

FIREFIGHTING TABLE TOP EXERCISE

SVAROG 2017



INTRODUCTION

Firefighting efforts require permanent prevention and preparedness activities aimed at an ever improving risk management and increased operational capacities. Forest fires are common threats to Croatia, Montenegro, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Austria and France, who often share their operational know-hows and techniques. The number of fires varies and largely depends upon the weather conditions, i.e. temperature and rainfall amounts. Due to the climate change caused increase in temperature and the prolonged periods of droughts, the number of fires and their proportions are unfortunately likely to increase in near future.

This clearly demonstrates the threat to the population and the environment, as well as potential detrimental effects to the economy and the budget caused by forest fires. Therefore, there is a justified need for additional investments into strengthening of the transnational cooperation and assistance, aimed at a more efficient and faster response.

Mediterranean states in particular, as significant tourist destinations, have additional obligation and responsibility to develop an advanced system of firefighting.

In the recent years, new analogue and GIS tools have been developed with the aim to facilitate the management of large firefighting interventions by commanding officers. By using new technologies and applications technical capacities are increased, as well as the scope and efficiency of interventions.

Throughout this project we want to share our experiences with our colleagues from other countries in order to compare the tools in use and choose the optimal ones which in future we will include in the training programme of firefighting commanders.

A need is there too to improve the communication between the aerial and ground forces in order to improve efficiency and safety on ground.

DESCRIPTION

Throughout the Union Civil Protection Mechanism funded project, Croatia, as the project coordinator and her project partners France, Montenegro and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, together with Austria as a project exercise player, will organize three workshops and a table top exercise. The topic addressed by the project is the reception and coordination of international firefighting assistance in the event of a disastrous forest fire, as well as the application of a newly gained knowledge in tactical situation planning on the field.

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

The general project objective is to train operational procedures when receiving, providing and coordinating international assistance provided by aerial and ground firefighting forces.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

The specific objective of the project is to make the participants familiar with modern technological tools used to better manage the fighting of forest fires and to unify new tactics and strategies for a more efficient firefighting.

PROJECT INFO

Firefighting Table Top Exercise – Svarog 2017 is co-financed within the framework of the European Commission financial instrument Union Civil Protection Mechanism, Call for Proposals – Union Civil Protection Mechanism Exercises.

GRANT AGREEMENT No: ECHO/SUB/2016/742246

Duration: 12 months (01/02/2017 - 31/01/2018)

WEB: www.svarog2017.eu



ACTIVITIES

WORKSHOPS

1ST WORKSHOP – May 2017 – Valabre, France

A workshop on the management and commanding in forest firefighting, use of fire propagation prediction tools as well as producing a graphic display of a tactical situation. The first Exercise Planning Meeting will be part of the workshop.

2ND WORKSHOP – September 2017 – Montenegro

A workshop on the Union Civil Protection Mechanism's procedures and tools when it comes to receiving and providing international assistance. The second Exercise Planning Meeting will be part of the workshop.

3RD WORKSHOP – October 2017 – Divulje, Croatia

A workshop on GIS tools as support in the management of the firefighting interventions, and on the Next Generation Incident Command System (NICS) Programme.

EXERCISE

The exercise will take place in the Cavtat area, Croatia, November 2017. The aim of the exercise is to test operational concepts, interoperability between the countries and joint decision making, train the procedures and tools of the Mechanism, coordinate teams and equipment, and in particular, test deployment of the relevant European Commission's services such as Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC), all in real time and real environment.

PROMOTION

During the project, the campaign 'May – fire prevention month' will take place in all the project countries.



PROJECT COORDINATOR



National Protection and Rescue Directorate (DUZS)

Croatia

PROJECT PARTNER



Entente Valabre

France



Directorate for Emergency Management of Montenegro - Ministry of Interior

Montenegro



Regional Fire Monitoring Centre (RFMC)

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

PROJECT PARTICIPANT / EXERCISE PLAYER



Department for Operations, Crisis and Disaster Coordination

– Austrian Ministry of the Interior

Austria



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