



DISABILITY AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION IN GEORGIA

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▶ Focus of my presentation:

- ▶ OVERVIEW OF THE CURRENT SITUATION REGARDING DISABILITY INCLUSIVE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION IN GEORGIA
- ▶ **Case Studies:**
 - ▶ *Mercy Corps, CENN: EU funded 3-year programme*
 - ▶ *Save the Children/ASB: funded within the DIPECHO-2 phase*



▶ Overview of the situation
of people with
disabilities in Georgia





BASIC FACTS



- ▶ As of 2012 data, 122 078 persons are registered in the social base according to the statistics provided by the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia. The actual number is likely to be higher.

USEFUL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- ▶ *2011 Report of the Public Defender on the Situation of Human Rights and Freedoms in Georgia*
- ▶ *2012 Report of the Public Defender on the Situation of Human Rights and Freedoms in Georgia*
- ▶ *2012 Report of the Public Defender on the Situation of Human Rights in the Institutions for Persons with Disabilities*





STATE POLICIES



- ▶ In 2009 Government adopted:
 - ▶ Concept Paper on Social Integration of People with Disabilities
 - ▶ 2010-2012 National Action Plan for Social Integration of Persons with Disabilities

“2010-2012 National Action Plan for Social Integration of Persons with Disabilities incorporates a significant part of the commitments provided in the UN convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. These include: social protection of persons with disabilities, access to housing, infrastructure facilities and other social goods; as well as disabled persons’ medical, professional and social rehabilitation, prohibition of discrimination, etc. But lacks stipulations in regards to disaster management.”





STATE POLICIES (CONT'D)



2010-2012 National Action Plan for Social Integration of Persons with Disabilities (SDAP):

- ▶ 40 Objectives and 98 Activities with responsibilities assigned to different ministries, municipalities and DPOs.
- ▶ In frame of the SDAP the Prime Minister established the State Coordinating Council comprised of seven ministries and disabled person's organizations (DPOs) with the function to coordinate the state policy on PwDs, develop/update the strategy/action plan/coordinate development and implementation of state programmes, review legislation, prepare reports on implementation of SDAP. Prime Minister serves as the Chair of the Council.





INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS



- ▶ On 20 June 2009 Georgia signed UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CPRD) and optional protocol.

Article 11: Situation of risk and humanitarian emergencies

“States Parties shall take, in accordance with their obligations under international law, (...), all necessary measures to ensure the protection and safety of persons with disabilities in situations of risk, including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and the occurrence of natural disasters”

- ▶ Ratification from the Parliament is required/pending.





MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS:



- ▶ **Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs**
- ▶ Ministry of Education and Science
- ▶ Emergency Management Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs
- ▶ Public Defender's Office
- ▶ Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection
- ▶ Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure
- ▶ Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development
- ▶ Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs
- ▶ International Organizations, NGOS, INGOs
- ▶ Media (As per the Action Plan)

- ▶ **State Coordinating Council chaired by the Prime Minister**





PLANNED FIRE DRILL SIMULATION IN THE SCHOOL FOR BLIND CHILDREN



- ▶ 13 November - International Day of the Blind
 - ▶ Emergency Management Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs organizes the fire drill simulation in the school for blind children.
 - ▶ Special disaster preparedness committees to be set up, comprised of school administration, teachers, other personnel. Teachers with disabilities will be involved.
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Case Study 1:





CASE STUDY 1



- ▶ Mercy Corps Representation to Georgia, the International Non-Governmental Organization in partnership with local NGO CENN (Caucasus Environmental NGO Network) is currently implementing the EU-funded 3 year environmental programme *Enhancing Local Capacity and Regional Cooperation for Climate Change Adaptation and Biodiversity Conservation in the South Caucasus*.
- ▶ The programme will increase local capacity and regional cooperation for the identification and mitigation of risks likely to be exacerbated by climate change, through the lens of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and biodiversity conservation
- ▶ The programme is designed to strengthen local and regional capacity through the development and implementation of twelve municipal plans, two regional trans-boundary CCA plans for two designated eco zones and up to twelve community based CCA & DRR pilot projects .





CASE STUDY 1



- ▶ Strengthening the knowledge and skills base of local communities will play a critical role in the mitigation of risks to their livelihoods. The programme is actively enabling local authorities to engage with national government and regional initiatives as well as help prepare the ground for, and facilitate, any future government or donor based initiatives at the municipal level.
- ▶ Regional level cooperation will be improved and better informed by input from the local level thereby building a foundation for the increased protection of livelihoods, particularly of the most vulnerable communities and groups of people identified through vulnerability assessment based on multi-criteria analysis and researches including age, women, children and disabled persons.





CASE STUDY 1



- ▶ Within the framework of the Programme the pilot projects are planned to mitigate the risks and better adapt to CC impacts and one of these projects is designed for implementation in Qedeli Community, Signagi Municipality, Kakheti Region, Georgia, at the Asylum for Disabled. Earlier this asylum used to be a target beneficiary of Mercy Corps donor-funded Project East Georgia Community Mobilization Initiative back in 2000-2004. This project provided the asylum with the animal farm which is successfully functioning until today. The ongoing environmental program plans to provide the second building of the asylum with the alternative source of energy, as they often face power cuts and electric supply interruptions due to frequent strong winds and hard rains taking place in recent years caused by climate change. The asylum counts for 21 disabled persons at age range between 16 – 42. 35% of asylum are women, the rest 65% – men. Mercy Corps is ready to support disabled persons under the programmes and projects to make the difference and be the change worldwide





CASE STUDY 1



- ▶ For detailed information:

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Case Study 2:



Save the Children





CASE STUDY 2



- ▶ Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia, Emergency Management Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, Save the Children Georgia and ASB in Georgia



DIPECHO
Phase -2
Funded Project



CASE STUDY 2



Inclusive DRR in kindergartens and special care institutions

- ▶ The main aim of the project funded by the Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) is to improve disaster preparedness for very young and special needs children, as well as for their teachers and caretakers. The action is being implemented in two particularly at-risk regions, Adjara and Samtskhe-Javakheti.
- ▶ Besides the kindergartens the project covered 1 special school and 1 daycare center to pilot the inclusive DRR methodology. 25 teachers and caregivers of the special schools and 2500 staff of KGs are trained how to convey DRR information to children and conduct simulation drills. 12000 children (among 55 children with disabilities) are aware of DRR concept and know how to behave in case of emergency situations.





CASE STUDY 2



- ▶ **Specific materials and training methodology** (game books, teacher guides, animation short movies, flashcards, posters etc.) has been adapted to the age and ability of children has been developed, successfully piloted endorsed by government;
- ▶ **Teachers and caregivers have been trained** in disaster risk reduction from a child's perspective and with children's abilities in mind using inclusive DRR tools and delivering child centered first aid;
- ▶ **Disaster Management Committees has been set up** responsible for the safety of the children, and draft disaster preparedness plans have been developed by them;
- ▶ **Simulation drills and mitigation projects** have been conducted.

Save the Children intends to continue working with all 6 special schools in Georgia during the next DIPECHO phase project and adapt inclusive DRR materials developed by Save the Children Armenia





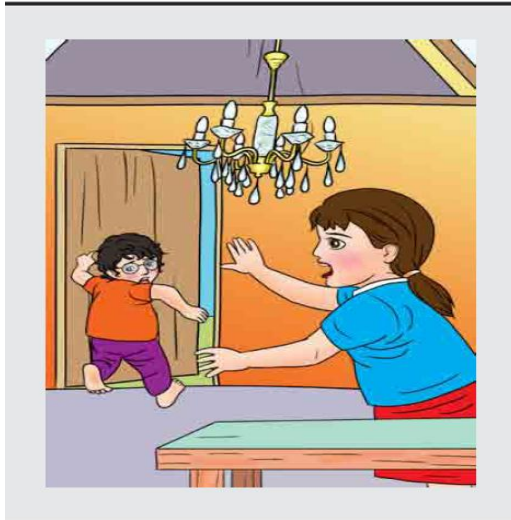
CASE STUDY 2/SAMPLE MATERIALS

- ▶ **Brief description:** 5 minutes ***DRR Educational Animation Cartoon*** aims to raise aware of preschool age children how to behave during the earthquake.
- ▶ **Target Audience:** preschool children, KG teachers and caregivers, parents, other interested stakeholders
- Language:** Georgian with English subtitles





CASE STUDY 2/SAMPLE MATERIALS



1

მინისძვრის დროს თავის დაუცველად შენობიდან გაქცევა

არასწორია

მიზეზი: შენობიდან გამოსვლა თავზე რაიმეს დაფარვის გარეშე ძალიან საშიშია! სახურავის ფილები ან სხვა ნამსხვრევები შეიძლება თავზე დაგეცეთ.









Brief description: Sets of various **Game Flashcards** about the right and wrong behaviors before, during and following disasters, focusing on Multi-Hazards, Floods, and Earthquakes; A series of Posters: “How to Recognize Signs of Landslides”, “10 Tips in Case of an Earthquake”, and “How to Conduct an Earthquake Simulation Drill in Preschool Institutions”; A series of A4 size posters constituting an Earthquake Story on behavior before, during, and following an earthquake.

Target Audience: preschool children, KG teachers and caregivers, parents, other interested stakeholders

Language: Georgian and English



CASE STUDY 2



- ▶ For detailed information:

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND
ATTENTION!**

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