the rapidly developing private sector, and communities are embraced by the programs and strategies. The government and the parliament determined the sphere of disaster risk reduction as one of most important directions. Implementation of the programs and plans is supported by the necessary legislative acts, standards, and norms.

## Area 2

*The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.*

### **Strategic Goal Statement:**

The executive branch works to ensure implementation of the strategic documents in all parts and sectors of the society. Interaction of research institutions, civil society organizations, municipal structures and local governments is aimed at building up the resilience of the population to disasters and increasing the level of awareness and information in the area of disaster risk reduction. The elements of disaster reduction are being introduced in the formal education, at community level, and the territorial organs of the Ministry of Emergencies constantly work with the management of enterprises and private sector organizations for enhancing their ability to withstand hazards and threats. The plans for economic development should include disaster risk reduction, for all spheres.

## Area 3

*The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.*

### **Strategic Goal Statement:**

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic consistently works for enhancing the capacity of the country to timely respond to calamities, while taking all measures to minimize the losses before the disasters happen. The short-term and long-term recovery programs aim at the soonest recovery from disasters, rehabilitation and return to the normal life and functioning of the economy, combining the human, financial and other resources of the society at all levels.

Emergency preparedness among all sectors of the society becomes more important in view of climate change and weather extremes, and mobilization of intellectual, economic, and technical resources in this field is vital in ensuring progress.

## Priority for action 1

*Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for*

## Core indicator 1

*National policy and legal framework for disaster risk reduction exists with decentralised responsibilities and capacities at all levels.*

### Level of Progress achieved:

4: Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Description:

Adopted the Laws of the Kyrgyz Republic “On civil defense” dated January 27, 2000, the Decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic &#8470;702 dated November 29, 2000 “Classification of emergencies and their assessment criteria”, the Provision “On the integral state system of emergencies prevention and mitigation” approved by the Decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic &#8470;746 dated October 23, 2006 “On population and territory protection against natural and man-made emergency situations”, “On the search and rescue services”.

A new and more effective Law “On civil defense” is developed and submitted to the Government for consideration.

The Inter-agency Commission on prevention and mitigation of emergency situations, the Commission on evacuation and sustainable development of the national economy branches and objects in case of emergencies during the peaceful and war time are established by the special Decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic &#8470;156 dated March 13, 2006; the Provisions of these commissions are approved as well.

Similar Commissions of Emergency Situations are established at the levels of provinces, cities and districts, in the ministries and authorities, and at large business entities as well, etc.

Services on the civil defense were established on the basis of the ministries and authorities by the Decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. The Provisions of the civil defense services of the Kyrgyz Republic are approved by the Decree of the government of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Unarmed units of the civil defense are established and their Provisions are approved by the Decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Established: the Coordination Group on emergencies response (REACT) comprising international and non-governmental organizations, ministries and authorities, Government of the Kyrgyz Republic (donors, NGOs, bilateral and multilateral organizations, etc.). This mechanism is aimed at the coordination of the operative response to emergency situations, provision of the humanitarian assistance, and rehabilitation activities.

### Context & Constraints:

1. Need in the solution of the issue on disaster management was admitted by the Government and various international agencies. Funding of these initiatives is increased but insufficiently.
2. There is still no national strategy on disaster risk management and preparedness and response plans that could be strategic indicators both for the national and international stakeholders.
3. There is no regulatory basis determining the roles of the local self-governing authorities in the issues related to disaster risk management.

## Core indicator 2

*Dedicated and adequate resources are available to implement disaster risk reduction plans and activities at all administrative levels*

### Level of Progress achieved:

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Description:**

Funds for mitigation of disaster consequences are allocated in the republican budget and in the budget of administrative-territorial division (provinces, cities, districts, etc.) every year.

These funds are distributed by the Inter-agency Commission on prevention and mitigation of emergency situations upon submission of the supporting documents prepared by emergency commissions in the fields.

The documents are submitted to the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MoES) of the Kyrgyz Republic via its structural subdivisions, further to the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic to be considered by the Inter-agency Commission on prevention and mitigation of emergency situations.

Moreover, funds are allocated for training of the heads of ministries and authorities, local executive authorities, economy objects, pupils, students, local community and other strata of the society on the natural and man-made disaster preparedness.

**Context & Constraints:**

Funds allocated by the Government for prevention and mitigation of emergency situations are insufficient and make max. 10% of the damage caused by disasters to the population and the country economy.

Little funds are allocated for implementation of bank-strengthening and preventive activities in the most dangerous areas; this makes only a small part of the planned activities.

**Core indicator 3**

*Community Participation and decentralisation is ensured through the delegation of authority and resources to local levels*

**Level of Progress achieved:**

2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

**Description:**

The power of executive authority at the level of communities, rural and urban bodies that work directly with the population on disaster prevention, response and mitigation are not fully determined, and are not clearly reflected in the relevant documents determining the goals and objectives of these bodies.

The structural subdivisions of the MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic are of great importance in the activity with local population.

A number of international and non-governmental organizations and donors together with the MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic work with communities on increasing the level of public awareness on the risks, and contributing to the capacity building of the population on disaster preparedness and participation in disaster risk reduction activities.

A successful example of development can be the fact that the national non-governmental organizations, from the National Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan and its nationwide network to small NGOs involved in rendering of specific services including their institutional role in disaster preparedness and response, actively participate in disaster risk management.

**Context & Constraints:**

Because of insufficient budget funds the structural subdivisions of the MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic operate only at the level of districts, and the activities of international and non-governmental organizations are implemented only during the project period and are of temporary character.

**Core indicator 4**

*A national multi sectoral platform for disaster risk reduction is functioning.*

**Level of Progress achieved:**

2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

**Description:**

No information submitted by the government

**Context & Constraints:**

1. Disaster prevention is one of the key objectives of the MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic and other commissions at all levels. However this objective is not implemented by the national, regional and local authorities appropriately. Local authorities often face the shortage of knowledge, resources and capacity to participate in disaster risk management activities.
2. Mechanisms promoting the timely and appropriate assistance to vulnerable communities in case of a large-scale disaster require relevant agreement between the Government and international community.
3. The role and responsibilities of the state bodies and other participants at different administrative levels still have to be clarified with regard to the issues on disaster preparedness, prevention and risk reduction.

## Priority for action 2

*Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning*

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**Core indicator 1**

*National and local risk assessments based on hazard data and vulnerability information are available and include risk assessments for key sectors.*

**Level of Progress achieved:**

4: Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

**Description:**

Disaster risk assessment in the Kyrgyz Republic is very important. Thus almost for all most disaster-prone area there have been designed the risk maps: seismic map, maps of landslides, mudflows, erosion, avalanches, etc. Highly qualified specialists took part in the development of these maps. Now these maps require general update to be implemented with the help of GIS equipment. Partial update of these maps was conducted in the relevant subdivisions of MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic. These maps were scanned, digitalized, and are now available in the GIS format. They can further be successfully used for disaster threat and risk assessment.

Nowadays disaster risk and vulnerability assessment is very important as the results of such assessments are of great economic value for planning of construction of the important economic objects, urban construction, preparation of the state development strategy, risk reduction strategy, disaster preparedness and response plans.

Unfortunately, not much attention was paid to disaster vulnerability and risk assessment during previous time, thus the existing risk and vulnerability maps have not been designed. Even nowadays the state institutions responsible for monitoring of disaster processes do not have the fundamental methodology of such assessments. In some cases there are only the qualitative characteristics of such assessments. The main activity on the monitoring of the natural processes is implemented by the Department on Emergencies Monitoring and Forecasting, MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic.

1. The summarized and analyzed information on the settlements and industrial-economic objects located in disaster-prone areas, received by this Department is further submitted to the relevant subdivisions of MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic and local executive authorities for further implementation of preventive

measures. At the moment these data are the key source of the information for MoES specialists to conduct monitoring of emergency situations in various disaster-prone areas of the republic. In some cases such survey activities are implemented upon the order of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and alarm calls from the local authorities of various areas.

2. Another key source of obtaining and accumulation of the information on monitoring and forecasting of mudflows and floods is the Hydrometeorology Agency of MoES. The timely information on accumulation of precipitations in river basins of Kyrgyzstan and the relevant forecasting of the average water run-off for the vegetation period. This Agency forecasts the expected mudflows and floods in the river basins. This information is immediately transmitted to the regional subdivisions of MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic and local authorities for further joint prevention and mitigation measures.

3. Seismological monitoring of the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic is implemented by the Seismology Institute of Academy of Sciences of the Kyrgyz Republic. The activities of this Institute is at a very low level because almost all seismic stations of the Kyrgyz Republic were constructed during the Soviet period and their equipment was not modernized since that time.

### **Context & Constraints:**

In the context of insufficient funding of activity of the Department on Emergencies Monitoring and Forecasting, MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic it is impossible to conduct the monitoring of very dangerous processes in remote and hard-to-reach areas. Thus the continuous monitoring and forecasting of disasters are almost impossible. At the moment planning of separate measures on disaster prevention is based on the using of the analytical information provided by the Department on Emergencies Monitoring and Forecasting, behavior of the main threatening disaster, and the preventive activities developed by this Department.

Processing of the data received from the seismic stations is often delayed. Thus the continuous seismological monitoring of the Kyrgyz Republic is not conducted. To strengthen the efficiency of the Seismology Institute activity it is required to establish up-to-date digital seismological stations that can cover the whole country.

The main constraints and difficulties in the work of the governmental and international partner organizations in the issues of disaster threat, vulnerability and risk assessment are as follows:

1. Poor coordination of activity of the science-research institutions.
2. Lack of the sustainable system of communication and information exchange.
3. Domination of personal interests of separate organizations on development and introduction of the methodology related to disaster threat and risk assessment.
4. Poorly developed system of sharing the experience on the new technologies introduction (GIS, new systems of positioning and remote sensing, etc.)

Positive solution of these problems will allow overcoming the difficulties in this field.

## **Core indicator 2**

*Systems are in place to monitor, archive and disseminate data on key hazards and vulnerabilities*

### **Level of Progress achieved:**

1: Minor progress with few signs of forward action in plans or policy

### **Description:**

No information provided by the government

### **Context & Constraints:**

No information provided by the government

## **Core indicator 3**

*Early warning systems are in place for all major hazards, with outreach to communities.*

**Level of Progress achieved:**

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Description:**

Warning of the population and the state authorities is directly linked with the monitoring system of disasters caused by activation of geological, meteorological and other processes.

The control point – communication station “Riziya” of the Chief operative department of MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic – has constant radio-telephone and telegraph communication with all regions of Kyrgyzstan, the CIS and far-abroad countries. There are three main modes of the warning system: everyday activity, advanced preparedness, and emergency.

Provincial, urban and rural executive authorities, regional and relevant district administrative departments have external radio, telephone or telegraph communication with all towns of the republic, the CIS and far-abroad countries. They can communicate with the control point of the Chief operative department of MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The valuable assistance in overcoming of the difficulties with the communication established in 2006 was rendered by the implementation of the World Bank project “Emergency situations prevention”. The Center on crisis situations management was established within the framework of this project. This Center is the operative body of the Inter-agency Commission on emergencies prevention and mitigation. At the moment there is the on-line communication Osh-Bishkek-Jalalabad.

It is planned to organize the activity of a similar center in other areas of the center in other areas of the country, and equip two mobile vehicles so that the information could be transmitted from disaster locations.

**Context & Constraints:**

The existing problems and constraints are as follows:

**Funding**

1. Paralyzed internal line communication in districts and economy objects
2. Malfunctioning of the earlier established almost in all rural areas radio centers, and individual radio points located in private houses.
3. Lack of the monitoring and early warning systems in other more vulnerable areas. It would be appropriate to use the experience accumulated within the framework of the project on installation of the monitoring and early warning systems in other areas of the country after the preliminary assessment of the safety of the man-made and natural dams.
4. Lack or malfunctioning of the early warning system in the economy objects that use highly toxic poisonous agents.

Replacement of the worn-out telephone stations with new ones and implementation of serious rehabilitation works on the broken communication lines require significant material and monetary expenses. But in case of such an opportunity it would be more appropriate to install the up-to-date communication devices that could provide wireless external and internal communication.

**Core indicator 4**

*National and local risk assessments take account of regional / trans boundary risks, with a view to regional cooperation on risk reduction.*

**Level of Progress achieved:**

2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

**Description:**

Central Asia is one of the most disaster-prone regions. Natural disasters that significantly threaten the region are as follows: mudflows, floods, landslides, avalanches, droughts, earthquakes, etc. At the moment the vulnerability reduction is considered as the key factor of sustainable development. The level



of awareness of decision-makers on the issues related to the need for establishment of an Integral Disaster Risk Management System that will strengthen the response training capacity is consequently being increased.

Preventive activities, such as risk assessment, disaster forecasting, and raising of awareness of the target groups promote disaster risk minimizing. Trans-boundary integration of disaster prevention activity reduces vulnerability of the mentioned countries and helps avoiding the economic and material losses. Nowadays the solution of the problem on trans-boundary disasters is being fulfilled within the framework of several international projects that are implemented and are being implemented in CA countries.

Among these projects is the project on "Ecological safety of Central Asian countries" that considered the problems on trans-boundary disasters of some parts of Fergana valley on the territory of CA countries. This project also included establishment of the International Coordination Group for consideration of the issues on reclamation and rehabilitation of the tailing dams located of the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic and being of the trans-boundary character.

In the course of the ICG project implementation there were inspected the dumps of uranium wastes in Kyrgyzstan.

As a result there were identified the areas of trans-boundary disasters damaging both territory and population of Central Asia at the same time.

The next project is devoted to trans-boundary issues related to strong earthquakes occurring in Central Asian countries. The preliminary phase of this project is implemented from July 1, 2008 to February 28, 2009. All five Central Asian states will be involved in the implementation of this project.

Trans-boundary issues related to the tailing dams were considered and discussed at large conferences, workshops and symposiums conducted in Kyrgyzstan for many times. The international conference devoted to this issue is organized under the assistance of the UN and OSCE representative offices.

#### **Context & Constraints:**

General problems related to trans-boundary disasters:

- Lack of the unified warning system and communication in case of emergency situations
- Non-preparedness of the population inhabiting trans-boundary areas to possible disasters
- Poor awareness of the population in border areas on possible disasters
- Lack of joint trainings on preparedness to disasters
- Lack of experience sharing on the issues related to disaster preparedness, prevention and response, etc.

### **Priority for action 3**

*Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels*

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#### **Core indicator 1**

*Relevant information on disasters is available and accessible at all levels, to all stakeholders (through networks, development of information sharing systems etc)*

#### **Level of Progress achieved:**

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

#### **Description:**

Risk maps on the main endangering processes are developed. The information on all settlements located in the zones of possible activation of endangering processes is available. Settlements are classified according to the endangering processes: dangerous, very dangerous, potentially dangerous, presumptively dangerous and non-dangerous. This information is kept in hard and partially electronic copies in the organizations responsible for monitoring of the endangering processes, and their regional

departments.

The information sharing between the Ministry of Emergency Situations and relevant ministries and institutions on the issues related to natural and man-made disasters is available.

The information sharing between Agency on Hydrometeorology and the key governmental and non-governmental organizations (according to the list) is implemented within the framework of local agreements.

There is also the information sharing between various organizations on the official request.

By the moment the following activities were implemented:

- Local network on the information sharing between subdivisions of the Central executive office of MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic is established.
- The communication system between three regions and the Crisis Center is partially installed
- E-mail communication between the Center and two regions of the country is established
- The web-site of MoES of Kyrgyz Republic is created.

### **Context & Constraints:**

Constraints:

1. Lack of

- a unified methodology on disaster risk and vulnerability assessment
- a well installed electronic communication for information sharing
- developed and introduced systems of the information management and analysis
- a system or a network of threats comprising relevant organizations on the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic

2. Poor coordination of activities of organizations involved in the main threats monitoring

3. Poorly developed system of the information sharing on threats-related issues between partner ministries and authorities

4. Negligence of the heads of organizations towards the issues on the population and territory protection against man-made and natural disasters.

### **Core indicator 2**

*School curricula , education material and relevant trainings include disaster risk reduction and recovery concepts and practices.*

### **Level of Progress achieved:**

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### **Description:**

Introduction of disaster risk reduction issues into the system of the official and informal education, use of knowledge and experience in order to form proper safety culture and the ability of communities to resist disasters at all levels – these are the important aspect of disaster risk reduction.

In this context the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic and the international organizations involved in this field of activity develop and introduce the system of measures on providing the population with easily perceptible information on possible risks and disasters and prevention measures

National systems of information and manuals for the information sharing on successful practice, cost-effective and accessible technologies on disaster risk reduction and on the learned lessons regarding the policy, measures and plans on disaster risk reduction in the system of the national authority.

Within the framework of the training course on civil defense there was developed the system of trainings and programs on disaster management for decision-makers in the system of the state authority, local self-governing bodies, MoES subdivisions, and vulnerable local communities, economy subjects, and the

population with the purpose to provide them with general knowledge on disaster prevention and mitigation. At the moment the modernization and equipment of the program classes with up-to-date technical equipment is implemented under SDC support; within the UNDP programme the education programs and materials for this course are significantly amended and updated with the subjects on disaster preparedness, prevention and response.

International donor organizations played and are playing the important role in disaster management both in Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia as a whole. Thus we would like to emphasize the Programme of international and non-governmental organizations aimed at raising of awareness and strengthening of capacity of the non-governmental structures, communities, disaster prevention and mitigation along with provision of sustainable development, poverty reduction along with disaster reduction.

ECHO implements the programme on disaster preparedness in Central Asia since 2003 (DIPECHO). Over 9 million EURO was spent by various international organizations in Central Asia for implementation of projects. The significant contribution was made by UNDP, NRCS, ACTED, IOM, etc., almost in all regions of the country. At the moment the work under DIPECHO 5 is launched; this Programme provides for trainings on the population preparation and awareness raising, training of the voluntary rescue teams, etc.

This allows significantly increase the population awareness, strengthen the capacity for disaster risk management, disaster prevention and mitigation, promote strengthening of cooperation among the institutions involved in emergency situations issues, and include the aspects of disaster reduction into development plans at the local and national levels.

Based of the implemented joint works with the international organizations and the Ministry of Education of the Kyrgyz Republic there is being considered the issue on inclusion of disaster-related subjects into the relevant sections of curricula in the system of pre-school, school and higher education.

#### **Context & Constraints:**

1. Lack of school programs for special disciplines related to disaster risk reduction
2. Lack of special literature related to man-made and natural disasters
3. Lack of the unified science-technical advice on development of methodical manuals and brochures
4. Poor distribution of the booklets, brochures and other informative materials developed by various organizations on the issues related to disasters and disaster preparedness
5. Doubling of activities on public awareness raising in one region
6. Lack of close relationships between the local population and specialists of scientific institutions, organizations implementing projects of public awareness raising and disaster preparedness
7. Shortage of highly qualified specialists
8. Poor capacity of the state organizations
9. Shortage of funding

#### **Core indicator 3**

*Research methods and tools for multi-risk assessments and cost benefit analysis are developed and strengthened.*

#### **Level of Progress achieved:**

2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

#### **Description:**

No methodologies on the vulnerability and disaster risk assessment are developed at the national and local levels in the country.

There are some insignificant results achieved by international organizations that implemented such assessments at the community level.

No economic analysis based on the vulnerability and disaster risk assessment was conducted.

The methodology on assessment of the damage caused by disasters at the level of districts, provinces

and the country as a whole is developed in the Department on monitoring.

At the moment there is being conducted disaster risk assessment at the community level in the South region within the framework of UNDP and MoES joint project with participation of the Department on monitoring. The most vulnerable settlements, where the activities on disaster prevention and mitigation will be implemented, should be selected basing on this assessment.

#### **Context & Constraints:**

Constraints:

1. No unified methodology on the vulnerability and disaster risk assessment and the analysis of possible economic damage
2. Poor staff and technical capacity of the state institutions
3. Insufficient funding

#### **Core indicator 4**

*Countrywide public awareness strategy exists to stimulate a culture of disaster resilience, with outreach to urban and rural communities.*

#### **Level of Progress achieved:**

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

#### **Description:**

The state system and the programmes on awareness raising of the senior staff of organizations and institutions, pupils and students, and various strata of the population are developed. At the moment these programmes are being revised within the framework of the joint projects of MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic and international organizations with participation of international experts

We can state that the activity on awareness raising of the senior staff of organizations and institutions, pupils and students is conducted in accordance with the developed programmes, but the activity of the relevant state organizations (e.g., MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic, Ministry of Education, etc.) on promotion of the culture on disaster sustainability among the rural and urban population is implemented improperly.

Almost all governmental and non-governmental international organizations implementing their activity in our country work fruitfully and effectively in this direction together with MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic. For instance these are the following organizations: IOM, ACTED, NRCS, UNDP, and the supporting donor organizations: ECHO, SCO, GTZ, USAID and UNISDR.

From among the NGOs fruitfully working in Kyrgyzstan in this field we can point out National Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan, PF "Alternative", PF "Mehr-Shavkat" whose activity is more or less supported by international organizations.

These organizations developed and disseminated a lot of brochures, illustrations and other informative materials among the population.

#### **Context & Constraints:**

Constraints:

1. Insufficient attention is paid by the relevant state organizations to the awareness raising of the rural and urban population on the issues of getting them prepared to possible disasters
2. Improper coordination of actions during the implementation of activities by various organizations
3. Doubling of activities implementation in the same settlements
4. Inconsistency of the used informative manuals and materials
5. Shortage of disaster-related popular scientific literature
6. Low level of the living standards of the local population

## Priority for action 4

*Reduce the underlying risk factors*

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### Core indicator 1

*Disaster risk reduction is an integral objective of environment related policies and plans, including for land use natural resource management and adaptation to climate change.*

#### **Level of Progress achieved:**

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

#### **Description:**

Following the recommendations of the Hyogo Framework for Action the National Strategy on disaster risk management is being developed within the framework of the project supported by DIPECHO. The Action Plan is being developed to implement this strategy. Such plan covers the activity including structural and non-structural measures on avoidance (prevention) or mitigation of and preparedness to the negative disaster consequences.

Relevant state bodies are responsible for implementation and coordination of activities on disaster risk reduction in Kyrgyzstan. Successful coordination in this field depends upon the participation of all stakeholders, from households with different incomes, local authorities, private sector, specialists and decision-makers to the support and participation of the international community in disaster risk management at the level of community and the republican level.

Disaster risk management issues are regulated by the laws and normative provisions and acts. Provisions of the organizations are approved by special regulatory documents on emergency situations. The key objective of these provisions is the determination of the organizational and legal norms on protection of the population, property, land, water, industrial and social resources, flora, fauna and other natural resources of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Analysis of the legislative acts shows that they determine the order of actions of the state bodies at various levels in the field of natural resources, human rights, and responsibility for violation of the legislation. Special attention is paid to the rational use of the environment, its protection, taking of appropriate measures of the safety and restoration of the property, protection against negative impact including emergency situations.

#### **Context & Constraints:**

Constraints:

1. Poor introduction of disaster risk reduction issues into the national legislation
2. Lack of special by-laws and orders on the implementation of the laws on disaster risk reduction
3. Limited insurance mechanism on emergency situations
4. Insufficient attention is paid to disaster risk reduction issues in the national development strategy of the country
5. Improper coordination on the issues of disaster risk reduction and the initiatives on climate change

### Core indicator 2

*Social development policies and plans are being implemented to reduce the vulnerability of populations most at risk.*

#### **Level of Progress achieved:**

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

#### **Description:**

The services of Civil Defense are established by the special decrees of the Government. These services

are: warning and communication, medical aid, protection of public order, fire-fighting, transport and road, communal and technical, engineering, material and technical support, protection of agricultural animals and plants, etc. Work plans of these services are developed for the peaceful and war time. Moreover, MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic has special rescue subdivisions in large cities – Rescue Services and State Center of rescuers training. In different regions of the country there are organized and trained other rescue teams, groups and voluntary rescue teams.

#### **Context & Constraints:**

Constraints:

1. Insufficient funding of activities planned by the Civil Defense services
2. Shortage of qualified specialists
3. The most dangerous areas of the country are not covered by the monitoring and early warning system
4. Lack of the well-established system of communication
5. Shortage of the special equipment for the search and rescue and other emergency works

#### **Core indicator 3**

*Economic and productive sectorial policies and plans have been implemented to reduce the vulnerability of economic activities*

#### **Level of Progress achieved:**

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

#### **Description:**

The commissions on evacuation and sustainable development of economy branches and objects of the country in case of emergencies during the peaceful and war time are established in relevant ministries and authorities by the special decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, and their provisions are approved as well. Relevant services of Civil Defense and non-military units are established on the basis of the ministries and authorities.

The plans on evacuation of organizations, most important economic and industrial objects to the safer locations are developed.

The republican course on civil defense conduct training of their senior staff, and the employees are trained in accordance with the specially developed programs.

#### **Context & Constraints:**

Constraints:

1. Insufficient funding of activities on provision of sustainable development of the economy branches and objects during emergencies
2. The Provisions on activity of all services on civil defense and their plans for emergency situations are developed improperly
3. Neglectful attitude of the senior staff to the training of the staff and implementation of required activities
4. Poor coordination of works of the services and commissions

#### **Core indicator 4**

*Planning and management of human settlements incorporate disaster risk reduction elements, including enforcement of building codes.*

#### **Level of Progress achieved:**

2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

**Description:**

In the Kyrgyz Republic there is used the building code developed during the Soviet Union (1982). Buildings and structures of old construction are located in the cities and urban-type settlements. Construction of new buildings and structures in the cities and urban-type settlements was started during the recent years but not rapidly. The quality of new buildings and structures is improperly controlled. Only private houses are constructed rather quickly.

In the rural area the construction of new residential buildings is implemented by the same methods as before. i.e. the buildings are made of the local material (mainly clay and stone). Such residential buildings where the majority of the population lives are of the most serious danger during strong earthquakes and other disasters.

According to preliminary experts assessment the possibility of strong earthquakes occurrence in the area of one of the capitals of Central Asian states for the coming 20 years makes 40%, and for the coming 50 years - 70%.

Of course, separate activities on disaster consequences mitigation are implemented by the state organizations responsible for land management and urban planning, but it is not enough.

**Context & Constraints:**

Constraints:

1. New building codes including new modernized technologies and methods construction are not developed
2. The by-laws prohibiting construction of buildings and structures in the most disaster-prone areas are not developed
3. No clear mechanism of identification of territories and sites for residential buildings construction taking into account the areas of possible disasters
4. No clear division of responsibilities of the authorities responsible for land management, urban planning and coordination of activities on disaster prevention and response
5. No coordination of actions between the state authorities and scientific institutions on disaster prevention.

**Core indicator 5**

*Disaster risk reduction measures are integrated into post disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes*

**Level of Progress achieved:**

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Description:**

There are the organizations responsible for implementation of the rehabilitation and reconstruction activities after emergencies in the republic. These are primarily the organizations on the base of which the Civil Defense services are established: State Agency for Architecture and Construction under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, Ministry of Transport and Communication, Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Industry, Energy and Fuel resources, Ministry of Agriculture, Water economy and Processing industry, Ministry of Economic development and Trade, Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic, etc.

Moreover, the international organizations actively participate in the rehabilitation and reconstruction activities as well as the CIS countries within the framework of the CIS Inter-state Council on man-made and natural disasters. The Inter-agency commission on emergencies prevention and mitigation under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic was established for the coordination of activity of the executive authorities and international organizations on rehabilitation and reconstruction

**Context & Constraints:**

Constraints:

1. Insufficient funding
2. Lack of the building codes including latest modernized construction technologies
3. Lack of the qualified staff
4. Lack of the well established inter-agency coordination mechanism of implementation of rehabilitation and reconstruction activities

## **Core indicator 6**

*Procedures are in place to assess the disaster risk impacts of major development projects, especially infrastructure.*

### **Level of Progress achieved:**

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### **Description:**

1. Conducted the disaster impact assessment for the settlements, important objects of the national economy and infrastructure with the help of GIS technologies
2. Developed the disaster risk maps
3. The research works on assessment of the damage caused by disasters to various fields of the national economy are implemented, and the forecasting of possible economic losses is conducted on the basis of risk maps
4. Developed the passports of the administrative territorial division and disaster-prone objects of the country.

### **Context & Constraints:**

Constraints:

1. Lack of foundational methods of the vulnerability and disaster risk assessment in the Kyrgyz Republic
2. Poor staff and technical capacity of the organizations involved in disaster monitoring and coordination of activities in this field
3. Improper introduction of disaster risk reduction issues into the processes of the sustainable development of the country
4. Lack of the well established coordination of activity of various responsible state and international organizations

## **Priority for action 5**

*Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels*

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## **Core indicator 1**

*Strong policy, technical and institutional capacities and mechanisms for disaster risk management, with a disaster risk reduction perspective are in place.*

### **Level of Progress achieved:**

4: Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### **Description:**

1. The legislative base for implementation of the state policy on disaster risk reduction is available
2. Commissions on emergency situations, evacuation and raising of sustainability of economy development are established at all levels and their Provisions are developed
3. Civil defense services and unarmed units of civil defense are established and their provisions are



approved

4. The state body responsible for the coordination and implementation of activity on disaster preparedness, prevention and response is the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic.
5. Established ministries and authorities on the base of which the civil defense services are created
6. The REACT team is established from among the leading local and international organizations under the supervision of MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic
7. There are the organizations responsible for disaster monitoring:
  - Institute of seismology under the National Academy of Sciences - earthquakes
  - Agency on Hydrometeorology – mudflows, floods and other hydrometeorological phenomena
  - Department on Emergencies Monitoring and Forecasting, MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic – landslides, mudflows, subsoil waters, etc.
  - State Agency on environment protection and forestry under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic – various types of environment pollution
  - Ministry of agriculture – dangerous diseases of animals and plants, grasshopper plague, etc.
  - Ministry of public health – dangerous human infectious diseases

### **Context & Constraints:**

Constraints:

1. Relevant by-laws for the legislative base are not developed
2. The activity of the established commissions, services and unarmed units does not meet the requirements
3. Poor capacity of the state institutions responsible for and coordinating the activity on disaster forecasting and monitoring
4. Low level of cooperation of the state authorities in the field of disaster preparedness, prevention and response
5. Relatively weak disaster monitoring
6. Insufficient funding

### **Core indicator 2**

*Disaster preparedness plans and contingency plans are in place at all administrative levels, and regular training drills and rehearsals are held to test and develop disaster response programmes.*

### **Level of Progress achieved:**

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### **Description:**

1. Preparedness plans of the civil defense for the peaceful period are available in all organizations
2. In accordance with relevant provisions all services of the civil defense are responsible for development of disaster preparedness plan
3. Upon the initiative of MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic and under DIPECHO programme support there is being developed disaster preparedness and response plan of the local authorities
4. Every year MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic and its regional subdivisions conduct complex trainings on disaster preparedness where the MoES subdivisions, local executive authorities, relevant ministries and institutions, unarmed units and local population actively participate
5. At the community level disaster preparedness activities (trainings) are mainly conducted by the international organizations in cooperation with MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic.

### **Context & Constraints:**

Constraints:

1. Existing plans of the civil defense for the peaceful period require revision and update
2. Not all services of civil defense have the approved disaster preparedness plans

3. No final version of the national disaster preparedness and response plan
4. Negligent attitude of the senior staff of organizations and institutions to the trainings on disaster preparedness
5. Incompliance of actions of separate services during trainings
6. Poor coordination of actions of MoES subdivisions with separate international organizations

### **Core indicator 3**

*Financial reserves and contingency mechanisms are in place to support effective response and recovery when required.*

#### **Level of Progress achieved:**

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

#### **Description:**

1. There exists a reserve state fund for disaster consequences mitigation which is allocated by the state commission on emergency situations of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic
2. All documents on the damage caused by disasters are prepared by relevant commissions on emergency situations locally and are further submitted to MoES for consideration and submission to the State Commission on Emergency Situations under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic
3. Local executive authorities are provided with funds to mitigate disaster consequences
4. Targeted and proper use of the funds allocated for mitigation of disaster consequences is under MoES control
5. Significant financial assistance for disaster preparedness and mitigation of consequences is provided by international non-governmental and donor organizations.

#### **Context & Constraints:**

Constraints:

1. Funds allocated for mitigation of disaster consequences make 1/10 of the economic damage caused by disasters
2. Funds allocated for mitigation of disaster consequences are not always properly used
3. Insufficient funds are allocated for rehabilitation activities at the community level
4. Funds allocation for some areas by international organizations is sometimes not agreed with MoES

### **Core indicator 4**

*Procedures are in place to exchange relevant information during hazard events and disasters, and to undertake post-event reviews*

#### **Level of Progress achieved:**

4: Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

#### **Description:**

In MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic there is established the Crisis Center, communication unit "Riziya" and control point provided with the continuous telephone, mobile and radio communication with all regions of the country. The e-mail communication is available as well.

The database on disasters in the Kyrgyz Republic is created in the Chief Operative Department of MoES. The obtained information is analyzed and stored in the data pool.

Exchange of the information related to the population and territory protection against man-made and natural disasters between MoES and relevant ministries and authorities is implemented within the framework of the inter-agency commission activity.

The REACT team is established from among the leading local and international governmental and non-governmental organizations under the supervision of MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic. This team is responsible for immediate disaster response and the situation assessment, and dissemination of the obtained information among partners.

Central and local communication lines of the national and international organizations are used if needed. As soon as disasters occur relevant commissions on disasters (depending upon disaster types) start their activity in the disaster area. The information obtained from the commission is submitted to the local subdivisions of MoES and further to the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and REACT team for dissemination and decision-making.

### **Context & Constraints:**

Constraints:

1. Shortage of up-to-date radio and video communication
2. Lack of the well established continuous communication with relevant services, ministries and authorities
3. No unified dedicated communication network
4. Delayed information submission from the ground
5. Lack of coordination of actions between the REACT team and commissions on emergency situations

## **Drivers of Progress**

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### **a) Multi-hazard integrated approach to disaster risk reduction and development**

#### **Levels of Reliance:**

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

#### **Do studies/ reports/ atlases on multi-hazard analyses exist in the country/ for the sub region?:**

Yes

#### **If yes, are these being applied to development planning/ informing policy?:**

Yes

#### **Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):**

1. Complex integrated approach to disaster risk reduction and development

Kyrgyzstan is prone to a complex of hydrometeorological, geological, technological and ecological disasters, thus a complex integrated approach is used for planning of activities and development of programmes and projects on disaster preparedness, monitoring, prevention and response. Relevant organizations and institutions of the country are involved in the development of these programmes and projects.

The Department on monitoring and forecasting of MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic identified and classified the settlements according to disaster risk.

Developed the risk maps of the main disasters of the country: seismic, mudflow, landslide, avalanche, erosion, etc.

The information analysis results and the risk maps can be used for land management, urban planning and other activities on the infrastructure development (installation of power transmission lines, construction of highways and bridges, and other important objects of economy).

More efforts should be taken and special attention (local and international investments) should be paid to the capacity strengthening of the organizations responsible for disaster monitoring and coordination of activities in this field for the coming years. This should primarily be taken into account by MoES of the

## **b) Gender perspectives on risk reduction and recovery adopted and institutionalized**

### **Levels of Reliance:**

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

### **Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):**

Although it is well known that disasters threaten the whole world, men and women suffer from them differently. This was indirectly mentioned in disaster preparedness plans (plans of the civil defense for the peaceful and war time) and population evacuation plans where the number of women, children, handicapped persons and pensioners was indicated. But such activities were implemented with insufficient preparedness of women and children to possible disasters at various levels.

But as for the community level here local and international non-governmental organizations pay more attention to disaster preparedness of women and children (Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan, PF "Save the Children", PU "Demilgeu Ishker Ayaldar", etc.). Relevant trainings on awareness raising and preparedness of women to disasters are being conducted. For this the brochures, booklets, illustrations and other informative materials are developed.

To achieve more effective results it is required to allocate funds for the development of special complex programmes and projects on disaster preparedness and response taking into account the gender mainstreamed approach.

## **c) Capacities for risk reduction and recovery identified and strengthened**

### **Levels of Reliance:**

Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

### **Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):**

The following activities were implemented for strengthening of disaster risk reduction and rehabilitation capacity:

1. Established relevant commissions and services on man-made and natural disaster response
2. The legislative base is being developed
3. The REACT team is established from among the leading local and international governmental and non-governmental organizations under the supervision of MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic.
4. Competent departments of MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic implemented the following:
  - Created the emergency situations data bank of MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic
  - Developed GIS maps on disaster risks in the Kyrgyz Republic
  - Developed and approved the system of emergencies classification of the Kyrgyz Republic
  - Developed and are under approval the safety passports of the administrative territorial divisions and dangerous objects of the Kyrgyz Republic
5. Identified and classified the settlements by the degree of disaster proneness
6. Developed relevant programmes on training of the senior staff and employees, and the population on disaster preparedness.

During the coming years it is required to take more efforts and pay more attention to the allocation of funds to support the Crisis Center. This will promote development of disaster risk management in Kyrgyzstan, i.e., prevention and response.

## **d) Human security and social equity approaches integrated into disaster risk reduction and recovery activities**

### **Levels of Reliance:**

Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

**Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):**

In Kyrgyzstan all activities on disaster preparedness, monitoring, prevention and response are targeted at protection of the population and territory against disasters. All central and regional subdivisions of MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic are authorized to coordinate and implement activities in this field.

Executive authorities, civil defense services, international NGOs are involved in the implementation of these activities as well as various organizations and institutions and the population.

In all laws related to disaster risk management including the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On the population and territory protection against man-made and natural disasters” the population safety is the primary task of all organizations and authorities.

During the coming years it is required to take more efforts and pay more attention to the allocation of funds for MoES and its subdivisions capacity strengthening. This provides the opportunity for more effective implementation of activities on the population and territory protection against man-made and natural disasters.

**e) Engagement and partnerships with non-governmental actors; civil society, private sector, amongst others, have been fostered at all levels**

**Levels of Reliance:**

No/ little reliance: no acknowledgement of the issue in policy or practice; or, there is some acknowledgement but nothing/ little done to address it

**Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):**

Natural disasters have no borders and do not choose victims. They equally affect human life and economy objects, no matter if they are private or belong to the state.

Participation of the civil society and the private sector in the implementation of activities on disaster preparedness, prevention and response is of great importance in disaster risk reduction. The major part of operating objects of economy is the private property.

At the moment most of activities on the population preparedness to disasters are implemented by international non-governmental organizations.

Partnership of the state and private sectors can be the important tool in disaster risk reduction. Such coalitions can include state structures such as governmental agencies, professional and/or academic institutions and NGOs together with business-structures, industrial unions and private funds.

Partnership of the state and private sectors can propose opportunities to combine resources and experience in joint actions on risk and potential losses reduction. The latter can improve the sustainability of the population.

More often the participation of the private sector in disaster risk management is spontaneous in the country, i.e., after disasters, during the process of consequences mitigation.

No special programmes and plans of the partnership between the state and private sectors are developed.

During the coming years it is required to take more efforts and pay more attention (local and foreign investments) to capacity strengthening for disaster risk reduction and involvement of the private sector at all levels.

**f) Contextual Drivers of Progress**

**Levels of Reliance:**

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

**Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):**

- Shortage of resources and poor institutional opportunities.
- Disaster risk reduction is not the priority.
- Attention paid to the issue of structural safety of the social objects (schools and hospitals) is of occasional character and is mainly paid upon the initiative of international organizations.

## Future outlook

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### Area 1

*The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.*

**Overall Challenges:**

Constraints:

1. Initiatives on disaster risk management are approved by the Government and international agencies, but funding of the relevant activities in this field is insufficient.
2. There is no national multi-organizational strategy for disaster risk management or disaster preparedness and response plans that could be the strategic indicator both for national and international stakeholders
1. The funds allocated by the Government for disaster consequences mitigation are insufficient and make maximum 10% of the damage caused by disasters to the population and economy of the country
2. Insufficient funds are allocated for disaster consequences mitigation, construction and reconstruction of protective hydro-technical structures in the most dangerous areas
3. Although the responsibilities of the ministries, institutions and executive authorities on disaster prevention and response locally, and consequences mitigation are identified and clearly stipulated in relevant documents there is no sufficient funds for the implementation of activities in this field at the moment.
4. Being governed by their own interests separate ministries and authorities do not want to share the available information needed for solution of the issues on population and territory protection against man-made and natural disasters.
5. Insufficient attention is paid by the commissions on emergency situations and other commissions to disaster risk reduction
6. Shortage of knowledge and resources for conducting of activities on disaster risk management
7. Unclearly identified roles and obligations of the state authorities and other stakeholders in the issues of disaster preparedness, prevention and risk reduction.

**Future Outlook Statement:**

1. Finalize development of “National strategy on disaster risk reduction” and “National disaster preparedness and response plan”
2. Improve the information sharing and management system
3. Improve the activity of the commissions on emergency situations, evacuation and sustainable development of the branches and objects of economy
4. Establish the Crisis Center in other regions of the country.

### Area 2

*The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.*

## **Overall Challenges:**

Key constraints:

1. Poor coordination of activity and insufficiently close cooperation of the governmental and international partner organizations in the issues of disaster risk and vulnerability assessment
2. Lack of
  - a unified methodology on disaster risk and vulnerability assessment
  - a well established internal and external communication on information sharing
  - developed and introduced up-to-date systems of management and information analysis
3. Poor staff and technical capacity of the state institutions
4. Personal interests of separate organizations on development and implementation of disaster risk assessment methodology
5. Insufficiently developed system of the information sharing on the implementation of the newest technologies (GIS, positioning and remote sensing, etc.)
6. Low level of seismological and geological monitoring of the republic territory
7. Lack of the monitoring and early warning system for the most dangerous areas.
8. Problems related to trans-boundary disaster management
9. Poor general preparedness to possible disasters
10. Low level of the living standards of the local population

## **Future Outlook Statement:**

1. Improvement of the coordination of activity and cooperation of the governmental and international partner organizations in the issues of disaster risk and vulnerability assessment
2. Development and introduction of:
  - a unified methodology on the vulnerability and disaster threat and risk assessment
  - up-to-date management and information analysis systems
  - scientific and technical council under the Inter-agency commission that is the consultative body established with the purpose to strengthen the cooperation between MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic, scientific institutes and other stakeholders in the field of disaster prevention and mitigation.
3. Enhancement of the monitoring and early warning system to cover other regions of the Kyrgyz Republic.

## **Area 3**

*The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.*

## **Overall Challenges:**

Constraints:

1. Poor introduction of disaster risk reduction issues into the national legislation
2. Lack of special by-laws and orders aimed at implementation of the laws on disaster risk reduction
3. Limited insurance mechanism on disasters
4. Poor introduction of disaster risk reduction issues into the process of sustainable development of the country
5. Shortage of the special equipment for implementation of the search and rescue activities
6. Lack of the building codes with use of the newest modernized technologies of construction
7. Lack of the well established inter-agency coordination mechanism of implementation of the rehabilitation and reconstruction activities
8. Poor capacity of the state scientific institutes responsible for disaster monitoring and forecasting, and the organizations coordinating the activity in this field
9. Unimproved coordination of activity of the state authorities in the field of disaster preparedness, prevention and response

10. Noncompliance of actions of separate services during implementation of activities on disaster preparedness
11. Insufficient allocation of funds for implementation of the rehabilitation activities at the community level
12. Shortage of up-to-date radio, video and satellite communication means
13. Lack of the well established continuous communication with relevant services, ministries and authorities
14. No unified network for disaster monitoring and the dedicated communication for provision of the timely information from the ground

**Future Outlook Statement:**

1. Improvement of the legislative base on disaster risk reduction in the country
2. Creation of the unified network on disaster monitoring and the dedicated communication in case of emergencies
3. Provision of a properly established constant communication with relevant services, ministries and authorities on the information sharing
4. Strengthening of capacity of the state institutions responsible for disaster forecasting and monitoring, and the organizations that coordinate activities in this field