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Swiss Cooperation Office
South Caucasus

Social Housing in a Supportive Environment (SHSE) Extension in Tbilisi, Batumi, Rustavi and Bolnisi



Project title

Social Housing in a Supportive Environment (SHSE) Extension in Tbilisi, Batumi, Rustavi and Bolnisi

General information

Locations: Tbilisi, Batumi, Rustavi and Bolnisi (Georgia)
Duration: 01.12.2011 - 30.11.2012
Budget: CHF 1'140'000 (SDC); CHF 250'000 (Tbilisi City Hall); in-kind contribution of CHF 1'195'300 (target municipalities)

Project partners

- Implementing partner: direct implementation by SDC/HA; municipal capacity building component implemented by UNDP with SDC's funds.
 - Institutional partner: Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure, central and regional offices of the Ministry of IDPs from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees (MRA), Ministry of Health and Social Affairs (MoHSA) of Adjara Autonomous Republic, target municipalities.
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Project objectives

The overall aim of the project is better integration and social protection of the most vulnerable, marginalized and homeless IDPs and local people, and provision of more opportunities for economic development for them through a consolidated social housing approach.

The project will particularly work towards:

- Improvement of living conditions and provision of social protection to vulnerable, marginalized and homeless IDP and local households.
- Enhancement of capacities of municipal social service units to competently perform their job.

Background

The “frozen” conflicts from the ‘90s, as well as the August 2008 crisis in Georgia combined with the volatility of political, social and economic environments disproportionately affected the vulnerable local and internally displaced population, especially the elderly, disabled, female headed households, etc. They continue to face difficult living conditions, unemployment, inadequate access to health and other social services. While IDPs’ housing needs are increasingly met through the IDP Action Plan, the situation continues to be grave for the local vulnerable population. The project is in line with the Swiss Cooperation Strategy 2008-2012 and IDP Action Plan of the Government of Georgia. Lack of (social) housing policy and public investments in affordable housing, as well as absence of other actors in the field, adds more value and relevance to the intervention.

Project activities

The project will provide 60 socially- and housing vulnerable local and IDP families (with emphasis on single parents, single elderly, graduates of state child-care institutions, persons with disabilities, etc.) from Tbilisi, Batumi, Rustavi and Bolnisi with dignified living conditions and social protection.

Expected results

- 5 social houses with 60 apartments in 4 cities are constructed, resulting in the improvement of living conditions and social protection for 60 most vulnerable local and IDP families in target cities (one social house out of two, is fully funded by the Tbilisi City Hall).
- Trainings are conducted for approx. 15 municipal employees in Rustavi and Bolnisi; at least 2 social workers undergo in-depth trainings and are assigned to social houses in Rustavi and Bolnisi. Reorganization of the Rustavi municipal social affairs unit results in the enhancement of their professional capacities.
- Trainings for 60 selected beneficiary families on the guidelines of social houses are conducted before accommodating them in social houses.



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