

## **Working Group 2: Mobilising all players for prevention**

### **Objective**

On the basis of relevant national experiences, as well as on experience from existing EU initiatives, the working group will aim at defining effective ways of mobilising all relevant actors for disaster prevention.

#### ***1. Linking all relevant actors***

A range of Community and national policies address the individual phases of the disaster management cycle, namely prevention, preparedness, response and recovery, but may impact on other phases. Experience demonstrates the usefulness of linking the actors involved in developing and implementing measures that can have significant impacts on disaster prevention. This would concern both actors directly involved in disaster prevention (e.g. land use-planners, agencies responsible for risk assessment, etc.) and other relevant actors active in different phases of disaster management (e.g. forest recovery, emergency response).

The Commission suggests that a European network composed of representatives of the various national departments concerned of all the Member States could provide a useful forum for elaborating recommendations or best practices. Such a network would involve public and private stakeholders.

*Questions for discussion:*

- 1. What is your national experience regarding the linking of all relevant actors contributing to disaster prevention – have you put in place formalised structures/fora – for which actors and in which area? Do you have any plans to strengthen certain links through networks or platforms?*
- 2. How could the Community contribute to developing the linking of the various actors concerned by disaster prevention?*
- 3. How would the multi-departmental network proposed by the Commission complement the activities of national networks or platforms? How should such a network operate?*

#### ***2. Sharing of best practices***

All Participating States have developed national prevention measures to address different kinds of disasters. There is a clear interest in sharing success stories with a view to stimulate the implementation of best practice in all Participating States.

*Questions for discussion:*

- 1. Which are the priority areas for spreading best practices?*
- 2. How can knowledge between different national authorities, experts or other actors best be shared?*

#### ***3. Other actions contributing to mobilising all actors***

The following activities are suggested for action at national and/or Community level, as appropriate:

1. Extending the lessons learnt civil protection programme to include disaster prevention;
2. Supporting projects on public awareness and education; making the results of the projects accessible to professionals through publications and courses;

- 3. Developing disaster management training programmes with a prevention component so as to ensure a high level of awareness and preparedness in the event of natural disasters;
- 4. Improving the links and bridging the gaps between existing early warning systems, improving the dissemination of forecasts and warnings to be public;
- 5. Strengthening the cooperation with the network of European meteorological services (integration of short-term flood alerts in early warning systems, dissemination of forecasting tools to end-users such as weather services);
- 6. Increasing the awareness of the citizens regarding the European Emergency Number 112.

*Questions for discussion:*

- 1. Which of these suggestions do you consider as priority areas and why?
- 2. What other actions do you suggest to include in priority actions for mobilising all actors?

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