



*European Center for Forest Fires*



HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
Ministry for Climate Crisis  
and Civil Protection



Council of Europe  
Conseil de l'Europe

**Joint Meeting of the Committee of Permanent  
Correspondents and Directors of Specialized Centres  
17-18 November 2022**

**ECFF presentation of Activities 2022**

**Sofia Karma, Dr. Chemical Engineer**  
**Academic Staff, NTUA**  
**ECFF Scientific Responsible**  
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## 1.ECFF project 2022-2023

- **Title: “Inclusion of Vulnerable groups in Disaster Preparedness and Response for coping with emerging risks: Evacuation exercise including people with disabilities”**
- **Coordinating Center:** ECFF, **Partner:** ECPFE
- **Expected Results-Impact 2022-2023**
- *Foster networking among academics, scientists, operational people, experts and people with disabilities*
- *Exchange knowledge and hands on experience in rescuing people with impairments.*
- *Empower community engagement is the disaster management cycle for strengthening disaster resilience*
- *Create a network of people and organizations that share the same interest on emergency response for people with disabilities*
- *Prepare targeted response plans and implement inclusive evacuation exercises*
- *Promote inclusive active citizens’ role in emergency preparedness and response -people-centred approach and local participation for effective disaster risk management*



## ➤ Activity 2022: Workshop

# "Inclusivity in disaster preparedness and response: Active participation of people with disabilities in evacuation exercises"



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ  
Υπουργείο Κλιματικής Κρίσης  
και Πολιτικής Προστασίας



## “WE LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND”



- Welcome greeting by Mr Krzysztof Zyman

*Representatives from:*

- Disability Community
- Academics
- Researchers
- Civil Protection
- Operational People
- Policy makers

8-11-2022, Ministry for Climate Crisis and Civil Protection,  
Athens, Greece



# Workshop: "Inclusivity in disaster preparedness and response: Active participation of people with disabilities in evacuation exercises"

Highlights from the workshop:

<https://www.civilprotection.gr/en/node/7924>



8-11-2022, Ministry for Climate Crisis and Civil Protection,  
Athens, Greece



- **Workshop draft outcomes**

## **Advantages of simulation exercises with PWD participation:**

- ✓ They **increase awareness** of the local population and of the participants regarding the need **for disaster preparedness**
- ✓ They help **familiarize participants with the procedures** required in the event of emergency
- ✓ They **help organizations work together under unfamiliar conditions** and under pressure
- ✓ They may **reveal limitations , gaps** in term of resources or preparation for a real emergency
- ✓ They can **provide answers to questions about rescue methods for people with disabilities** and how to help them in emergency situations
- ✓ They are aligned with the **DESIGN FOR ALL concept** and they reinforce engagement of marginalized groups at the early stages of planning and preparedness
- ✓ They strengthen **inclusive disaster resilience**



## ➤ Activity 2023

### “Organization and execution of an Evacuation Exercise including People with Disabilities”

#### Deliverables:

- **Report** on the evacuation exercise’s debriefing and on the lessons learned (ECFF)
- **Accessibility** evaluation focusing on the obstacles encountered in the evacuation of the selected building (ECPFE)





## 2. ECFF Dissemination Activities 2022

✓ **EFDRR Roadmap 2021-2030 Action-oriented Dialogue “Inclusive And Collaborative Systems For Heat And Wildfire Risks Governance”, 21 October, Domotel Kastri Hotel, Athens, Greece**

### Leave no one behind: Addressing urban heat vulnerability-Hearing vulnerable and experienced voices

**EFDRR Roadmap 2021-2030 Action-oriented Dialogue “Inclusive And Collaborative Systems For Heat And Wildfire Risks Governance”**

**“Towards an inclusive approach in Disaster Preparedness and Response upon wildfires and the generated smoke: Experiences & Lessons learned focusing on people with disabilities”**

**Dr Sofia Karma**  
European Center for Forest Fires (ECFF)  
EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement

10.00-11.30 (CEST)  
11.00-12.30 (EEST)



#### Addressing heat vulnerability – Leaving no one behind

The persons and groups most at risk must be key stakeholders in building resilience – they are at the frontline of disaster risk and have a tremendous potential to influence societal issues. This session aims to bring together resilience officers, experienced representatives from civil society, and DRR actors to discuss the current status of resilience building in the region and options for better engagement of groups at risk in disaster risk reduction processes including disaster risk assessment, planning, and preparedness. Ensuring the whole of society approach will help Member States in delivering the promises they make.

#### Speakers



**Ioannis Vardakastanis**  
President  
European Disability Forum



**Krzysztof Zyman**  
Executive Secretary, EUR-OPA Agreement  
Council of Europe



**Cláudia Estevão Dos Reis**  
Researcher  
University of Lisbon



**Stella Psarropoulou**  
Resilience Officer  
City of Thessaloniki



**Mercedes Augerre**  
Programme Officer  
French Red Cross



**Jean D'Conha**  
Senior Advisor  
UNWomen



**Sofia Karma**  
Researcher  
European Center  
for Forest Fires

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✓ **ECFF presentation in ECBR e-seminars on 14 October 2022**  
**Entitled “Evacuation planning for people with disabilities in case of emergency: Towards building the young capacities”**

Knowledge on seismic risk reduction and pandemics protection for **vulnerable groups** in the case of **special schools for students with disabilities**, addressed to **professors, school principals/directors, and administrative staff**, as well as to some students.





- **UNDRR Words into Action guidelines: Engaging children and youth in disaster risk reduction and resilience building**

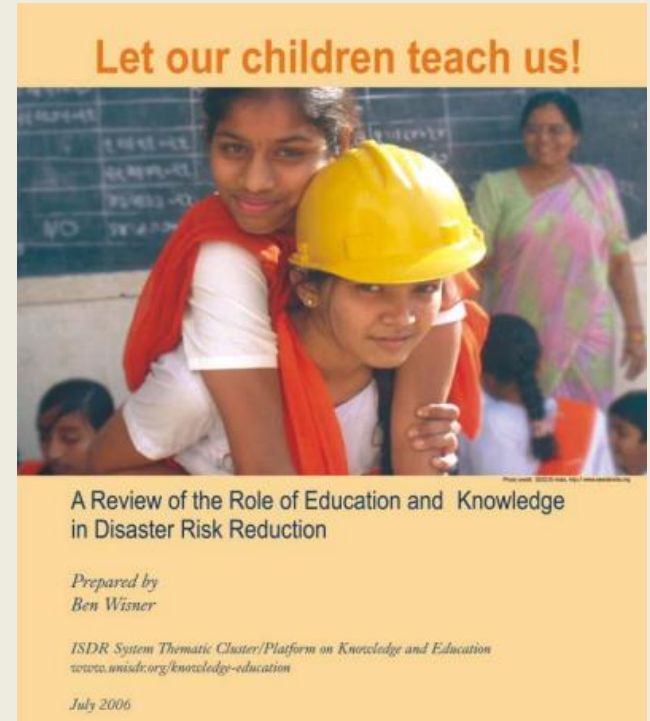


<https://bit.ly/2V7bjwu>



- **Let Our Children Teach Us!  
A Review of the Role of Education and  
Knowledge in Disaster Risk Reduction**

<https://www.undrr.org/publication/let-our-children-teach-us-review-role-education-and-knowledge-disaster-risk-reduction>



- **The Unique Needs of Children in Emergencies A  
Guide for the Inclusion of Children in Emergency  
Operations Plans, 2007**

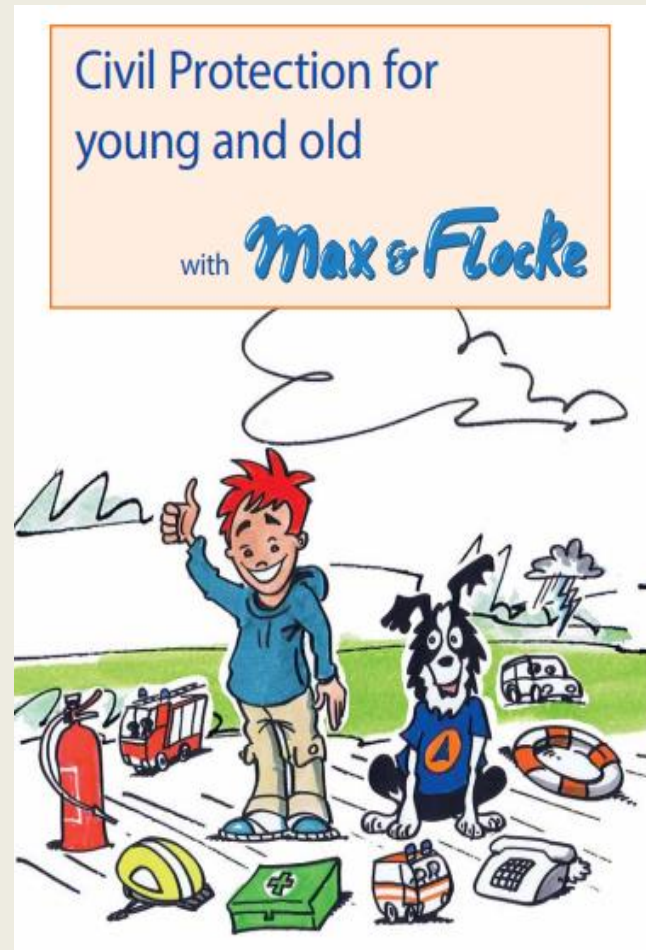
<https://cha.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Children-in-Disasters-Planning-Guide.pdf>



**Save the Children®**



- **Yaps project: Raising young people's awareness on preparedness and self protection**



<http://yaps.online/the-project/>



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**Thank you for your Attention**

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**Academic Staff, NTUA**  
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