



PROJECT'S ANNUAL NEWSLETTER 2013



STRENGTHENING DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT CAPACITIES IN UZBEKISTAN

We are proud to present you in this newsletter the summary of activities in 2013. The core of our activities were community based disaster risk reduction through different media materials and community activities as well as capacity development of the Ministry of Emergency Situations and other organizations involved into disaster risk management in Uzbekistan.

*Hope you will enjoy reading it.
Thank you!*

«UNDP awarded “Commemorative sign” of the Ministry of Emergency Situations»

On 7th of March 2013, a ceremony devoted to the Day of Development of the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES Day) was held. In this event, conducted annually, achievements of MES in 17 years as well as future plans were highlighted.

Totally new State platform with effective early warning system and actions during emergency situations was developed based on the years of local and best worldwide experience. In this platform the MES founded according to the Presidents' Decree on March 4, 1996, takes coordinating role.

For three years the MES of Uzbekistan works towards reducing disaster risks management, community based disaster risk reduction (DRR) as well as institutional and technical capacity development of MES and other stakeholders involved into DRR in close cooperation with UNDP Uzbekistan.

In his welcome speech the Minister Tursinkhan Khudayberganov highlighted the fruitful cooperation of MES with UNDP Uzbekistan and also marked that future cooperation will be developed in a constructive manner with focus on practical results in the field of DRR.

Also, Mr. Jaco Cilliers, the UNDP Deputy Resident Representative expressed his appreciation to the Ministry of Emergency Situations for the honor to participate at such a significant and meaningful event for the MES, as well as full support in the implementation of the joint project of UNDP and the Ministry of Emergency Situations.

It is remarkable to highlight that on this ceremony the management of the Ministry of Emergency Situations awarded UNDP the “Commemorative sign” of MES of Uzbekistan for its continuous support and contribution to disaster risk reduction activities in Uzbekistan.





HANDS-ON TRAINING ON FIRST AID FOR INJURED PEOPLE DURING EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Now, the rescue team of MES and trainees of the Institute of Civil Protection of MES, responsible authorities for DRR and DRM can get trained on providing the first aid for injured people using special and modern robot-simulator "Gosha-01".

Today, modern robot-simulator "Gosha-01" is a most up-to-date and reliable trainer, which allows you to practice the skills of application of precordial impact, chest compressions, rescue breathing, gentle blending and bandaging.

Every year, officers and rescuers and Khokims of regions and cities as well as directors of large plants and manufactures are trained to act during and after natural disasters, including tactics and rescue operations. Over the past three months, more than 200 people have learned to provide timely and competent first aid to injured people during the emergencies.





Researchers in the process of study the seismicity of earth

COOPERATION BETWEEN UNDP UZBEKISTAN AND THE INSTITUTE OF SEISMOLOGY OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

Seismology – is a science of earthquakes and seismic waves that move through and around the Earth, which are being recorded by seismographs at the surface of the ground. The Institute of Seismology was established on 1 October 1966 after the devastating earthquake in Tashkent.

At present time Tashkent city with its wide streets, parks, grand plazas, fountains, monuments, and apartment blocks is an example of adopting good urban planning norms under the post-earthquake reconstruction programme after 1966 Tashkent earthquake. However, the critical aspects for earthquake safety like structural stability of buildings and performance of soils against earthquake shaking need to be evaluated in the city and neighboring areas.

For the last three years the joint MES/UNDP project “Strengthening Disaster Risk Management Capacities in Uzbekistan” is providing full support to Ministry of Emergency Situations, Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of disaster risk reduction, in particular for earthquake risk mitigation. The Institute of Seismology of the Academy of Science is one of the Project partners and in the frame of the mutual cooperation the Memorandum of Understanding was signed on development of seismic microzonation map with the estimate of initial seismicity in Tashkent city and adjacent areas.

In the frame of MES/UNDP project and for the support of implementation of the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers N 208, UNDP in Uzbekistan handed over the equipment to the Institute of Seismology for conducting research work on development of seismic microzonation map of Tashkent.

The transferred equipment with a total value of 85 thousand U.S. dollars will be used for instrumental observations of crustal seismicity as well as for field seismic, geological and other studies, on the basis of which a microzonation map of Tashkent and adjoining areas will be created.

The seismic microzonation map will serve as a basis for determining the respective preventive measures to reduce seismic vulnerability of structures by experts in the fields of disaster management and urban planning.

In addition, to improve the capacity of the Institute, UNDP and the Institute of Seismology have planned establishment a scientific and training center for seismologists. This training center will provide necessary impetus for training of young professionals and scientists working in the field of seismology. It is expected that the results of their work will allow the Government to better plan and conduct preventive work for possible earthquakes.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION



Humanitarian Aid

«EARTHQUAKE RISK MITIGATION» DIPECHOVII

DRM Project's "Earthquake Risk Mitigation" component, funded by the European Commission's Humanitarian aid and Civil Protection Directorate General (ECHO) under DIPECHO VII was launched last year in November 2012 with the purpose of increasing public awareness about protection against disastrous effects of earthquakes.

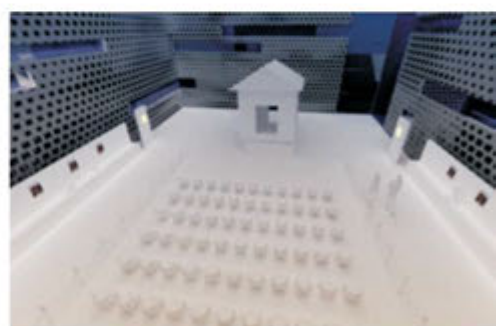
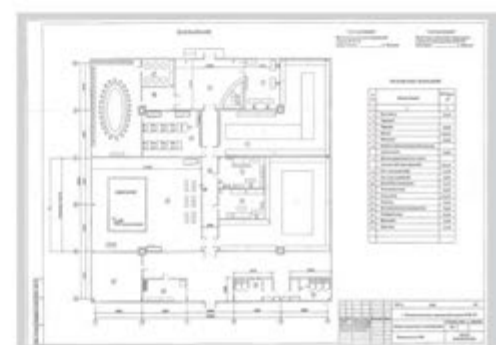
The Ministry of Emergency Situations turned very supportive in this initiative which includes development of a whole 'Earthquake Risk Mitigation Complex' consisting of simulation facility, exposition on earthquake safety, a movie hall and training facilities.

To make the efforts of the DRM Project more effective and efficient the representatives of MES, Academy of Science, the Ministry of Culture, the State Communication Committee and UNDP Uzbekistan specialists were brought together as a "Government Commission" to support the efforts of DRM Project towards establishment of the Complex.

On March 15, 2013 first meeting of the Commission was held. The agenda of the meeting was to discuss about : construction works of the Complex, procurement of the simulation facility, establishing the exposition on earthquake safety and a movie hall.

This was the first practical step towards successful implementation of the objectives of the project and it is remarkable to highlight solid support of the Government.

The meeting brought all Commission members to the same level of understanding. Discussion went in a constructive manner and further steps and time lines were outlined during this meeting.



The cartoon film for kids “IN THE RESCUELAND”

Children are the most vulnerable groups of population during disasters especially earthquakes. They are more creative and innovative who have their own imaginary, colorful world filled with fun and frolic; they easily get excited on seeing new and colorful things. Children learn about themselves, their environment, people and the world around them by playing simple games. Through such games and imagination, they master the situations.

To make children learn new things fast, one has to use innovative and interesting methods which will have excitement with sharp colors.

Considering the fact that there is hardly any child who does not like cartoon and vulnerability of children for earthquake, the DRM Project of MES/UNDP has created a cartoon to teach basic rules of behavior during an earthquake to them.

“In the Rescue Land” - the cartoon film-has two characters- a boy Botirjon and his little dog- who play roles of rescuers.

The cartoon film has three situation scenes. Firstly, the heroes have to behave correctly while they are at home during the earthquake. Next scene is in a store. Similarly, they try to help people around them when an earthquake happens in a kindergarten.

By this small effort, it is expected that children will feel safe and capable; at the same time they will acquire important components of positive behavior and performance during an earthquake.

The cartoon film was an out-of-the-order topic for children, which was perceived very positively. The demonstration of the film generated lots of curiosity among the kids leading to a very useful and interesting discussion. Right after the film demonstration, children started asking questions to their teachers about earthquake characteristics like how it happens, why it happens etc.

The Ministry of Emergency Situations has approved the cartoon for broadcasting via National TV channels. It is planned to be disseminated to all kindergartens and pre-schools of Uzbekistan with the support of the MES.



INTERNATIONAL FOR DISASTER RISK R



THIS YEAR THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION WAS OBSERVED IN CLOSE COOPERATION OF UNDP AND THE MINISTRY OF EMERGENCY SITUATIONS, WHICH IS ANNUALLY OBSERVED ON 13 OCTOBER.

International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR) is declared by UN General Assembly, in December 2009 with the main objective to promote a global culture of disaster reduction, including disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness.

This year in the frame of IDDR the public awareness campaign was widely conducted to demonstrate the efforts of the Government of Uzbekistan on disaster prevention and mitigation. The campaign has been conducted from **8th through 11th of October in Tashkent city.**

8 October –To demonstrate the importance of preparedness to a possible earthquake in their homes, schools, hospitals and workplaces that can save human lives and avoid material damage from the earthquake the project conducted practical seminars at school-64 of Tashkent city and Research Institute of Traumatology and Orthopedics for school directors, mahalla leaders and heads of medical institutions of Tashkent.



9 October - A roundtable was organized with participation of leading construction industry experts, including engineers, architects, builders, designers and scientists of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Participants of the roundtable discussed the monitoring of the seismic stability of the construction of individual houses, especially in rural areas, and it resulted in recommendations to strengthen state control of the earthquake-proof construction of individual houses.

AL DAY REDUCTION

13 OCTOBER

9 October - Debates were organized between Tashkent students regarding the topic 'Disaster Risk Reduction – The key to the creation of a country that is resistant to natural disasters'. These debates served to raise awareness of the young people of Uzbekistan, and to focus the attention of professional universities, on issues regarding disaster risk reduction.



10 October –Representatives of UN agencies and international humanitarian organisations discussed the UN Inter-agency plan for responding to emergencies in the event of a humanitarian crisis, as the result of natural or human disasters.

UN OCHA

11 October – In Grand Concert Hall of Uzbekistan "Turkiston" the exhibition was organized aim of increasing awareness of people about governmental efforts on Disaster Risk Reduction and showcasing the capacity of Uzbekistan in Disaster Risk Management, which provided an opportunity to the participating organisations: Tashkent City Department of MES, Fire Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Public Education and other organizations involved in DRR to present their results in the area of DRR.



11 October – A centerpiece of the IDDR was held in one of the Grand Concert Hall of Uzbekistan "Turkiston".

OVER THOUSAND MAKHALLA (COMMUNITY) LEADERS, SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS DIRECTORS WERE INFORMED ABOUT DRR ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED WITHIN THE FRAME OF JOINED MES AND UNDP PROJECT.



DOCUMENTARY FILM HOW TO BUILD A SEISMIC SAFE HOUSE?

To prevent earthquake induced damages only way is to adopt seismic safe construction practices. For achieving seismic safe construction practices, it is important to equip local masons and owners of individual houses with basic tips on earthquake safe construction practices.

Based on two Practical Guidelines on Seismic safe construction developed by the project "Can your house with stand the earthquake?" and "How to construct the seismic safe house?" the documentary film was developed to provide with hands-on guidelines on seismic safe construction.

During the development of the film the model houses those are being constructed in rural regions from local construction materials are taken as a basis.

The documentary film will be widely used by the MES department during the trainings for community as well as used by educational institutions responsible for preparation of specialists in the field of architecture and construction in Uzbekistan. Also, this film will be broadcasted through national TV channels of Uzbekistan.



ASSESSMENT OF THE SEISMIC SAFETY OF THE BUILDING

To make earthquake safe houses, special techniques need to be adopted while building a new house. An existing house can also be made earthquake safe by adopting earthquake safe retrofitting techniques.

To analyze whether the house can withstand the earthquake, what materials were used for construction of the house, and does it fully complies with construction norms not you need to make proper assessment to be carried out. In this case special measuring devices can help to assess structural strength of the building and bricks, mortar bond strength of the concrete used to build the house.



IN THE FRAME OF THE MUTUAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNDP AND TASHKENT STATE ARCHITECTURE INSTITUTE THE MOU HAVE BEEN SIGNED WITH THE FOLLOWING AIMS:

- Improvement of the overall seismic safety of constructions including individual houses;
- Identification of the preventive measures to reduce seismic vulnerability of structures and buildings;
- Capacity enhancement of civil-engineerson seismic safety construction practices.
- Better preparation of community to possible earthquakes for mitigation of earthquake consequences;

In the frame of this cooperation the project procured special measuring devises for conducting seismic safety assessment of the individual houses in Tashkent city.

The architects of the above institute planned activities on assessment of the seismic stability, quality of construction and installation works and the amplification efficiency of individual houses and public buildings in different regions of the country.

Practical Guidelines “REDUCING THE DAMAGE IN AN EARTHQUAKES”

“This year, as never before, we experienced more earthquakes. Once again, when it happened, I was at my work in kindergarten. I have 24 children in my group. We were conducting classes for children. And suddenly there was an earthquake. Suddenly closet with toys fell. We barely had time to pull out little boy Ruslan. Then we checked out why it happened. First, the cabinet was not fixed to the wall, besides that the floor was not entirely smooth. And if we do not react quickly ... the closet would fell directly on the boy ...” says kindergarten teacher Munisa.

In the case of a major earthquake, even if the building does not get damage and can withstand, many people can get injured in a time when falling interior, broken glass, which also hinder rescue and relief to earthquake victims. And, therefore, cause great economic losses.

If you don't fix the big-size furniture, electric appliances and other equipment in kindergartens, schools, hospitals and working spaces it may lead to the disaster in case of severe earthquake.

To get the community prepared to possible earthquake the project has developed the practical guidelines “Reducing the Damage in an Earthquakes”.

The manual provides types of unstable objects, their approximate weight and step by step instructions on their mounting to a wall or other stable foundations of the building.

By taking the steps outlined in the practical guidelines the disaster risks at home or other public buildings caused by an earthquake can be reduced.



BASIC ‘DO’S AND ‘DON’T’S BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER AN EARTHQUAKE

Unfortunately, no one can predict the earthquake. We don't know when and where it may happen. Therefore, the only thing we can make is to get prepared: to understand what may happen, and what measures can be taken before an earthquake to minimize the life and economic loss.

In the aim of preparing the community to a possible earthquake the project developed the leaflet “Basic ‘Do’s and ‘Don’t’s before, during and after an earthquake”.

During an earthquake, sometimes a person experiences a panic fear, which leads to an unreasonable and unsafe for human life behavior. Therefore it is very important that people living in seismic zones to take simple measures, were able to use simple precautions and know what to do in case of an earthquake.



RESULTS OF THE PROJECT WERE ASSESSED

The mid-term evaluation of the project results have been conducted by the international expert in August 2013.

Results of the evaluation outlined the active participation of the Ministry of Emergency Situations and the other organizations involved into DRR in all aspects of the project implementation. During the entire implementation period the project achieved immense results towards improving public awareness about disaster risk reduction and the importance of preparedness. The technical capacity of the MES towards disaster risk management has been improved.

With the project support the technical capacity of the Ministry of Emergency Situations has been increased in disaster risk management, as the project handed over the rescue equipment and upgraded mobile training center for conducting preparedness and prophylactic activities among the population.

Also, it was recommended to extend the project duration by attracting additional resources for improving capacity of the Uzbekistan in disaster risk management.

VEHICLES FOR IMPROVING MOBILITY OF THE MINISTRY OF EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

The project handed over three vehicles to the Ministry of Emergency Situations for prevention of emergency situations in the mountainous regions of the republic.

ICT FOR IMMEDIATE DECISIONS IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS



To support the Government initiatives on introduction of ICT and for improving MES services in the field of DRR the project assisted in the creation of a video conferencing system. This system will enable taking immediate decisions in emergency situations happened in remote areas which would reduce the material and economic losses.

Video conferencing system also includes mobile equipment that will be used for field trips during emergencies for operational data collection and transferring to the central office of MES to make appropriate decisions and to ensure the reliability of information created and used in the course of liquidation or prevention of emergencies;





OUR AMBITIOUS PLANS FOR 2014

» Opening of the “Earthquake Mitigation Complex” funded by the European Commission's Humanitarian aid and Civil Protection Directorate General (ECHO) under DIPECHO VII.

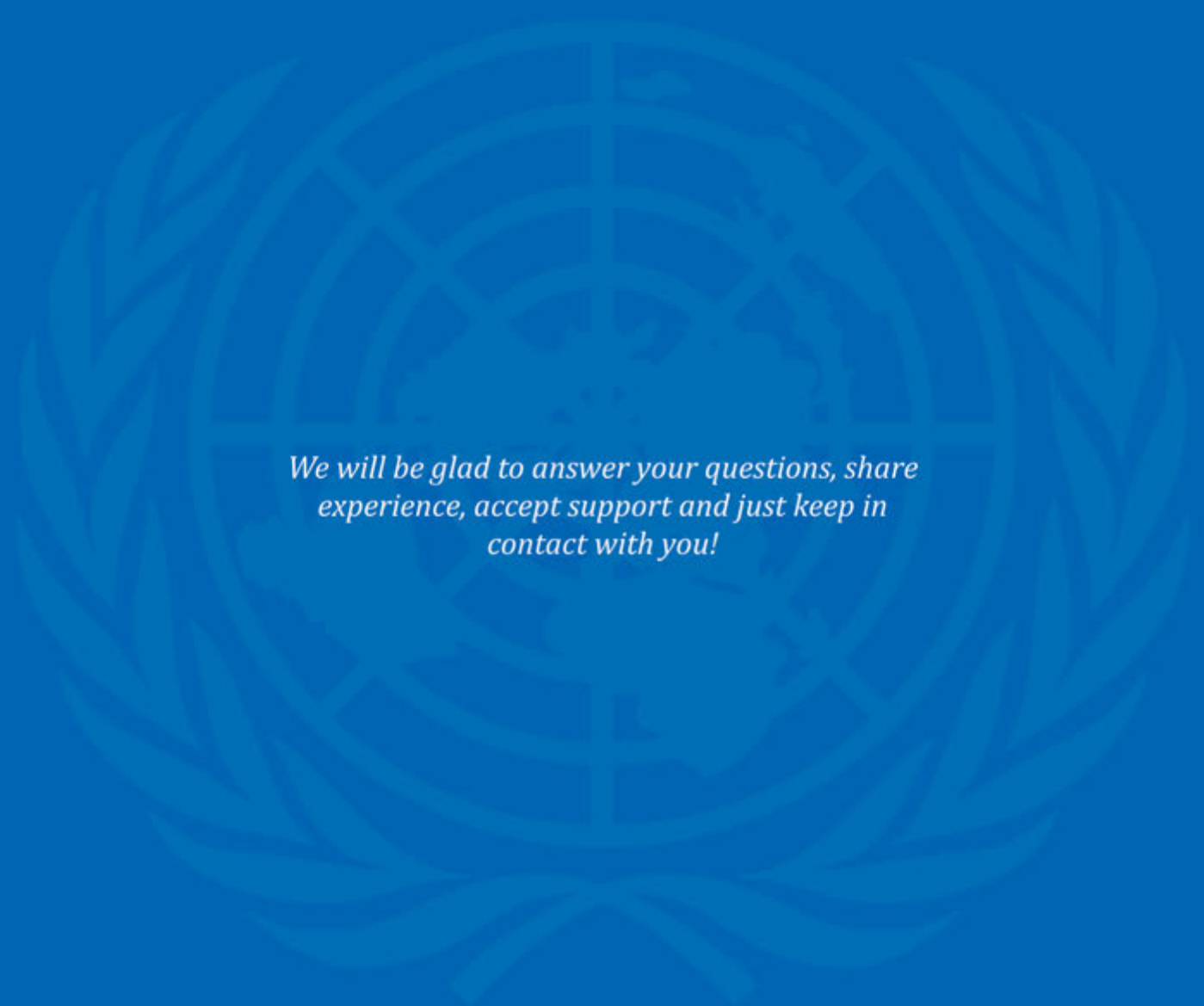
» Organization of the International Forum on DRR with involvement of international community with support of UNISDR.

» Development of documentary film, cartoon for kids, leaflets about landslides, mudflows and avalanches.

» Improving capacity of MES and increasing community awareness are the main challenges of the project. In 2014 the project planned to develop the TOT module and TOT training for the representatives of the Institute of Civil Defense and Tashkent department of MES of Uzbekistan on interactive ways of community trainings on DRR and DRM.

» Establishing the Center of Psychological Support for injured people during the emergency situations.

» Conducting the Republican Competition of “Young rescuers”.



*We will be glad to answer your questions, share
experience, accept support and just keep in
contact with you!*

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