

Building Safe and Resilient Communities in South Caucasus

Framework Agreement with the Austrian Development Agency (ADA)

Lead: Austrian Red Cross

Project partners: Armenian Red Cross Society, Azerbaijan Red Crescent, Georgia Red Cross Society

Locations: Lori region (Armenia), Ismayilli region (Azerbaijan), Kakheti region (Georgia)

The **overall objective** of this project is to contribute towards reduced vulnerability and safety of rural and urban population in the Southern Caucasus. The **specific objective** is to enhance and sustainably strengthen resilience of targeted vulnerable rural and urban communities to natural and manmade disasters in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia.

Expected results and main activities:

- Capacities of 12 rural communities to anticipate, respond and recover from disasters is increased
Main activities: establishing community based (CB) disaster risk reduction (DRR) committees, conducting Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (VCA), developing CB disaster preparedness and mitigation plans, training of CB DRR teams, conducting simulation exercises, raising awareness on DRR, CCA and mitigation measures, implement small scale mitigation project in cooperation with local authorities.
- Capacities of 7 urban communities to anticipate, respond and recover from disasters is increased
Main activities: exploring urban DRR interventions through awareness-raising in schools and in the wider public, participatory identification of urban risk scenarios with support of external experts, developing DRR strategy and intervention module for urban communities, implementing and piloting urban DRR Module.
- Coordination and cooperation between RC Societies, CSOs, national authorities and international agencies on national level strengthened
Main activities: improving DRR coordination mechanism through organizing meetings at national level, regional meetings to ensure coordination in DRR and CCA, exchange of best practices and lessons learnt during workshops, roundtables and meetings.
- Transnational knowledge sharing, exchange of experience and capacity building on CBDRR between RC National Societies, CSOs and public actors enforced
Main activities: transnational kick-off meeting, workshop on urban DRR, workshop on community based Climate Change Adaptation, develop a manual on urban DRR & CCA, final conference to present programme outcomes and promote transnational knowledge sharing.

Target groups: Inhabitants of targeted rural and urban communities, community voluntary response teams, teachers and pupils, as well as family members in rural and urban communities, regional and local authorities, national and regional stakeholders, staff and volunteers of partner organizations.

Final beneficiaries: 134'000 people from selected communities from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia

Project duration: December 2012 – November 2015

Budget: 1,200'000 €

Funded by the Austrian Development Agency (950'000€) and the Swiss Red Cross (250'000€)

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