RISK MANAGEMENT FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF A DEVELOPING COUNTRY: THE CASE OF UNGHENI, REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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Republic of Moldova is located in southeastern Europe. Moldova is bordered on the west and southwest by Romania and on the north, south, and east by Ukraine. Most of its territory lies between two main rivers, the Dniester and the Prut.

- **Districts** – 32
- **Municipalities** – 13 (Chisinau, Balti, Bender, Comrat, Tiraspol + Cahul, Ungheni, Soroca, Orhei, Ceadîr-Lunga, Strășeni, Edineț, Hîncești)
- **Territorial units** - ATU Gagauzia, Transnistria
- **Towns** – 52
- **Communes and villages** – 1614
Ungheni District – General Data

- Geographical position of Ungheni District – in the Central-Western part of the Republic of Moldova
- **Surface of Ungheni District** - 108,3 thousand hectares (49,9 thousand ha – agricultural surface, 28,8 thousand ha – forests and other lands with forest vegetation, 4,7 thousand ha – water resources)
- **Population** - 110,5 thousand inhabitants
- **Economic potential** – agriculture, processing agricultural products industry, 80 % in district industry is fibers preparation, carpets and mats production, 3650 small and middle enterprises, that can be find in all production and providing services branches.
- **Ungheni District** – 33 mayoralties (12 villages, 19 communes, 2 towns)
  - Distance Ungheni – Chisinau: 105 km
  - Distance Ungheni – Balti: 80 km
  - Distance Ungheni – Iasi (Romania): 21 km
Multi-risk assessment preconditions:

- Need to achieve complete compatibility and interoperability with collective safety systems as are EU, UN
- Sector approach in evaluation of the situations and absence of a unified assessment of all the risks, threats and dangers;
- Need for rising the level of coordination and efficiency in the use of resources owned by a number of state institutions and local public authorities
- Necessity to link multi-risk assessment and decision-making process that will lead to improvements in land-use planning, enhanced response capacity, identification of priorities for mitigation actions, and enhanced levels of risk awareness and cooperation.
„Natural events can't be prevented, but potential disasters can be 'managed' to minimize loss of life through a four-part cycle of mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery”
CASE STUDY OF UNGHENI DISTRICT COUNCIL: Multi-risk assessment preconditions

- **Draft of the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management 2015-2020** is a response to the need to support and strengthen efforts to ensure nationally and internationally the resilience to disasters.

- **Sectoral Strategy of Disaster Risk Reduction 2016 – 2020 of Ungheni City**, financed by UNDP Project „Moldova Disaster and Climate Risk Reduction”, Phase II

Risk (R) = Hazard (H) X Vulnerability (V)

Coping capacities/Resilience (C)

- **CRISMAS Project** – appropriate environment for developing a Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy for Ungheni district
CASE STUDY OF UNGHENI DISTRICT COUNCIL: Aim and Goal

- To reduce the existing risks and prevent new risks, empower sustainability, including the local public authorities’ responsibility to prevent and reduce the disaster risks, and engagement of the whole community and government institutions.

- The Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy determines the will of the local public authorities from Ungheni district for cooperation, coordination and unified approach of the local institutions and local/regional partnership to confront with natural, technological and biological-social disasters, and the challenges resulting from them.

- Prevention of new risks and reduction of current disaster risks, through implementation of integrated and overwhelming economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce the exposure and vulnerability from disaster risks, increase the preparedness, response and recovery, hence strengthening sustainability.
CASE STUDY OF UNGHENI DISTRICT COUNCIL: Challenges

- Limited local resources and limited national assistance
- Difficulties in collecting data, information on disasters and impacts
- Difficulty in aggregating vulnerability across sectors
- Large number of stakeholders with roles to play in shaping risks
- Difficulty of measuring human vulnerability
- Difference in expert risk assessments and public perceptions of risk
CASE STUDY OF UNGHENI DISTRICT COUNCIL: Multi-risk assessment process

Natural Risks
- Floods
- Earthquakes
- Soil erosion
- Heavy snow
- Glaze
- Strong wind
- Strong hail
- Torrential rains
- Drought

Technological risks
- Accidents with potential damage emission of dangerous chemicals
- Accidents with potential danger of radioactive emission substances
- Fire, explosion, explosion hazard
- Transportation accidents

Biological-social risks
- Epidemics
- Epizooties
- Epiphytotics

Risk identification
Self-assessment of disaster risk management capabilities

Risk analysis
Risk Evaluation
Multi-risk assessment process
CASE STUDY OF UNGHENI DISTRICT COUNCIL:
Multi-risk assessment process
CASE STUDY OF UNGHENI DISTRICT COUNCIL:
Multi-risk assessment process

- Intensive stakeholder cooperation
- High level of involvement and commitment of entities to exchange information and knowledge
- Strong political leadership
- Close involvement of the population itself
- High involvement of the civil society and NGOs
CASE STUDY OF UNGHENI DISTRICT COUNCIL: Multi-risk assessment methods and techniques

Multi-Risk Assessment Methods

1. Quantitative
2. Qualitative
3. Expert-driven
4. Community-driven

Risk Matrix

Scenario Analysis

SWOT Analysis

Cause-effect Analysis
CASE STUDY OF UNGHENI DISTRICT COUNCIL: Conclusions

- Disaster risk reduction is a cross-cutting issue in the context of sustainable development.
- There is a specific need to closely tie local DRM strategies to Sustainable Development Goals as disaster losses can seriously impede sustainable development.
- Reducing disaster risk and increasing resilience to natural hazards in different development sectors had multiplier effects and accelerate achievements of the MDGs.
- Building disaster resilience is critical to achieving the goal of eradicating extreme poverty.
- The high impact of disaster and climate risk on agriculture calls for enhanced mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation strategies within the agriculture sector.
- Investing in disaster risk reduction and resilience is imperative to secure economic growth and development.
- DRR Strategy helps the local public authorities and the local stakeholders to prioritize the own actions and attract external donor funds.

**Investing in disaster risk reduction is a precondition for developing sustainably in a changing climate.**
CASE STUDY OF UNGHENI DISTRICT COUNCIL: Conclusions
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