



SEMI-ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

United Nations Development Programme

Name of the CO/Regional: CO Macedonia/RBEC

**Project Title: Strengthening of the Capacities of the Crisis
Management Centre**

Period the report covers: 01/01/2009 – 30/06/2009

Reporting Date: 01 July 2009



**Participants of the workshops:
Gender Mainstreaming into Crisis Management
29 May 2009**

Project ID: MCD 00060186
Duration: 08 April 2008 – 31 December 2009
**Component (SP/Outcome): Coordinated and timely
national cross-sectoral response to natural man-made
disasters and sudden crisis enhanced**
Total Budget: 343,485 USD
JWIDF/Partnership Fund: 200,000 USD
Unfunded:
**Implementing Partners/ Responsible parties: UNDP
BCPR, Crisis Management Centre, JICA**

Table of Content

Contents

Table of Content.....	2
I. Context.....	3
II. Project results summary	4
III. Implementation challenges	6
III-1. Project risks and actions.....	6
III-2. Project issues and actions.....	6
IV. Financial status and utilization	7
IV-1. Financial status.....	7
IV-2. Financial utilization	8
Annexes.....	9

I. Context

The flood and forest fires in 2007 have revealed a lack of a coordinated response to an emergency situation by authorities at all levels mainly due to unclear divisions of responsibilities and limited resource availability. This has been identified as a critical risk to the country's ability to effectively manage disasters. Therefore, the need to establish a streamlined and unified management system, which would efficiently mitigate and respond to both natural and man-made disasters in Macedonia while also recognizing pre-existent physical and social vulnerabilities, is more than evident.

The **core objective** of the project is to support the effective implementation of the Law on Crisis Management through providing technical assistance to strengthen both institutional and operational capacities and mechanisms of Crisis Management Centre (CMC), in order to enable the Center to play better coordination and service provider roles in crisis management, while building the Center's capacity to promote the human development approach to crisis management among its partners. This type of support is seen as a crucial priority for enhancing human development, including gender equality, and improving the overall disaster management capacity of the country.

More specifically, the project will achieve its objective through **1)** identification of capacity-building needs of the Crisis Management system; **2)** formulation of a National Crisis Management Plan; **3)** improving hazard monitoring capacities of the Crisis Management Center; **4)** strengthening the capacities and resilience of local authorities and communities; and **5)** public awareness-raising.

The existing global structures – the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), as well as the UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recover (BCPR) "8 Point Agenda on Gender Equality" are used as fundamental guidelines during the project implementation to install a gender and human rights responsive Disaster Risk Management system in the country.

Implementation of the project initiated discussions in the country regarding the application of the multi-hazard and inter-sectoral approach, as well as supported the fulfillment of the international obligations of the country (National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction as per the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015).

UNDAF (2005 – 2009) Outcomes to which this project contributes are the following:

- a) Models and practices shared and adopted for transparent and accountable provision of decentralized public services – Project is supporting the Integrated and cross sectoral disaster management, crisis contingency planning and prevention mechanisms.
- b) Effective and equitable management of natural resource and environment protection based on principles of sustainable development - natural disaster prevention assessment and monitoring based on GIS (geographic information system).

The Project is executed under the National Execution Modality (NEX), under the overall responsibility of the national Government. UNDP is providing support to the execution of the project both as an implementing partner and technical assistance provider. The key project partner is the Crisis Management Centre and the main project beneficiaries are the Directorate of Protection and Rescue (DPR), selected municipalities, Red Cross, selected citizens groups, NGOs (non-governmental organizations).

The project is taking strategic advantage of the on-going bilateral assistance of the Government of Japan to Macedonia, and is helping further to expand this partnership. During the previous period,

the project has developed close cooperation with the Regional JICA Office in Belgrade and its branch office in Skopje.

II. Project results summary

Output 1.1 Capacity building, training and learning needs identified

- Preparation of the Report on the identification of the capacity building, training and learning needs, as well as potential training partners based on the current crisis management system, and recommendations for further development of the professional capacities within the institutions is in final stage of preparation.

Output 2.1 The Gender and Human Rights Responsive National Crisis Management Plan, which incorporates Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) prepared by CMC, developed

- **Two** workshops from 7 - 8 and 28 – 29 of May 2009 held with participation of Representatives from the Directorate for Protection and Rescue, Macedonian Red Cross, Crisis Management Center, Regional Crisis Management Center - Kicevo and UNDP participated on these workshops. The topic was *Gender Mainstreaming into Crisis Management*. In total **10** representatives received certificates for participation on the workshops. It is expected that the trained participants will take active role in the development of the next project activities (e.g. development of a draft version of a Gender Responsive National Crisis management Plan).
- Due to the identified insufficient gender capacity and the request from CMC to consider the development of the Risk Assessment Methodologies as a essential tool for preparation of assessments, plans, scenarios, SOPs etc, decision has been made to reschedule the preparation of the gender responsive draft-Plan and the related activities. Namely, developed concept methodologies should set the basis for development of the draft-Plan and other documents.

Output 3.1 Hazard monitoring system based on GIS established for data collection

- Implementation of the supplied two applications (for entry of attribute and spatial data in the GIS data-base and for the strategic planning) was monitored and no major problems were reported since the applications are functioning normally. The "Software Application for Entry of Attribute and Spatial Data into the Geo-database of the Crisis Management Center" initiated interest amongst the GIS professionals during the GISDATA User Conference in Opatija, Croatia (27 – 28 May 2009) and the CMC was awarded with 1st prize for best GIS poster.

Output 4.2 Plan for LLRM (Local Level Risk Management) expansion to 9 municipalities formulated and agreed

- The Comparative Analysis for selection of the pilot municipalities/micro regions was prepared based on following criteria (such as: population; risks/hazards; material, technical and human resources; communication and coordination among institutions of the crisis management system on local level, etc.) were analyzed. This document could be used by CMC for development of similar databases and preparation of analysis.
- Project activities in **12** municipalities as part of **3** micro – regions started: **Kicevo** (Kicevo, Zajas, Oslomej, Drugovo, Vranestica), **Veles** (Veles, Caska, Gradsko) and **Strumica** (Strumica, Vasilevo,

Bosilovo, Novo Selo). Accordingly, following specific activities were implemented: conducting of the survey, identification of the local community leaders and stakeholders, initial activities regarding the preparation of the hazard maps and establishment of the data-base for risks/hazards, disasters/accidents, vulnerability/capacities and inventory of local resources, preparation of the Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment of the municipalities and selection and assessment of the municipal public infrastructure (schools).

- In partnership with the Macedonian Red Cross, the **Questionnaire for capacity assessment of the institutions** on the local level was developed. The objective of the Questionnaire is to identify possibilities and capacities of the institutions/subjects that are directly involved in the crisis management system on the local level. This Questionnaire is especially important for the CMC and it is considered as adequate and practical tool for data collection and analysis. Based on the results that will be published in July and evaluation of the project, the CMC will have the possibility to develop similar type of Questionnaire for implementation on the national level in order to make complete assessment of the overall crisis management system.
- Due to several reasons the full implementation of the activity has been slightly delayed: insufficient coordination and cooperation amongst the institutions within the crisis management system, lack of databases for capacity and vulnerability assessments, chronological reviews of risk/hazards events etc. Nonetheless, the Project has facilitated the actions and with the revision of project activities it is expected the component to be finalized until the end of the year
- Partnership with the Bureau of Development of Education was established in order to facilitate the implementation of the educational component of the project, as well as for the review and propose of the school curriculum.
- Identification and implementation of small-scale risk reduction projects in the selected micro-regions have been initiated. Partnership with line ministries and local authorities was established with support of the CMC and its regional offices. One project per micro-region will be implemented and Cost-sharing Agreements with municipalities will be signed. Project funds for this activity will be upgraded with local contribution from the municipalities.
- **Communication and coordination on local level improved** - The Internet access services for 27 regional offices of CMC and the Seismological Observatory that is directly linked with the CMC was normally functional. It is very important to state that the established internet connections with the Seismological Observatory supported the better coordination and planning in response to the series of earthquakes during May – June in the south-east of the country (Valandovo region, Strumica, Dojran).

Innovative achievements during the reporting period were following:

- **Creation of a Gender Team within the CMC** - UNDP supported the CMC to establish a Gender Team managed by the Gender Focal Point. The main goal of this team will be to promote and secure gender equality during the processes of planning and decision making, and to address the needs of the vulnerable groups (including the women) before, during and after the crisis period
- **Development of a Web Based Gender Repository Database and Web Based System for Learning, Exam and Survey** - The Gender Repository Database application will provide basis for accumulation and organization of data/information which will support improved analysis, monitoring and evaluation of gender activities undertaken by the CMC. The Web Based System for Learning, Exam

and Survey will raise the awareness of the CMC's employees about gender issues in crisis management area.

Both achievements are planned to be replicated in other relevant institutions from the CMS and are in accordance with the efforts of the Government to include gender mainstreaming in the national institutions.

With the launching of the preparation of the "Study with guidelines for development of methodologies for assessment of risks and hazards and assessment of their implications over the lives and health of the citizens and goods of the country", basis for implementation of other outputs (gender responsive draft-National Crisis management Plan, developed outline of a National Risk Assessment and Monitoring Platform design and initiated process for a National Early Warning System) will be set.

III. Implementation challenges

III-1. Project risks and actions

Risk - Poor knowledge on gender of the key institutions of the crisis management system.

Action - Through the implementation of the project and its outputs the project has increased the knowledge on gender of the key institutions of the crisis management system. The Project Board on its 2nd session in February made a decision for engagement of experts on gender issues and crisis management. Additionally, with the course on Gender Mainstreaming into the Crisis Management, as well as the Web Systems for Gender Repository Database and Learning, Exam and Survey, the gender awareness is raised in the CMC, as well as in the other institutions from the crisis management system.

Risk - Lack of Risk assessment methodologies.

Action – Absence of the Risk Assessment Methodologies is seriously affecting the implementation of the crisis management legislation, as well as certain aspects of the project. Therefore the project is considering support of the coordination activities for preparation of these methodologies. In addition, support for their preparation has been requested through the project proposal submitted to JICA. The process was started with preparation of the Study with guidelines for development of methodologies for assessment of risks and hazards and assessment of their implications over the lives and health of the citizens and goods of the country. This Study shall provide basis for development of individual methodologies that will regulate the process of assessment in the domain of different risks and hazards that are connected to the specialized platforms within the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction of the country adopted by the Government.

Risk - Lack of proper and efficient communication and cooperation between the CMC and the Directorate of Protection and Rescue.

Action - The project established good cooperation with the DPR and is supporting the improvement of cooperation and coordination between the two institutions.

III-2. Project issues and actions

Issue - Few crisis management/gender experts that have necessary knowledge of the specific issues of crisis management and gender.

Action - Several crisis management/gender experts have been identified and network/roster was established.

IV. Financial status and utilization

IV-1. Financial status

All figures must be in the USD.

Table 1: Contribution overview 08 April 2008 – 31 December 2009

Financial Status of Strengthening of the Capacities of the CMC Atlas Code 00060186
Resources

DONOR NAME	CONTRIBUTIONS		CONTRIBUTION BALANCE
	Committed	Received	
UNDP BCPR (04160)	100,000	100,000	-
JWIDF (32045)	200,000	200,000	-
UNDP (04120)	37,485	20,758	16,727
UNDP (04000)	6,000	6,000	-

**Committed* refers to the existence of a signed agreement; *Received* refers to already committed funds

Table 2: Funding status (as of 01-07-2009)

Financial Status

DONOR	COMMITTED*	RECEIVED*(A)	EXPENDITURES				PROJECT CASH BALANCE (F)	DISBURSEMENT RATE (G)
			Disbursement prior to this reporting (B)	Disbursement during the reporting period (C)	Encumbrance (D)	Total (E)		
UNDP BCPR 04160	100,000	100,000	26,232	145	-	26,377	73,623	26%
UNDP 04120	37,485	20,758	6,778	6,904	4,920	18,602	2,156	66%
UNDP 04000	6,000	6,000	-	-	-	-	6,000	0%
JWIDF 32045	200,000	200,000	80,624	22,060	6,201	108,885	91,115	51%
TOTAL			113,633	29,109				

* The amount should match the figures in the column (of the same title) in the Resource Overview table.

E= B+C+D

F= A-E

G= (B+C)/A

IV-2. Financial utilization

Table 3: Expenditure by activity 01-01-2009 – 01-07-2009

Activity	BUDGET [2009]	DISBURSEMENT please notice (c+e)	BALANCE	DELIVERY (%)
Activity 1 [CMC Capacity Development] UNDP BCPR 04160	73,768	145	73,623	0%
Activity 1 [CMC Capacity Development] UNDP 04120	30,707	11,824	18,883	39%
Activity 1 [CMC Capacity Development] UNDP 04000	6,000	0	6,000	0%
Activity 1 [CMC Capacity Development] JWIDF 32045	119,376	28,261	91,115	24%
UNDP GMS (based on donor agreements)	0	0	0	0
Total	229,852	40,230	189,621	18%

Annexes

Annex 1 – Media Coverage and PR Materials

Gender Mainstreaming into Crisis Management – Workshop 1

11 May 2009

http://www.cuk.gov.mk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=997%3Aundp&Itemid=59

The CMC and UNDP within the project Strengthening of the Capacities of the Crisis Management Center on 7 and 8 of May organized the first workshop Gender Mainstreaming into Crisis Management. Proper inclusion of gender focused practices is from high importance for proper crisis management since there is different level of vulnerability when comparing men and women. Hence, one of the project goals is to offer assistance to the institutions of the crisis management system to strengthen their capacities for risk assessment, implementation of efficient protection measures, providing proper and prompt protection measures according to the needs of different vulnerable groups, where women also belong. In the same direction, the main goal of these two workshops is to strength the knowledge of the representatives from the key institutions of the crisis management system as regards gender equality, gender equity, and other gender issues and gender perspectives into crisis management. Participants of the first workshops were representatives from the Directorate for Protection and Rescue, Macedonian Red Cross, Crisis Management Center and UNDP. The second workshop will be held by the end of May 2009.

The project is financially supported by the Government of Japan and UNDP BCPR.

Gender Mainstreaming into Crisis Management – Workshop 2

01 June 2009

http://www.cuk.gov.mk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1097%3Aundp&Itemid=59

The CMC and UNDP within the project Strengthening of the Capacities of the Crisis Management Center on 28 and 29 of May 2009 organized the second workshop on the topic Gender Mainstreaming into Crisis Management. The goal of the second workshop was to exchange more advanced experience as regards the woman's role before, during, and after crisis-period, her vulnerability, and the ways woman could get more actively involved within the crisis management system.

The project is financially supported by the Government of Japan and UNDP BCPR.

Additionally, the participants of the two Gender Mainstreaming into Crisis Management workshops received certificates for participation of the workshop. The acknowledgement that: the workshop is organized within the project "Strengthening of the Capacities of the Crisis Management Center" financially supported by the Japan Official Development Assistance and UNDP BCPR is presented (see Attachment: Certificates).

Conference on GIS – Opatija 2009

01 June 2009

http://cuk.gov.mk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=62&Itemid=107

Representatives from CMC participated at the 3rd GIS user Conference on GIS Systems held on 27 and 28 May 2009 in Opatija, Croatia and organized by GISDATA. Around 200 participants from 16 countries have been informed about the latest achievements in the GIS through 8 thematic presentation sessions, poster exhibition and 2 plenary sessions.

The CMC has successfully presented the theme "Software Application for Entry of Attribute and Spatial Data into the Geo-database of the Crisis Management Center". Development of this application was supported by the project "Strengthening of the Capacities of the Crisis Management Centre" financed by the Government of Japan and UNDP BCPR.

Objective of this presentation was to state the data creation process with the support of this sophisticated software tool. For the public and present experts especially interesting was the dynamic way of definition of attributes that provides big flexibility during the resource and events data description that are important for the Crisis management System.

First prize for the best poster at the GIS Conference in Opatija

The CMC has won the 1st prize for the best designed poster in the competition of 36 maps and posters. The poster was named "GIS use in the CMC for operational tracking of forest fires" and the objective was to show the use of the software applications for entry and review of data through the example of the big forest fire on the Belasica Mountain. The development of the fire is divided in phases and each phase is described with different type of data: used resources, results from fire, needed help etc. This year participation at the Conference is big step forward in the direction of international promotion of the CMC.

There are some information published about the activities directly related to the project, such as:

http://cuk.gov.mk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=604:zeni&catid=1:novosti

<http://netpress.com.mk/vest.asp?id=51318&kategorija=1>

<http://time.mk/?slot=104&cluster=63->

[r&forward=http%3A//www.netpress.com.mk/vest.asp%3Fid%3D51318%26kategorija%3D1&size=](http://www.netpress.com.mk/vest.asp%3Fid%3D51318%26kategorija%3D1&size=)

1)

The activities which are related, but are not directly supported by the project do not include the acknowledgment statement:

http://www.cuk.gov.mk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=456:cuksaraevo&catid=84:bilateralna-sorabotka&Itemid=37

- "Integrated Risk Management – Development Challenges and Perspectives Module 2: Disaster Risk Reduction Based on Proper Risk Assessments" held in Sarajevo, 21 – 23 January 2009 organized by UNDP Bosnia and Hercegovina (BiH) and Ministry of Security of BiH
http://www.cuk.gov.mk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=456:cuksaraevo&catid=84:bilateralna-sorabotka&Itemid=37
<http://www.undp.ba/index.aspx?PID=7&RID=498>
<http://www.eupm.org/Details.aspx?ID=1033&TabID=4>

Annex II – Model Certificate for participation at gender mainstreaming into crisis management training