

Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for
South Eastern Europe
(DPPI SEE)

Project Proposal
for

**BOOSTING PREPAREDNESS CAPACITY IN FIRE AND FLOOD
PROTECTION AT LOCAL LEVEL**

Partners

Lead partner
Republic of Croatia (district X)

Beneficiary partners

Republic of Serbia (municipality Y)

Bosnia and Herzegovina (canton Z)

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1. INTRODUCTION

It is necessary to develop tools for risk management, not only within the Croatian region, but also in the regions of neighboring countries - Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, due to the fact that states often " share " disasters. The partner countries covered by the project are expose to similar risks, while risk management and practice in such situations, are different, and it will be useful for all countries to develop common approach for more efficient risk management.

This is precisely the call for cooperation in order to develop tools that will contribute to the promotion of mutual understanding cross-border risk assessment and risk management plans, practices and processes through collectively work and share best practices in the border region that covers eligible area.

All this will be achieved through the exchange of collected data for risk management in cross-border areas using unique data in a standardized form at one place which will allow better use of existing data and increase preparedness for response and cooperation at local level.

In addition, comparable standardized terminology and means for quantifying the danger zone, the existing and required resources and capacity will allow a better understanding of the impact of potential risks to regional and cross-border level of partner countries, which can serve as a model for the future shape of cross-border cooperation between the neighboring countries of the European Union. This will ensure that the decisions for the most severe risks are made in order to take the most appropriate preventive measures.

2. BACKGROUND

Eligible area remains vulnerable to a number of natural hazards, including earthquakes, landslides, droughts, floods, forest and urban fires and the potential negative impact of climate change such as intense snowfall in winter and very high temperatures during the summer months. The increase of urban population also increases the risks of natural hazards and construction, land-use patterns and the growing number of human settlements built in disaster-prone will increase vulnerabilities and the risk of disasters. Knowing that fires and floods represent a constant threat to ecological systems, infrastructure, economy and human lives, and it is necessary to undertake joint actions towards increasing the level of risk reduction.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

In May 2014 floods heavy yield rainfall caused unprecedented floods. The consequences of recent emergencies are visible in increased losses, damage to the property of the citizens and the economy of the region, but also in the degradation and destruction of the environment. The trend shows not only increases of the number of extraordinary and dangerous situations from year to year, but also the multiplication of the damage incurred.

4. OBJECTIVES, INPUTS, OUTPUTS AND RESULTS

Overall objective of the project is to strengthen local capacity in preventing fires and floods and made them more resilient to this hazards, while in the same time developing the cross-border cooperation of the areas.

Long Term Objectives

There are three long-term objectives that will be achieved through the implementation of this project:

- a) Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction policies*
- b) Contribution to welfare and security of partners*
- c) Common understanding of cross-border cooperation with the harmonization of methodologies, guidelines and risk assessment, strengthened by the inclusion of newly developed IT solutions that can aid in risk management.*

Immediate Objectives

Make a common Risk assessment, as well as risk assessment strategy.

Standardize legislation, adopt unique terminology and make common procedures.

Connect existing Information-Communication centers, and make them suitable for further upgrading.

Objectives and Results

1.To develop the IT System which allows gathering, tracking and sending information related to the risks (such as weather forecast, river levels etc), with GIS applied, and processing of data and to upgrade it with the program that can create scenarios based on the entered parameters, with calculation and simulation of fires and floods.

The flow of Information between partners is provided.

2.To apply set of measures for fire and flood prevention and to implement an efficient forest and river monitoring system .Advanced fire and flood monitoring system conceived of a network of automatic video surveillance and meteorological monitoring stations supported by advanced systems for micro-location recording.

Improved infrastructure in fire and flood surveillance domain and set up the fire and flood detection within the cross border area

3.To establish mechanisms for educational and research networking and capacity building in order to promote knowledge transfer and research related to natural risks from fires and floods, by organizing joint conferences, workshops, exercises, trainings, exhibitions and other capacity building activities.

Experience and best practicies are exchanged among partners.

4.To develop joint proposals for legislative and institutional regulations, such as standard procedures and adopted terminology. Regulations must define the responsibilities of all relevant institutions, and to determine their obligations for the impelemntation of the adopted policies and measures envisaged.

Adopted laws, bylaws, and other regulations that are needed.

5.To take care of informing and notifying the population about the measures aimed at disaster risk reduction,and their role in it, by organizing public events, schools visits, trough media and public networks.

Citizens are informed about taken measures, and they became aware of the importance of that issue.

5. CHALLENGES AND RISKS

As for the risks that could endanger the success of the project implementation, political changes are possible at the local level, since the local self government is responsible for the implementation. The changed general political circumstances may also affect the project.

6. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The Project will be implemented by self government units of all partners. The responsible party, is Lead beneficiary. The project manager will be the head of District X and he will be responsible for day-to-day management of the Project.

The regular oversight and quality control shall be done by the Project Board comprised of working level personnel delegated by the project partners.

Steering Committee is comprised of the senior officials of project partners, who review the progress and workplan, approve reports and provide overall guidance as to the project implementation.

BUDGET

Total budget is 200.000 €

It is divided into three components:

Component 1

Project Management and Technical Support

Component 2

Procurment of the equipment and software.

Component 3

Other cost (publications, events etc)

7. CONCLUSION

The project aims to achieve this goal trough the development of an indirect prevention campaign by information, education and awareness campaign addressed to the various target group ad users of natural heritages. Reducing disaster risk is a cost-effective investment in preventing future losses. Effective disaster risk management contributes to sustainable development. It is important instrument for raising public and institutional awareness, generating political commitment to that matter.