

Strasbourg, 21 June 2012

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**EUROPEAN AND MEDITERRANEAN MAJOR HAZARDS AGREEMENT  
(EUR-OPA)**

**“ECOSYSTEM-BASED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION FOR RESILIENT  
AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”**

*Regional Workshop for Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan  
29 May – 1 June 2012, Tbilisi, Georgia*

Following the adoption by the Committee of Permanent Correspondents of its recommendation 2012-1 on ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction, the Executive Secretariat accepted the offer of the government of Georgia to organise and fund a training workshop in Tbilisi aimed to improve awareness and practice on the field in the three Caucasus States. The workshop was also intended to develop knowledge and skill on how to integrate ecosystem management and PRR, and promote cross-sectoral and neighbors cooperation in the region.

The main facilitators of the workshop were Mrs Olga Shashkina (Ministry of Environment of Georgia), Ms Marisol Estrella (UNEP), Ms Ioana Creitaru (CADRI / UNDP). They were supported by Mr Fernandez-Galiano, Executive Secretary of the Agreement and Mr Johann Goldammer, Director of the Global Fire Monitoring Centre, a centre in the Network of the Agreement.

The meeting was opened by Mr Gocha Mamatsashvili, First Deputy Minister (Ministry of Environment Protection of Georgia). There were 19 participants from the three Caucasus States (see list of participants in Appendix 3 to this short note).

The workshop was supported by the Ministry of Environment of Georgia, the EUR-OPA Agreement, UNEP, UNDP and IUCN.

A detailed programme is presented in Appendix 1 to this note and the (positive) evaluation from participants in Appendix 2.

The Executive Secretariat should like to express its gratitude to all the participants, facilitators and organisations that made possible what we understand as a positive experience.



**Regional Workshop for Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan**  
**“Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilient and Sustainable Development”**  
 29 May – 1 June 2012, Tbilisi, Georgia

*AGENDA FOR PARTICIPANTS*

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	
Tuesday 29 May	Wednesday 30 May	Thursday 31 May	Friday 1 June	
Registration 9.00-9.30	Gathering for Field Trip  9.00-9.30	Recap of field trip findings 9.00-10.00	Recap of Day 3 9.00-9.30	
Welcome Remarks 9.30-10.00	<b>FIELD TRIP: The <i>Borjomi-Kharagauli National Park</i></b>  Departure: 9.30 Arrival: 18.00  <i>Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia share the common threat of wildfires. The field trip location is the <b>Borjomi-Kharagauli National Park</b>, one of the largest parks in Europe. It covers more than 85,000 hectares of native forest and sub-alpine and alpine meadows, home to rare species of flora and fauna.</i>	Open Space Sessions 10.00-11.30	Tools Marketplace 9.30-11.15	
MODULE 1. Opening session – Keynote remarks 10.00-11.00		<i>Coffee/ Tea Break 11.00-11.15</i>	<i>Coffee/ Tea Break 11.30-11.45</i>	<i>Coffee/ Tea Break 11.15-11.30</i>
<i>Coffee/ Tea Break 11.00-11.15</i>		Introduction to the Workshop 11.15-12.15	MODULE 4. Making Eco-DRR and climate change adaptation work in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan  4.1. Introduction 11.45-12.00	SESSION 4.5. Group work (Agenda for Action) – Continued 11.30-13.00
MODULE 1. Eco-DRR: Enhancing Resilience in Development - Continued 12.15-12.45			Session 4.2. Global policy context 12.00-12.15	
Group photo 12.45-13.00			Session 4.3. National policy context for disaster management/ risk reduction and climate change adaptation 12.45-13.00	
<i>Lunch 13.00-14.00</i>			<i>Lunch 13.00-14.00</i>	<i>Lunch 13.00-14.00</i>
MODULE 2. What is Eco-DRR? 14.00-15.30			SESSION 4.4. Group work (Agenda for Action): Situation analysis 14.00-16.00	MODULE 5. Agenda for Action – Presentation from Participants 14.00-16.00
MODULE 3. Linking Eco-DRR to Climate Change Adaptation  Session 3.1. Climate Change and Ecosystem-based Adaptation 15.30 – 16.15			SESSION 4.5. Group work (Agenda for Action) 16.00-16.30	Reflections exercise: Game on Systems Thinking 16.00-16.30
<i>Tea / Coffee Break 16.15-16.30</i>			<i>Tea / Coffee Break 16.30-16.45</i>	<i>Tea / Coffee Break 16.30-16.45</i>

## Appendix 1

<b>MODULE 3.2. Demonstrating the links between Eco-DRR and Ecosystem based Adaptation</b> 16.30-17.15		<b>SESSION 4.5. Group work (Agenda for Action) – Continued</b> 16.30-17.45	<b>Workshop evaluation</b> 16:45-17:00
<b>Introduction to Field Trip</b> 17.15-17.45			
<b>FEEDBACK</b> 17.45-18.00		<b>FEEDBACK</b> 17.45-18.00	<b>Closing remarks and awarding of certificates</b> 17.00-17.30

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*WORKSHOP STRUCTURE*

## Day 1

Opening session - Keynote  
Presentation: Enhancing  
Resilience in Development

MODULE 1. Eco-DRR:  
Enhancing Resilience in  
Development

MODULE 2. What is Eco-  
DRR?

MODULE 3. Linking Eco-  
DRR to Climate Change  
Adaptation

## Day 2

**FIELD TRIP:**  
**Showcasing Forest Fire  
Management in the  
Borjomi-Kharagauli  
National Park**

## Day 3

MODULE 4. Making Eco-  
DRR Work in Georgia,  
Armenia and Azerbaijan

- 4.1. Introduction to Group Work
- 4.2. Global Policy Context for Eco-DRR
- 4.3. National Policy Context for Eco-DRR
- 4.4. Situation Analysis (Group Work)
- 4.5. Agenda for Action (Group Work)

## Day 4

MODULE 4. Making Eco-  
DRR Work in Georgia,  
Armenia and Azerbaijan

- 4.5. Agenda for Action (Group Work)  
- continued

MODULE 5. Agenda for  
Action (Presentation of  
results)

Evaluation & Closing of the  
workshop



Regional Workshop for Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan  
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**Evaluation from Participants – Synthesis**  
**10 June 2012**

**1. Course objectives**

Do you think the following objectives have been met?	Not met	Partly met	Mostly met	Fully met
	Number of responses			
1. <b>Increase awareness</b> among key players about the multiple benefits of ecosystem services for disaster risk reduction and sustainable development, and the methods for sustaining and enhancing these services.	0	2	8	10
2. <b>Develop knowledge and skills</b> on how to integrate ecosystem management <i>and</i> disaster risk reduction into climate-resilient development planning processes.	0	4	7	9
3. <b>Promote and facilitate cross-sectoral collaboration</b> amongst environmental/ecosystem management, disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and development practitioners.	0	3	8	9

**2. Workshop design**

**2.1. What did you like about the overall design and structure of the course?**

- Good organization
- Good and efficient structure (combination of theory and practice), which made the course interesting and contributed to the involving of all stakeholders
- Productive collective discussion of the topic
- Group work
- Field work
- Sharing of countries’ experience
- Consecutive approach and training

New knowledge on disaster risk reduction

**2.2. How do you think the design and structure of the course can be improved?**

- Different grouping based on “regional” criteria rather than on “country level” criteria
- More collaboration among the participants from different countries
- Involvement of a bigger number of organizations and interested stakeholders
- Realization of the course out of the city
- Narrowed scope that would concentrate on separate disaster
- Reduction of theoretical part and increase of practical part, with country based presentations
- Equal country participation
- More interactivity – interaction between participants
- More sharing of international experience
- Participants of more appropriate level
- Using of more modern tools for the improvement of participants’ knowledge during the course
- Improvement of technical side
- Implementation of policy and practice existing in other developed countries
- No real suggestions, total satisfaction with the course

**3. Presentation**

3.1 The presentation and facilitation of the workshop was (Number of responses)	Poor	0	Adequate	7	Good	3	Very good	10
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**3.2. Do you have any suggestions for alternative ways of facilitating the workshop?**

- Presentations should be focused on barriers to the implementations of DRR measures and ways to overcome these barriers
- Negative aspects of DRR measures should be discussed
- More practical training
- More active and mixed group-work implementation
- No suggestions, satisfaction with the course

**4. Content**

**4.1. Which session or topic did you find most useful, and why?**

- Forest Fire Management topic
- Environmental Management and Risk Reduction Tools
- Territory protection as a mean to reduce disaster risk
- National Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction
- National Policy context for disaster management
- Risk Reduction and climate change adaptation
- Topics on floods
- Field trip as an example “in practice”
- Group work, that contributes to a better cooperation between the participants
- Elaboration of the Plan of Action
- Sharing of regional experience

Development of case studies for countries, which facilitates cooperation and improves understanding

All sessions considered as useful taking into the account the scope of the course

**4.2. Which session or topic did you find least useful, and why?**

Presentations, especially general ones

Satisfaction with all the parts of the course

**4.3. Was there anything not included in the workshop that needs to be? If so, what is it?**

Mal-adaptation issues

Sharing of the electronic versions of the presentations with the participants

Adaptation of the training materials to local “cultural” context

Use of photos

Use of video presentations

Satisfaction with the course

**5. Satisfaction**

<b>5.1 Overall, how would you rate this course?</b> (Number of responses)	Poor	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Adequate	<input type="text" value="4"/>	Good	<input type="text" value="3"/>	Very good	<input type="text" value="12"/>
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**5.2. Any further comments**

More frequent and intense interconnections between climate change and DRR should be provided

Attendees should be chosen and distributed between decisions more properly

Technical problems with the interpretation

Organization of such seminars on a country level





**REGIONAL WORKSHOP FOR GEORGIA, ARMENIA AND AZERBAIJAN**  
**“Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilient and Sustainable Development”**  
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**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

<b>ARMENIA</b>		
<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE/ NAME OF ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>TELEPHONE/E-MAIL</b>
<b>Sevak BALOYAN</b>	<b>Agency for the management of bioresources, Head of animal management resources department /Ministry of Nature Protection of RA</b>	<b>(374 10) 580 699 (374 77) 77780076, e-mail: <a href="mailto:sevbaloyan@rambler.ru">sevbaloyan@rambler.ru</a></b>
<b>Ruben PETROSYAN</b>	<b>Deputy Director, Chief Forester/ Ministry of Agriculture of RA , "Hayantar" SNCO</b>	<b>(37410) 65 02 70, e-mail: <a href="mailto:ruben.armforest@gmail.com">ruben.armforest@gmail.com</a></b>
<b>Ashot GILOYAN</b>	<b>Head of the Department of the Local Self-Government/RA Ministry of Territorial Administration</b>	<b>Tel.(+37410) 511 342, 055 497816, e-mail: <a href="mailto:a.giloyan@mta.gov.am">a.giloyan@mta.gov.am</a></b>
<b>Movses POGHOSYAN</b>	<b>Director/DRR National Platform/ARNAP Foundation</b>	<b>+374 10 241231 e-mail: <a href="mailto:movses.poghosyan@mes.am">movses.poghosyan@mes.am</a></b>
<b>Vrej GABRIELIAN</b>	<b>Deputy Director of Rescue Service, Ministry of Emergency Situations of Armenia</b>	<b>+374 91 402896 e-mail: <a href="mailto:gabrielyan@mes.am">gabrielyan@mes.am</a></b>

<b>AZERBAIJAN</b>		
NAME	TITLE/ NAME OF ORGANIZATION	TELEPHONE/E-MAIL
<b>Sabit ZEYNIYEV</b>	<b>Head of Environmental Protection/Tamiz Shahar JSC, Ministry of Economical Development of Azerbaijan Republic</b>	<b>e-mail: sabitzeyniyev@mail.ru</b>
<b>Tarana HUSEYNOVA</b>	<b>Head Specialist of National Environmental Monitoring Department, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan Republic</b>	<b>Phone: (+994 50) 389-62-72 (+994 70) 289-62-72 e-mail: az.mineco@gmail.com</b>
<b>Sagif MANAFOV</b>	<b>Hydrologist Engineer of National Hydro-Meteorological Department/ Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan Republic</b>	<b>Phone: (+994 50) 389-62-72 (+994 70) 289-62-72 e-mail: az.mineco@gmail.com</b>
<b>Ilgar HASANOV</b>	<b>Senior advisor/Ministry of Emergency Situations ( Replacement for Ilkin Kangarli, HFA National Focal Point)</b>	<b>e-mail: gasanov.i@gmail.com</b>
<b>Jevriya GULIYEVA</b>	<b>Tamiz Shahar JSC, Ministry of Economical Development of Azerbaijan Republic</b>	<b>e-mail: jevriya.guliyeva@gmail.com</b>

<b>GEORGIA</b>		
NAME	TITLE/ NAME OF ORGANIZATION	TELEPHONE/E-MAIL
<b>Irakli MEGRELIDZE</b>	<b>Head of Division, Management of Hydrometeorological Hazardous events/ National Environmental Agency, Ministry of Environment Protection</b>	<b>Phone: 591404099 e-mail: ikakoo@hotmail.com</b>
<b>Emil TSERETELI</b>	<b>Head, Department of Geological Hazards and Geological Environment Management, National Environmental Agency, Ministry of Environment Protection</b>	<b>Phone: 599544888</b>
<b>Merab GAFRINDASHVILI</b>	<b>Head of Geological Hazards Division, National Environmental Agency, Ministry of Environment Protection</b>	<b>Phone: 591 4040 43 e-mail: gaprinda1609@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Alexandre JORJIKIA</b>	<b>Senior Expert, Ministry of Internal Affairs/ Emergency Management Department</b>	<b>e-mail: a.jorjikia@mia.gov.ge</b>
<b>Nika SIKHARULIDZE</b>	<b>Chief Advisor /National Security Council</b>	<b>Phone: 595262580 e-mail: n_sikharulidze@hotmail.com</b>
<b>Eka GVELESIANI</b>	<b>Advisor of Deputy Secretary/ National Security Council</b>	<b>Phone: 599222884 e-mail: e.gvelesiani@nsc.gov.ge</b>
<b>Eka SLOVINSKY</b>	<b>Coordinator of Mathematics, Science and Technologies, National Curriculum Division of National Curriculum and General Education Development Department Ministry of Education and Science</b>	<b>Phone: 577556070 e-mail: eslovinsky@mes.gov.ge</b>

<b>Marina MAKAROVA</b>	<b>Head of Water Resource Management Division (expert), Department of Integrated Management of Environment, Ministry of Environment Protection</b>	<b>Phone: 595119704 e-mail: m.makarova@moe.gov.ge</b>
<b>Marina SHVANGIRADZE</b>	<b>Manager of Georgia's Third National Communication to the UNFCCC (expert)</b>	<b>Phone: 599191275 e-mail: mshvangiradze@hotmail.ge</b>
<b>Lasha KHMIADASHVILI</b>	<b>Head of Infrastructure Development Division, Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development</b>	<b>e-mail: 577995111</b>
<b>Nino CHIKOVANI</b>	<b>UN Convention combating desertification Focal Point, Division of Environmental Policy, Ministry of Environment Protection</b>	<b>e-mail: n.chikovani@moe.gov.ge</b>
<b>Maia JAVAKHISHVILI</b>	<b>National Focal Point to the ENPI-SEIS Project "Towards the Shared Environmental Information System in the European Neighbourhood", Chief Specialist, Environmental Policy Division, Ministry of Environment Protection</b>	<b>Phone: 2727243 e-mail: m.javakhishvili@moe.gov.ge</b>
<b>Shota TSUKOSHVILI</b>	<b>Senior Specialist, Ministry of Agriculture</b>	<b>e-mail: Sh.tsukoshvili@moa.gov.ge</b>
<b>Irakli LEGASHVILI</b>	<b>The Regional Environmental Centre for the Caucasus - REC Caucasus /DRR Expert</b>	<b>Phone: 593 20 00 85 e-mail: chem_ira@yahoo.com</b>
<b>Marina ARABIDZE</b>	<b>Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources</b>	<b>Phone: 577370183 e-mail: m.arabidze@gogc.ge</b>

<b>George KURTSIKASHVILI</b>	<b>Chief Specialist, Department of Ecological Expertise and Inspection, Ministry of Environment Protection</b>	<b>e-mail: g.kurtsikashvili@gmail.com</b>
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