

RCC member countries

Georgia



Country Information

Region: Central Asia

Population: Approximately 3.7 million

Capital: Tbilisi

GDP (US\$): \$15.159 billion

Geography: Georgia is a transcontinental country, located along the dividing lines of Asia and Europe in the South Caucasus region, between the Black sea to the west and Caucasus mountains to the north; 80% of the territory is mountainous.

General climate: The climate is dry and continental in eastern Georgia with hot summers and mild winters. The climate in western Georgia and on the Black Sea coast is warm and semi-tropical.

INFORM Risk Rating: 3.8

Risk Summary

- Floods, debris flows, landslides and avalanches occur regularly, mostly in the mountainous parts of the country and along the major rivers, and can severely affect local communities.
- In the last 40 years, 70% of the country has experienced natural hazards, with economic damages exceeding \$14 billion.
- Flooding is the most frequently occurring hazard and has compounding effects as around 50% of the country is predisposed to landslides and mudflows.
- Droughts occur most notably in the Kakheti, Shida Kartli and Imereti regions. In 2000, drought in Kakheti and Kvemo-Kartli regions affected 696,000 people and caused economic losses of \$200 million.
- Georgia is situated in one of the most seismically active regions in the Alpine-Himalayan collision belt: every year, earthquakes affect around 200,000 Georgians and about \$900 million in GDP.
- A high intensity seismic event with low annual probability could potentially cause about 20,000 fatalities and \$7 billion in capital loss.

Disaster Management System

National Level

- **Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection (MENRP), Natural and Technological Hazards Management Service**

This service is in charge of the coordination and implementation of environmental strategies and policies, planning of DRR activities, setup of a database of DRR activities and capacity development related to Early Warning Systems.

- **Disaster Prevention and Planning Division**

Under the Emergency Management Service of Georgia (EMS), this division is mandated to coordinate DRR, prevention and preparedness activities across the country within its area of competency.

- **Standing Secretariat of the Expert-Advisory Council**

Under the EMS, the council is mandated to develop a strategy for the implementation of the National Response Plan that would: (i) ensure disaster management with a strong institutional basis for implementation and a relevant legal and political framework; (ii) identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning; (iii) ensure knowledge and education related to safety

matters during emergencies; (iv) reduce the underlying risk factors of emergency situations; (v) strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels.

- **State Security and Crisis Management Council**

The council is under the Prime Minister's office and was established to adopt political decisions of the highest level to ensure state security and crisis management. It is mandated to elaborate proposals on preventive and response measures against political, social, economic and ecological threats. It also manages the Crisis Operations Centre.

- **National Crisis Management Centre**

Upon occurrence of a crisis, the center elaborates prevention, risk reduction and response plans for the occurring crisis at the government level; coordinates the activities of state agencies; and creates and maintains an information database.

- **National Environmental Agency (NEA)**

The NEA is mandated to monitor ongoing hydro-meteorological, geodynamic and geological events.

- **Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure (MRDI)**

The MRDI is in charge of mainstreaming DRR into regional development policy and municipal planning.

- **Natural Disaster Prevention and Rapid Response Unit**

It is mandated to integrate disaster prevention, early warning, response and post-disaster recovery in infrastructure planning and development.

Helpful Links and Sources

Country Statistics:

<https://data.worldbank.org/country/georgia>

Disaster Risk Profile:

<https://www.gfdr.org/georgia>

Georgia Country Profile:

<http://pprdeast2.eu/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/GE-Country-Profile-FINAL1.pdf>

Government of Georgia website:

<http://gov.ge/>

Emergency Management Service of Georgia (EMS) website:

<https://es.gov.ge/>

National Plan of Action for Capacity Development in DRR, 2015-2019

<https://www.cadri.net/sites/default/files/GEORGIA-National-Plan-for-CD-in-DRR-Draft.pdf>

DRR Capacity Assessment Report, UNDP, 2014:

http://www.ge.undp.org/content/georgia/en/home/library/environment_energy/disaster-risk-reduction-capacity-assessment-report.html