Country Profile

AZERBAIJAN

March 2016
Disclaimer

The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of its authors and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

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<tr>
<td>ADB</td>
<td>Asian Development Bank</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADRC</td>
<td>Asian Disaster Reduction Centre</td>
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<td>AJSC</td>
<td>State Amelioration Joint Stock Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>BSEC</td>
<td>Black Sea Economic Cooperation</td>
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<tr>
<td>CBRN</td>
<td>Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEP</td>
<td>Civil Emergency Preparedness</td>
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<tr>
<td>CICA</td>
<td>Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building in Asia</td>
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<td>CIS</td>
<td>Commonwealth of Independent States</td>
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<td>CMC</td>
<td>Crisis Management Centre of MES</td>
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<td>CoE</td>
<td>Council of Europe</td>
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<td>CoM</td>
<td>Cabinet of Ministries</td>
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<td>CP</td>
<td>Civil Protection</td>
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<td>DLD</td>
<td>Disaster Loss Data</td>
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<td>DM</td>
<td>Disaster Management</td>
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<td>DRA</td>
<td>Disaster Risk Assessment</td>
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<td>Disaster Risk Management</td>
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<td>DRR</td>
<td>Disaster Risk Reduction</td>
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<td>EaP</td>
<td>Eastern Partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td>EBRD</td>
<td>European Bank for Reconstruction and Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECO</td>
<td>Economic Cooperation Organization</td>
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<td>ENPI</td>
<td>European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument</td>
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<tr>
<td>EPIRB</td>
<td>Regional EU funded project for Environmental Protection of International River Basins</td>
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<td>ERRA</td>
<td>Electronic Regional Risk Atlas</td>
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<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
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<td>EUCP</td>
<td>European Union Civil Protection</td>
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<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<td>EUFD</td>
<td>EU Floods Directive</td>
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<td>EWS</td>
<td>Early Warning System</td>
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<td>FRMP</td>
<td>Flood Risk Management Plan</td>
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<td>GCTU</td>
<td>General Confederation of Trade Unions</td>
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<td>GIS</td>
<td>Geographic Information System</td>
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<tr>
<td>GUAM/GUUAM</td>
<td>Organization for Democracy and Economic Development</td>
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<td>HNS</td>
<td>Host Nation Support</td>
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<td>Host Nation Support Guidelines</td>
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<td>JICA</td>
<td>Japan International Cooperation Agency</td>
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<td>IAEA</td>
<td>International Atomic Energy Agency</td>
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<td>IBRD</td>
<td>International Bank for Reconstruction and Development</td>
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<td>ICAO</td>
<td>International Civil Aviation Organization</td>
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<td>ICDO</td>
<td>International Civil Defence Organisation</td>
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<td>ICRM</td>
<td>International Committee for Radionuclide Metrology</td>
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<td>ICT</td>
<td>Information and Communication Technology</td>
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<td>IDA</td>
<td>International Development Association</td>
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<td>IDB</td>
<td>Inter-American Development Bank</td>
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<td>IFAD</td>
<td>International Fund for Agricultural Development</td>
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<td>IFC</td>
<td>International Finance Corporation</td>
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<td>IFRC</td>
<td>International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies</td>
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<td>ILO</td>
<td>International Labour Organization</td>
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<td>IMF</td>
<td>International Monetary Fund</td>
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<td>IMO</td>
<td>International Maritime Organization</td>
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<td>INSARAG</td>
<td>International Search and Rescue Advisory Group</td>
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<td>IOC</td>
<td>International Olympic Committee</td>
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<td>International Organization on Migration</td>
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<td>IPU</td>
<td>Inter-Parliamentary Union</td>
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<td>ISO</td>
<td>International Organization for Standardization</td>
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<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Full Form</td>
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<tr>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Information Technology</td>
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<tr>
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<td>International Telecommunication Union</td>
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<td>ITUC</td>
<td>International Trade Union Confederation</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEF</td>
<td>Global Environment Facility</td>
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<tr>
<td>JN</td>
<td>Journalist Network</td>
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<td>JRC</td>
<td>Joint Research Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>JSC</td>
<td>Joint Stock Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>MIGA</td>
<td>Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency</td>
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<td>MES</td>
<td>Ministry of Emergency Situations</td>
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<tr>
<td>MoA</td>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture</td>
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<td>MoENR</td>
<td>Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resource</td>
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<td>MoF</td>
<td>Ministry of Finance</td>
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<td>MoH</td>
<td>Ministry of Health</td>
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<td>NAM</td>
<td>Non-Aligned Movement</td>
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<td>NAG</td>
<td>National Advisory Group</td>
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<td>NAoS</td>
<td>National Academy of Science</td>
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<td>NATO</td>
<td>North Atlantic Treaty Organization</td>
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<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-Governmental Organisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSDI</td>
<td>National Spatial Data Infrastructure</td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTS</td>
<td>Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>OAS</td>
<td>Organisation of American States</td>
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<td>OIC</td>
<td>Organisation of Islamic Cooperation</td>
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<tr>
<td>OPCW</td>
<td>Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons</td>
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<td>OSCE</td>
<td>Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td>PFP</td>
<td>Partnership for Peace</td>
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<td>PFRA</td>
<td>Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment</td>
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<td>PMF</td>
<td>Probable Maximum Flood</td>
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<td>PPP</td>
<td>Public-private partnership</td>
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<td>PPRD East 2</td>
<td>EU-funded Programme for Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Natural and</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programme</td>
<td>Man-made Disaster in EaP Countries</td>
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<td>PRA</td>
<td>Preliminary Risk Assessment</td>
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<td>PuP</td>
<td>Public-public partnership</td>
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<td>RBMP</td>
<td>River Basin Management Plan</td>
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<td>SAWR</td>
<td>State Agency of Water Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDI</td>
<td>Spatial Data Infrastructure</td>
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<tr>
<td>SECI</td>
<td>South-East Europe Cooperative Initiative</td>
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<td>SLMC</td>
<td>State Land and Mapping Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>SoP (or SOP)</td>
<td>Standard Operating Procedure</td>
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<td>SS</td>
<td>Seismic Service of the National Academy of Science</td>
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<td>SSC</td>
<td>State Statistical Committee</td>
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<td>SWRA</td>
<td>State Water Resource Agency</td>
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<td>TTX</td>
<td>Table-Top Exercise</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<td>UNCTAD</td>
<td>UN Conference on Trade and Development</td>
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<td>UNDP</td>
<td>UN Development Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNESCO</td>
<td>United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>United Nations Children’s Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIDO</td>
<td>United Nations Industrial Development Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNISDR</td>
<td>United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction</td>
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<td>UNWTO</td>
<td>UN World Tourism Organisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>UoM</td>
<td>Unit of Management</td>
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<td>UPU</td>
<td>Universal Postal Union</td>
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<td>WCO</td>
<td>World Customs Organisation</td>
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<td>WFD</td>
<td>Water Framework Directive</td>
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<td>WFTU</td>
<td>World Federation of Trade Unions</td>
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<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organisation</td>
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<td>WIPO</td>
<td>World intellectual property organization</td>
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<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>WMO</td>
<td>World Meteorological Organisation</td>
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<td>WTO</td>
<td>World trade organization</td>
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</table>
1 Executive Summary

Worldwide natural hazards and man-made disasters are on the rise, often leading to loss of lives, displacement of populations and destructions of costly infrastructures. These disasters can have dramatic negative effects on the economic growth of a country and can critically undermine the region’s efforts for sustainable development. It is therefore of the upmost importance that risks of disasters are mitigated and that countries are better prepared to deal with them – individually and collectively.

The Eastern Partnership Flagship Initiative on Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters (PPRD East) was launched in 2010 by the European Union to strengthen the countries’ resilience, preparedness and response in addressing these challenges. With this regional initiative, the European Union provides the six Eastern Partnership countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine) with dedicated assistance to enhance legislative, administrative and operational civil protection capacities as well as increase access to information on risk exposure and involvement of stakeholders.

The 5.5 million euro Phase 2 of the PPRD East Programme has commenced in December 2014 and the first year of its implementation has been dedicated to the civil protection capacity building, and to the assessment of the current status of the civil protection and disaster risk management in all six Partner Countries with an aim to assist and support Partner Countries in their approximation to EU acquis communautaire and EU good practise in the filed of civil protection and disaster risk management. The very initial mapping of Partner Countries needs, priorities and interests has been undertaken during the brief initial fact-finding missions undertaken to the Partner Countries in February 2015, to be followed with the detailed assessments done through the in-country missions, questionnaires and desktop analyses in the period April-August 2015.

The following presents the updated draft Country Profile based on information made available to the expert team. It includes an assessment of national follow-up on PPRD East Programme Phase 1 recommendations as well as of the following PPRD East 2 thematic topics:

1. Flood management and approximation to the EU Floods Directive
2. Disaster risk assessment
3. Disaster loss data collection and processing
4. ERRA
5. Inclusion of disaster risk reduction in public spending
6. Host Nation Support
7. EU approach to volunteerism in civil protection
8. Raising awareness about disasters
9. Data and information sharing and INSPIRE Directive

In addition, the civil protection profile, presented in the Electronic Civil Protection Operational Guidebook, developed within the PPRD East Programme Phase 1, has been updated. Each Chapter includes presentation of the legal and institutional framework, current status of practice, findings and recommendations, and the respective road maps with concrete suggestions on activities that should be implemented in the forthcoming period.

Draft Country Profile has been presented, discussed and validated by the National Advisory Group at and after the meeting organised on 1-3 March 2016 in Baku, Azerbaijan. The following thematic topics have been selected to be addressed within the PPRD East 2 Programme:

- Flood Risk Management, and Disaster Risk Assessment in relation to ERRA,
- Host Nation Support,
- Civil Protection Volunteerism, and
- Raising Awareness about Disasters

For the other, in this document presented topics, the PPRD East 2 Programme will assist the Ministry of Emergency Situations of Azerbaijan and other national stakeholders in transforming here presented and accepted recommendations and road maps into bankable project proposals. The PPRD East 2 will also assist all national stakeholders in searching for and finding the most suitable additional EU assistance instrument and/or the most suitable external bilateral and/or multilateral funding mechanism.
2 Civil Protection profile (update of the Electronic Civil Protection Operational Guidebook)

2.1 Vulnerability to man-made and disasters caused by natural hazards

Azerbaijan is vulnerable to floods, earthquakes, mudflows, avalanches, drought and landslides, as well as to disasters caused by technological hazards. The capital city of Baku suffered from a destructive landslide and a major earthquake, measuring 6 on the Richter scale, both in the year 2000. During the first years of the XXI century, floods accounted for the major share of disasters, followed by earthquakes. There were also 11 disasters related to technology hazards reported in the period 1992 – 2007, transport accidents being the major ones.

A recent analysis conducted of statistical data shows that in the territory of Azerbaijan, the frequency and intensity of natural disasters is increasing.

The effects of natural disasters, which usually have a long and complex character, notably affects various spheres of life, cause considerable damage to infrastructure, communication facilities and of course the loss of human life.

Azerbaijan has territories in which the drop-down spring and summer rains combined with the snowmelt caused by heavy snow melting in the mountains results in flash floods and mudslides. The most susceptible to these phenomena are the basins of the southern and north-eastern slopes of the Greater Caucasus, the Lateral Ridge, and the southwest and north-eastern slopes of the Lesser Caucasus. Since the 1980’s, Azerbaijan began to observe changes in its meteorological conditions. Sudden intense rainfall over several days in the foothills and valleys caused significant flooding. In the summer of 2010, there were several weeks of intense flooding in various central parts of the country.

The long-range forecasts show that the increasing changes in climate will significantly influence mudflow activities in the mountainous areas of Azerbaijan. Acceleration of the hydrological cycle causing abundant precipitation changes in the vertical border of the vegetation cover spread, mountainside degradation, erosion development, and deterioration of the soil drainage degree set conditions for the formation of disastrous floods and mudflow streams.

In addition, significant decreases in minimum temperatures have led to the destruction of sub-tropical cultures.
Moreover, more frequent hailstorms have caused significant damage to agriculture; with the size of some hail fragments reaching 5-9 cm in diameter. Hailstorms are mostly observed in the regions of the Minor Caucasus and southern slopes of the Greater Caucasus as well.

Furthermore, the topography peculiarities set conditions for the strengthening of predominantly western wind alongside the Kura River and western coast of the Caspian Sea, and eastern winds at the territory of Nakhchivan as well. As per the results of the conducted analysis, during the last decade there was a tendency towards increasingly strong winds of more than 25 m/sec. For the last 3 years, heavy cloudbursts coupled with strong winds during the spring period have caused lodging on sowings of the winter grain crops and complicated conditions regarding the farming of flowering fruits and grapes.

Another hazard is the threat of avalanche observed in the mountainous regions of the Minor and Greater Caucasus and Nakhchivan Region.

As well, fluctuations in the level of the Caspian Sea must be studied. About 485 sq. km of the coastal strip of Azerbaijan was inundated with water with the sea level increase that happened within the period 1978-1995 (2.5 meter increase). The combined damage to the economy has been estimated to be nearly 2 billion US Dollars. The results of modern research indicate that climate change will continue to have a profound effect on The Caspian Sea basin.

2.2 General Country Information

FLAG

Description: The National Flag of the Republic of Azerbaijan consists of three horizontal stripes equal in length. The upper stripe is blue, the middle is red, and the lower is green colour. In the centre of the red stripe on the both sides of the flag there is a white crescent and eight-angled star.

The blue band recalls Azerbaijan's Turkish heritage, red stands for modernization and progress, and green refers to Islam; the crescent moon is an Islamic symbol, while the eight-pointed star represents the eight Turkish peoples of the world.

Head of State
President Ilham ALIYEV (since 31 October 2003)

Head of Government
Prime Minister Artur RASIZADE (since 4 November 2003)

Capital
Baku

Geographic coordinates: 40 23 N, 49 52 E
Time difference: UTC+4
Daylight saving time: +1hr, begins last Sunday in March; ends
**Population**  
9,477,159 (2014 est.)

**Area**  
86,6 thousand square km (12% of the territory are covered by forests, 1,7% - by water, 54,9% - by agricultural lands, (including 30,6% - by pastures, 31,4% are other lands). The country is situated in the latitude 38° and 42° of north and in the longitude of 44° and 52° east.

**GDP / Capita (PPP)**  
$8000 (2013 est.)

**Membership of international organisations**  
ADB, BSEC, CE, CICA, CIS, EAPC, EBRD, ECO, FAO, GCTU, GUAM, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICRM, IDA, IDB, IFAD, IFC, IFRC, ILO, IMF, IMO, Interpol, IOC, IOM, IPU, ISO, ITSO, ITU, ITUC, MIGA, NAM (observer), OAS (observer), OIC, OPCW, OSCE, PFP, SECI (observer), UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UNWTO, UPU, WCO, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO (observer)

**Ethnic groups**  
Azerbaijani 91.6%, Lezgian 2.0%, Russian 1.3%, Talysh 1.3%, Turks 0.4%, Avars 0.6%, other 2.8%.

**Religions**  
The religion in Azerbaijan is separated from state. All religions are equal before the law. The majority of the population is Muslims (93,4%). At present there are more than 380 registered religious communities in Azerbaijan. Christianity is represented by the orthodox, catholic and protestant branches, as well as by different sectarian communities. There are 3 Jewish communities – Mountain Jews, Ashkenazi Jews and Georgian Jews.

**Climate**  
There are nine types of climate in the country, varying from dry and humid subtropical to the climate of upland tundra, with extremes of temperature from - 45C in highland to + 44C in lowlands.

**Location**  
Azerbaijan is situated on the south-eastern part of the Caucasus, which stretches for more than 800 km from the Black to the Caspian sea. Lying at the crossroads of Europe and Asia, the country has a unique geographical position, and retains its significance for world economic and cultural links.

**Land boundaries**  
Border countries: Iran (765 km) and Turkey (15 km) in the south, Russia (390 km) in the north, Georgia (480 km) in the north-west, Armenia (1007 km) in the west. The length of the widest area of Azerbaijan section of the Caspian Sea is 456 km.

**Coastline**  
Azerbaijan borders the Caspian Sea (713 km)
The elevation changes over a relatively short distance from lowlands to highlands; nearly half the country is considered mountainous.

Mountains cover 60% of the total area of the Azerbaijan republic. The principle geomorphological structures of Azerbaijan Republic - Major Caucasus, Minor Caucasus (with Garabagh plateau) and Talysh mountains surround the Kur-Araz lowland in the north, west and south-east.

Kur-Araz lowland lies on the area between Major and Minor Caucasus and Talysh Mountains.

The Kur and Araz rivers divide the lowland into five plains: Shirvan, Qarabagh, Mil, Mughan and Salyan plains.

Samur-Devechi lowland, resting on Qusar sloping plain on the Caspian Sea shore, stretches from Absheron peninsula to the north. Lenkeran lowland runs from the Absheron Peninsula to the south on the foothills of Talysh mountains. Kur-Araz, Samur-Devechi, Lenkeran lowlands and most part of the Absheron peninsula lie below sea level.

Baku lies on Apsheron Peninsula that juts into Caspian Sea.

**Land use**

Arable land: 21.78%; permanent crops: 2.62%; other: 75.6% (2011)

**Natural hazards**

Floods, earthquake, landslides, droughts, mudflows, avalanches.

**Environment**

After achieving its independence the national environmental policy in regards to protection of the environment started to evolve with a new spirit in the Republic of Azerbaijan. As the first document in reference to national environmental policy during this period in Azerbaijan was the “Environmental Concept of the Republic of Azerbaijan,” which was developed on the basis of “Sustainable Development” principles. This Concept reflects main guidelines for resolution of pressing issues in terms of protection of the environment.

Approx. 40% of the country’s population and 70% of the industrial potential of the country is concentrated in the Absheron peninsula. One of the primary problems of the Absheron peninsula is related to the contamination of lands with oil and layer waters during oil-gas extraction and drilling works.

The main objective of environmental policy implemented in the Republic of Azerbaijan is to ensure sustainable development through protection of available ecological systems and economic capacity and efficient use of natural resources in order to meet the needs of existing and future generations.

In support of Azerbaijan's environmental protection goals, a number of important laws, legal documents and state programs, all of which conform to
European law requirements, have been developed and approved in order to improve the ecological situation in the country.

Within the scope of the 2010 - Year of Ecology various activities are realized, e-resources on specific fields are prepared, educational measures among the population are enhanced.

“Complex Actions Plan in the field of environmental improvement in Azerbaijan for 2006-2010” had been approved and a number of programs adopted.

**National economy**

After restoration of independence in 1991, the Republic of Azerbaijan began to realize its sovereign rights in economic field and to implement independent policy. The main directions of this policy are organization of the economic system based on different types of property, transition to market economy and integration into the global economy.

Oil-gas sector played dominant role in developing other sectors of economy.

In the beginning of economic recovery, the country lacked oil-exporting infrastructure. In order to fill this gap, in 1996 Azerbaijan signed an agreement allowed its oil exports via Baku-Novorossiysk pipeline. In 1999 the new pipeline Baku-Supsa was put into use; additionally, an agreement on construction of Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan, which is currently the major oil exporting pipeline.

The oil contract on the development and production sharing of “Azeri”, “Chirag”, “Guneshli” deep-water fields was signed with the oil companies of the West of Baku on September 20, 1994.

Signing the contract with international oil companies laid the foundation of effective and mutually advantageous co-operation with the countries of the companies participating in the contract, paved the way for strengthening geo-political position of the country, and speeding up the integration process into world economy.

The profit gained from oil is directed to the development of non-oil sector, which means the total flourishing of the state economy.

In order to implement comprehensive and sustainable measures aimed at economic diversification, the following decrees and edicts were adopted

GDP growth amounted to 5.8 per cent and GDP growth in the non-oil sector - 9.8 per cent in Azerbaijan in 2013. The country's GDP increased to 57 billion manat as of 2013.

GDP per capita increased by 4.4 per cent up to 6.132 manat (about $8,000).

The new stage aims at increasing the competitiveness of the national economy, efficient integration into the world economic systems and ensuring a long-term dynamic socio-economic development in the country.

(Source: https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/aj.html; national coordinator contribution)

FORM OF GOVERNMENT

System description

Azerbaijan is a democratic, legal, secular and unitary republic.

The state power in the Republic of Azerbaijan is based on a principle of division of powers: In political system in terms of implementation of the state power Azerbaijan is a presidential republic.

The Head of State is President. The President of the Republic of Azerbaijan is elected for a 5-year term by way of general, direct and equal elections, with free, personal and secret ballot.

In the Republic of Azerbaijan the Milli Majlis (Parliament) exercises the legislative power. The Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan consists of 125 deputies. The Milli Majlis consists of 105 men (84.0 %) and 20 women (16.0 %).

The judicial power is implemented by the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Supreme Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Court of Appeal of the Republic of Azerbaijan, regional and specialized courts of the Republic of Azerbaijan.
Administrative divisions and structure

Administratively, the republic is divided into 66 regions (rayon), 11 cities and the autonomous republic of Nakhchivan.


NATIONAL CIVIL PROTECTION SYSTEM, MANDATE AND ORGANIZATION

Legal framework

The legal framework of Civil Defence is provided by the Constitution of the Azerbaijan Republic, the Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on Civil Defence, obligations under the international agreements of the Azerbaijan Republic and other legislative acts, including the Decree of the President of the Azerbaijan Republic on approval of the Regulations of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Azerbaijan Republic, structure of the Ministry and the number of staff - Decree № 394

Main laws providing legislative framework for Civil protection in Azerbaijan are

• The Law on Civil Defence (1997), which defines the legal grounds and principles of civil defence in Azerbaijan Republic and regulates public relations in the field of civil defence;
• The Law on Fire Safety (1997), which defines legal basis and principles on organisation of fire safety and state fire control, enforced for the provision of fire protection on the territory of the Azerbaijan Republic of human life and health, national treasures, all types of property;
• The Law on Radiation Safety of the Population (1997), which defines legal bases of safety of activity on sites affected by radiation, protection from radiating danger and protection of public health, and also legal settlement in the field of maintenance of radiating safety;


Civil protection/civil defence/civil emergency planning:

Azerbaijan has a clear determination of powers in the field of civil defence/protection that is enucleated in an almost exhaustive way in the Decree N 394 “on approval of the Regulations of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Azerbaijan Republic, structure of the
The Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Azerbaijan is the main institutional player in DM. Being a republican executive body, thus expression of the Government and Parliament; it develops implements and coordinates the policy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the fields of CP and civil defence. During times of emergencies it is responsible for coordinating and implementing activities aimed at the protection of the population through authorities vested in laws and other relevant legal acts.

The national functions of civil defence in the Republic are carried out by the civil defence system. This system embraces all government agencies, corporations, enterprises, institutions, organizations and other entities, irrespective of their ownership, as well as their personnel and resources. It performs civil defence activities throughout the entire country and its territorial units.

There are civil defence headquarters in the central and local bodies of executive power, as well as corporations, enterprises, institutions and individual facilities, which organize and carry out civil defence activities.

Civil protection and disaster prevention are tasks of state Civil Protection system. The Ministry of Emergency Situations is responsible for civil protection in coordination with the relevant state entities.

Objectives

To carry out preventive measures for the purpose of prevention of emergencies;
To minimize the possible damage and losses due to emergencies;
To eliminate emergencies and their consequences;
Protect the population and property from the consequences of emergencies;
Inform the population of threats and the subsequent actions to be taken;
Organize and perform rescues and other urgent operations;
Train key personnel in government bodies and civil defence forces, and train the population in protection and emergency response.
Tasks

Develop and implement state policy and regulation in the area of civil defence, protection of the population and territories from emergency situations;

Develop instructions on preparation and implementation of civil defence training and exercises, protection of the population from emergency situations, ensuring fire safety and safety of people in water basins;

Ensure the implementation of the National Concept of the Azerbaijan Republic on the prevention and elimination of the consequences of emergency situations and other state programs;

Manage humanitarian aid, including the aid received from foreign countries and provided to foreign countries;

Ensure prevention and elimination of the consequences of emergency situations associated with the spillage of oil and oil products as a result of a breakdown;

Develop a general plan for locating potentially hazardous industrial facilities;

Organize the development of a Program of necessary actions to improve seismic resistance of buildings and facilities in seismically active zones;

Organize the development of a system of regulatory acts in the area of safety in construction;

Ensure the operation of an emergency rescue service by means of a hotline accessible by telephone 112;

To coordinate work involving collection, transportation, processing, storage and burial of radioactive wastes of enterprises regardless of the form of their ownership, as well as construction, operation, restoration and decommissioning of facilities working with radioactive wastes, and to exercise control over this work;

Carry out scientific research and experimental design work in the area of civil defence, prevention of emergency situations, fire safety, safety in industry and mining and industrial operations, and safety in construction;

To organize population awareness on civil defence issues, protection from emergency situations, fire safety and safety of people in water basins, to provide methodological supervision of such work carried out by other state bodies and public organizations;

To ensure introduction of state-of-the-art equipment and technologies in preventing and eliminating the consequences of emergency situations on the
basis of available international experience;
To organize, jointly with appropriate bodies of executive authority, public
donation of blood and blood components in the event of acute need in
emergency situations.

Civil protection/civil
defence/civil
emergency planning
organizational
structure:
The overall command of the Civil Defence of the Azerbaijan Republic is vested
in the President of the Azerbaijan Republic; the Prime Minister is responsible
for its immediate leadership.
Planning, implementation and control of civil protection activities are
carried out by the central body of the Ministry of Emergency Situations,
its affiliated bodies and its regional centres.

Available on the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency’s website, www.msbmyndigheten.se; Technical
Report 4 - Strengthening the Eastern Region's Institutional and Legislative Frameworks; national
coordinator contribution).

Civil-military
cooperation
The Law on Civil Defence regulates the civil-military cooperation.
Civil-military cooperation is regulated by Law on Civil Defence. The Civil
Defence Troops which is included in the structure of the Ministry of
Emergency Situations are involved in the civil protection activities. Close
cooperation has been established between NATO and United States
Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in the field of civil-military planning
with NATO within the Individual Partnership Action Plan and civil-military
emergency preparedness with USACE.

(Source: Technical Working Paper INITIAL ANALYSIS OF CIVIL PROTECTION CAPACITY OF THE
PARTNER COUNTRIES “Together Against Disasters” October 2011; national coordinator
contribution)

External stakeholders
The Ministry for Emergency Situations are actively developing and
maintaining relations with IAEA, ICDO, CIS, INSARAG, NATO, CoE, EU,
OSCE, UNICEF, UNISDR, JICA, ADRC, ECO, GUAM, OPCW, BSEC

Internal stakeholders
Private sector: Within the scope of their activities, commercial companies,
institutions and other organizations are responsible for implementing
emergency measures relating to the protection and rescue of people and
property.
Volunteers: Volunteers can be involved into activities during emergencies
Disaster Relief

A diagram with the National System organization is presented below:

**EARLY WARNING AND COMMUNICATION**

Early warning systems towards professionals

The elements to form a proper integrated Early Warning System (EWS) exist as well as technical capacity and institutional organization.

The National Hydro-Meteorological Department issues hydro-meteorological bulletins on a regular basis for different actors. The Crisis
Management Centre concentrates such data and forecasts;

**Early warning systems towards the population**

Information are currently concentrated into the Crisis Management Centre and managed to provide warnings to the population.

**Public information system**

Despite the fact that institutional cooperation is foreseen with the media, the existing public information system is especially developed when emergency occurs. Although communication actions are in place in peacetime to enhance preparedness.

**Operative information**

Communication among operational forces is conducted through the Ministry of Emergency Situations and the Ministry of Emergency Situations is responsible for operative information.

**Emergency numbers**

A single emergency number “112” is operational in Azerbaijan. The 112 Call Centre can be contacted at the following cases:

- in case of natural and man-made disasters
- in case of fire or fire-caused situations
- in case of helpless situation where infants, the sick and aged persons are trapped behind closed doors
- in case of serious road accidents
- in case of incidents in industrial and construction facilities, also, in case of incident-induced occurrences
- in case of necessity for rescue works in water basins
- in case of lost and found of radioactive, chemical and other hazardous materials, containers for their carriage, also, explosive substance and ammunitions
- in case of necessity for aid during other accidents
- In case of failure to contact other services (102,103,104)

The 112 Call Centre can be contacted via landline in Baki, Sungayit and Absheron regions, via GSM line (“Azercell”, Bakcell”,”Nar Mobile”) or via CDMA-type wireless phones and pay phones all over the territory of the Azerbaijan Republic. **Call Centre operators receive info and alert the relevant authorities to take operative measures.**

**Bilateral agreements**

Azerbaijan has concluded bilateral agreements on cooperation in the
field of emergency management with France, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Belarus, Jordan, Latvia, Greece, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Serbia, Kazakhstan and Lithuania.


Agreement on cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Government of Georgia in the area of prevention, mitigation and elimination of consequences of emergencies (1 August 2013), Tbilisi, Georgia.


Agreement on cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Government of the Republic of Serbia in the field of emergency situations (8 June 2011), Belgrade, Serbia.


Agreement on cooperation between the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the field of civil protection, warning and elimination (6 October 2010), Astana, Kazakhstan.

Agreement on cooperation and mutual assistance between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Government of Greece in the field of prevention and liquidation of consequences of natural disasters and technological accidents (22 February 2010), Athens, Greece.
Agreement on cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Government of Romania in the area of mitigation, reduction, and elimination of consequences of emergencies (28 September 2009), Bucharest, Romania.

Agreement on cooperation between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in the field of management of emergency situations (30 July 2007), Amman, Jordan.


Agreement on cooperation between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Turkey in the field of management of emergency situations (9 August 2006), Baku, Azerbaijan.


A Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Civil Protection Department of Council of Ministers of the Republic of Italy in the sphere of civil protection and mutual assistance during emergencies, (25 May 2011), Rome, Italy.
Joint Declaration of Intent on bilateral cooperation and mutual assistance between the Federal Ministry of Internal Affairs of Federal Republic of Germany and the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Azerbaijan (8 June 2009), Berlin, Germany.

Joint Plan of Action for the years of 2009-2011 for the implementation of Agreement on cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine in the area of prevention and elimination of consequences of emergencies which was signed on 29 August 2009 in Baku, Azerbaijan.


INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

National arrangements on how to receive and deliver international assistance

The Government has delegated MES the authority to launch international missions to assist countries stricken by disasters under certain conditions. MES coordinates and is directly responsible for all international assistance offered or received on a bilateral or regional basis or through the EADRCC/NATO and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. One of the tasks of MES mirrored in its implementing regulations is as follows: manage humanitarian aid, including the aid received from foreign countries and provided to foreign countries. It should be noted that also the Red Crescent of Azerbaijan may receive requests for assistance directly from Regional Centres or local branches. Based on an MOU with MES, the request will be checked at field level by MES representatives. If the request is validated, the possible need for financial assistance from IFRC will be determined. Assistance will be provided in close cooperation between the Red Crescent of Azerbaijan and MES.
International assistance is offered / requested on a case-by-case basis following cross-departmental consultation. The Department on Management of Humanitarian Assistance implements the activity of MES in the field of management of humanitarian aids. The following subordinate agencies of MES actively participate in the management of international assistance received from foreign countries and provided to foreign countries and also in international rescue operations within their competences:

- Special Risky Rescue Service,
- Civil Defence Troops,
- State Fire Protection Service,
- State Material Reserves Agency,
- Aviation Team,
- State Maritime Rescue Service,
- Caspian Basin Rescue Service.

**Regulations and other particular issues affecting the transport of international assistance**

**Road transport of relief / international teams:**

**Entry into the territory**
- Specialized border crossing points (e.g. access only for trucks etc.): N/A
- Hazardous goods and restricted equipment: N/A
- Animal health restrictions (e.g. Search and rescue dogs): N/A
- Providing Visa at the border crossing point for relief personnel: N/A

**Circulation in the territory**
- Daylight driving restrictions: N/A
- Night driving restrictions: N/A
- Weekend driving bans: N/A
- Season driving bans: N/A
- Technical restrictions of vehicles sizes (height, width and weight) and licenses for vehicles. Roads type and height restrictions (for tunnels or cities): N/A
- Road/motorway tolls: N/A
- Restrictions as regards alcohol consumption while driving: N/A
Restrictions on driving time (for drivers): N/A
Possession of International driving license: N/A
Use of rotating lights: N/A
Convoy attendance: N/A

Facilitation of road transport operations
Civil Protection Contact Point: N/A
Competent authority concerning request escorts for civil protection convoys: N/A
Competent authority concerning request for exceptions for urgent relief operations: N/A

Aerial transport of relief / international teams:

Entry into the territory
International airports (e.g. availability/operational program, capacity/take-off and landing lane length, taxes for parking and handling services, availability of resources for refuelling): N/A
Hazardous goods and restricted equipment: N/A
Animal health restrictions (e.g. Search and rescue dogs): N/A
Providing Visa at the airport for relief personnel: N/A

Facilitation of Customs procedures
Exempt relief goods and equipment from all custom duties, taxes, tariffs or any governmental fees: N/A
Exempt relief goods and equipment from all export, transit and import restrictions: N/A
Simplify and minimize documentation requirements for export, transit and import: N/A
Waive or reduce inspection requirements: N/A
Availability of customs outside of business hours: N/A

Facilitation of aerial transport operations
Civil Protection Contact Point: N/A
Competent authority concerning request for rapid grant of landing and over flight permission for relief flights: N/A
Competent authority concerning request for exceptions for urgent relief operations: N/A

Regulations and other particular issues affecting the liability of relief personnel
Recognition of relevant professional qualifications of relief personnel (medical personnel, rescuers, engineers, etc.) during the international assistance operation

Yes / No / Other procedure: N/A

Legal basis: N/A

Recognition of all necessary certificates and qualifications needed for the conduct of their work, such as driver’s license

Yes / No / Other procedure: N/A

Legal basis: N/A

Any liability for physical injury, adverse health effects or death of any person / property damage on your territory produced with no intention by the relief personnel of the Sending Nation during the relief operations, shall be assumed by:

Requesting Nation: N/A

or

Sending Nation: N/A

or

Individual worker:

Legal basis: N/A

Regulations and other particular issues regarding the Host Nation Support

Concept implemented into the relevant national legislation in force

Yes / No / Other procedure: N/A

Legal basis: N/A

Consist in providing support to the international relief personnel with the following

Entry

(visa, work permit, waiver of taxation on roads, provision of escort, security, clearing of the roads, etc.)

Yes / No / Which of them: N/A

Please provide a brief description of the procedure in place: N/A

Communication

(providing to the international relief teams in due time the necessary access to frequencies, bandwidth and satellite use)

Yes / No / Which of them: N/A

Please provide a brief description of the procedure in place: N/A

Command and Control

(liason officers designated for cooperation with the incoming international teams)

Yes / No: N/A

Please provide a brief description of the procedure in place: N/A
Coordination

(existence of procedures for other relevant Ministries involvement in relief reception operations, such as Telecommunication, Transport, Health, Police Services, etc.)

Yes / No: N/A

Please provide a brief description of the procedure in place: N/A

Security

(appropriate measures in place to keep safe the relief personnel, locations, goods and equipment related to the international assistance)

Yes / No / Which of them: N/A

Please provide a brief description of the procedure in place: N/A

Operations area

(base camp provision with adequate conditions for accommodation, food, water, hygiene facilities, storage, electricity, communication technology, vehicles parking, transport, fuel supply, etc.)

Yes / No / Which of them: N/A

Please provide a brief description of the procedure in place: N/A

Language

(provision of interpreters for the international teams)

Yes / No: N/A

Please provide a brief description of the procedure in place: N/A

List of relevant contacts

Civil protection
Postal address: N/A
Telephone number: N/A
Fax number: N/A
E-mail address: N/A
Person of Contact (rank, name, position, organization/structure): N/A

Emergency / operational
Postal address: N/A
Telephone number: N/A
Fax number: N/A
E-mail address: N/A
Person of Contact (rank, name, position, organization/structure): N/A

International cooperation
Postal address: N/A
Responder:
PPRD East 2 National Programme Coordinator in the Republic of Azerbaijan - Mr Jeyhun Isgandarli,
Senior Advisor, International Relations Department, Ministry of Emergency Situations
+994556464748
jeyhun.isgandarli@fhn.gov.az

The Ministry of Emergency Situations of Azerbaijan Republic
www.fhn.gov.az
M. Mushvig str., 501 block,
Tel.: (+994 12) 512 00 61
Fax: (+994 12) 512 00 46

Comment:
As explained during the Host Nation Support Table-Top Exercise held in Baku on 24-25 February 2016 there are in fact a number of legal regulations governing the above areas of concern. Each Ministry is regulated by a Law, which includes a section specifically dealing with the responsibilities of that ministry in case of an emergency. As a conclusion of the TTX, it was recommended that a compilation be made of all those emergency sections. Such a compilation could serve as a first step towards the development of Standing Operational Procedures for Host Nation Support. The above section needs to be regularly updated with the relevant information to be provided by all concerned ministries and agencies through the MES.
3. Progress made in the adoption of recommendations provided within the PPRD East Programme Phase 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Assessors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PPRD East 2 Experts</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Country Thematic Focal Point</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Chapter validated by</strong></td>
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</table>

3.1 Legal framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PPRD EAST 1 recommendations</th>
<th>Action taken</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Azerbaijan should be more active in enhancing the approximation to the acquis communautaire. Specific attention should be paid to the SEVESO directive and the EU Flood Directive in the wake of what has been already developed within the PPRD East Program. The recent legislation on civil engineering/construction should be analysed with respect to EU standards for seismic design of Building Codes (EURO8).</td>
<td>The State Committee for City Building and Architecture has recently adopted the “urban planning and construction code” (29 June 2012), which includes some provisions on anti-seismic standards. Far from being comparable to EURO8, it is however a great advancement since PPRD East Phase 1. Recently the Azerbaijan State Commission for EU Integration has elaborated an action plan for the harmonization of legal Azerbaijan framework to EU acquis. One chapter of the action plan is dedicated to water management with specific mention to the approximation to EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) but there is no mention on the EU Flood Directive.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modify previous laws on the basis of newly promulgated ones reducing incongruence in comportment and on responsibility of precise actors (e.g., Decree #239 and Decree #394).</td>
<td>The Ministry of Emergency Situation is at the moment working on the reduction of incongruence within the civil protection legal framework. However, since PPRD East 1, there haven’t been any new laws promulgated or amendments to old ones.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
An effort in linking state body legislation with the local body legislations of Azerbaijan is necessary in order to strengthen and help in achieving greater rights, responsibilities and resources for local authorities and their identified partners for effective implementation and monitoring of disaster risk management at the community level.

Since 2006 the MES has worked to ameliorate the management of Civil Protection activities. There are now 8 emergency commissions active in each Regional division of the MES. Approximately 6/7 rayons (municipalities) representatives are part of the Regional commission granting adequate circulation of knowledge. However there is an urgent need to update civil protection legal framework in order to include rayons into the development of unified holistic plans and clearly identifying roles and responsibilities of each actor.

Although the Law implant is clear and exhaustive in depicting roles and responsibilities at least at the state level, and despite the fact that all necessary instruments are mentioned in legislation, the sub-legislation is still underdeveloped and should be considered as priority.

No action taken.

The Law on Civil Defence is a keystone for the understanding of the CP system of Azerbaijan. In a very strong way, obligations and right for the entire population during DM activities, both in preparedness and crisis response phases, is enucleated in the regulatory framework. Such structure that seems appropriate into the larger civil defence framework might have some negative side effects when considered from the angle of CP. The setback to this approach is that volunteerism is de facto weakened eliminating the main assumption of joining on a volunteer

The Law on Voluntary Activity of 1 September 2009 provides the general framework for volunteering activities including civil protection related interventions. The law also requires (art. 7) that volunteering organizations provide necessary life and health insurance to volunteers.

However there is no evidence of a widespread development of a civil protection volunteering system at national level. Some exceptions can be found in some regions where international
Basis the system of CP. Volunteers are a strong component of an effective CP system. Modern CPs and recently the European Union\(^1\), do their best in order to provide strong education and equipment to the vastest amount of persons interested in becoming volunteers. The idea that a mass of people can do better than few has been surpassed, in time small groups of civilians have became highly specialized in the completion of vital task for the CP. A compulsory state insurance to MES employees is foreseen whilst none is mentioned for civilians that might operate on a voluntary basis during emergency situations. This point strengthens the need for a reform of the volunteering system addressing the importance that people involved with CP activities should be covered by a form of insurance providing equitable compensation to the family of the people that might lose life or report severe injuries during CP activities.

| Projects and national volunteer organizations (i.e. Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society) are struggling in developing organized volunteering systems. |

| A concern is the missing distinction between emergency caused by social instability (terroristic attacks, external social threats, war) and those caused by technological or disaster caused by natural hazard. Opportune differentiation between the two different typologies of crisis will allow the implementation of different policies on response and the deployment distinct forces to face the event. |

| The geographical location, history and the presence of long lasting conflicts determine the overlap between humanitarian and civil protection interventions. Nevertheless, the differentiation is necessary for planning and for the development of capacities in both fields. There is no evidence, however, of activities done in compliance with this recommendation. |

| Private investments are not adequately | No action taken in this regard. |

stimulated in the current policies and legislation as mitigation measure to enhance resilience. Policy maker should explore the possibility of the implementation of the public-private system that would improve insurance coverage for the disaster losses caused by natural hazards. Incentives mechanisms for individuals to invest in mitigation measures may well serve this purpose.

### 3.2 Institutional framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PPRD EAST 1 recommendations</th>
<th>Action taken</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concentration of functions and responsibilities within the powerful MES entails an underestimation of the importance of coordinating DRR activities at national level. This led to the absence of a NP for DRR that is considered as a priority.</td>
<td>No action taken.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Improvement in the risk assessment methodology is recommended in order to produce the necessary scenarios awareness to develop prevention strategy, improve preparedness and ameliorate emergency coping and recovery. In order to do that different action can be put in place:  
- Systematization of the historical data collection and analysis for an improvement risk identification phase. This is even more important in Azerbaijan given the complex multi-risk setup of the country. | Procedures and protocols for data collection, recording and sharing are mostly based on practices and are not included in the current legislation framework (secondary laws); specifically, there is not a standard format for collecting disaster loss data. However, MES is elaborating a new civil protection law that will also regulate the disaster loss data collection system. |

The legal framework of Azerbaijan in the area of Disaster Risk Assessment (DRA) is under development and there is not a dedicated legal act that regulates the role, mandate and
- Within this scheme it would be necessary to implement a standard operating procedures for the systematic collection and organization of data during events and in their immediate aftermath to be included in the historical catalogue.
- The risk scenarios description should pay absolute attention to the regional dimension of the emergencies and to the trans-boundary issues that are key for some of the hazards (i.e. floods).
- The NATECH scenarios including knock-off and domino effects should be considered a priority both in risk identification and assessment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The issue of looking at the emergencies at regional level is fundamental in emergency coping given the setup in the area. The dimension of hazards (e.g., earthquakes) as compared to the population and therefore to the coping resources of the different countries in the Caucasus region is such that coordination of emergency intervention could significantly improve the effectiveness of emergency management. Such coordination should take into consideration also international assistance. The coordination in case of floods should not only be limited to the emergency coping but should extend to prevention and preparedness. Specifically, as remarked in different aspects along the document, an early warning system for floods cannot be efficiently implemented if</th>
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<tr>
<td>responsibilities of each institution involved in DRA. MES is thus in possession of some scenarios which however have been elaborated upon DRAs conducted in the complete lack of rules and homogenization. There are some activities considering the international dimension but the current political situation doesn’t facilitate the intensification of such efforts.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

On 1 August 2013 Georgia and Azerbaijan have signed an agreement on emergency response. The agreement sets the frame for bilateral relations in the fields prevention, preparedness and emergency response. The agreement is a first step towards robust cooperation between the two countries.
real-time information needed for its implementation is not received from Georgia. This would require a major international effort between the two countries in terms of cooperation and adoption of common standards and technological means.

Data policy in Azerbaijan should be discussed in light of the international frameworks on public data usage: specifically of environmental data (e.g., Analysis of Azerbaijan data policy against the INSPIRE Directive (2007/2/EC)). Although the current approach is understandable due to security issues in the area, this hampers both inter-ministerial data sharing as well as the data sharing in an international framework.  

Special attention shall be paid to the training of the first responders to the chemical accidents, including accidental industrial pollutions, because of high level of manmade hazards, caused by the concentration of environmentally dangerous industries, such as mining and transportation of gas and oil.

Issues of prevention and preparedness to incidents have to be addressed at lowest level possible – people of most vulnerable villages must be able to provide first assistance if an emergency occurs. In doing that population notification system should improved and adopted at all levels.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Action Taken</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No action taken.</td>
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<tr>
<td>NATO is currently delivering CBRN courses in Azerbaijan. It is envisaged that MES will develop in the near future the necessary capacities for delivering such courses itself at central and at local level.</td>
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<tr>
<td>With regards to communities MES, the Ministry of Health and the Red Crescent Society of Azerbaijan are active in the promotion of prevention and preparedness. Ministry of health trains doctors which operate at local level as first responders. Since 2010 an action plan has been signed between the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
emergency Situations creating a normative framework for the conjoint work of the two actors.

The Red Crescent Society has worked at the development of local DRR plans and family plans through the building safe and resilient communities project together (funded by the Austrian Red Cross). This project did not however cover the entire territory.

Ministry of Emergency Situations is promoting capacity building at local level and awareness raising campaigns.

Ministry of Emergency Situations has also developed agreements with:

- Ministry of Internal Affairs
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Information Technologies
- Ministry of Health
- Azerenerji OJSC
- Azerbaijan Airlines (AZAL)
- Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources
- Ministry of Industry and Energy

There is however a great need to fully develop the communication protocols. Emergency plans exist but are in a need of updating.

| Adoption of volunteerism strategies aiming at developing standardized procedures for expert volunteers selection, recruitment and | As above mentioned, MES is working upon the definition of SOPs for developing the entire civil protection volunteering system. |
deployment should be also considered as one of the priorities.

3.3 Conclusion

After the end of the PPRD East Programme Phase 1 the Azerbaijan Ministry of Emergency Situations put some efforts in place in order to develop the system according to the outlined recommendations.

However, there is a lack of consideration for the development of the legal framework necessary to reduce incongruences and for the clarification of roles of each relevant stakeholder. The overall system is paying this key revision in terms of reduced efficiency and outreach. There is much to be done at local level where particular attention should be paid both in developing capacities of civil protection operators and in emergency planning.

Volunteerism should, and could, be successfully developed in order to provide assistance at local level (planning, DRR campaigns, prevention and preparedness activities). The Law on voluntary activities provides for the general framework, but much has to be done starting from operative procedures for the selection, training and organization of volunteering teams working in collaboration with MES.

Moreover, the complex cross borderer situation does not facilitate the improvement of a regional disaster management plan. In this context it is noticeable that some actions have been carried on (i.e. Georgian-Azerbaijan Agreement on emergency response) providing the first steps in the direction of ensuring the inclusion of a multinational dimension into the national civil protection system but these need to be quickly consolidated into solid collaborations.

From this perspective, in the next years empowering the following main issues will be relevant: adopting SOPs to make more effective the CP system activities; consolidation of trans-boundary relations for the development of regional civil protection strategies; elaborating a roadmap for the institution of a national civil protection volunteering system; homogenizing risk assessment procedures and developing robust risk scenarios; improve data and information sharing and exchange; establish and empower the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.
4 Flood Risk Management and approximation to the EU Floods Directive

Key Assessors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PPRD East 2 Expert</td>
<td>Marco Massabò</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country Thematic Focal Point</td>
<td>Sahib Hasanzade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter validated by</td>
<td>National Advisory Group</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.1 Legal and institutional framework

Water resources management in Azerbaijan is regulated by the Water Code n° 418-IG of 26 December 1997. The legislation and the institutional framework reflect the historical water sector development of the country that was mostly focused on the irrigation system and flood protection more than prevention and preparedness. The complete list of legal, regulative and normative acts on flood management are reported in the Annex of this Chapter.

The mandate and responsibilities of each state institution and other organization the Republic of Azerbaijan are described into the Organization Charter that it is defined by the President and Cabinet of Ministries and it is a key element of the Azerbaijan legislation. According to the Charter, the responsible body for proposing new National Water Policy to the approval of the Cabinet of Ministries are: the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resource (MENR), which also acts as owner of the country water resources by approving water utilization permit, and the Ministry of Emergency Situation (MES). Water management is distributed among multiple actors, namely: State Water Resources Agency (SWRA) of the Ministry of Emergency Situation, Ministry of Energy and Land Reclamation and Water Management OJSC. Azersu operates water supply, while Water User Unions distributes water to farmers for irrigation purposes.

The State Water Resources Agency of MES is the executive body for the improvement of water resources management. SAWR continuously provides verification of the technical condition of water reservoirs and other hydro-technical facilities, monitoring of water bodies, surface water and groundwater and water systems in the country and it is responsible for safety and security of reservoirs of national importance.

Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources and Ministry of Emergency Situation are entitled to submit to the Government (Cabinet of Ministers) and the Parliament (Milli Majlis) draft legislation, secondary law and state programs.
SWRA of MES, MENR and AJSC are responsible for flood management. The Water Code establishes that appropriates normative secondary acts on flood management should be prepared by relevant executive authorities; however, none of the existing legal and regulatory acts consider flood risk assessment and integrated flood risk management planning. Water Code of Azerbaijan requires a significant upgrade and alignment to the EU standards, including a clear concept of the principle of basin management, integrated water resource management and the definition of flood risk.

Secondary Law under the Water Code needs to be developed in order to include EUFD provisions and principle in national regulation, starting with a clear inclusion of the basin management principle and the concept of flood risk assessment. Some activities in the direction of improving the legal and institutional framework are in progress, i.e: a draft water strategy has been prepared but not approved yet; the Azerbaijan State Commission for cooperation with EU\(^2\) has elaborated an action plan for the period 2015-2020 for the harmonization of legal framework of Azerbaijan to the EU acquis. The Action Plan should include a chapters dedicated to Water Resources Management (key figures are MENR and SAWR of MES) and inclusion of the provision of EU Floods Directive into national legislation.

### 4.2 Current status of practices and area of excellence

The general framework of flood management and approximation to EU Flood Directive is summarized in the previous paragraph, however more details on current practices of the main institutions are here described.

**Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR)**

MENR is a Governmental body responsible for environmental management and monitoring, including monitoring of atmosphere (precipitation and other variables) surface and ground water (quality and quantity), weather forecasting and climate change adaptation. MENR is also responsible for the registration of environmental data on the state of the environment.

The National Department for Hydrometeorology of MENR is responsible for meteorological and hydrological forecast and monitoring. The monitoring and forecasting division have a good number of forecasters. The Division produces regular meteo-bulletins containing warning (4 level of warning based on Russian method) on the base of meteorological models received from international organizations (ECMWF, NOA etc.). Simple hydrological forecasts are elaborated for

\(^2\) Permanent Commission Chaired by the Ministry of Economy and Industry
the main river (Kur and Qanix) on the base of a graphical method used during the Soviet Union and based on meteorological forecasts and current hydrological situation (water level). A daily hydrological forecast (twice a day in case of potential flood) is produced and contains water level and discharge for the main rivers. Local-meteorological models (Limited Area Model) are not currently available. The meteo-hydrological monitoring network is composed by manual and automatic stations (only 10 stations transmit every three hours), however there are no-real time stations at the moment.

MENR is beneficiary of the EPIRB project, a Regional EU funded project for Environmental Protection of International River Basins. The specific objectives of EPIRB are: -to improve availability and quality of data on the ecological, chemical, and hydro-morphological status of trans-boundary river basins including groundwater; to develop River Basin Management Plans (RBMP) for selected river basins/sub-river basins according to the requirements of the WFD. The project covers the same countries of PPRD East 2 and, after the extension that recently received; it will last until the end of 2016. The pilot area for the development of RBMP in Azerbaijan is the right tributaries of the Central Kura, starting from the Georgian border before the Mingechavir reservoir, including the four major watersheds of the Agstafachay, Tovuzchay (both trans-boundary with Armenia). The River Basin Management Plan has been prepared by consultants and it contains a chapter that briefly summarizes the main existing flood protection structures in the basin. A pilot project on application of EUFD in the central Kura pilot river basin is being implemented.

Ministry of Emergency Situations - State Water Resources Agency (SWRA)

SWRA has been recently established by the Presidential order, it is an “executive body providing reliable protection of state’s major reservoirs, performing control over the technical condition of the reservoirs in the country on a regular basis, monitoring the surface and ground water reserves, water facilities, hydraulic structures, water supply systems and improving the management of water resources in the territory of the country”³. SWRA operates five big reservoirs that have been constructed with the purpose of flood protection, moreover SWRA is responsible for the assessment of technical and specific parameters (water level and discharges) of dam reservoirs assess climate change effects on maximum discharge capacity and statistics of hydrological extremes. SWRA also provides estimation of Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) from dam failure and have updated the methodologies for calculating the flood risk from dam failure.

SWRA is the reference institution of the UNDP and GEF project *Integrating Climate Change Risks into Water and Flood Management by Vulnerable Mountainous Communities in the Greater Caucasus Region*. The project has three main objectives: 1) modification of water and flood management frameworks to respond to adaptation need and improve climate risk management; 2) strength the capacity and technical skills of key institutions to apply advanced climate risk management practices for water stress and flood mitigation; 3) improve the community resilience to floods and water stress by introducing locally tailored climate risk management practices. Other flood protection project has been carried by SWRA in the past 12 years: - Project to reduce the impact of flood (2003); - Project of technical support in planning of flood management and river basin (2005-2006); - Project on anti-mudflow activities (2005-2007).

SWRA is currently preparing the State Programme for flood Prevention for the time-frame 2016-2020. The programme is a programmatic plan of structural and no-structural measure for flood risk mitigation.

**Land Reclamation and Water Management OJSC**

LRWM OJSC is responsible for operating the irrigation system and hydro-technical facilitates, including flood defence infrastructures, for the entire country. The Department for Flood Management designs structural measures such as river embankments, channels and joints; its regional offices (120 offices) maintain the hydraulic structures and manage the water irrigation system, the channels and the joints (hydro-technical facilities). From 2004, LRWM OJSC has built approximately 200 km of new embankments and dams while in the period from 2010-2013 approximately 836 km of embankments has been reconstructed. Despite the huge efforts in structural measures, there is no national plan for the construction or reconstruction of embankments; LRWM OJSC prepares its own plan and the Design Institute of LRWM OJSC elaborates the design of the hydraulic structures; the project is then submitted for technical approval of the Ministry of Emergency Situations and to the Ministry of Economy and Finance for final funding.

**Existing Flood Maps in Azerbaijan**

The *Design Institute of LRWM OJSC* was established in 1933, it has experience in designing flood defence infrastructure and has basic maps on potentially floodable area.

During PPRD East 1 a nation-wide flood hazard and risk mapping at NUTS2 level has been developed by applying the methodology developed by PPRD East 1 and based on 4 levels of risk (compliant with EU Guidelines on Risk Assessment). The results are available to registered end users on the ERRA platform.
Furthermore, within the PPRD East 1 all Partner Countries including Azerbaijan received training on the use of the MIKE 11 software. The software can be of help in the development of the flood hazard maps with the right quality standards. PPRD East Phase 1 committed to buy MIKE 11 licenses for the countries but never did. PPRD East 2 is willing to fulfil to this commitment, but asked the countries if the boundary conditions have changed and if they still need this software and for what purpose. PPRD East 2 asked Partner Countries to also evaluate open software that nowadays exists, as an alternative option to the licensed ones; at the time of writing this report, this option is still under consideration by MES.

4.3 Findings and Recommendations

NEED OF IMPROVEMENT CLASSIFICATION: HIGH, MODERATE, LOW

1 – Include EUFD provisions and principle into national law and improvement of institutional capacity: HIGH

As already mentioned, the legal and institutional framework need to be improved and the distribution of responsibilities on flood management across governmental organization do not exist. Furthermore, the current legal framework does not contain adequate elements on flood risk assessment and flood risk management planning in line with the provisions of the EU Flood Directive. SWRA is currently preparing the State Programme for flood Prevention for the timeframe 2016-2020.

*It is recommended to draft a secondary legal act on flood assessment and management in line with the requirements of EUFD. The legal acts should clarify role and mandate of all stakeholders and it should be developed jointly by MES and MENR and a working group that includes all the stakeholders.*

*It is further recommended to include the provision of the EUFD into the State Programme for flood Prevention (2016-2020) that is currently under preparation by SWRA.*

2 – Units of management: HIGH

The current Water Code both includes the river basin management principles and the administrative border management criteria; it does not clarify which criteria must be used and, as a result, the administrative border criteria is the one adopted in practice. EPRIB programme is promoting the adoption of the River Basin Management principles and is supporting the preparation of River Basin Management Plan in pilot catchments, however there is a need to
include the River Basin Management principles in the Azerbaijan legislation and to build an appropriate institutional framework based on water basin bodies.

*It is recommended to include the river basin management principle in current legislation and to build an appropriate institutional framework based on water basin bodies.*

3 – Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment: HIGH

Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment is not developed in Azerbaijan, however there are on-going activities that are related with the requirement of EUFD on Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment: collection of historical data on floods (MES), identification of flood prone areas, identification of element at risk (MES), flood Risk maps of PPRD East 1. Those actions surely represent a starting point for the full implementation of the EUFD.

*It is recommended to develop a common methodologies and techniques (historical data collection, access to disaster loss databases, data to take into account, criteria to define relevant floods of the past, etc.) for Preliminary risk Assessment as required by EUFD and to identify the Areas with Potential Significant Flood Risk in all country starting from a pilot basin. The methodology developed during PPRD East 1 should be used as a starting point. Secondly, it is recommended to implement a training/capacity building programme dedicated to national institutions and stakeholders for conducting PRA in the whole country.*

4 – Flood Hazard and Flood Risk Maps: HIGH

The current state of flood hazard and risk mapping is at early stage and no substantial activities are present in the Country. There is a need to elaborate flood hazard and Risk maps for all the Areas with Potential Significant Flood Risk identified by PRA.

*It is recommended to define common methodologies and techniques for Flood Hazard and Flood Risk Mapping at national level, compliant with EUFD and to elaborate flood hazard and risk mapping for all unit of managements starting from a pilot basin. Second, it is recommended to implement a training/capacity building programme dedicated to National institutions and organizations to strengthen their technical capacity to elaborate flood hazard and risk mapping in line with the requirements of EUFD and the good practices in Member States.*

5 – Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMP): HIGH

Currently there are no FRMPs operating in the country and neither a plan to develop them. There is a need to develop FRMP and identify structural and non-structural measures for flood risk
reduction and mitigation according to the indication of the EUFD. The FRMP should be the planning documents for the identification and prioritization of the flood defence infrastructure designed and realized by the LRWM OJSC. Furthermore, FRMP has to include the establishment of the National Early Warning System of Azerbaijan.

*It is recommended to develop FRMPs for all the Unit of Management of the country, starting from a pilot basin. The FRMP needs to be integrated with the River Basin Management Plan as required by the EU Water Framework directive and EU Floods Directive. It is further recommended to establish a mechanism for the effective implementation of the FRMP including the National Early Warning System and to strength the observational network.*

### 6 – Data sharing: MODERATE

In order to increase the inter-institutional information exchange on flood hazard and risk mapping, the utilization of risk information for decision making and for further increasing the public awareness to flood risk, it would be beneficial to share those data (hazard and flood risk maps) using a state-of-the art web-based tool.

*It is recommended to promote the use of the ERRA for both institutional stakeholders and public awareness. Furthermore it is recommended to develop and adopt a data sharing policy that facilitates the exchange of information among line-ministries.*

#### 4.4 Road Map

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>When</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inclusion of EUFD provision into National Legislation</td>
<td>Draft a secondary legal act in line with EUFD requirements.</td>
<td>MES (SWRA) and MENR Coordinators</td>
<td>Establishing a working group including all the stakeholders for the development a draft secondary legal act on flood management in line with EU FD</td>
<td>Start mid 2016 end by end 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Units of management</td>
<td>Inclusion of Basin Management principle into current legislation and draft regulation on basin Councils</td>
<td>MENR and MES (Coordinators of working group composed by MENR, MES, Ministry of Agriculture, National Academy of Science, local executive authorities and municipalities, LRWM OJSC, Azersu, JSC Azernergy, Scientific and Production Association)</td>
<td>Develop secondary legal act and regulation on the Water Basin Bodies</td>
<td>Start mid 2016 - end mid 2017</td>
</tr>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment</td>
<td>Develop methodological guidelines to comply with EUFD requirements from Articles 4 - 6</td>
<td>MES and MENR as coordinator of the Working Group</td>
<td>Establishing a working group including all the stakeholders</td>
<td>Start early 2016-end by mid of 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preliminary</td>
<td>Capacity building</td>
<td>MENR</td>
<td>Implementation</td>
<td>By the end 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood Risk Assessment</td>
<td>National Department of Hydro-Meteorology, MES (SWRA), LRWM OJSC</td>
<td>of a training/capacity building programme for Preliminary risk Assessment</td>
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<td>---------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment</td>
<td>Survey and maps drafting</td>
<td>MENR, MES (SWRA), LRWM OJSC, National Academy of Science, Local executive authorities and municipalities</td>
<td>Application of the developed methodologies to the entire countries starting from a pilot basin</td>
<td>Start by the end of 2016 - end by the end of 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood Hazard and Risk Maps</td>
<td>Develop methodological guidelines to comply with EUFD requirements from Articles 4 - 6</td>
<td>MES and MENR as coordinator of the Working Group</td>
<td>Establishing a working group including all the stakeholders for the elaboration of the methodology</td>
<td>Start end 2016 - end by end of 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood Hazard and Risk Maps</td>
<td>Capacity building</td>
<td>MENR and MES (coordinators)</td>
<td>Implementation of a training/capacity building programme for flood and risk mapping including hydraulic modelling</td>
<td>By the end 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood Hazard</td>
<td>Maps drafting</td>
<td>MENR and</td>
<td>Application of</td>
<td>By the end 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and Risk Maps</td>
<td>MES as coordinators</td>
<td>the developed methodologies starting from a pilot basin</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Flood Risk Management Plans</strong></td>
<td>Develop guidelines for the elaboration of FRMP according to the EUFD prescriptions (Art. 7)</td>
<td>MENR and MES</td>
<td>Establishing a working group including all the stakeholders for the elaboration of the guidelines</td>
<td>mid 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flood Risk Management Plans</strong></td>
<td>Develop, adopt and implement FRMP according to the EUFD prescriptions (Art. 7)</td>
<td>MENR and MES (and River Basin Council when established)</td>
<td>Develop, adopt and implement Flood Risk Management Plan for the entire country starting from a pilot basin. FRMP must include the establishment of the National Early warning system.</td>
<td>Start mid 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flood Risk Management Plans</strong></td>
<td>Enhancement of the observational network</td>
<td>MENR (Department of Hydrometeorology)</td>
<td>Purchase, installation and calibration of automated stations</td>
<td>Start early 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Data Sharing</strong></td>
<td>Increase accessibility to flood-related data for public institutions and</td>
<td>MENR and MES</td>
<td>Adopt ERRA as national platform for sharing risk information data</td>
<td>Start Early 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.5 **Annex: List of legal, regulative and technical acts on flood management**

The legal framework in the field of flood management includes 2 legislative acts, 5 sub legislative acts and several legal and technical acts.

Legislative and sub-legislative acts:

- Water Code of Azerbaijan (art. 18, 91 and 92);
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers "On some normative and legal acts related to the Land Code" (01 May 2000 n. 79) (Annex 2 and 3);
- Order of the President of Azerbaijan of 13 January 2003 n.1122 "On some measures to regulate the use of the coast of the Caspian Sea in Azerbaijan Republic" (the appropriate instructions are given to the Cabinet of Ministers, MENR and heads of executive authorities of administrative cities and districts, to withdraw from individuals and legal entities of lands in their ownership or lease, located in the 130 meter coastal strip of the Caspian Sea.
- Decree of 20 June 2003 of Parliament on Amendments to the Land Code of the Azerbaijan Republic was complemented by the article 2-1: The lands within 80-130-meter coastal strip of Caspian Sea belonging to the Azerbaijan Republic remaining in the property of the state cannot be alienated and leased only for state purposes.
- Decree n.137 of 23 October 2003 of Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan on approval of “Flowchart of 80-130 meter coastal zone of the Caspian Sea belonging to the Republic of Azerbaijan”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>general public</th>
<th>among institutions and the general public; develop and adopt a data sharing procedure for ensuring the operational exchange of information among line-ministries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
• Decree n.99 of 27 July 2004 on approval of the "Rules for the definition and use of flood zone boundaries, the size of the protected bands".


In addition to the above-mentioned legal acts in Azerbaijan, the following regulatory and normative acts exist:

• Building regulations 2.06.15-85 – drainage areas (based on survey and design), ploughing across the slopes, terracing of slopes, cut-offs (for small rivers and streams), reconstruction of embankments;

• Building regulations 2.06.01-86, Building regulations 2.06.05-85, Building regulations 2.06.06-85 – preparation and reconstruction of embankments and dams;

• Building regulations 2.01.09-91, Building regulations 2.02.01-85, Building regulations 3.02.01-87 – monitoring the state of buildings and structures;

• Building regulations 2.06.15-85, Building regulations 2.01.14-83 – shore and dredging (bottom strengthening) works;

• Building regulations II-50-74, Building regulations 2.06.15-85, Building regulations 2.01.14-83 – dike construction;

• Hygienic rationing 2.2.1/2.1.1.567-96 – prevent draining fuel, fertilizers and other contaminants;

• Departmental building codes BK4-90 – willingness to essential services.
5 Disaster Risk Assessment (DRA)

5.1 Legal and institutional framework

The legal framework of Azerbaijan in the area of Disaster Risk Assessment is under development and there is not a dedicated legal act that regulates the role, mandate and responsibilities of each institution involved in DRA. However, based on Decree No394 of 2006 “on approval of the Regulations of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Azerbaijan Republic, structure of the Ministry and the number of staff, the general coordination of DRA has been assigned to MES and its subordinated structures, such as the Crisis Management Centre.

DRA inherently involves several institutions/organizations, each of them competent in one or more aspect of different disaster perils. The situation in Azerbaijan reflects this general consideration and the institutions competent for each hazard type can be summarized as it follows:

- Landslide: National Geological Exploration Centre, MES
- Flood: Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Water Resources State Agency of the Ministry of Emergency Situation, LRWM OJSC
- Earthquakes and mud volcano: the Republican Seismic Survey Centre of the NAoS ans MES
- Droughts, heavy rain, hail, fire in plantations: MES and Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and
- Forest fire: State Fire Control Services of MES
- Coastal flooding, sea level rise: MES.

5.2 Current status of practices and area of excellence

The risk assessment regarding floods have been already detailed in the chapter analysing the EUFD implementation, where it has been remarked that there is not a clear distribution of

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4 See chapter on Flood Risk Management and approximation to EU Floods Directive for a complete review of legal and institutional framework in this field.
responsibilities among institutions/organizations/public companies and flood risk assessment is at early stage in the country.

Landslide maps are elaborated by the National Geological Exploration Centre, however they mostly focus on delineation of past landslides and there is no risk evaluation. Locations of past-landslides are also reported in the Master Plans for cities of republican importance (10 cities with population greater than 50,000).

With reference to forest fires, the State Fire Control Service of MES collects data on forest zones, conducts awareness campaign on forest fire risk, prepare and plan prevention measure. A methodology for forest fires risk assessment has been elaborated under PPRD East 1, however it has not adopted by any legislation or sub-legislation and the expert of the Service does not have the capacities for the implementation of the methodology at national level.

Republican Seismic Survey Centre of the National Academy of Sciences provides technical and scientific information and data on seismic activity in the country. Overall, seismic risk assessment is at more advanced stage than other hazard type. Republican Survey Seismic Centre maintains the digital telemetric network and measures geophysical and gravimetric data with advanced technologies. Operational monitoring centre (24/7) with trained personnel; the centre provides: real time monitoring of seismic activity by 35 national telemetric stations and by exchanging data with Georgia. The centre prepares earthquake bulletins for target agencies. Seismic Survey Centre has elaborated maps of seismic activities over two levels (low and high activity) for the period 2004-2014. Official maps of macro-zonation are from 1991 and they need to be updated; however, a new methodology has been developed by Republican Seismic Survey Centre but not yet implemented. Seismic micro-zonation is also in progress, though no systematically; specific assessments are conducted on behalf of State Agency for Safety Control in Construction of MES on the base of grant contract and in case of construction of special buildings. Republican Seismic Survey Centre is a research oriented institution though it provides services to the institutions on contract base.

The Ministry of Agriculture assesses the impacts on agriculture and crop production of several disaster types such as drought, groundwater floods (rise of groundwater level), hail, heavy rainfall. The impacts are computed by a detailed analysis of “farmer cards” that all farmers transmit to MoA and that contain data on agricultural production.

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5 The methodology was not shared with PPRD East 2 for further analyses.
MES was beneficiary of one of the more comprehensive initiative on multi-hazard DRA: PPRD East (Phase 1). During the Programme, flood, wildfires, earthquake, landslides and technological/industrial risk and hazard maps have been developed in consultation with subcontracted local experts. All these maps and information are currently available to registered users on the ERRA platform. As critical assets mapping is considered to be a very security-sensitive matter, only qualitative maps (3-class classification: high, medium and low) are available at the sub-regional and regional level. Nevertheless, the quantitative critical infrastructure/asset maps were developed and are available at the national level.

The Methodology for Vulnerability and Risk Assessment developed by PPRD East Phase 1 is a fundamental piece of information that apparently has not been fully exploited by Azerbaijan institutions and should be better mainstreamed in the currently developed actions. It is worth noticing that the vulnerability assessment methodology has been developed according to a holistic approach while a quantitative approach has not been tackled.

5.3 Findings and Recommendations

NEED OF IMPROVEMENT CLASSIFICATION: HIGH, MODERATE, LOW

1 – Transposition of DRA EU guidelines into national law: HIGH

The current legal framework of Azerbaijan does not include systematic Disaster Risk Assessment into risk management and there is not clear definition of responsibilities of different institutions and organizations. A new legal framework on DRA is needed and it should include secondary laws that adopt a common methodology for multi-hazard risk assessment based on EU standard and good practices.

*It is recommended to develop a legal framework that includes systematic disaster risk assessment, based on EU DRA Guidelines and Member State good practices, into the risk management process of Azerbaijan. Furthermore it is recommended to identify and appoint responsible institutions for DRA for each hazard in clear at the primary law level and ensure a mechanism of coordination among different stakeholders.*

2 – Institutional setup: MODERATE

MES is generally recognized as coordinating body on disaster risk assessment, however the expertise, the data and the information needed for conducting DRA are spread over different institutions and there is no clear definition of “who does what” for each specific hazard. Moreover, there is a need to regulate and facilitate the exchange of information among institutions that own
the data needed for elaborating a comprehensive risk assessment. The institutional set up of Azerbaijan is such that the institutionalization of disaster risk assessment will immediately positively impact into disaster risk management process,

*It is recommended to clarify role and responsibilities of each institution and their interaction for exchange data and information. Moreover it is suggested to appoint MES as competent authority for coordination of national disaster risk assessment and identify the institutions responsible for hazard and risk mapping at least for the most important disaster type of Azerbaijan.*

3 – Hazard mapping: MODERATE

The current situation of hazard mapping in Azerbaijan is very diverse among hazard types; few hazard maps exists for certain hazards (earthquake and landslide) however they need to be update and to be elaborated with a common approach in line with EU standards. There are also gaps in capacity of institutions to conduct multi-hazard assessment with internationally recognized tools and methodologies.

*It is recommended to develop an appropriate methodology for hazard mapping that includes worst cases analysis of simultaneous or domino effect as also stated in the EU DRA Guidelines. The methodologies should consider hazard mapping for both contingency and strategic planning. It is furthermore recommended to strength the capacity of institution/organization to conduct hazard assessment for each specific disaster type.*

4 – Risk Mapping: HIGH

Risk mapping is currently available at district scale or coarser from the PPRD East Phase 1. Proper methodologies for elaborating maps at aggregated scales and with little information on exposure have been developed. However, PPRD East Phase 1 approach developed an aggregated multi-risk indicator that is generally good for an initial scoping study with the aim of refocusing on the most risky areas. When proper mitigation measures need to be developed, this methodology is of partial utility as stated in the official documentation of the Programme.

*It is recommended to develop and adopt a risk assessment methodology that is appropriate for different purposes, e.g., strategic plans, emergency plans, contingency plans etc. A further recommendation would be to develop an appropriate multi-hazard approach re-discussing the one proposed by PPRD East Phase 1, especially in the objectives. It is further recommended to strength the capacity of institution/organization to conduct hazard assessment for each specific disaster type.*
5 – Data Sharing: MODERATE

DRA inherently requires multiple information and data that are owned and recorded by different institutions; however there is no automatic exchange of information among organizations and data are transferred only on request. The Crisis Management Centre (CMC) of MES collects multiple information on a single disaster information system that is used mostly for emergency management. It would be beneficial to share data on DRA by using the disaster information system of CMC and the Electronic Regional Risk Atlas in order to increase the use of DRA among institutions and the general public. Furthermore there is a lack of data standardization.

*It is recommended to adopt a single system for recording disaster risk assessment data that will facilitate the exchange and access of data to the general public and different institutions and stakeholders. It is further recommended to connect ERRA and the disaster information system of CMC and adopt ERRA as a national system for sharing disaster risk information and data.*

5.4 Road Map

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>When</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EU approximation into DRA national law</td>
<td>Development of new Legislation</td>
<td>Cabinet of Ministers</td>
<td>MES led a consultation with the different ministries involved in the Legislation development and draft a new legal framework for DRA</td>
<td>Start early 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional setup</td>
<td>Official designing of coordinators for DRA for each peril</td>
<td>MES in consultation with all institutions involved</td>
<td>Establish a working group for the elaboration of a proposal for</td>
<td>end 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Responsible Party</td>
<td>Timeline</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazard mapping</td>
<td>Development of methods for multi-hazard assessment, fully compliant with EU guidelines</td>
<td>MES (coordinator)</td>
<td>Start mid 2016 and complete the mapping by 2020</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk Mapping</td>
<td>Development of multi-risk and multi-purpose methodologies to comply with EU guidelines</td>
<td>MES (coordinator)</td>
<td>Start mid 2016 and complete the mapping by 2020</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Sharing</td>
<td>Improve accessibility to Disaster risk data</td>
<td>MES</td>
<td>mid 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adopt ERRA as national system for collecting disaster risk data and connect ERRA with existing Disaster Risk Information system of MES</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6 Disaster Loss Data Collection and Processing

### Key Assessors

| PPRD East 2 Experts | Marco Massabò  
| Tatiana Bedrina  |
| Country Thematic Focal Point | Murad Gasimov  
| Chapter validated by | National Advisory Group  |

#### 6.1 Legal and institutional framework

The collection and processing of data on emergencies are regulated by the Decree n. 511 of 29 December 2006 of the President of the Republic Azerbaijan and to the Decree n. 394 of 19 April 2006 of the President of the Republic Azerbaijan. The procedure for assessing the material damages and economic losses of emergencies is based on the establishment of a Commission for Emergency Situations composed by representatives of different institutions and agencies. For National Emergencies (large scale disasters), the Cabinet of Ministries establishes an ad-hoc Commission for Emergency Situations composed by representatives of Ministry of Emergency Situations and other relevant Ministries, local authorities and other relevant institutions. For regional/local disasters, the assessment of damages is conducted by a Permanent Commission for Emergency Situations that includes experts of the regional offices of MES, other relevant institutions and local authorities.

The data collected by the National Commission for Emergency Situations are transmitted to the State Statistical Committee (an independent institutions); on the base of the assessment, the government allocates the resources for compensations. Data of all emergencies are directly registered by the Ministry of Emergency Situations and its subsidiary bodies; the final analysis of the data are made by the Departments of Statistics and Information Technology and by Crisis Management Centre.

Procedures and protocols for data collection, recording and sharing are mostly based on practices and are not included in the current legislation framework (secondary laws); specifically, there is not a standard format for collecting disaster loss data.

#### 6.2 Current status of practices and area of excellence

The classification of emergency situations is mainly based on a modified CIS-based classification; it includes 2 types of disasters types, man-made and natural. Emergencies are further classified in six
different levels according the quantity of damages assessed or potentially occurring; the six levels are related with four indicator of damages: the dimension of the affected area, number of victims, number of affected people, and cost of impacts. The indicators identify uniquely the level of emergency that can be private, local, regional, national and global.

The level of emergency also identifies the scale of the affected areas:

- private emergencies typically occurs in apartment or working place;
- emergencies affects industrial facility, residential buildings or structures;
- local emergency occurs within the border of a single city or settlement;
- regional disasters affect metropolitan area or several industrial areas;
- national and global emergencies impact on a territory larger than a region or affect neighbouring states.

Furthermore, the classification divides the damages into three main categories: social, economic and environmental.

The Department of Statistics and Information Technology of MES registers data of emergencies up to national level and a digital database exists for disasters occurred after 2006. MES also produces daily reports on the official website and quarterly, half a year and annually prepares statistical summaries for national Institutions and CIS countries.

The Department of Statistics and Information Technology has developed, with internal resources, an interactive software platform for the registration of emergency situations; the platform is based on Oracle DB and it is intended to be an operational real-time tools for disaster loss data collection and recording. The platform records the following data:

- data on fires and explosions;
- data on fires after expert assessment;
- data on natural and man-made disasters.

With reference to fires and explosions, the following data are registered: date, object, address, level of fire, source of information, area and type of fire, preliminary losses in monetary equivalent, human losses, damage on buildings, agricultural lands, cattle, communications network, etc. It also contains data on rescue efforts, for example: starting time of the rescue operation, duration,

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6 http://www.fhn.gov.az/
responsible officer, description of machinery involved. No standard exists for reporting the damages.

The data are registered in the platform, can be visualized online by authorized users and the IT platform supports the generations of simple statistical reports that can be exported in Excel format.

The State Fire Control Service maintains the database on accounting of fires after an assessment by experts on national level scale. This database contains reliable information on economic losses, human losses, insurance payments and other details. The fires without losses and fires with losses are registered separately. Regional rescue services and can use the platform for analysis of data at national level. Each Fire department has authorized access to the database.

Furthermore, the 112 call centre registers all natural and man-made disasters in a separate database.

It is worth to underline that, with the IT system currently used by MES, data are recorded and verified with a decentralized approach by involving the regional centres of MES.

6.3 Findings and Recommendations

NEED OF IMPROVEMENT CLASSIFICATION: HIGH, MODERATE, LOW

1 - Adapt current legislation and operational procedures to improve data collection and enable the sharing of loss data at European and International level: HIGH

The current legal and institutional framework of Azerbaijan ensures an operational and systematic collection and recording of disaster losses, however there is a need to standardize the indicators on losses to be collected and to build a unique national database. Furthermore, the currently adopted classification on hazards and loss indicators differ from the minimum requirements of EU and the international standards and do not fully enable the share of disaster loss data at international level.

*It is recommended to include in the current legislation and operational procedures the requirements of the Guidance for recording and sharing disaster damage and loss data* (*JRC, 2015*)*. Specifically it is recommended to adopt the Extension 2 of the recommendations* (*Extension 2: data for specific events, for a*

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*Guidance for recording and sharing disaster damage and loss data – Towards the development of operational indicators to translate the Sendai Framework into action: EU expert working group on disaster damage and loss data; European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Institute for the Protection and the Security of the Citizen, 2015, ISBN 978-92-79-47452-1, ISSN 1831-9424*
specific hazard, damage and loss per NUTS2/NUTS3 and Unit of Management (UoM), by economic sector and by owner and by status of ownership (who bears the losses)).

2 – Develop and adopt a unified methodology for assessing economic losses from disaster: MODERATE

There is a lack of a unified methodological approach for collecting and recording the economic losses associated with emergency situations as well as for indirect economic losses for different sectors. It is recommended to develop and adopt in current legislation a methodology for multi-sectoral economic assessment of disaster losses. Furthermore it is recommended to develop and implement capacity building actions for national and local institutions on the use of the methodology.

3 - Uncertainty assessment: HIGH

Uncertainties are inherent in every step of the disaster loss data analysis framework. It would be surely beneficial to adopt an international standard-based evaluation of the uncertainty in every step of the loss data collection and reporting, adopting –as an example- MAXO or NUSAP techniques. This uncertainty evaluation should be stored and recorded with the final validated version of the data. It is recommended to legally establish a shared methodology to estimate uncertainty and improve the quality control of data.

4 - Full development of an advanced IT system: HIGH

The existing IT platform for recording disaster loss data has been developed with internal resources by MES and it is currently being updated for allowing the electronic registration of disaster data by regional offices of MES (a first version of the software is already in use). Three directions of further developments of IT system are needed:

• support the multi-agency recording of disaster loss data with an interactive reporting tool from the scene of an emergency (this is under partial development by MES);
• support the processing and spatial analysis of disaster loss data,
• support the automatic share of data with national, Regional and international institutions and stakeholders also by improving interoperability with other systems.

It is recommended to adopt or develop an advance IT system that can fully address the three main functionalities illustrated above. ERRA, and the possibility of enhancing its functionality for the recording, analysis loss data could help in the process, with the advantage of further sharing information and statistics at regional level within the ENPI East Countries and other international Institutions. Furthermore, it is furthermore recommended to develop and implement capacity-building actions for target users of the platform.
5 - Encouraging PuP and PPP: MODERATE

The participation of all stakeholders in refining the requirements and standards for a loss database ensures ownership and enhance the utility, hence the future utilization, of disaster loss data. Public-public partnership (PuP) and Public Private Partnership (PPP) should be further encouraged and the role and utility of loss data should be discussed across government departments, including emergency management, urban planning, and government budget and across all government scales and participative governance fora (local to national). High-level requirements should be informed by public and private needs across sectors.

*It is recommended to increase the engagement of the private and public sectors into the development of standards for data collection and into the entire process of data collection, recording and sharing.*

6 - Information sharing: HIGH

Data are shared by MES with national institution on official requests while regular reports on aggregate statistics are published on-line and transmitted to CIS countries; however the access to data by stakeholders needs to be facilitated and enhanced.

*It is recommended to develop and adopt a data sharing policy framework that facilitates national and international institutions, organizations and general stakeholders to access disaster loss data. ERRA platform can be the technological support for the implementation of the policy framework.*

6.4 Road Map

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>When</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legislation</td>
<td>Adapt current legislation and operational procedures to enable the sharing of loss data at European and International level</td>
<td>MES (coordinator)</td>
<td>Working group led by MES for drafting the update of current legislation/regulation</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methodology</td>
<td>Develop and</td>
<td>MES and all</td>
<td>Establish a multi-</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Methodology</td>
<td>MES in consultation with all institutions involved</td>
<td>Working group on Uncertainty assessment led by MES</td>
<td>Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uncertainty assessment</td>
<td>Methodology for the uncertainty assessment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full development of an advanced IT system</td>
<td>Mainstreaming of the already present efforts into a single Platform</td>
<td>MES</td>
<td>Further development of national IT system or ERRA platform for supporting the collection, recording, analysis and sharing of loss data. Provide training and capacity building to national and local authorities</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encouraging PuP and PPP</td>
<td>Inter-institutional coordination for the centralized DLD and standardization of Disaster Loss indicators</td>
<td>MES</td>
<td>Establishing a working group including all the stakeholders</td>
<td>2015-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information sharing</td>
<td>Open DLD to public and institutions</td>
<td>MES (coordinator)</td>
<td>Working group for the developing of data sharing policy framework on</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>through ERRA</td>
<td>disaster loss data</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. Inclusion of Disaster Risk Reduction in Public Spending

7.1 Legal and institutional framework

The legislative framework on budget system of the Republic of Azerbaijan consists of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Law on budget system of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the laws on every budget year adopted as appendix to the Law on budget system, other laws and normative-legal acts, as well as international contracts adhered by the Republic of Azerbaijan. Budget system of Azerbaijan Republic consists of the state budget of Azerbaijan Republic, Budget of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic, and local budgets.

The Ministry of Finance of Azerbaijan Republic is the central executive authority organ carrying out state financial policy and organizing the management of state financing. It is responsible, inter alia, for preparation of the state budget and presents it to the Cabinet of Ministers of Azerbaijan Republic, gives recommendations on organization and implementation of the state budget.

The Law of Azerbaijan Republic on Civil Defence No. 420-IQ from 30 December 1997, (amendments: 9 March 2004; 4 March 2005; 21 October 2005) stipulates that this an obligations of the Government to allocate funds for civil defence from state budget and local budgets and in addition, to establish civil defence funds, to ensure efficient and proper use of these funds; and to establish material and financial funds for elimination of the consequences of emergencies.

In addition, according to the Law on Civil Defence all legal entities, irrespective of their form of ownership, have the following obligations in the field of civil defence:

- to provide the necessary civil defence measures in economic and social development programs and to carry them out;
- to finance the arrangements for protection of employees (studying persons) from emergencies;
- to establish a reserve of material and financial funds for elimination of the consequences of emergencies.
The state budget is divided by sectors (e.g. civil protection (CP), agriculture, environment, education, health, etc.). Ministry of Emergency Situations of Azerbaijan Republic (MES) as the central executive body within the cabinet of Azerbaijan Republic responsible for protecting the population from natural and manmade disasters is responsible for the civil protection sector.

The Law on budget system of the Republic of Azerbaijan provides provisions for Reserve fund of the state budget which should not exceed more than 5 per cent of the incomes of the state budget, taking into account the actual execution of this Fund in the previous year; and Reserve Fund of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan which is defined not more than 2 per cent of the incomes of the state budget. The Fund's assets are allocated to events of great importance in the socio-economic life of the country.

7.2 Current status of practices and area of excellence

The PPRD East 2 assessment mission to Azerbaijan was focused, inter alia, on inclusion of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) in public spending, met a number of national interlocutors that are active in DRR and DRM area and which provided various feedbacks related for the subject assessment topic.

The Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the state budget of the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2015, from November 28, 2014 states general expenditure directions and limits. Those relevant to DRR and DRM include:

- expenditures related to removal of consequences of emergency cases 25,000,000.0 AZN (approx. 20,857,000.0 EUR);
- Reserve Fund of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan 382,000,000.0 AZN (approx. 318,690,000.0 EUR);
- Reserve Fund of the state budget 343,000,000.0 AZN (approx. 286,160,000.0 EUR).

MES is responsible for the budget for all emergency management activities.

The Reserve Funds, in the area of DRR and DRM, can be used in principle for 1) elimination of disaster consequences and 2) compensation of affected population. In case of a large-scale emergency, the MES may request activation of the state budget Reserve Fund by sending a request to the MES to the Cabinet of Ministers (CoM). The CoM establishes a special Commission, which assesses the request and provides recommendation to the CoM.
7.3 Findings and Recommendations

It is possible to conclude that the existing legal and institutional framework provides a sound and solid base for budget planning for civil protection and disaster risk management. Thus, it contributes to and provides good potential for the country to meet the Sendai Framework for Risk Reduction 2015 and 2030, priority 2 – “Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk”.

However, the existing system, does not allow detailed insight into financial aspects of all individual DRR and DRM related actions, particularly when it involves actions, which are less obviously related to DRR and DRM. Therefore, it is not possible to report exact amounts invested to prevention, preparedness and response, as well as, reconstruction and rehabilitation measures by the various national and local stakeholders.

The ability to clearly identify, record and consequently to evaluate all expenditures within the DRR/DRM at national and local level would significantly help better planning and better use of the available financial resources what is even more important when the funds are limited.

In addition, it would also allow comparison of the real DRR/DRM expenditures against the disaster loss data. This comparison will help to prove that well planned investments into DRR/DRM significantly decrease the impact of disasters on population, environment, economy, infrastructure and cultural heritage, thus equally decrease the human and economic losses, i.e. saving money for response activities and liquidation of disaster consequences.

This is also supported by the Sendai Framework for Risk Reduction 2015 and 2030 which put an additional accent on “Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience” (priority 3), more particularly on “promotion of the integration of disaster risk reduction considerations and measures in financial and fiscal instruments”.

This above described situation is caused by a lack of methodologies for allocating, tracking and registering of all DRR and DRM actions in the budget system at both levels – central and local, therefore the PPRD East 2 recommends following:

- revise and if not sufficient, to enhance the national institutional CP/DRM framework in order to provide/create adequate capacity for development and implementation of the new DRR/DRM budget allocation tracking and recording system;

- develop and implement a methodology for the DRR/DRM budget allocation tracking and recording system across the national system and replicate it at the local level. As a part of the methodology, establish a DRR/DRM “marker” to flag those investments for which the
outcome is not explicitly DRR/DRM but which through implementation will contribute to reduce/mitigate disaster risk;
- develop and implement a methodology for evaluation of the DRR/DRM expenditures that give simple quantifiable indicators showing fiscal impact of the DRR/DRM;
- create and deliver trainings on the new methodologies for officials from financial units from all relevant national institutions dealing with DRR/DRM measures directly or indirectly.

7.4 Road Map

The road map proposes the prioritization of the recommendations, timeframe for their implementations and responsibilities of involved interlocutors.

**Activity 1.1 - Workshop to introduce and discuss the concept of the DRR budget allocation tracking and recording system**

Responsibility: Shared responsibility of the MES, MoF and PPRD East 2 Programme
Timeframe: by June 2016
Support: all national interlocutors active in DRR

**Activity 1.2 - Development of the methodology for the DRR budget allocation tracking and recording system**

Responsibility: Shared responsibility of the MoF and MES
Timeframe: by December 2016
Support: PPRD East 2 Programme

**Activity 1.3 - Development of the methodology for evaluation of the DRR expenditures**

Responsibility: Shared responsibility of the MoF and MES
Timeframe: by April 2017
Support: PPRD East 2 Programme

**Activity 1.4 - Development of the training curriculum on the new methodologies**

Responsibility: PPRD East 2 Programme
Timeframe: by July 2017
Support: MoF and MES

**Activity 1.5 - Finalisation of the training programme preparation**
Responsibility: PPRD East 2 Programme
Timeframe: by October 2017
Support: MoF and MES

**Activity 1.6 – Drafting and endorsement of a legal document to institutionalise the new system for the DRR budget allocation tracking and recording system**
Responsibility: MoF and MES
Timeframe: by January 2018
Support: PPRD East 2 Programme

**Activity 1.7 – Delivery of the training on the new methodologies**
Responsibility: Shared responsibility of the MES and PPRD East 2 Programme
Timeframe: by February 2018
Support: MoF

**Activity 1.8 – Implementation of the new methodologies for the DRR budget allocation tracking and recording system and for evaluation of the DRR expenditures**
Responsibility: Shared responsibility of the MoF and MES
Timeframe: by July 2018
Support: all national interlocutors active in DRR
8 Host Nation Support

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Key Assessors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PPRD East 2 Expert</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Country Thematic Focal Point</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Chapter validated by</strong></td>
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8.1 Legal and institutional framework

Currently, Azerbaijan is developing their host nation support legislation. However, other legislation appertaining to civil protection are:

- Law of the Azerbaijan Republic on Civil Defence - No. 420-IG - The Civil Defence Law provides general definitions used in the civil defence system, an overview of the principles moving the civil defence, a general view of the organisation level of the civil defence system and the obligations and rights of the government, legal entities and physical persons in civil defence. Financial issues and resources are also agreed;
- Law on Technical Safety;
- Law on Radiation Safety;
- Law on Fire Safety;
- Law on Environmental Security;
- Following National Action Plans (level of by-laws) related to emergency management are awaiting approval:
  - National Emergency Prevention and Response Action Plan;
  - National Action Plan on Prevention and Liquidation of Oil Spills;
- Bilateral agreements on cooperation and mutual assistance in the field of emergency management with France, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Belarus, Jordan, Latvia, Greece, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Serbia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Lithuania;
- The Decree of the President of the Azerbaijan Republic on approval of the Regulations of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Azerbaijan Republic, structure of the Ministry and the number of staff - Decree No 394 - This decree establishes the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES) as a body of executive authority involved in the development and implementation of the state policy and regulation in the area of civil defence, protection of the population and territories from emergency situations of natural and
anthropogenic nature, prevention and elimination of the consequences of emergency situations, fire safety, safety of people in water basins and safety of movement of small-sized ships, safety in the implementation of industrial and mining operations, safety in construction, establishment of state funds of material reserves dealing with management, coordination and control over these areas, organization of emergency response measures in the event of a possible or actual occurrence of emergency situations, protection of enterprises, facilities and installations of strategic importance which come under natural, man-made and terrorist threats. The ministry is also in charge of insuring the nuclear and radiation safety as well as protection of water reservoirs;


8.2 Current status of practices and area of excellence

Azerbaijan has a clear determination of powers in the field of civil defence/protection that is enucleated in an almost exhaustive way in the Decree N 394 - on approval of the Regulations of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Azerbaijan Republic, structure of the Ministry and the number of staff\(^8\).

The Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES) is the main institutional player in disaster management. Being a republican executive body, thus expression of the Government and Parliament, it develops, implements and coordinates the policies in the fields of civil protection and civil defence. During times of emergencies it is responsible for coordinating activities aimed at the protection of the population through authorities vested in laws and other relevant legal acts.

The competences of MES in case of emergency are almost total. Hereunder are listed some of the most important tasks under the responsibility of MES:

• provide suggestions regarding the introduction of a state of emergency on the entire territory of the country or in different districts;

• draft a plan of interaction between bodies of executive authority during search and rescue operations in water basins (Inter Ministerial Coordination);

\(^8\) Technical Report on Strengthening The Eastern Region’s Institutional And Legislative Frameworks
• to manage humanitarian aid, including the aid received from foreign countries and provided to foreign countries (International Relations);

• to organize evacuation of the population from places of emergency situations, implementation of rescue operations and provision of emergency medical assistance, to provide, ensure with appropriate state bodies, protection of the property affected by the emergency situation and of public safety;\(^9\)

• To coordinate the activity of bodies of central and local executive authorities in the area of civil defence, protection of the population and territories from emergency situations, fire safety, safety of people in water basins, and within the framework of a single state program on the prevention and elimination of the consequences of emergency situations.

In order to maintain proper cooperation between the MES and other sectoral state authorities in case of emergency, Joint Operation Plans are concluded between the Ministry and other state agencies to regulate pre, during and post disaster cooperation.

8.3 Findings and Recommendations

It was apparent, during discussions at the National Advisory Group meeting, in June 2015, that host nation support, whilst understood, is not developed. It is crucial for, an effective and efficient acceptance, of international assistance that Azerbaijan has solid and systematic solutions, which have in advance of the emergency, identified and addressed all (or at least the most common/expected) legal issues that may constitute obstacles to the overall objective of facilitating acceptance of international assistance. Host nation support requires the backing of laws and sub laws, which are to be developed and adopted prior to the event happening, so that ad hoc decisions are not performed in the field during emergencies. The responsibility falls on the relevant government departments to coordinate and jointly develop these regulations (SOPs) to provide a solid platform on which to perform host nation support duties in the event of Azerbaijan requesting, and receiving, international assistance. As a priority, the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES) should engage the relevant departments to develop the SOPs for host nation support for personnel to refer to in the time of an emergency. These should be tried and tested at the forthcoming PPRD East 2 HNS TTX scheduled for 24-25 February 2016.

\(^9\) \textit{Idem}
8.4 Road Map

As the Ministry responsible for the coordination of all rescue activities, the MES should head the development of host nation support, and in order to achieve a fully functional host nation support structure by 2018, the following milestones must be achieved.

The MES will ensure all levels of emergency management authorities/actors are aware of the EUCP Mechanism.

For host nation support to be successful, it is vital that cooperation by all associated Ministries is agreed and understood and for that reason, by the end of 2015, the MES need to initiate and engage the following departments, to assist in the development of SOPs in the case of a request for and acceptance of international assistance:

- The Ministry of Defence;
- Ministry of Internal Affairs;
- The Department of National Hydrometeorology of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources;
- The Ministry of Health to carry out drug/medicine control, provide medical assistance and regulate the problems of the incoming medical personnel;
- State Committee on Properties;
- Ministry of Finance (State Revenue Committee);
- State Customs Committee - responsible to simplify/adjust customs & import procedures of all the rescue equipment and goods;
- State Border Service;
- Ministry of Agriculture – to provide food, and rescue dogs control;
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – simplify visa procedures and coordination of request for international assistance process;
- The Ministry of Communication and High Technologies;
- Civil aviation general department – to provide comprehensive assistance and provision of all the necessary services at the airport level;
- State Civil Aviation Administration;
- Civil Defence Troops of the Ministry of Emergency Situations.
Reference is made to the comments at the end of Chapter 1 above concerning the outcome of the Host Nation TTX held in Baku in February 2016.

By the end of 2016, written SOPs, which are documents containing the HNS knowledge and identifying the role of each partner should be set in place. The SOP template, included in the annex to this document, should be used to complete this process. However it must be understood that this template is not exhaustive and contingencies need to be agreed. These documents should be drafted by the time of the organisation of the HNS TTX in Azerbaijan, so the draft HNS SOPs can be used and tested.

Finalised HNS SOPs should be developed by the middle of 2017. Use of the EU Host Nation Support Guidelines (HNSG) and templates is highly recommended\textsuperscript{10}.

Up to the middle of 2018, the MES should develop and adopt a regular programme of exercises, which will assist in the capacity building and training of host nation support officers. These exercises will also assist other departments to understand host nation support.

\textsuperscript{10} EU Host Nation Support Guidelines
9 EU approach to Volunteerism in Civil Protection

9.1 Legal and institutional framework

Azerbaijan has been one of the precursor CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States) to implement a Law on Voluntary Activity\textsuperscript{11} (2009) defining rights and responsibilities of volunteers and volunteer organizations. This Law requires all volunteer organizations to conclude a written contract with volunteers explaining their rights and duties and informing them of any potential dangers to their health and safety (ex Art. 6). It also gives volunteers the right to obtain information about the conditions and nature of the voluntary activity, and to demand compensation for daily expenses associated with voluntary activity outside the territory in which the volunteer resides; and requires all volunteer organizations to supply adequate life and health insurance for volunteers (ex. Art 7). The abovementioned law does not cover in detail activities concerning the involvement of volunteers in the civil protection system although it foresees them as potential area of involvement: “supporting the elimination of the outcomes of armed conflicts, natural disasters, industrial accidents, fires, epidemics, and other emergencies, including the people injured in emergencies”.

The civil protection (CP) system of Azerbaijan relies upon a central body and 9 Regional Centres (one of which Baku). CP and fire protection units (decrees 345 and 511 of 2006 establishing fire control regional divisions) are present in all regions and in most of the cities of the country as first responders and support of the national system. Executive powers in regions play a great role in the overall system and have been reinforced by the decree of 2011 on Regulation on activities of executive powers. Problems emerge however in the inclusion of municipalities (as administrative bodies), in accordance to the Law “On Status of Municipalities” (No. 698-IQ of 2 July 1999), in planning and in disaster management activities at large. At local level, in fact, planning is not well defined and hinders all activities that require a full participation of the population. To this extent local volunteerism can be of very little support as cannot fit into a well defined set of rules and Standard Operative Procedures (SOPs) institutionalizing the framework and clarifying specifically actions and requirements of volunteer formations in support of the MES.

\textsuperscript{11} LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN “On Voluntary Activities”, September 1\textsuperscript{st} 2009
An action plan (protocol number 043 of 20 May 2010) has been signed by the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES) and Ministry of Health (MoH). This plan defines roles of the two stakeholders and, in particular, the modular intervention of medical teams in case of ordinary or extraordinary emergencies that are deployed as volunteers under the coordination of MES.

The Azeri Red Cresset (ARC) society has been the main institution in the field of first aid and disaster recovery until the institution of the MES in 2005. Since then ARCS has worked alongside MES and is recently developing resilience building projects that actively involve communities in participatory Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments\textsuperscript{12}.

### 9.2 Current status of practices and area of excellence

The adoption of a Law on Volunteerism creates a favourable normative environment for the development of a volunteering system in support of MES activities.

On the basis of the mentioned action plan signed between MES and MoH, the latter provides human resources during emergencies. Several doctors are in fact trained for first aid interventions and operate, in case of emergencies, as volunteers under the coordination of MES. Moreover the MoH also implements public awareness campaigns using participatory approaches involving to a great extent the population.

DRR is thought in schools where youths are trained within the scholar system from the age of 8 to 17. Once 18 years old they can legally become official volunteers. To the same extent training on awareness is provided by regional offices of MES to both private and state companies. Regional offices also develop awareness campaigns, which are conducted in their premises. Regarding social media, a multimedia platform has been developed providing the necessary tools to MES allowing it to utilize all media in case of emergency. All these initiatives are fundamental for the creation of the basis of volunteering in the country.

Azeri Red Cresset society has been active, over the past decade, in the creation of fertile basis for the insurgence of Volunteering at local level and has a longstanding positive collaboration with MES.

Unfortunately, those activities haven’t been structured into a national strategy for the development of a civil protection volunteer system. There is great potential of development, yet volunteers are, at the moment, a negligible force in the civil protection system. They do not take part, if not sporadically, to civil protection activities. There is little support of trained Volunteers to

\textsuperscript{12} For further information: “Participatory Vulnerability and capacity assessment in Diyalli and Tezekend villages of Ismayilli district of Azerbaijan Republic” funded by Austrian Development Cooperation and Austrian Red Cross.
building resilient communities and to intervene during crisis times. At the moment MES is trying to work on operative protocols that involve volunteers in fire fighting activities but nothing has been formalized so far.

9.3 Findings and Recommendations

NEED OF IMPROVEMENT CLASSIFICATION: HIGH, MODERATE, LOW

1 – Legal framework: MODERATE

Azerbaijan has already a general framework, which creates a framework upon which to build a strong Civil Protection volunteering system. Further structuring of the legal framework is needed in order to defining roles, required comportment and SOPs for the operative engagement of volunteers.

*It is recommended to adopt SOPs in support to the national legal framework on the role of volunteers acting within the civil protection system.*

2 – Institutional setup: HIGH

Civil Protection volunteers are scarcely present in Azerbaijan and do not take part to emergencies. To a lesser extent they support National Institutions into the organization of cultural events, which is not incisive in the area of capacitating diffusing civil protection knowledge into society. However, both the normative framework and past experiences demonstrate that there is great potential for the development of a volunteering system.

*It is recommended to draft a National Strategy for the institutional development of civil protection volunteers. Particular emphasis should be placed onto the adoption of long-term plans for the integration of volunteers into emergency planning at local level.*

3 – Networking with volunteer organisations: HIGH

The sporadic existence of volunteering groups and their weak interconnection with MES demands a full-scale reorganization of such formations into a unitary and well coordinated system able to fully support MES and other organizations in their activities.

*It is recommended to conduct a detailed assessment on the volunteering realities present in Azerbaijan. Once this assessment is over, MES should map at National and Regional level the presence of volunteers and volunteering organizations.*
4 – Protection of volunteers: LOW
The Law on Voluntary Activity provides the necessary legal basis for the correct protection of volunteers.
No recommendations on this topic.

5 – Funding of volunteer organisations: HIGH
In order to support the development of a volunteering system it is fundamental that volunteer organizations or groups of volunteers intending to create a volunteering organization are capacitated and strengthened in the field of definition of self-financing strategies.
It is recommended to conduct seminaries/workshops at national and local level on the creation of volunteering organizations and on their self-financing.

9.4 Road Map

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>When</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legal framework</td>
<td>Develop a thematic legal framework</td>
<td>MES</td>
<td>1) Study and testing of SOPs by relevant stakeholders.</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2) Promulgation of additional thematic SOPs for Civil Protection Volunteers.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional setup</td>
<td>Setting up a minimum set of juridical and technical requirement for the involvement of volunteer organisations in CP system</td>
<td>MES (coordinator) Volunteer Organizations Volunteer Groups</td>
<td>Establishment of a working group including all the relevant stakeholders</td>
<td>2016-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional setup</td>
<td>Monitoring the effectiveness of the developed standard and SOPs</td>
<td>MES Volunteer Organizations</td>
<td>Evaluation survey</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional setup</td>
<td>Development of DRR campaigns</td>
<td>MES Volunteer Groups Municipalities</td>
<td>Development of DRR campaigns Campaigns should be elaborated a multilevel with an holistic approach</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Networking with Volunteer Organizations</td>
<td>Assessing lacks and identifying areas of support of volunteer organizations</td>
<td>MES Volunteer Organizations</td>
<td>Developing national database</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding of volunteer organizations</td>
<td>Adoption of strategies to sustain the development of voluntarism</td>
<td>MES Volunteer Organizations</td>
<td>Establishing a working group including all the stakeholders and development of roadmap for implementation of volunteering strategy. Organize seminars/workshops on creation of Volunteering Organizations and on their self-financing</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
10 Raising Awareness about Disasters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Assessors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PPRD East 2 Expert</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Country Thematic Focal Point</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Chapter validated by</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10.1 Legal and institutional framework

In the area of awareness raising about disasters, the Law of Azerbaijan Republic on Civil Defence, No. 420-IQ from December 30, 1997 (amendments: 9 March 2004; 4 March 2005; 21 October 2005) defines a set of obligations for A) Government, B) all legal entities, irrespective of their form of ownership and also for C) population.

A) Government is obliged to:

- to explain and train the population in the ways and means of protection from emergencies at peace time and wartime;
- to organize the training of the population in civil defence and supply the population with the individual and collective means of protection;
- to inform, timely, the population about the emergencies, dangerous for life and health of people, as well as provide comprehensive and objective information on the consequences of such situations and measures taken to eliminate them;

B) all legal entities are obliged to:

- to inform the employees (studying persons), as well as residents of adjacent areas about the possible or already occurred emergencies, to evacuate people to safe places;

C) population is obliged to:

- to learn and know the main methods and means of protection from emergencies;
- to learn and to be able to apply the rules of first medical aid.

The Law also sets up basic rules for training of people for protection from emergencies:

- The rules of training of people for protection from emergencies are defined by the relevant executive authority of Azerbaijan Republic.
• Rules of conduct during emergency situation are taught to the population at the place of work or residence and schools.
• Training of the heads and specialists of the civil defence system, as well as legal entities, is provided in higher and secondary professional schools, advance training schools, special training courses and at work places.

10.2 Current status of practices and area of excellence

The survey on raising awareness about disasters, which was conducted through a number of meetings with national stakeholders, showed that some of the interviewed institutions conduct activities regarding the raising awareness about disasters.

Seismological Service Centre provides information and video on how to behave during an earthquake on their website. They plan to apply for a grant to conduct trainings in the schools including provision of textbooks.

Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MoE) has own annual action plan of activities related to information on how to prevent forest fires, etc. in which they cooperate with NGOs and schools. MoE develops forecasts on heavy rains, strong winds, droughts, etc. and delivers them to relevant agencies and population through information bulletins, TV, radio and other mass media channels.

Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) has also own annual action plan of activities and they recently established Information Advisory Centre, which will be in charge for all awareness raising activities. MoA uses various channels for distribution of information e.g. leaflets, media, local workers of MoA visit farmers, etc.

MES develops in the beginning of each year annual action plan, which lists all activities to be conducted by the MES at the national and regional level. It includes - trainings in schools about CP for children from 5 grade to 11 grade and lessons on civil protection at the college level. MES has also special units, which provide training to disabled people. MES CP experts give training in various organisations, both state and private.

In addition to the training programmes, the MES has a multimedia centre in place, which works closely with media and TV, and in case of need it may provide a fast approach to TV broadcasting. The MES also issues its own newspapers which are published on their website.
10.3 Findings and Recommendations

Despite of the quite detailed description of responsibilities for disasters awareness raising in the Law of Azerbaijan Republic on Civil Defence, the existing annual action plans and the various activities conducted by various stakeholders the assessment concluded that there is no national strategy/policy which would govern and coordinate the activities on raising awareness about disasters. Therefore, it should be the priority to start drafting the national strategy as sought by the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 to 2030.

10.4 Road Map

The road map proposes the prioritization of the recommendations, timeframe for their implementations and responsibilities of the involved interlocutors.

Activity 1.1 – Formation of an inter-ministerial working group for drafting the national strategy for raising awareness about disasters
Responsibility: MES
Timeframe: by April-June 2016
Support: PPRD East 2 Programme

Activity 1.2 – Inventory of existing documents related to the development of the national strategy and analysis of existing system/procedures/division of responsibilities in the area of raising awareness about disasters
Responsibility: national strategy drafting group
Timeframe: June-August 2016
Support: MES and PPRD East 2 Programme

Activity 1.3 – Series of drafting meetings to develop a draft of the national strategy for raising awareness about disasters
Responsibility: national strategy drafting group
Timeframe: September 2016 – February 2017
Support: MES and PPRD East 2 Programme
Activity 1.4 – Legal endorsement of the draft of the national strategy for raising awareness about disasters
Responsibility: MES
Timeframe: March - June 2017
Support: all national interlocutors active in raising awareness about disasters and participating in the drafting process and PPRD East 2

Activity 1.5 – Development of action plan for implementation of the national strategy for raising awareness about disasters
Responsibility: all national interlocutors active in raising awareness about disasters
Timeframe: July - October 2017
Support: PPRD East 2

Activity 1.6 – Implementation of the national strategy for raising awareness about disasters
Responsibility: all national interlocutors active in raising awareness about disasters
Timeframe: from November 2017
Support: PPRD East 2 (till the end of the PPRD East 2 Programme)
11 Data and information sharing and INSPIRE Directive

11.1 Legal and institutional framework

Azerbaijan legislation of data and information sharing is mainly composed by the following laws: Law on Obtaining information and the Law on Freedom of Information. However, there is no a specific legal acts that establish National Spatial Data infrastructure.

The Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR) is responsible for collection and recording of environmental data at country level.

The Azerbaijan National Aerospace Agency has been recently established. AzerSat-1 is Azerbaijan's first satellite in space launched into orbit on February 7, 2013. The satellite covers Europe and a significant part of Asia and Africa and is an important source of spatial data and information.

11.2 Current status of practices and area of excellence

The MENR has the mandate to establish a national cadastre of land, water, forest, however no specific activities have been detected in this direction during the assessment mission.

The Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources and its subordinated structures (National Monitoring Department, National Hydro-Meteorological Department) collects information on environmental status (air, water and soil) and record data on their own databases; data can be accessed by an intranet web-portal. There is no standard of sharing data.

The Crisis Management Centre of Ministry of Emergency Situation has developed a web-portal HADISSELLER GIS for real time risk management. Data have been provided by the State Statistical Committee and other national relevant agencies by official request. MES is also the coordinating authorities for the Electronic Regional Risk Atlas developed under PPRD East 1.

The Republican Seismic Survey Centre of the Azerbaijan National Academic of Sciences has digital database and information system of seismic data and systematically exchanges information with CMC of MES and with international partner such as Georgia.
11.3 Findings and Recommendations

NEED OF IMPROVEMENT CLASSIFICATION: HIGH, MODERATE, LOW

1 – Transposition of EU INSPIRE Directive into national law: HIGH
Currently, there is no plan for the legal approximation to the EU INSPIRE Directive and its requirements; furthermore, the legal base for establishing an infrastructure for spatial information is missing. The infrastructure would support environmental policies, and policies or activities which may have an impact on the environment. A new policy framework based on transposition of EU INSPIRE Directive is needed; the framework should ensure that the spatial data are compatible and usable by different national stakeholders and in the trans boundary context for all areas covered by the directive (Metadata, Data Specifications, Network Services, Data and Service Sharing and Monitoring and Reporting).

It is recommended to develop an action plan for the elaboration and adoption of a new policy framework for the approximation to EU INSPIRE Directive.

2 - Development of National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) strategy and implementation plan: HIGH
There is no NSDI strategy in place and data are scattered among different institutions.

It is recommended to elaborate a NSDI strategy and implementation plan for developing an integrated and harmonized infrastructure for sharing spatial data. The implementation plan should address standards, procedures and technologies for sharing data at national and international level.

3 – Institutional development: HIGH
There is a need to strength the capacity of institutions and their personnel to implement the requirements of EU INSPIRE Directive.

It is recommended to appoint institution as a single authority responsible for the establishment, maintenance and update of the NSDI and for coordinating the activities of other organization for building and effective national spatial information system. It is recommended to conduct training and capacity building activities for civil servants of public administrations, Azerbaijan’s universities and research centre for the implementation of EU INSPIRE Directive
4 – Data Sharing: HIGH

There is a need to develop a national geoportal for facilitating the exchange of information and data among stakeholders and to connect the new geoportal with other already existing system (disaster information system of CMC, environmental information system of MENR, ERRA, etc.).

*It is recommended to develop a single national geoportal that will allow the automatic exchange of information and data among stakeholders. The geoportal should be interoperable with already existing systems. The access, download and transmission of data through the geoportal must be compliant with the new policy framework that will be adopted.*

11.4 Road Map

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>When</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legal and institutional framework</td>
<td>Develop an action plan for the adoption of EU Inspire Directive into national law</td>
<td>MENR (coordinator)</td>
<td>Establish a working group for developing the action plan</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal and institutional framework</td>
<td>adoption of EU Inspire Directive into national law</td>
<td>MENR (coordinator)</td>
<td>Establish a working group for drafting the new policy framework in line with EU INSPIRE directive</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal and institutional framework</td>
<td>Development of a NSDI strategy</td>
<td>MENR and other stakeholders</td>
<td>Establish a working group for the elaboration of NSDI strategy and implementation</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional development</td>
<td>Define role and mandate of institutions for the implementation of the new legislation</td>
<td>MENR (coordinator) and other stakeholders</td>
<td>Draft the necessary sub-legislation</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data-Sharing Platform</td>
<td>Development of a National Geoportal</td>
<td>MENR (coordinator)</td>
<td>Develop a National Geoportal for sharing spatial data (ERRA could contribute on this)</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical implementation of EU Inspire Directive</td>
<td>Spatial Datasets are available on the National Geoportal</td>
<td>Working groups</td>
<td>Application of NSDI implementation plan</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training and Capacity building</td>
<td>Long-term training for Azerbaijan’s Universities and professional training courses for technical groups</td>
<td>Working groups</td>
<td>Developing a training of trainers program coordinated at different levels and across different sectors.</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12 ERRA

| Key Assessors | PPRD East 2 Experts  | Roberto Rudari  
|               | Paolo Campanella |
| Country Thematic Focal Point | N/A |
| Chapter validated by | National Advisory Group |

12.1 Institutional framework

Azerbaijan legislation of data and information sharing is mainly composed by the following laws: Law on Obtaining information and the Law on Freedom of Information However, there is no a specific legal acts that establish National Spatial Data infrastructure. and there are no inter-institutional arrangements to develop a National Geoportal. There are however some thematic Geoportals developed and used in everyday operation of MES. One example is the HADISELLER GIS web portal for real time risk management that is used by the Crisis Management Centre of the MES. Most of the data included in the portal are provided by State Statistical Committee (SSC) and other relevant agencies (e.g., the State Water Resource Agency - SWRA). Azerbaijan is heavily investing in their own platform tailored mainly to MES’ Real Time applications, this should be analysed and considered to interoperate with ERRA. The portal is, in fact, complementary to ERRA. There are clear plans to use ERRA as a repository of Geospatial layers in a Geoportal fashion, maps and other information layers will be produced outside ERRA and then uploaded to ERRA.

12.2 Current status of Installations and Use

Azerbaijan has currently one installation of the ERRA platform in the MES on a local server in a private network. A second one is planned in the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resource (MoENR). The final setup of the installation, still to be confirmed will be in the two already identified locations. With the installation in the MES on a Private Network, while the one in the MoENR will be on a public one to guarantee accessibility to other Azeri institutions and to selected layers at regional level.

The use of ERRA has been continuous at MES, and they stored several layers used by MES, even if the use of ERRA does not appear in any of the SoP of the MES. The use of the platform was mainly to access domestic information; there was no need to access pieces of information from other countries. Metadatation has not been properly tackled yet even if metadata of already produced
layers has been consulted. The catalogue functionality in ERRA has been underexploited so far and open available catalogues have never been linked to the platform.

The Q-GIS plugin of ERRA has never been used also in light of the fact that Q-GIS is not used in Azerbaijan; Arc-GIS is used instead. The Vulnerability and the Critical Asset Modules have never been used. The mobile app is extensively used in order to locate in-the field assets or critical locations, even if this use is still in experimental mode. There was a request to extend the mobile app to platforms other than Android and a viable solution needs to be evaluated.

12.3 Findings and Recommendations

1 – Installation
ERRA should be reachable outside the Private Network of MES and also should be used by other institutions involved in DRA.

*It is recommended to speed up with the second installation at MoENR that will serve as a public ERRA node.*

2 – Use in Emergency and Strategic Planning
The main user identified is the civil servant in its emergency operations. As a result of that a lot of requests are along the lines of Real time information inclusion and extension of ERRA to include some EWS capability. EWS can be fed by ERRA that is mainly a tool to store risk assessment information.

*It is recommended to widen the discussion on the ERRA utility to other institutions involved in DRA starting from MoE that should adopt ERRA as a tool for information coordination, visualisation and sharing.*

3 - Mainstreaming with other National initiatives
A NSDI framework does not exist in Azerbaijan and ERRA is not the only WEB Geoportal for the storage of risk related information.

*It is recommended to strengthen the position of the ERRA portal clarifying the use of ERRA in coordination with the CMC Web Tools and to include it in the SOPs of MES. Secondly it is recommended to involve more institutional actors in contributing to ERRA, not only providing*
information and layers but contributing to that Tool, mainstreaming with future national initiatives that can be related to ERRA.

4 - Support of DLD Collection and visualization
Azerbaijan, as discussed in the DLD section, should invest in a proper centralised IT infrastructure to collect, store and manage Loss data.

*It is recommended to develop a Disaster loss data module in ERRA that is perceived as a real added value to ERRA and could help the reorganization suggested in the DLD section.*

5 - Data sharing inside Azerbaijan
Although Azerbaijan institutions are aware of the importance of data sharing on the context of DRR, there is still a poorly coordinated strategy of data sharing at national level, especially to the wider public.

*It is recommended to define a data sharing policy that includes rules for the information sharing, especially with the wider public.*

6 - Data sharing in the ENPI East Region
In terms of data sharing, policies issues are present in Azerbaijan due to the current international situation as expected. A neutral server should be used where information can be stored and withdrawn without direct exchange with countries in the region. This possibility will be further explored with the unfolding of the Programme, once the political feasibility is reached.

*As a start, it is recommended to define a data sharing policy that includes rules for information sharing at international level.*

### 12.4 Road Map

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>When</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Installation</td>
<td>Reaching the final installation configuration</td>
<td>MES in coordination with MoENR</td>
<td>Installing the system locally at MES and MoENR with the support of the ERRA PPRD</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use in Emergency and Strategic Planning</td>
<td>Identifying proper reference users for ERRA in Strategic Planning</td>
<td>MES in consultation with all institutions involved</td>
<td>MES to identify the reference institutions and start a WG on the ERRA use cases definition</td>
<td>2016</td>
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<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainstreaming with other National initiatives</td>
<td>ERRA coordination with other thematic portals</td>
<td>MES</td>
<td>Establishing a working group on the technical level with the support of PPRD EAST 2 IT experts</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support of DLD Collection and visualization</td>
<td>Development of ERRA DLD Module</td>
<td>MES</td>
<td>Establishing a technical working group including all the stakeholders</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data sharing inside Azerbaijan</td>
<td>Definition of rules for the information sharing, especially with the wider public</td>
<td>MES (coordinator)</td>
<td>Establishing a working group including all the stakeholders</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data sharing in the ENPI East Region</td>
<td>Clarify the type of information and the level of aggregation for the data sharing</td>
<td>MES</td>
<td>Establishing a working group including all the stakeholders</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
13 Annexes

Annex 1 - HNS SOP template

Annex 2 – List of Interlocutors