

## PROJECT INFO

United Nations Development Programme



Photo by: UNDP

### CHALLENGE

The floods in 2004 affected nearly 100,000 citizens leaving many roads submerged under water and closed due to landslides. The forest fires in 2008 affected more than 50% of the population, harshly hitting the country's environment and economy.

Following the devastation, the Government needed to urgently put in place a better disaster management system to be able to respond more effectively to natural disasters.

To help ensure citizens' safety in the event of such disasters, UNDP, in partnership with local authorities from 12 municipalities and the national crisis management institutions, worked to establish a disaster management system in the country. Funding for the project was provided by the Government of Japan.

### PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this project was to support the central and local governments to strengthen the system for crisis management and ensure effective and timely response to natural disasters.

### RESULTS

UNDP assisted the National Crisis Management Center in the development of key documents and programmes.

Today, for the first time, the country has an integrated approach to disaster risk reduction for many hazards. The latest surveys show that the public confidence in the crisis management institutions has increased significantly.

The National Crisis Management System staff has been trained. Policemen and firemen are able to respond quickly and effectively. They are dedicating the necessary special attention to children and women.

More than 17,000 children and 1,500 teachers country wide have been trained on how to stay safe if there is an earthquake or a fire

A total of 380 elementary schools country-wide are benefiting from the first ever educational computer game on crisis management, which has become part of their school curricula.

Twelve municipalities have a significantly increased capacity for disaster planning. They are more resilient to natural disasters, and better prepared, with the ability to recover quickly.

Vulnerability assessments have been carried out, along with hazard mapping, evacuation planning and training drills in high-risk communities, such as schools and kindergartens.

Handbooks and manuals on crisis management have been developed and are now used by all municipalities in the country. The coordination among all responsible institutions has improved.

Today, a much greater number of municipalities want to be included in this successful programme. They are all willing to co-finance disaster risk reduction activities to ensure a safer future for their citizens.

They all understood the importance of investing today for a safer tomorrow.

### PROJECT TITLE:

Strengthening the Capacities of the Crisis Management Center

### PARTNERS:

Crisis Management Center, Municipalities, Directorate of Protection and Rescue, Macedonian Red Cross, NGOs

### FINANCED BY:

Government of Japan, UNDP, CMC (national contribution), Municipalities of Strumica, Vasilevo, Bosilevo, Novo Selo, Veles, Kicevo (local contribution).

### BUDGET:

US\$ 378,000

### IMPLEMENTING PERIOD:

Oct 2008 – Sep 2011

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