

BOOSTING CITIZENS' AWARENESS WITH THE SUPPORT OF FIRE AND RESCUE PRACTITIONERS TO ACCELERATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SENDAI FRAMEWORK

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Abstract – Practitioner talk.

In the frame of the FIRE-IN project, initiative funded by the European Commission, designed to raise the security level of EU citizens by improving the national and European Fire & Rescue capability development process, SAFE coordinator of this project proposes a presentation on: “Boosting citizens’ awareness with the support of Fire & Rescue practitioners to accelerate implementation of the Sendai Framework”. The main objective of FIRE-IN is to improve the national and European Fire & Rescue capability development process by fostering innovation in this domain and promoting innovative solutions to recognised needs. This may significantly reduce residual risks and raise the security level of EU citizens. FIRE-IN addresses the concern that capability-driven research and innovation in this area need much stronger guidance from practitioners and better exploitation of the technology potentially available for the discipline. In the present proposal, we could present three main identified needs:

1. Improving awareness, preparation and training of the population, based on the observation that in the event of a major crisis, the civil protection response is hampered if the population is not prepared.

We can illustrate this need through the feedback from Australia and the "firewise" and "fire smart" programs that have been developed in the US. Indeed, After Black Saturday in Australia (179 deaths) there was a paradigm change for fire services from responding to fires with ever more resources to engaging the population and placing more responsibility in their hands (preparedness & during crisis).

2. Common procedures, interoperable tools for sharing information, and common inter-service/interborder training.

Crises of a cross-border nature make it difficult to identify the current event. Yet authorities need to enable effective collective action in the face of transboundary problems that no Member states can address on their own. We would present feedback on the health crises induced by the Covid-19 pandemic, on the need to have common testing strategies, common methodology for counting people contaminated, etc. In order to create a common operational image, act optimally and give meaning to the management of the crisis with the population.

3. Tools and procedures for information and data sharing with the population and field workers in real time during the crisis.

We will base our remarks on feedback from the flash floods in the French Alps in October 2020, in order to present existing technologies identified, making it possible to bring knowledge to the citizen

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