



Humanitarian Aid

Flood Prevention by the Local Authorities in Tsageri



Background

Georgia is a highly disaster prone country. In the past it has been frequently hit by various natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods, landslides, avalanches and droughts. Georgia's fragile social, political and economic environment, rapid urbanization and the concentration of improperly maintained technical infrastructure increase the level of vulnerability and implicate a high risk related to natural and man-made disasters. Interventions at national and local generally focus on reconstruction and recovery works, which are extremely expensive, whereas preventive measures would clearly be more cost-effective.

The floods of April 2005 caused serious damages in Tsageri municipality. SDC's project interventions aimed to alleviate the consequences of the caused damages but also to introduce a culture of prevention through a pioneer show case.

General Information

Project region:

Georgia

Project duration:

2005-2006

Total budget:

CHF 200'000

Project partners:

Regional Affairs Department of the Prime Ministers Office

Municipality of Tsageri

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Objectives

The overall goal of the project is to save lives and to reduce economic losses due to a natural disaster in Tsageri. The project supported the municipality of Tsageri, with the endorsement of the Regional Affairs Department, for the establishment of a decentralised disaster management system in Tsageri with model character. The local authorities and the community were supported and guided for the establishment and implementation of various prevention and preparedness measures, fostering for a change of attitude from response towards a culture of prevention. Further, concrete engineering measures to reduce particular risks and to rehabilitate important damaged infrastructure were carried out.

Expected results and activities

The project support contained the following components:

- Development of a model for a decentralized local disaster management system
- Coaching on planning of regular maintenance works
- Supply of machinery for prevention, maintenance and rehabilitation works
- Construction of a disaster resilient water supply system
- Construction of fords replacing small bridges and culverts
- Construction of river erosion protection (gabions, groynes)

Through capacity building the project aims to ingrain a culture of prevention and preparedness at the Tsageri municipality. The experience was documented in order to serve as a model for other municipalities. The engineering project components aimed to rehabilitate and to prevent future damages.

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