

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

I. Natural hazards in Kyrgyz Republic

1.1 Natural hazards likely to affect the country

Slides, earthquake, epidemic, extreme temperature, flood

1.2 Recent major disasters

year	dis_subset	killed	injured	total_affected	dam (US '000s)
2005	Flood	3	0	2050	2660
2004	Landslide	5	0	—	—
2004	Landslide	33	16	96	—
2004	Avalanche	11	2	2	—

Source: "EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database, www.em-dat.net - Université catholique de Louvain - Brussels - Belgium"

Natural Hazards related to slopes such as flash floods, mudflows, avalanches and landslides also represent a great threat to more than two thirds of the people living in the country. 94.6% of the territory consists of mountains, whose altitude is higher than 1,000 m above sea level, and 56% higher than 2,500m, the highest peak culminating at 7,436 above sea level. The first of the year 2005 alone, more than 100 landslides, mudflows, avalanches and localized floods have so far struck the country. In 2004 many people were killed in avalanches.

In response to natural disasters, the Ministry of Emergency Situations, in cooperation with local authorities, has made the following efforts:

- 70 yurts, 23 shepherd houses, about 8,000 tents, clothes and food were sent to the regions affected by the earthquake in 1992
- in 1997-98, about 30,000 dwellings were repaired, restored or purchased for displaced people and the construction of several thousand homes was started
- 182 schools, 40 public health units, dozens of cultural, public and domestic units have been repaired
- dozens of kilometers of roads and other communications have been repaired
- dozens of kilometers of dykes have been built to protect thousands of dwellings, several schools and farms units.¹

¹ <http://www.unece.org/env/epr/studies/kyrgyzstan/chapter03.pdf>

II. Disaster Management system

2.1 Administrative system

<i>Conventional long form:</i>	Kyrgyz Republic
<i>Conventional short form:</i>	Kyrgyzstan
<i>Government type:</i>	republic
<i>Capital:</i>	Bishkek
<i>Administrative Divisions:</i>	7 provinces (oblastlar, singular - oblasty) and 1 city* (shaar); <i>note:</i> administrative divisions have the same names as their administrative centers (exceptions have the administrative center name following in parentheses)

2.2 Legal system, legal framework

The Ministry of Emergency Situations has the main responsibility for developing a unified State policy for the prevention, mitigation and response to natural disasters, as well as for coordinating the activities between other ministries.

According to Government Decree No. 198 of 2 May 1996, the Prime Minister is the Chief of Civil Defense and the Minister for Emergency Situations is the First Deputy Chief. The Ministry of Emergency Situations is an independent institutional structure responsible for working out measures for the prevention of emergencies, the protection of people and national property, and for increasing the stability of economic objects in the event of a disaster. The Ministry of Emergency Situations was also responsible for coordinating and promoting activities within the framework of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (1990-2000). The Ministry has large requisitionary powers over the personnel and equipment of other government services in emergencies. The Ministry has specialized civil defense units, which consist of public agencies and institutions (militia, fire brigade, medical services, etc.) and are enlisted to accomplish special tasks in emergencies. At the *oblast* and local levels, the Ministry works through its local units and local State administrations. The Centre for Emergency Management and Coordination at the Ministry of Emergency Situations collects, analyses, processes and disseminates data related to disaster management, thereby serving as a tool for the communication of disaster information and the preparation of disaster forecasts that are used in government decision-making.

The Ministry has the following structure and consists of:

- Central office
- Division of Civil Defense

- Board for dealing with the consequences of disasters
- State reserve fund
- State mining engineering supervision
- Local MC&CD units

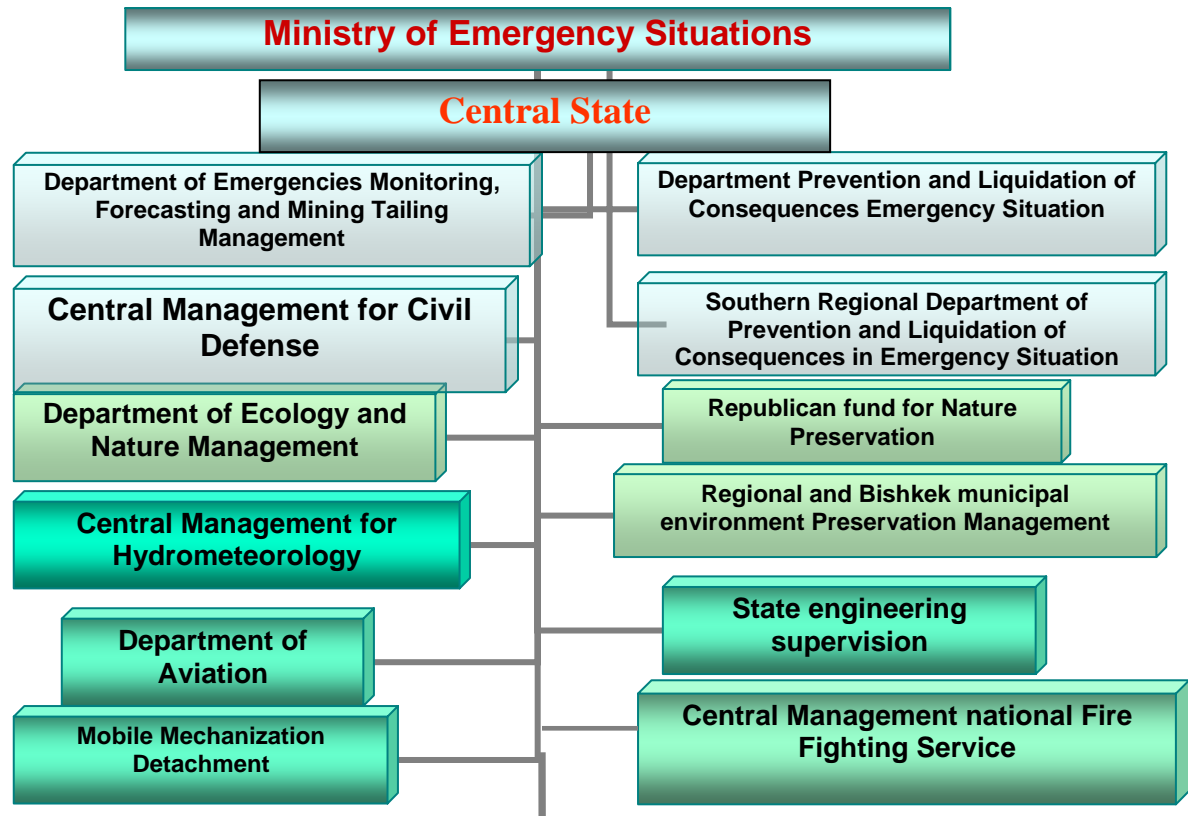
The laws and regulations governing natural disasters, which Kyrgyzstan inherited from the Soviet period, are gradually being replaced or amended by new laws and regulations. The major problem, however, lies in their implementation. Many regulations have not been fully implemented because of a lack of funds. The standard documents regulating anti-seismic measures are being worked out by the Institute for Seismic Resistant Construction (Ministry of Architecture and Construction). The Institute is also responsible for the evaluation of the seismic resistance of buildings as well as the engineering inspection of existing buildings. The first step taken by the Ministry of Architecture and Construction to reduce earthquake losses was the development of a set of seismic building codes. The codes have been revised 5 times since the 1960s, and the following building standards and regulations are currently in force:

- *Building in seismic zones*, valid since 1981 (SniP II A. 12-62)
- *Building in the zones with seismicity of more than 9 units*, valid as of 1994 (SniP 2.01.02-94 KR)
- *Building in Bishkek taking into account seismic zoning and soil-geological conditions*, valid as of 1993 (SniP 2.01-93 KR)
- *Seismic evaluation of existing buildings*, in force since 1998 (SniP 22-01-98 KR)
- *Re-profiling of existing residential buildings*, adopted 1999 (SniP KR 31-01-99)

The analysis by the Institute for Seismic Resistant Construction of the aftermath of earthquakes which have occurred during the past years in Kyrgyzstan shows that the 85 per cent degree of damage to brick buildings was twice as high as expected given the standards. This is partly due to shoddy building work and the absence of some anti-seismic measures foreseen by the standards. In 1998, the Regulation on Seismic evaluation of existing buildings empowered the Ministry of Architecture and Construction to inspect public buildings and enterprises in order to evaluate their seismic resistance and to make recommendations for their strengthening. In cases of violation, the inspectors can propose to limit or suspend the activities of the enterprise, or to cancel the permits. The Institute for Seismic Resistant Construction is currently drafting a new building code. All the designing documentation on hydraulic structures and the architecture legislation of the Republic are examined by experts from the State Expertise agencies of the Ministry of Architecture and Construction, in order to check their compliance with the standard documents in force.

2.3 Structure of disaster management

The Ministry of Emergency Situations, Kyrgyz Republic is the prime organization taking charge of disaster reduction efforts in the country.



2.4 Priority on disaster risk management

III. Disaster management plan

IV. Budget size on national level

Funds for disaster management are scarce. All enterprises allot 1.5 per cent of their turnover for disaster management. In 1999, this amount totaled 255.4 million soms. At present, as resources are limited, the most vigorous efforts are focused on post-disaster rescue and repairing the consequences of disasters; less than 1 per cent of the disaster management budget of the Ministry of Emergency Situations is allocated for preventive measures. However, a number of initiatives have been taken in cooperation with multilateral and bilateral partners to develop expertise in the area of disaster preparedness, mitigation and response.

V. Progress and situations of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA)

VI. Project on disaster reduction headed by MME

Project Title: Capacity Building of the Population of Kyrgyz Republic in Disaster Reduction

Program Objectives: The main objective of the project is to strengthen the capacity of the people of the Kyrgyz to deal with natural disasters. The target groups of the project are: central and local official, school teachers, pupils and students, journalists, community leaders and other important actors of disaster reduction.

Specifically, the project aims to:

- 1) raise public awareness on disaster reduction
- 2) Increase knowledge and skills in disaster reduction, preparedness and response; and
- 3) Incorporate a holistic, integrated and comprehensive approach to disaster reduction in daily life of the population

Project Duration: August 1, 2005 – March 31, 2006

Implementing Agency: Department of Emergencies Monitoring, Forecasting and Mining Tailings Management, Ministry of Emergency Situations, Kyrgyz Republic

Primary Beneficiaries: Recipients of the educational/training materials and participants of the seven (7) seminars

Secondary beneficiaries: residents of the Kyrgyz Republic

Brief Description of the project: The Kyrgyz Republic is a mountainous country vulnerable to a variety of natural disasters. The common natural hazards which pose threat to the population include flash floods, mud flow, avalanches, landslides and earthquakes. The population at risk to natural hazards amounts to more than two thirds of the total population of the country. Further, the number of natural disasters is increasing due to the active seismic activities, global warming, growing population and the territory's infrastructure, thus, the need to increase the capacity of the country in disaster reduction, preparedness and response is urgently required. The Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic, with financial and technical assistance from the Asian Disaster Reduction Center, will implement a cooperative project to raise the public awareness among the general public and to train the key stakeholders using the training and educational materials to be prepared by the project.

Strategy The project will produce information and educational /training materials such as training books, atlases and methodological manuals to improve knowledge and enhance awareness in disaster reduction, preparedness and response. It will then disseminate them to all kinds of educational institutions, libraries, local governmental institutions and the population in general. Further, the project will conduct training seminars in different districts of the country, using the materials developed.

Institutional Arrangements The project will be implemented in the framework of Cooperative Project Program, set up by ADRC in order to strengthen the disaster reduction capacity of member countries. The Dept of Emergencies Monitoring and Forecasting and Mining Tailing Management, Ministry of Ecology and Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic will be mainly responsible for implementing the project.

Project Outputs:

- educational and training materials developed by the project are widely disseminated among the population in general and used for their training;
- the population in general are informed properly of the existing sources of hazards and their consequences, and to enhance, through training, people's skills to protect themselves against all types of disasters including natural, man caused, ecological, biological and social disasters; and
- the population, after the completion of the project, will have increased awareness of the need to incorporate a holistic, integrated and comprehensive approach to disaster reduction and have sufficient knowledge and skill to prevent and respond to disasters.

VII. ADRC Counterpart

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