

Europe and Eurasia



A family in a temporary shelter in Georgia.



Rebuilding the infrastructure in Serbia.



An HIV awareness poster contest in Ukraine.



Children painting a mural in Montenegro.

International Relief & Development (IRD) began our 10 years of relief and development experience with a program to support internally displaced populations in Georgia. Since then, IRD has worked in countries across the Europe and Eurasia region with a multi-sectoral approach, becoming a specialist in working in conflict and post-conflict environments. Starting in 1999, when IRD was one of the only international NGOs to run programs in Serbia during the Milosevic regime, we have taken on the challenge of working in some of the most complex and difficult

places. Our programs are aimed at improving the quality of life for vulnerable groups, including displaced persons, refugees, and others. Together with local communities in six European and Eurasian countries, we operate programs to expand healthcare, increase economic opportunities, rebuild infrastructure damaged by conflict or neglect, and accelerate agricultural development, as well as responding to emergency needs such as Avian Influenza and mining accidents.



Multiple Countries

Essential Medical Commodities Distribution (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Ukraine)

- **Distributes medicines, supplies, and other commodities to internally and formerly displaced persons.**
- **Improves infrastructure and facilities in health care centers and schools.**
- **Trains healthcare providers.**

Donor U.S. State Department
 Date 1999 - January 2011
 Amount \$16.2 million

IRD assists medical facilities and institutions such as orphanages, schools, and elderly homes by distributing medicines, medical supplies, equipment, health and hygiene kits, school kits, blankets, clothing, and food items free of charge. IRD has delivered more than \$200 million of pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, and non-medical commodities to over 2 million beneficiaries in four countries. In 2005, IRD received additional funding to extend the project to Eastern Ukraine to include Donetsk and Lugansk regions by providing assistance to over 230,000 individuals in these two regions. From 2002-2005, IRD also provided clean potable water to 25,000 formerly displaced persons, ethnic minorities, and other vulnerable people in the Crimea region. Under this project, IRD has also rehabilitated facilities at dozens of schools for special needs students, nursing homes, and health care centers, creating safer and more sanitary conditions for the people who depend on services there.

Primary Health Care Initiative (Armenia, Georgia, and Ukraine)

- **Improved conditions of medical facilities in rural areas.**
- **Established community health committees.**
- **Trained health care providers in emergency care, family medicine, and facility management.**

Donor USAID/World Council of Hellenes
 Date September 2002 - March 2005
 Amount \$1.6 million

The Primary Health Care Initiative improved access to quality primary health care services for over 60,000 beneficiaries in three countries. In Armenia, IRD rehabilitated and equipped PHC facilities in Lori Marz, as well as implementing the other components of the initiative. The approach was acknowledged by the Armenia National Institute of Health and used as a model for enhanced learning outcomes. In Georgia, IRD increased the professional level of providers and improved the conditions of six medical facilities in the Tsalka region of Georgia. In Ukraine, IRD developed HIV/AIDS and cardiovascular disease awareness programs for the general population of Mariupol and surrounding areas through health education and prevention services, and a public awareness campaign. IRD promoted healthy behavior through interactive peer education sessions in schools, involving 10,000 youth between grades 5-11.

Small Rehabilitation Project (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Ukraine)

- **Improved water supply in remote areas.**
- **Repaired crumbling infrastructure.**
- **Transformed living conditions for elderly and children with disabilities.**

Donor U.S. State Department
 Date 2005 - present
 Amount \$99,990

The U.S. State Department gave IRD a grant to rehabilitate several social institutions in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Ukraine. So far, this funding has been used to improve nursing homes, orphanages, boarding schools for disabled children,



hospitals, and municipal water systems. Over 5,000 people have benefited from these renovations.

Azerbaijan

Family Planning and Reproductive Health Initiatives

- **Developed mass media public education campaign.**
- **Trained peer educators from 56 communities.**
- **Rehabilitated 10 reproductive health facilities.**

Donor USAID/Save the Children
 Date 2003-2005
 Amount \$681,756

IRD created family planning and reproductive health pilot programs including a basic package of family planning and reproductive health knowledge for married women, men, and adolescents. Through the project, IRD has trained 180 peer educators who have trained 45,000 adults and adolescents; organized seven reproductive health festivals; and developed and distributed 60,000 family calendars, 30,000 leaflets, and 5,000 posters.

Ganja Agricultural Development Project

- **Increased local agriculture production efficiency.**
- **Worked with local feed processors to improve the quality of available feed.**
- **Promoted HIV/AIDS awareness in Western Azerbaijan.**

Donor USDA
 Date 2003-2006
 Amount \$2.1 million

This project provided training and technical assistance to farming communities. IRD monetized 10,000 MT of soybean meal and used the proceeds to promote private sector agriculture and market development by training current farmers in crop/livestock production, provided market development training to five poultry processors, and gave seed capital to new farmers to start businesses. The program also raised awareness of HIV/AIDS and Avian Influenza at the community level.

Georgia

Provision of Transitional Shelter Solutions for IDPs

- **Provides financial and material support for host families.**
- **Improves temporary public shelter facilities.**

Donors USAID, UNHCR
 Dates September 2008 – April 2009
 Amounts \$2.5 million

This program provided decent shelter for Georgians forced from their homes during the conflict with Russia in August 2008.

Durable Shelter and Livelihood Solutions for Old Caseload IDPs

- **Provides financial and material support for IDP families**
- **Improves durable public housing facilities for IDP families**

Donors UNHCR
 Dates April 2009 – December 2009
 Amount \$2 million

This program provides rehabilitated accommodations to old caseload of IDPs occupying collective centers in Rustavi that are targeted for self privatization by the Ministry of Refugees and Accommodation. Families supported to obtain these durable accommodation solutions receive livelihoods support to maintain their sustainability. Under this project IRD upgrades and renovates buildings (147 families or 368 individuals) to provide durable, privately owned accommodation for the IDP old caseload families who are occupying the premises. IRD is also providing livelihoods support that is tailored to the needs and capacities of these individual families.



Livelihood Development for IDPs and Returnees in Shida Kartli

- **Provided financial and material support for IDP families.**
- **Built local agricultural and leadership capacity.**

Donors UNHCR
 Dates September 2009 – December 2009
 Amount \$193,728

The program was designed to facilitate UNHCR's role in complementing local government's goal to provide durable solutions to the war-affected communities. In particular the project's objectives included improving self-reliance and livelihoods for internally displaced persons through activities such as gardening and agriculture, and building local capacities. Nearly 4,600 families benefitted.

Agricultural Production and Rural Enterprise Support

- **Improves private sector agriculture.**
- **Provides technical assistance for farmers.**
- **Builds local expertise for providing training.**

Donor USDA/Food for Progress
 Date 2006 – present
 Amount \$2.8 million

The project seeks to accelerate private sector development in Georgia by supplying small-scale farmers with seed potatoes, providing training on production practices, and developing a substitute import market, as well as establishing two rural enterprise centers to provide training, equipment, and individual consultation to farmers and rural entrepreneurs. Through the project, IRD will reach more than 15,000 households directly.

Improving the Collective Living Space of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Tbilisi

- **Renovated five large collective centers.**
- **Rehabilitated water and sanitation systems.**
- **Provided clean up tools and hygiene kits for IDPs.**

Donor BPRM/U.S. State Department
 Date July 2004 - June 2005
 Amount \$499,901

The program met basic shelter needs for IDPs from Abkhazia and Ossetia through rehabilitating water and sanitation systems, electrical systems, roofs and walls in collective centers housing approximately 2,430 IDPs.

Exploring the Public Housing Model in Georgia

- **Providing sustainable and permanent housing for selected households**
- **Building local community stakeholder and government capacities**

Donors BPRM/U.S. State Department
 Dates September 2008 – January 2010
 Amount \$569,204

This program explores a model whereby selected IDP collective center will be rehabilitated and upgraded as permanent mainstream public housing under the purview of central or local government authorities. This alternative durable housing solution is demonstrated in a former dormitory building located in the city of Zugdidi, Western Georgia, which is currently serving as an IDP collective center (CC) to 108 families. This year, IRD established a tenants' association that will be trained to provide a counterpart management structure to the local/central government to protect tenants' rights and to promote sustainability of the model. In October, IRD also signed a \$250,000 contract with the construction company to bring the building from its neglected state into a livable home.



Kosovo

Small Infrastructure for Water and Sanitation (SIWS) Program

- Identifies specific projects through consultation with local governments.
- Works in partnership with local water providers and NGOs.
- Encourages good water supply management practices.

Donor USAID
 Dates September 2008 – September 2011
 Amount \$5 million

SIWS has established partnerships with the municipal authorities of Peje, Kline, Glogoc and Malisheve, and their corresponding Regional Water Companies (RWCs) - Hidrodrini, Hidroregjioni Jugor, and Pristina. Over the life of the program, SIWS will mobilize and commit \$6,240,000, including cost-sharing from municipalities, RWCs, and communities, in project works benefiting over 85,000 citizens of Kosovo with improved access to a safe water supply.

Montenegro

Community Revitalization through Democratic Action (CRDA)

- Worked with local communities to determine reconstruction priorities.
- Provided technical assistance, training, monitoring, and oversight to ensure the sustainability of projects.
- Encouraged development of local NGOs.

Donor USAID
 Dates April 2002 – April 2007
 Amount \$23 million

CRDA program priorities were identified by the local community and completed with support from both communities and local governments. Projects included building and renovation of low-voltage electrical networks, irrigation systems, farm-to-market roads, livestock and green markets, water and wastewater facilities, and tourism facilities. Over the course of the program, IRD implemented

more than 550 projects, generating \$10 million in income.

Serbia

Serbia Agribusiness Project (SAP)

- Builds capacity among the producer organizations and service providers that support Serbia's agribusiness sector.
- Works directly with businesses, developing their marketing skills and knowledge.
- Works with government agencies to educate producers on international market offerings.

Donor USAID
 Date October 2007 – September 2012
 Amount \$2.2 million

This project will improve agricultural productivity, expand value-added agricultural processing, and open new export markets, specifically for berry fruits; dairy; herbs, spices, and mushrooms; live-stock; tree fruits; and vegetables. The ultimate aim is to develop a Serbian "brand" for export markets, enhancing the competitiveness of Serbian producers and affirming their place in the international markets.

Community Revitalization through Democratic Action (CRDA)

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- Encouraged development of local NGOs.

Donor USAID
 Date July 2001 – July 2007
 Amount \$40 million

Projects under CRDA were identified and completed with support from both local communities and governments. IRD implemented over 1,000 activities, including community mobilization and development, solid waste management and environmental public awareness, community infrastructure, economic revitalization, and family planning, reproductive health, and women's initiatives. Over 5.5 million people benefitted, with additional income



for participants of \$34 million and an increase in agricultural sales of \$8.7 million.

Ukraine

Reducing the Stigma and Discrimination Associated with HIV Infection and AIDS

- Gives voice to those affected by HIV/AIDS.
- Promotes a supportive environment for people living with HIV/AIDS through strategic communications.
- Protects the rights of those affected by HIV/AIDS.

Donor USAID
 Date September 2004 – September 2008
 Amount \$2.4 million

In 2008, IRD completed a USAID-funded program to reduce the stigma and discrimination associated with HIV/AIDS in Ukraine. Over the program's four years, IRD worked closely with the All Ukrainian Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS and other stakeholders to achieve remarkable results. Over 15,000 trainers and peer educators were trained, who in turn reached over 150,000 people in 10 cities with messages about positive attitudes towards people living with HIV/AIDS. An additional 480 dramas, public debates, music festivals, and other community events reached another nearly 370,000 people, spreading the word about what HIV is, and isn't, and how to prevent its transmission.

Provision of Emergency Equipment in Response to the Zasyadko Mining Accident

- Provides emergency medical equipment.
- Addresses the long-term mental health needs of survivors.

Donor USAID
 Date November 2007-2008
 Amount \$191,902

In November and December 2007, a series of explosions occurred in the Zasyadko coal mine, located approximately 450 miles southeast of the capital of Kiev in the Donetsk Oblast. In response, USAID provided approximately \$200,000 in emergency funding to IRD for the provision of emergency as-

sistance to the families of the deceased and injured miners. IRD also helped local health services provide psychosocial rehabilitation and counseling to miners who suffered from post traumatic syndrome and depression.

Rapid Response to Avian Influenza (AI) in Ukraine

- Raises public awareness of Avian Influenza.
- Strengthens technical ability of local professionals and institutions to handle AI.
- Encourages safe poultry handling practices.

Donor USAID
 Date September 2006 – October 2010
 Amount \$1.9 million

IRD is assisting communities in adopting appropriate practices of bird handling, safe consumption of poultry products and proper hygiene practices with the goal of increasing community awareness of Avian Influenza (AI) and preventing AI outbreaks in animals and humans in the regions with higher risk of AI. In October 2007, IRD received additional funding from USAID to scale up and reinforce AI prevention activities in Ukraine. The program now focuses on 14 high-risk regions, primarily in southern and eastern Ukraine: the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Cherkassi, Chernigiv, Dnipropetrovs'k, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Kherson, Lugansk, Mykolayev, Odessa, Poltava, Suma, Zaporizh'ya, and Zarkarpatya. In October, IRD received a cost extension of \$200,000 from USAID/Ukraine to continue AI Awareness program in Crimea for an additional year. IRD will also expand its awareness work on AI to Sevastopol in Crimea.

For more information, visit www.ird.org
