

European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA)

Joint Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Correspondents and
Directors of the Specialized Centers
6-7 November 2018, Zagreb, Croatia



**Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC)
Project Results 2018
Plans for 2019**

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Brief Retrospective to the Results of 2017 (I)

Activity I

Enhancing the national interagency and international cross-boundary dialogue and inter-operability in fire management in Ukraine and neighboring countries of Eastern Europe

Objectives of Activities in Ukraine

- Development of recommendations for fostering the national inter-agency and civil society cooperation in fire management, notably address agricultural burning as the main cause of wildfires affecting the landscape and source of atmospheric pollution



Results

- First National Round Table on Fire Management ***Fires in the Natural and Cultural Landscapes of Ukraine: Towards the Development of a National Fire Management Policy***, held on 25 October 2017 at the Regional Eastern European Fire Monitoring Center (REEFMC) at the National University for Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine
- A number of detailed recommendations / actions proposed are focusing on proposals for changing legislation concerning agricultural burning



Follow-up in 2018

- Analysis of existing national legislation related to agricultural burning and its social, economic and environmental consequences.
- Preparation of legislative initiatives for Ukrainian Parliament (*Verkhovna Rada*) on improving national situation with agricultural burning in Ukraine based on results of the National Round Table on the matter held in October 2017 in Kyiv.



Brief Retrospective to the Results of 2017 (II)

Activity II

- Organization of a first informal Regional Consultation on Cross-boundary Cooperation in Fire Management
- Recommendations towards enhancing efficiency and effectiveness of cross-boundary cooperation in fire management. Initial focus: Ukraine, Belarus, Hungary and Moldova)

Follow-up in 2017

- International Conference *Protection of Human Settlements and Social Infrastructure from Wildfires*, Moscow, Russia (November 2017)



Brief Retrospective to the Results of 2017 (III)

Activity III

- Extreme wildfires in Portugal in 2017 resulting in 120 people killed
- Followed by a consultation convened by PM Costa and contribution of GFMC – representing EUR-OPA
- Resulting in the reorganization of fire management in Portugal in 2018 by establishment of the Integrated Management of Rural Fires (Agência para a Gestão Integrada de Fogos Rurais – AGIF) in January 2018



Activities 2018 (I)

- A similar extreme wildfire affected the peri-urban area of Athens on 23 July 2018
- 99 people killed and around 3000 houses / structures burned or damaged in Mati
- Immediate response by the government to reorganize / reform fire management and the civil protection system



Activities 2018 (I)

- Prime Minister Tsipras called for assistance of GFMC
- Meeting and agreement on 23 August 2018 to establish an independent Commission on the Future of Fire Management in Greece, chaired by GFMC in its function of EUR-OPA Specialized Center, with a Core Team of 5 Greek Scientists
- Working with >70 experts and 28 agencies of Greece
- Report for reorganizing fire management in Greece to be submitted to the Hellenic Parliament by end of 2018



Activities 2018 (II)

Establishment of the Eurasian Team of Specialists in Landscape Fire Management

- Proposal by GFMC to establish the Team endorsed by the Decision of the Joint Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Correspondents and Directors of the Specialized Centers (Paris, November 2017)

Mandate

- Provision of scientific-technical expert advice and guidance of governments and specialized agencies of Europe, with emphasis on the regions of Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia, in developing national fire management policies and derived implementation strategies and action plans

Activities 2018 (II)

Establishment of the Eurasian Team of Specialists in Landscape Fire Management

- Kick-off / launching meeting at GFMC on 12 October 2018
- EUR-OPA Secretariat to invite volunteering specialists to be appointed as Team Members
- Core Team: Leaders of Regional Fire Management Resource Centers and Networks in SE Europe / Caucasus Eastern Europe and Central Asia



Activities 2018 (III)

CoE-EUR-OPA / OSCE / UNISDR Europe Coordination Meeting (OSCE Secretariat, Vienna, 03 September 2018)

- **Review** of regional cooperation in fire management, including the development fire management policies, capacity building, outreach to civil society, tasked and mandated to the GFMC by UNISDR (including key UN agencies), OSCE and CoE/EUR-OPA
- **Scope:** Enhance co-operation and synergies between the organizations
- **Conclude** enhanced co-operation mechanisms and synergies between the four partner organizations



Activities 2019 (I)

Strengthening Regional Governance in Fire Management

- Formal opening of the **Regional Eurasia Fire Monitoring Center** at the Federal Research Center «Krasnoyarsk Science Center SB RAS»
- **Региональный центр мониторинга пожаров Евразии** (Федеральный научный центр «Красноярский научный центр Сибирского отделения Российской академии наук»)



Activities 2019 (II)

Strengthening Regional Governance in Fire Management

- Support of the establishment of a National and Regional Eastern European Fire Research and Management Training Center
- A joint endeavor of the Eastern Europe Regional Fire Monitoring Center and the National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine (Kyiv, Ukraine)
- Hosted by the Boyarka Forest Research Station



Activities 2019 (II)

Strengthening Regional Governance in Fire Management

- Example of joint work with the OSCE in the frame of the project “Improving Radiological and Environmental Awareness in Territories Affected by the Chernobyl Accident in Belarus and Ukraine with a Focus on Wildfire Management”
- Table-top exercise in Gomel, Belarus (May 2018)



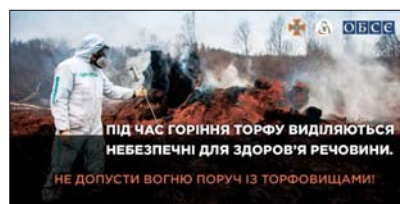
Activities 2019 (II)

Strengthening Regional Governance in Fire Management

- Preparation of Guidelines and Terminology and Fire Management in Radioactively Contaminated Terrain



- Publication of public awareness materials



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Thanks for Your Attention

