



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Swiss Cooperation Office
South Caucasus

Provision of Expertise to the Local Authorities in the field of Social Housing



Project title	Provision of Expertise to the Local Authorities in the field of Social Housing
General information	Region: Tbilisi, Georgia Duration: 01.08.2012-31.12.2013 Budget: CHF 100'000
Project partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tbilisi City Hall• Other target City Halls (if involved)• UNDP on a consultative base
Project objectives	The project aims at the improvement of the Tbilisi City Hall's capacities allowing its representatives to have appropriate and adequate competencies to help the institution independently build and run social houses and various shelters (e.g. shelters for elderly, night shelters) for socially vulnerable and homeless local population.
Background	The "frozen" conflicts from the '90s, as well as the August 2008 crisis in Georgia combined with the volatility of political, social and economic environments, limited physical and economic security disproportionately affected the vulnerable local and internally displaced population. They continue to be confronted with difficult living conditions, unemployment, inadequate access to health and other social services. The Government has no housing policy, and there are no Government-funded housing projects or other actors (e.g. donors, INGOs) to support the most vulnerable local people. Development of a (social) housing strategy and/or affordable housing projects benefitting all vulnerable residents

notwithstanding their status is still not on the central Government's agenda. However, municipalities are eager to get engaged in housing for the benefit of their vulnerable populations. Tbilisi City Hall, being a viable self-governing entity, is best placed with its financial resources but lacks technical expertise to independently design and construct social houses and other municipal shelters, and competently manage them. Hence, SDC's expertise is needed to build its human capacities. This support will also facilitate and strengthen SDC's phase-out from the SHSE field.

Project activities

- Assess the Tbilisi City Hall's (namely, Social Affairs and Culture Department and Tbilisi Architecture LEPL) in-house capacities, as well as the municipal programs targeting the vulnerable population.
- Review the Georgian construction norms and standards.
- Explore and establish links with other institutional stakeholders to widen the circle of partners and increase the project's sustainability (e.g. Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Georgian Technical University (GTU)).
- Help the City Hall identify the best land plot for the construction of social houses.
- Provide the Tbilisi City Hall with the social housing architectural design and cost-estimations to take over for construction.
- Develop social housing technical standards for Georgia.

Expected results

- Project team consisting of local experts was established to coordinate the project activities between different stakeholders in Georgia (Tbilisi City Hall, GTU, SDC) in consultation with the Swiss expert.
- Master students of the Georgian Technical University participated in the implementation of 'social housing research and analysis' and 'social housing architectural design' components of the project.
- Competition was held among the participating students; best project was identified; working designs were developed for the best project and handed over to the Tbilisi City Hall for construction.
- Social housing technical standards were developed with a copyright given to the Tbilisi City Hall.
- City Council approved the City Hall's budget to build social houses.



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