

Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery

Disaster Reduction Unit (DRU)

**Project title:**

Emergency response to sudden crisis - Bulgaria

Project number:

00047405

Programme components:

Crisis prevention and recovery

Estimated start date: 1/9/2005
Estimated end date: 1/6/2006
Implementing agency: Ministry responsible for disasters and accidents
Partners: State agency for civil protection
Total budget: 100,000 US\$
Project site: All districts and regions
Beneficiary countries: Bulgaria

General background:

Bulgaria's geographic location and topography make it vulnerable to natural disasters such as earthquakes, heavy floods and landslides. Recent disasters have revealed the extent to which Bulgaria is insufficiently prepared to deal with major crisis situations and recovery. There is a need for urgent interventions to strengthen national disaster response and recovery coordination mechanisms and capacities in order to reduce the human and material costs of future crises.

Project summary:

This project is designed to rapidly strengthen the government's disaster response and recovery coordination mechanisms and capacities by identifying and addressing the most pressing capacity building needs of the relevant institutions. At the same time the plan is to identify, prioritize and budget for further technical assistance needs, and lay the foundations for a larger multi-donor endeavour to enhance the country's disaster preparedness and response capacity.

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Overall and specific objectives:

- To contribute to a rapid strengthening of Bulgaria's disaster response and recovery coordination mechanisms and capacity through the identification and implementation of priority capacity building activities where they are most needed;
- To lay the foundations for a larger multi-donor-funded endeavour to enhance the country's disaster preparedness and response capacity.

Expected results:

- Assessment of Bulgaria's disaster response coordination mechanisms and capacities;
- Capacity building training curriculum and national capacity building programme.

Activities:

- Conduct an assessment of Bulgaria's disaster response coordination mechanisms and capacities;
- Design a disaster capacity building training curriculum;
- Carry out disaster response and recovery coordination training for at least 150 staff from the state civil protection agency, and central, district and local authorities where capacity building is most urgently needed;