



PRESS RELEASE

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The inaugural meeting of a Disaster Risk Assessment Working Group for Azerbaijan

Disaster Risk Assessment is a key element of decision and policy-making process. Rather than an activity, it can be viewed as a multi-disciplinary process, allowing for the identification, quantification and understanding of the extent and impacts of the risks a community is facing. It can be performed at different level (from local to national and regional), in a multi-purpose framework (urban planning, spatial planning, emergency planning, etc.) and by a single or multi-risk approach.

The EU-funded Programme on Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters in the Eastern Partnership Countries (PPRD East 2 Programme) intends, among its objectives, to provide assistance to the Partner Countries to enhance their national risk assessment methodology and practice. To this end, main references are the work on disaster risk assessment already developed and shared within the PPRD East Programme and the EU Guidelines on Risk Assessment and Mapping for Disaster Management. The PPRD East 2 Programme intends to assist Partner Countries in adjusting national DRA methodology to reflect the EU Guidelines on DRA; to provide training to Partner Countries on how to implement the adjusted methodology, and then to mentor them as they put the theory into practice.

The work is mainly organized at the national level. In Azerbaijan, a Working Group on Disaster Risk Assessment has been established with the aim to work on drafting the secondary legislation regulating DRA. Within this framework, the inaugural meeting of the AZ DRA Working Group has been organized in Baku on 03 May 2018. Representatives of key institutions involved in disaster risk assessment in Azerbaijan – Ministry of Emergency Situations, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Ministry of Agriculture, National Hydro-Meteorological Department, Republican Seismic Survey Centre of Azerbaijan National Academy of Science, State Committee for urban Planning and Architecture, National Geological Exploration Centre, and Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society - participated at the meeting. The current status in the area of Disaster Risk Assessment has been presented and discussed, and the next steps necessary for drafting secondary legislation have been agreed upon.

Background information

The EU-funded Programme on Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters (PPRD East) was designed to contribute to the peace, stability, security and prosperity of the Eastern Partner Countries. It aims also to protect the environment, population, cultural heritage, resources and infrastructures of the region by strengthening the countries' resilience, preparedness and response to man-made disasters and disasters caused by natural hazards. Currently in its 2nd phase, the PPRD East Programme facilitates the strengthening of disaster risk management capacities at the national level in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, strengthens regional cooperation among the Partner Countries, and brings Partner Countries progressively closer to the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. This 2nd phase runs from 2014 to 2018 with a budget of €5.5 million.

For more information, please see the links: www.pprdeast2.eu, <http://pprdeast2.eu/en/approximation-to-eu/disaster-risk-assessment/>



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The European Commission is the EU's executive body.

"The European Union is made up of 28 countries and the people of those countries. It is a unique political and economic partnership founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, equality, the rule of law and human rights. Over more than fifty years we have created a zone of peace, democracy, stability and prosperity on our continent while maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The EU looks to share its values and achievements with neighbouring countries and peoples and those farther afield."