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## Kyrgyz Republic Ministry of Emergency Response

### Kyrgyz

#### Striving for Excellence

The threat of natural disasters and technical accidents that put undue burden on public entities is growing. Local governments need to link up with the Kyrgyz Republic Ministry of Emergency Response and conceive of a substantially new approach to preserving the safety of citizens and properties from emergency situations, based on the success stories of countries from all parts of the world. One way to solve this problem is to obtain the participation of a wide range of citizens and local communities and maintain the knowledge and skills needed to prevent natural disasters and effectively eliminate damage. In 2006, as part of its efforts to beef up emergency response readiness, the Kyrgyz Republic Ministry of Emergency Response enlisted the support of the Asian Disaster Prevention Center and distributed training materials for the following objectives:

1. Monitor and predict areas at risk and danger phenomena, and be ready to respond in the case of emergency, within the Republic of Kyrgyz and the border areas with its neighbor countries in Central Asia. Collect information on--and have the intention to accept--protective measures implemented by the federal government, provincial governments, municipal and regional governments, local communities, citizens, and all concerned government ministries and agencies.
2. Prepare small books of maps aimed at reducing risk by predicting emergency situations that may arise within the Republic of Kyrgyz and in the 7 regions with provincial governments, the 40 administrative districts, and the special cities of Bishkek and Osh.
3. Prepare large-format color electronic maps for predicting emergency situations that may arise in the 40 administrative districts.
4. Prepare an "emergency response readiness guide for citizens, local communities, children and students" with the aim of providing systematic support for the 7 provincial governments, 8 most densely populated cities, 40 administrative districts, and 430 regional authorities.
5. Draw up a program to prepare for emergency situations and respond to natural disasters (earthquakes, mudslides, floods, landslides, rising lake levels, and radioactive environments) in border areas with Kyrgyzstan. The purpose of this program is to research investment.

Scientists of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Asia Disaster Prevention Center (Kobe, Japan), and the Central Asian Earth Research Institute in Bishkek have accumulated a lot of experience to date, and they have used that experience to organize disaster experts, technical experts, geologists, structures responsible for the prevention and management of emergency situations, workers, designers, and builders in order to give shape to investment projects and seek the cooperation of supporting countries. In addition, they have instituted drills and exercises so that local governments and agencies, students, and children will be able to respond correctly when an emergency situation occurs.

The Asian Disaster Prevention Center has distributed materials describing supervisory and training methods to seminar participants. If these materials are used, they will play a huge role in preventing all kinds of emergency situations, saving lives, and maintaining health. In the most vulnerable communities, no-charge rescue and support operations based on prescribed surveys have been started. Needed now is research on monitoring dangerous natural phenomena, as well as the development and utilization of modern technology-based research methods and a ground information system (GIS) based on the latest computer programs and computer technology. Within the scope of the World Bank Project "Prevention of Emergency Situations" in Japan, Turkey, and Germany, top experts have acquired the latest programs, namely, Arkingo, Arkcis, ERDAS, and Mapinfo, and having prepared a database for each type of emergency situation, they are now capable of analyzing and monitoring the development of high-level prediction techniques. The introduction of such technologies has made it possible to reach decisions in an orderly fashion regarding the prediction and organization of emergency situations.