



EUROPEAN CENTER
for
FOREST FIRES

Under
the aegis of the



GENERAL SECRETARIAT FOR
CIVIL PROTECTION, GREECE



**Joint Meeting of Permanent Correspondents and Directors of Centers,
Paris 5 -7 November 2017**

1. “Resume of Activities 2017 for the European Center for Forest Fires (ECFF)”

2. “New project for 2018-2019”

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1. PROJECT 2016-17: “Basic Principles of Building Aseismic Code, Evacuation planning of critical infrastructures in case of an Earthquake or a Fire”

Participated EUR-OPA Centers: ECFF, ECPFE

Resume of Activities for the YEAR 2017

☐ ECFF Activity 1

■ Conference entitled: “Evacuation of Buildings in Case of Emergency for People with Disabilities”

■ Date: 31/10/2017

■ Place: Multimedia Auditorium, Library, NTUA

■ Organizers: Joint effort among NTUA, GSCP, ECFF/EUR-OPA



National Technical
University of Athens



General Secretariat
for Civil Protection



European Center for Forest Fires,
Council of Europe





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■ Greeting from EUR-OPA



Conference: Evacuation of Buildings in case of Emergency for People with Disabilities 31st October 2017 – Greece

Greeting Note from Gianluca Silvestrini

Executive Secretary of the European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement

Again in 2017, Greece and its citizens have continued to endure considerable damage and heartache as the result of wildfires, such as those in Kalamos, and large magnitude earthquakes as seen on the islands of Lesbos and Kos.

The European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA) stands ever ready to support the Greek authorities in facing and successfully overcoming these major hazards. Through continuing cooperation we will ensure that Greece is supported to prevent, prepare and protect itself from future disasters. As Executive Secretary of the EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement, I welcome the Greek initiative to organise this highly important event. This conference provides an invaluable opportunity to highlight the wide range of work concerning the Greek authorities, stakeholders and associations representing the disabled community that has been implemented under the EUR-OPA framework by our Specialised Centres. Improving

**Part of the Greeting
Note from Gianluca
Silvestrini, Executive
Secretary of the EUR-
OPA Major Hazards
Agreement**



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■ Highlights from the event



Conference entitled “Evacuation of Buildings in Case of Emergency for People with Disabilities”, 31st of October 2017, NTUA, Athens

Photos available at: <http://civilprotection.gr>



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■ Conference Perspective

➤ Contribute to:

Priority 1: *“Understanding disaster Risk”:*

By promoting awareness raising among vulnerable groups, such as people with disabilities

Priority 4: *“Enhancing disaster Preparedness for effective response”:*

By including people with disabilities in Disaster Management Cycle (preparedness & response phases) to reduce their vulnerability

based on the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction 2015- 2030

➤ Share **"Home Safe Home"** motto of the International Day for Disaster Reduction 2017



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■ Conference Main Scope:

Increase awareness of people with disabilities and their active participation in disaster preparedness

■ Specific Objectives:

1. Dissemination of knowledge and know-how, based on the book delivered on the first year of the project entitled “Evacuation planning of critical infrastructures in case of an earthquake or a fire for people with disabilities”,

prepared by ECFF and ECPFE EUR-OPA Centers, GSCP and HELLENIC FIRE SERVICE



ISBN: 978-618-83079-0-2

S. Karma, O.Kakaliagou, I. Boukis, E. Pelli, M.Chalaris, M.Statheropoulos



■ Specific Objectives (continue 1)

2. Promote dialogue among experts and representatives from the disability community on the issue of emergency response for people with disabilities



Representatives from the Disability Community

- Center for Education & Rehabilitation for the Blind (CERB)
- Panhellenic Association of the Blind
- School of Primary Special Education for children with cerebral palsy, at the premises of Cerebral Palsy Greece
- ELEPAP (Rehabilitation for The Disabled)
- Greek National Confederation of Disabled People





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■ **Specific Objectives (continue 2)**

3) **Promote disaster preparedness among interested parties**, such as families, special education teachers, individuals that take care of people with disabilities and of course people with disabilities, as well as **educate them on safe evacuation procedures**, by following specific practical guidelines.

4) **Create a network of people and organisations** that share the same interest on emergency response for people with disabilities

5) **Gather existing proposals and practical solutions** based on experience and know-how from representatives from disaster management community and from other individuals

6) **Address limitations and gaps** so that to examine possible practical solutions for the future, such as **new educational methods, recommendations, or guidelines** for reining in disasters impacts for people with disabilities (especially for children)



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■ RESULTS

Specific comments from experts, as well as highlights from speakers' presentations will be compiled and the respective conclusions will be recorded as a **“Catalogue of Ideas”** for future dissemination





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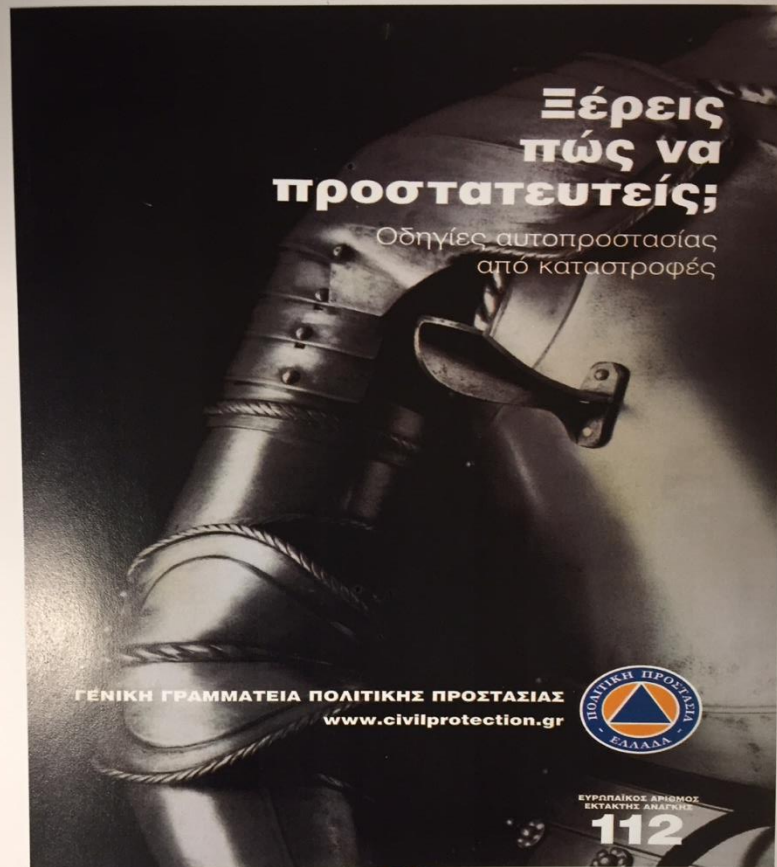


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- The first edition of the self-protection **guidelines** against natural disasters, technological accidents and CBRN incidents **in Braille** was presented.
- The book “**Do you know how to protect yourself?**” is issued by the General Secretariat for Civil Protection (GSCP) in Greek and English.
- The edition is a result of the **collaboration of the GSCP with the Center for Education & Rehabilitation for the Blind.**



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Μορφοποίηση στο σύστημα Braille: Σπυρίδων Μπαλάσκας
Εκτύπωση - Βιβλιοδεσία: Σπυρίδων Μπαλάσκας, Αναστασία Σταματίου - **Εκτύπωση 2017**



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❑ ECFF Activity 2

Evacuation planning of Critical Infrastructures CASE STUDY: HOSPITAL

Special attention will be given to vulnerable groups, including infants, pregnant women and/or people with disabilities

A Case Study focusing on the evacuation of a Maternity Hospital in case of an earthquake or a fire.



Maternity Hospital in
Athens



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■ **Fire Scenario**

A table- top exercise will be prepared and run in cooperation with Hellenic Fire Service, based on a fire incident on the 2nd floor of the Hospital

■ **Main Objectives:**

- ✓ Education and Training of the Hospital's Fire Safety Group in order to effectively cope with the fire emergency
- ✓ Safe Evacuation of vulnerable groups, such as infants and women after operation that encounter mobility difficulties



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FIRE ESCAPE PLAN OF THE 2nd floor

EVACUATION ROUTES

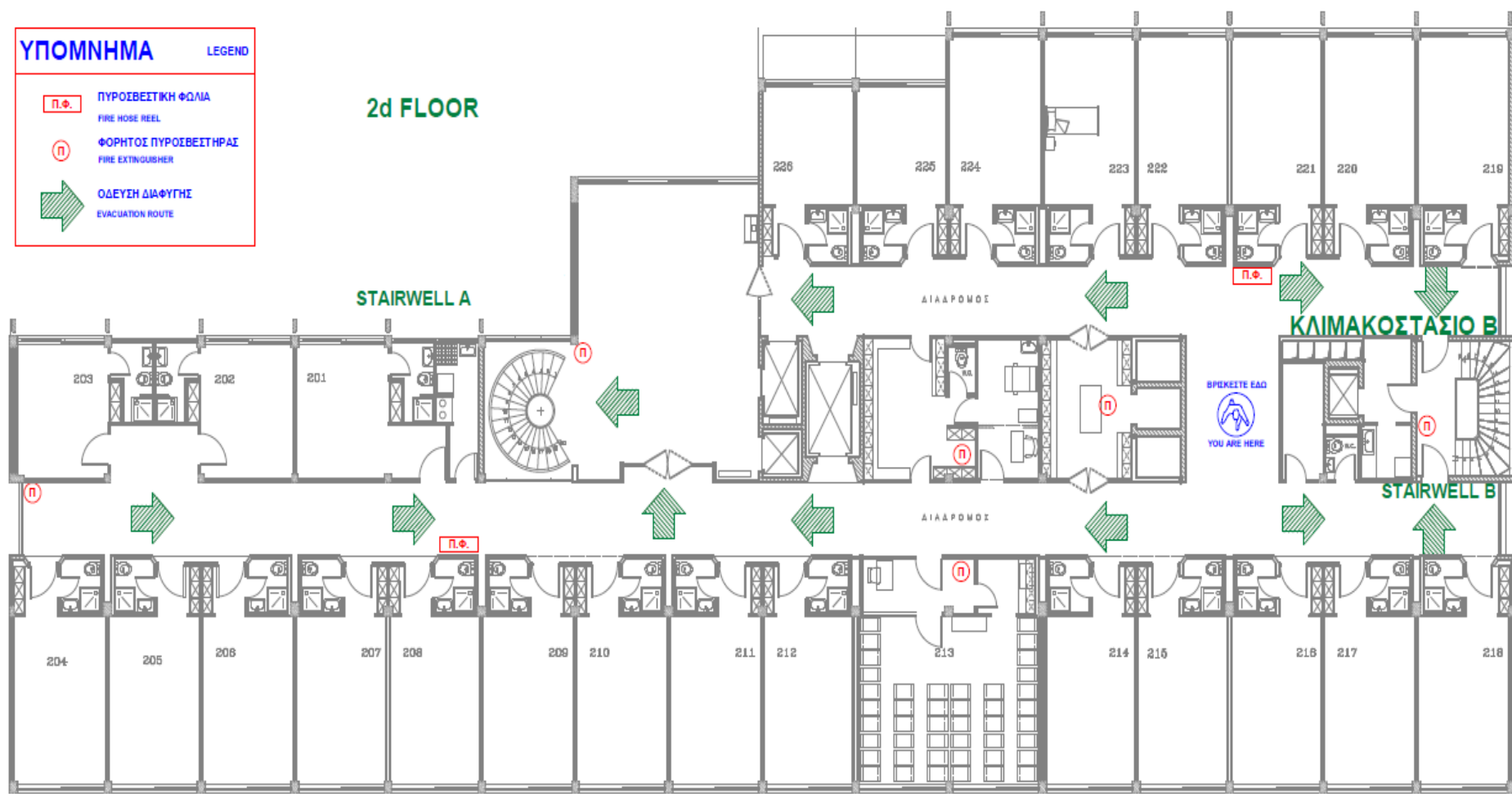
ΥΠΟΜΝΗΜΑ	
LEGEND	
	ΠΥΡΟΣΒΕΣΤΙΚΗ ΦΩΔΙΑ FIRE HOSE REEL
	ΦΟΡΗΤΟΣ ΠΥΡΟΣΒΕΣΤΗΡΑΣ FIRE EXTINGUISHER
	ΟΔΕΥΣΗ ΔΙΑΦΥΓΗΣ EVACUATION ROUTE

2d FLOOR

STAIRWELL A

ΚΛΙΜΑΚΟΣΤΑΣΙΟ Β

STAIRWELL B





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2. PROJECT 2018-19: “Fine and Ultrafine particles from forest fires: Recommendations/Guidelines for protection of vulnerable groups of population ”

Participated EUR-OPA Centers: ECFF, GFMC

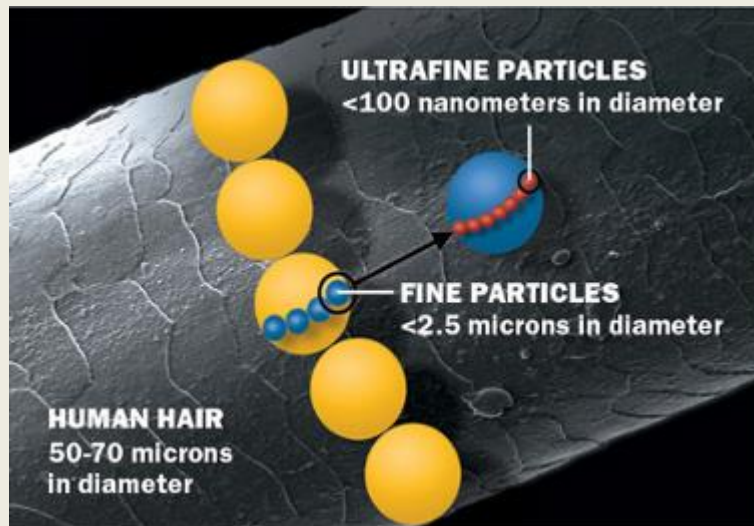
▪ Rationale

- Large scale forest fires have been correlated with **climate change**, posing significant risks for the exposed receptors.
- **Fine and Ultrafine particles**, can be transferred far away from the fire source, affecting populations in long distances (transboundary effects) .
- The issue of **toxic effect of PM1 and ultrafine (PM0,1), needs further investigation**, since so far no exposure limits have been regulated.
- It seems that **population preparedness** against fire and smoke adverse health effects is very important, **especially for vulnerable groups** and mainly for countries frequently affected by forest fires



■ Aim of the project

- ✓ Prepare a list of useful practices and **recommendations/ guidelines for the protection of population against exposure to Fine and Ultrafine Particles**, specifically as side effect of forest fires, with special attention to vulnerable groups of population, such as the elderly, pregnant women, children, people with disabilities or hidden disabilities like asthma, or cardiopulmonary diseases.



Fine and ultrafine particles are much smaller than the width of a human hair, with ultrafines posing the greater potential risk to human health.



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■ **Specific Objectives 2018**

- ✓ Record state-of-the art knowledge on the issue of smoke pollutants and adverse health effects, focusing on vulnerable groups of population.
- ✓ Prepare possible evacuation criteria of an area based on particles concentration- indicative field measurements of particulates can be incorporated
- ✓ Discuss on exposure limits of ultrafine particles.

■ **Specific objectives 2019**

- ✓ Training of vulnerable groups upon smoke emergency-training in “risk culture”
- ✓ Informing the population who leave nearby forests about possible smoke impacts and protective measures.



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▪ **Expected Results 2018**

- ✓ Recording new scientific knowledge in global basis about forest fire smoke and specifically nanoparticles impacts, in order to better protect population and minimize adverse health effects, with special attention to vulnerable groups.
- ✓ Networking with medical, health or other relevant organizations in Europe, USA, Australia, or Canada to provide with their expertise and know-how on relevant issues.

▪ **Expected Results 2019**

- ✓ Promote awareness of population upon UFPs/smoke impacts and personal protective equipment aspects, including vulnerable groups.
- ✓ Enhance preparedness and promote risk culture.



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Thank you for your Attention!!