

Educational materials to raise awareness and improve preparedness to disasters

DURATION: 2012 – 2013

TARGET COUNTRIES: Armenia, the Southern Caucasian and neighbouring states, other concerned member-states of the Council of Europe's EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement, other countries

PARTNERS INVOLVED:

Coordinating Centre: ECRM Yerevan, Armenia

Other Centres:

Other Partners:

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

Global objective for 2012-2013 :

Developing of additional educational materials, aimed to raise awareness and improve preparedness to disasters and their pilot adoption in schools and other educational institutions

Specific yearly objectives :

2012 :

1. Creation of the "Basic knowledge on safe life activities in extreme situations" pilot Manual for schools and other academic institutions.

Development of a final version of the "Methodology" for teaching the course : "Basic knowledge on safe life activities in extreme situations" for public school teachers drawn on the outcomes of the round table discussions and feedback from the specialists of the Refresher Training Faculty of the State Crisis Management Academy in Armenia

2. Selection of pilot schools. Duplication and dissemination of a preliminary variant of the "Special Tests assigned for school administration, teachers and students' parents to assess safety of schools and other educational establishments" for selected schools for comments, questions and proposals from specialists, school administration, teachers and students' parents with an aim to use these "Special Tests" in line with the General Recommendations as a basis for more and better studying and further development of the Tests and Recommendations, assigned for each particular pilot school, by given its specifics and location characteristics.

Preparation of a final version of the "Special Tests assigned for school administration, teachers and students' parents to assess safety of schools and other educational establishments".

Submission of the final English version of the "Special Tests" as a contribution to implement of the corresponding Section of "Be Safe Net".

3. Presentation of a preliminary version of the "Extreme psychology" brochure created by ECRM for further discussions and feedback from the specialists.

The brochure will present some psychological aspects for survival in emergencies. This brochure is mainly targeted towards cultivating in people, especially children, some personal performances required to successfully combat critical situations: raising faith and developing skills, enabling the maximum use of opportunities in times of a temporal lack of help in order to overcome any severe handicaps and emergency related dangers.

It also can serve a manual, assigned for the use of teachers, students and their parents, rescuers, peacekeepers, volunteers, involved into rendering first psychological aid in communities; as well as for the specialists, engaged into emergency response, for all those who wish to improve their psychological abilities in order to survive in emergencies

4. Presentation of a preliminary variant of a universal teaching "First Aid Manual" and a "Memorandum first aid pocket book" created by ECRM for further discussions and feedback from the specialists of the State Crisis Management Academy

2013 :

1. Creation of final version of the "Basic knowledge on safe life activities in extreme situations" pilot Manual for schools and other academic institutions

Offering courses of lectures, organization of a round table discussion and seminars with the involvement of the specialists from the Refresher Training Faculty of the State Crisis Management Academy", in order to bring the meaning of the key provisions and fundamentals of the "Methodology" for teaching of the above course: "Basic knowledge on safe life activities in extreme situations" to the sense of the staff, administration authorities, school principals, Heads of the Civil Protection and Emergency Chairs of the Higher academic institutions.

2. Preparation of particular Tests and Recommendations, assigned for each defined pilot school as well designing "Plans and Guidelines" on increasing security of school institutions; primarily actions undertaken in a case of a specific emergency incident, drawn on the basic Tests and General Recommendations developed under methodological support provided by ECRM and the State Crisis Management Academy with the involvement of some relevant security structures within local and territorial governance.

3. Preparation of a final version of the "Extreme psychology" brochure for publishing, based on the results of the held discussions and feedback received from the specialists.

Submission of the final English version of the "Extreme Psychology" as a contribution to implement of the corresponding Section of "Be Safe Net".

4. Preparation of a final version of a universal teaching "First Aid Manual" and a "Memorandum first aid pocket book"

for publishing drawn on the discussions outcomes and feedback from the specialists”

EXPECTED RESULTS

2012 :

1. Preliminary version of the “Basic knowledge on safe life activities in extreme situations” pilot Manual for schools and other educational institutions.

A final version of the “Methodology” for teaching the course: “Basic knowledge on safe life activities in extreme situations” for public school teachers. "

2. A Final version of the “Special Tests, assigned for school administration, teachers and students’ parents to assess safety of schools and other educational institutions”.

Submission of the final English version of the “Special Tests” as a contribution to implement of the corresponding Section of “Be Safe Net”.

3. Preliminary version of the “Extreme psychology” brochure.

Feedback from the specialists for preparing a final version of the “Extreme psychology” brochure.

4. Preliminary versions of a universal teaching “First Aid Manual” and “Memorandum first aid pocket book”

Feedback from the specialists for preparing a final version of a universal teaching “First Aid Manual” and a “Memorandum first aid pocket book”

2013 :

1. Final version of the “Basic knowledge on safe life activities in extreme situations” pilot Manual for schools and other educational institutions

Bringing the meaning of the key provisions and fundamentals of the “Methodology” for teaching drawn on the above pilot “Manual” to the sense of the public school teachers

2. Particular Tests and Recommendations, assigned for each defined pilot school.

“Plans and Guidelines” on increasing security of school institutions; primarily actions undertaken in a case of a specific emergency incident.

3. A final version of the “Extreme psychology” brochure

Submission of the final English version of the “Extreme Psychology” as a contribution to implement of the corresponding Section of “Be Safe Net”.

4. A final version of a universal teaching “First Aid Manual” and a “Memorandum first aid pocket book”

RESULTS OBTAINED IN 2012

Work package 1 (prepared by ECRM):

Description:

Creation of the “Basic knowledge on safe life activities in extreme situations” pilot Manual for schools and other academic institutions. Development of a final version of the “Methodology” for teaching the course : “Basic knowledge on safe life activities in extreme situations” for public school teachers drawn on the outcomes of the round table discussions and feedback from the specialists of the Refresher Training Faculty of the State Crisis Management Academy in Armenia.

Associated deliverables:

A final version of the Methodology for teaching the course “Basic knowledge on safe life activities in extreme situations” for public school teachers

A draft version of the “Basic knowledge on safe life activities basis in extreme situations”, as a pilot “Manual” for schools and other educational institutions;

A final version of the universal “Methodology” for teaching the course “Basic knowledge on safe life activities basis in extreme situations” for public school teachers.

There is a need to note here, that there are an array of educational training manuals, addressing the above venue that contain the brief methodological guidelines on teaching the particular course, partially included into the “Introduction” of the correspondent concrete (local) courses. However, a “Methodology”, as a universal scientific educational manual on teaching the above wide spectrum course in general, aimed to offer fundamental retraining to teachers, doesn’t exist and our universal “Methodology” is called to fill that gap.

Work package 2 (prepared by ECRM):

Description:

Selection of pilot schools. Duplication and dissemination of a preliminary variant of the “Special Tests assigned for school administration, teachers and students’ parents to assess safety of schools and other educational establishments” for selected schools for comments, questions and proposals from specialists, school administration, teachers and students’ parents with an aim to use these “Special Tests” in line with the General Recommendations as a basis for more and better studying and further development of the Tests and Recommendations, assigned for each particular pilot school, by given its specifics and location characteristics.

Preparation of a final version of the “Special Tests assigned for school administration, teachers and students’ parents to assess safety of schools and other educational establishments”. Submission of the final English version of the “Special Tests” as a contribution to implement of the corresponding Section of “Be Safe Net”.

Associated deliverables:

A final version of the "Special Tests assigned for school administration, teachers and students' parents to assess safety of schools and other educational establishments".

A final version of the "Special tests assigned for school administration, teachers and students' parents to assess safety of schools and other educational institutions" was prepared and the final version in English was submitted to the EUR-OPA Secretariat also as a contribution if a need may arise in a corresponding section of "Be Safe Net".

Among the 40 Tests for school administration and teachers cited below, tests 1-8 addressing the first, second and third directions in the developed basic Tests need to be specially highlighted. Tests 9-18 are assigned to assess a preparedness level of school staff to respond adequately in case of a particular disaster, endangering the school. Tests 19-27 enable to assess a state of an inner school organizational progress of ensuring safety and reducing vulnerability. 12 Tests, quoted within the framework of Clause 28, refer to the assessment of a progress of practical teaching and training organized in the school with an aim to improve school preparedness to prevent and liquidate hazards that could arise in the school itself, as well as to update and strengthen school staff skills to act adequately in emergencies.

Among the 12 Tests for the student's parents, tests 1-3 intend to assess a level of awareness of the student's parents, concerning the provision of safety and preparedness of the school to respond to disasters and also to assess a level of preparedness of the parents themselves to act rationally in case of an emergency in the school. Tests 4-12 intend to assess a level of awareness of the student's parents concerning the knowledge that the children have acquired on safe survival basis, and also to assess a level of parents' preparedness to recognize risks of involving children into extreme situations.

These "Special Tests", designed for school administration and teaching staff and the Tests and Recommendations designed for parents are suggested as one of the effective mechanisms in ensuring their preparedness to recognize and reduce disaster risks, enabling to provide adequate response to any locally experienced emergency.

The aim of the Tests for school administration and teachers is to identify the level to which their educational institution is ready to eliminate natural, man-made and other disaster risks and to respond to disasters.

The Tests for parents enable them to highlight levels of a culture of safety, as well as of the parent's preparedness to recognize a hazard and undertake preventive measures to reduce risk of involving children into extreme situations and also to act rationally if an emergency incident occurred.

The Tests' outcomes can serve a basis for designing Recommendations on reducing vulnerability of schools, improving preparedness of the school staff to act adequately in a particular disaster and to review and upgrade the disaster preparedness Plans, as well as to prepare parents to recognize a hazard and undertake preventive measures to reduce risks for children.

Work package 3 (prepared by ECRM):

Description:

Presentation of an preliminary version of the "Extreme psychology" brochure created by ECRM for further discussions and feedback from the specialists.

The brochure will present some psychological aspects for survival in emergencies. This brochure is mainly targeted towards cultivating in people, especially children, some personal performances required to successfully combat critical situations: raising faith and developing skills, enabling the maximum use of opportunities in times of a temporal lack of help in order to overcome any severe handicaps and emergency related dangers.

It also can serve a manual, assigned for the use of teachers, students and their parents, rescuers, peacekeepers, volunteers, involved into rendering first psychological aid in communities; as well as for the specialists, engaged into emergency response, for all those who wish to improve their psychological abilities in order to survive in emergencies.

Associated deliverables:

Preliminary version of the "Extreme psychology" brochure. Feedback from the specialists for preparing a final version of the "Extreme psychology" brochure.

A draft version of the "Extreme psychology" brochure was prepared. Drawn on the feedback from the specialists, a final version of the "Extreme psychology" brochure will be prepared. The brochure will present some psychological aspects for survival in emergencies. The main aim of the brochure is to cultivate in people, especially children some personal performances required to successfully combat critical situations: raising faith and developing skills enabling the rescuers, peacekeepers, volunteers involved into rendering first psychological help in communities, as well as for the specialists, engaged into emergency response, for all those who wish to improve the psychological abilities in order to survive in emergencies.

Work package 4 (prepared by ECRM):

Description:

Presentation of a universal teaching "First Aid Manual" and a "Memorandum first aid pocket book" created in ECRM for further discussions and feedback from the specialists of the State Crisis Management Academy.

Associated deliverables:

Preliminary versions of a universal teaching tool "First Aid Manual" and "Memorandum first aid pocket book". Feedback from the specialists for preparing a final version of a universal teaching "First Aid Manual" and a "Memorandum first aid pocket book"

Acknowledgement with a draft version of the above educational materials, created by ECRM, holding round table discussions, preparation by specialists from the State Crisis Management Academy" of a feedback aimed to their updating, involvement into preparation of their final versions

Draft versions of a universal teaching "First Aid Manual" and a "Memorandum first aid pocket book" were prepared.

Drawn on the feedback from the specialists, final versions of both will be prepared.

ACTIVITIES PLANNED IN 2013

Working package 1 (prepared by ECRM):

Description:

Creation of final version of the "Basic knowledge on safe life activities in extreme situations" pilot Manual for schools and other academic institutions

Offering courses of lectures, organization of a round table discussion and seminars with the involvement of the specialists from the Refresher Training Faculty of the State Crisis Management Academy", in order to bring the meaning of the key provisions and fundamentals of the "Methodology" for teaching of the above course : "Basic knowledge on safe life activities in extreme situations" to the sense of the staff, administration authorities, school principals, Heads of the Civil Protection and Emergency Chairs of the Higher academic institutions.

Submission of the final English version of the "Methodology" as a contribution to implement of the corresponding Section of "Be Safe Net".

Associated deliverables:

Preliminary version of the "Basic knowledge on safe life activities in extreme situations" pilot Manual for schools and other educational institutions. Final version of the Methodology for teaching the course "Basic knowledge on safe life activities in extreme situations" for public school teachers.

Work package 2 (prepared by ECRM):

Description:

Preparation of particular Tests and Recommendations, assigned for each defined pilot school as well designing "Plans and Guidelines" on increasing security of school institutions; primarily actions undertaken in a case of a specific emergency incident, drawn on the basic Tests and General Recommendations developed under methodological support provided by ECRM and the State Crisis Management Academy with the involvement of some relevant security structures within local and territorial governance.

Associated deliverables:

Particular Tests and Recommendations, assigned for each defined pilot school. "Plans and Guidelines" on increasing security of school institutions; primarily actions undertaken in a case of a specific emergency incident.

Work package 3 (prepared by ECRM):

Description:

Preparation of a final version of the "Extreme psychology" brochure for publishing, based on the results of the held discussions and feedback received from the specialists. Submission of the final English version of the "Extreme Psychology" as a contribution to implement of the corresponding Section of "Be Safe Net".

Associated deliverables:

A final version of the "Extreme psychology" brochure. Submission of the final English version of the "Extreme Psychology" as a contribution to implement of the corresponding Section of "Be Safe Net".

Work package 4 (prepared by ECRM):

Description:

Preparation of a final version of a universal teaching "First Aid Manual and a "Memorandum first aid pocket book for publishing drawn on the discussions outcomes and feedback from the specialists".

Associated deliverables:

A final version of a universal teaching "First Aid Manual" and a "Memorandum first aid pocket book"

Offering courses of lectures, organization of a round table discussion and seminars with the involvement of the specialists from the Refresher Training Faculty of the State Crisis Management Academy" in order to bring the meaning of the key provisions and fundamentals of the methodological and educational materials to the sense of the potential teachers, running training courses, drawn on these materials.

Selection of pilot schools, engagement into the development of the "Plans and Guidelines on increasing security of school institutions and primarily actions, undertaken in a case of a specific emergency incident"

Running some relevant training programmes and organization of activities, aimed to be prepared, in the established order, to make correspondent decisions about adoption of the above teaching courses, drawn on the pilot educational materials, into the school and other educational institutions' curriculum.