

pprd south programme

*Euro-Mediterranean
Programme on Prevention,
Preparedness and
Response to Natural and
Man-made Disasters*

- 1 Dear reader
- 2 Editorial
- The Programme
- 3 Governance Plan
- 4 National Correspondents Network
- The added value of PPRD South
- 5 Achieving visible results
- 6 The Balkan countries and Turkey
- Provisional Calendar of events
- 7 The PPRD South team
- Contacts

n° 1 June 2009

newsletter

Dear reader,

Spotlight

*First meeting of
the PPRD South
National
Correspondents:*

*Rome
21-22 July 2009*

*First Steering
Committee
Rome
Last week of
September 2009*

Welcome to the first note on the developments of the PPRD South Programme. Through this initiative the PPRD South team aims at keeping the Programme's Partners and Primary Stakeholders informed on ongoing PPRD South activities, progress made and results achieved. This Bulletin is being published in view of an important milestone of the PPRD South Programme: the first meeting of the National PPRD South Correspondents planned for the next 21-22 July. In the past months the PPRD South team has concentrated its efforts on the preparation of this key event with the objective, on the one side, of having most of the beneficiary countries represented at the meeting and, on the other, to have a consistent and innovative technical proposal to be discussed with the participants. I believe that a close collaboration should be established with the beneficiaries of the proposed actions, starting from the planning phase. In this way, we could better guarantee the commitment of the Programme's partners and the co-ownership of the Programme's results by its beneficiaries. The proactive cooperation of the National Correspondents in all the activities shall be the cornerstone for the successful implementation of the PPRD South Programme.

*Pierluigi Soddu
Executive Director PPRD
Programme*



Editorial by Agostino Miozzo

Leader of the PPRD South Consortium

I take this opportunity to encourage all of you to establish a proactive dialogue

It is an honour for the Italian Civil Protection Department to lead the Consortium entrusted by the European Commission to manage the third phase of the "Euromed Programme on Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters". The partners of the Consortium - the Ministries of the Interior of Algeria, Egypt and France and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR) - have shared a strong commitment to work together towards the reinforcement of the regional cooperation in the field of Civil Protection in the Mediterranean. In our intention, the PPRD South should be a permanent Euro-Mediterranean discussion forum for Civil

Protection issues. The Programme should be able to build a shared knowledge base on the existing risks in the Mediterranean region and, thus, promote a common approach to managing those risks.

The first actions performed by the PPRD South were mostly preparatory: setting up the National Correspondents Network, re-engineering the actions in view of the involvement of the Balkan countries and Turkey, defining the PPRD South governance procedures, defining the role and the structure of the PPRD South web portal, evaluating the operational aspects of the various actions.

Nevertheless, they were all essential to prepare a fertile ground for the successful implementation of

the Programme.

I take this opportunity to encourage all of you - the team, the partners, the beneficiaries and all the other stakeholders - to establish a proactive dialogue and to work together in order to take full advantage of this cooperation.

As highlighted by the recent emergencies which recently struck my country, there is a growing demand of Civil Protection services by the populations of our countries. This is fully justified by the current socio-economic, cultural and political situation and it is our duty to prepare an effective response to this growing demand.

The Programme



- Participant countries
- Observer countries

PPRD South is the EC funded Euro-Mediterranean Programme on Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters. The current phase of the Programme (2009-2012) started in early March 2009 with a total budget of € 5 million.

PPRD South is managed by a Consortium composed by the **Italian Department for Civil Protection** – the leader – the **UN**

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) and the Civil Protection Authorities of **France, Egypt and Algeria**. The Programme's participant countries are **Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria, the Palestinian Authority, Tunisia, Turkey, Israel, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro. Mauritania and Libya** participate as observers.

The overall objectives of the Programme are:

1) to develop and reinforce the quality of Civil Protection services in the Euro-Mediterranean region – which will ensure more effective protection of people, infrastructures, cultural heritage and the natural environment in the event of major disasters ;

2) to support the continuation of institutional cooperation in the field, both between the EU and the Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPCs) and among the MPCs themselves, thereby promoting political and social stability.

The purpose of the Programme is to contribute to the development of improved Civil Protection prevention, preparedness and response capacities at international, national and local levels in both

institutional and operational terms.

The activities planned to achieve the Programme purpose were grouped under four broad and interdependent areas:

- Risk Assessment Tools - developing national and regional risk assessment tools, such as a risk review, risk maps, a Regional Risk Atlas and a Civil Protection Operational Manual;
- Prevention and preparedness - organising training workshops, study visits and technical assis-

tance, sensitising the creation of national platforms for disaster risk reduction and supporting regional cooperation;

- Response: improving the coverage and the coordination of existing warning systems and of the relevant operational centres, and implementing simulation exercises;
- Information and communications - improving the information and awareness of affected populations regarding risk exposure, prevention and response.

The activities planned to achieve the Programme purpose were grouped under

Governance Plan

Towards a representative and participatory decision making process

At the Programme kick-off meeting (held in Brussels on 4 March 2009) the EC raised the issue of possible bottlenecks in the PPRD South decision making process.

The original Programme technical proposal foresaw various bodies (Project Management Team, Project Administration Unit, Consortium, National Correspondents Network, Steering Committee, the various Directorates of the EC involved in the programme, etc) in view of guaranteeing wide participation and

representativeness by the PPRD South stakeholders.

The EC alerted the team on possible risks due to complicated governance settings and invited the team to clarify as much as possible the roles and responsibilities of each body.

The PPRD South team, taking into account the composite and multifaceted Programme framework, set up a comprehensive and functional coordination and decision making system involving all the primary institu-

tional stakeholders of the Programme. This system is being detailed within the "PPRD South Governance Plan", which was prepared and submitted to the EC and the members of the Consortium for validation.

The **signature** of the document is foreseen for the **20 July in Rome by the five members of the Consortium.**

..... set up a comprehensive and functional coordination and decision making system involving all the primary stakeholders of the programme....

National Correspondents Network

Taking better into account the needs of the beneficiary countries

After four months the results of this approach are very encouraging: thirteen out of fourteen countries have appointed their National Correspondent.

According to the Mid-Term Evaluation of the "Bridge" Programme, a more participatory approach with the partner countries was to be developed. Their increased involvement in the planning, funding and execution of the Programme's activities was deemed essential.

This challenge continues within the new phase of the PPRD South. Therefore, it was decided that the first priority to be addressed, before organising events and actions on the field, was to set up a representative National Correspondents Network

with members officially appointed and backed up at the highest national level.

To this end, a multilevel strategy was devised for the appointment of the National Correspondents: the highest channels in the Civil Protection hierarchies of the beneficiary countries were mobilised so as to ensure the endorsement of the nomination by the local decision makers and the commitment of the institutions and the individuals.

After four months the results of this approach are very encouraging: thirteen out of fourteen

countries have appointed their National Correspondent. The team has good expectations to establish a fully representative National Correspondents Network for the first National Correspondents Meeting scheduled for 21 - 23 July 2009, in Rome.

At the opening of the session, a welcome speech will be delivered by the Head of the Italian Civil Protection Department to the National Correspondents in the presence of the Ambassadors of the beneficiary countries.

Follows the list of the selected National Correspondents:

Albania
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Egypt
Jordan
Montenegro
Palestinian Authority
Turkey

Mr. Sali KERMENDI
Ms. Olga SLAGALO
Lt. Col. Ayman FOUAD
Lt. Col. Waleed AL SOUB
Mr. Vladimir SEKULIC
Brigadier Dr. Jawhar SAYEJ
Mr. Ahmet Hamdi USTA

Algeria
Croatia
Israel
Lebanon
Morocco
Tunisia

Com. Lalaoui FOUAD
Ms. Maja MATIJAS
Col. Dedi SIMHI
Mr. Georges ABOU MOUSSA
Col. Zineddine AMMOUMOU
Col. Chokri BEN JANNET

The added value of PPRD South

The question was: what can be the best possible value added of an EU funded international cooperation programme on Civil Protection?

While revising and defining the PPRD South technical proposal, the reply to the question "what can be the best possible added value of an EU funded international cooperation programme on Civil Protection?" was: the European experience in developing national

Civil Protection functions. It is believed that this experience can be adapted to the Mediterranean context and concretely support the beneficiary institutions in improving their capacities in disasters prevention, preparedness and response. To this end, two fields of

action were assessed as appropriate for the application of this proposed approach in the Mediterranean partner countries:

- Information management in support of proper decision-making on Civil Protection and disaster prevention matters;

- promotion of new management arrangements, technologies and tools to enhance the capacities for prevention, preparedness and response to disasters.

On this basis the PPRD South team has proposed to conduct the following three-stage process:

1) Identify and assess

practices, tools and methodologies relevant to the Programme objectives, which have resulted in the effective development of the CP capacities in the EU countries and which, possibly, will result successful in the PPRD South beneficiary countries;

2) Analyse the feasibility of as well as the potential benefits coming from the

adaptation/replication/extension of these selected practices, tools and methodologies in the PPRD South beneficiary countries;

3) Draft proposals for their potential adaptation/replication/extension and discuss them with the NCs, the EC and the Consortium.

On this basis the PPRD South team has proposed to conduct the following three-stage process....

Achieving visible results

The design, implementation and promotion of a multilevel, multifunction and multi-stakeholder web Portal has been identified as the “backbone action” in the activities aimed at bringing forward the national CP capacities of the beneficiary countries and at strengthening the regional Civil Protection cooperation framework. The Portal will constitute a working tool for all the

stakeholders and will provide, quite in real time, wide visibility to the programme’s results including a clear picture of the state of progress of the PPRD South activities and of the related level of participation by the countries.

The PPRD South web Portal, which will be populated in strict cooperation with the national partner institutions, is being designed to in-

clude the following components:

1) A regional Civil Protection news flow,

2) A regional repository of Civil Protection information ,

3) A web Geographical Information System (GIS).

The terms of reference for this web portal were finalised and are being examined by the Administrative Department of the Italian Department of Civil Protection.

The Portal will constitute a working tool for all the stakeholders

The Balkan countries and Turkey

In order to preserve the overall consistency of the programme strategy, the team selected a set of core activities

The addition of five new countries to the group of PPRD South beneficiaries, of which the team was informed at the kick-off meeting, represents a further motivating challenge. In order to preserve the overall consistency of the programme strategy and to guarantee the

relevancy of the specific actions to the different national Civil Protection contexts, the team has selected a set of core activities which were extended to the IPA countries (Balkans and Turkey). They include all the activities related to risk assessment tools (risk

maps, risk atlas, risk review, Civil Protection manual), most of the training activities, and all the web Portal based information and communication activities. The revised proposal, once finalised has been sent to the European Commission for comments.

Provisional Calendar of events

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| | | | | | | | | | | | | 2009 |
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| Jan | Feb | Mar | |
| | Nc ₇ color: green;">Sc ₄ color: blue;">Sv ₄ | | |

Legend

Fs_n Full Scale Exercise

Sc_n Steering Committee Meetings

Tw_n Training Workshops for staff

Hl_n Training Workshop for High Level managers

Nc_n National Correspondents Network Meetings

Sv_n Study Visits for National Correspondents

Tt_n Workshops and Table-top Exercises

Develop an integrated approach to risk management, with focus on disaster prevention...

Most of the events listed in the calendar belong to the training and technical assistance component of the Programme, which will mostly aim to:

- 1) Develop an integrated approach to risk management, with focus on disaster prevention and the

development of National Platforms;

- 2) Help building in the beneficiary countries – through a robust and continuative hands-on component – the technical capacities required by the proposed information exchange mechanism and

for building, maintaining and utilizing the national risk maps;

- 3) Establish close cooperation between risk management experts (Civil Protection Authorities), risk data holders (research centres) and GIS experts.

The PPRD South team

What seems to be a simple list of names with outstanding qualifications is already a team: “a set of individuals who interact dynamically, interdependently and adaptively to achieve specified, shared and valued objectives”. A guarantee for the good and successful implementation of the programme.

Executive Director Pierluigi Soddu

Director of the Volcanic Service at the Italian Civil Protection Department, has recently managed the GEOSDI project for the implementation of the Italian Spatial Data Infrastructure for Civil and he was previously in charge of various European projects in the field of Civil Protection cooperation.

Mediterranean Co-Director Ahmed El Kholei

PhD in “Regional Planning” and MSc in “Urban Planning and Policy Development”, is an international consultant on urban planning and environment. He recently participated in the preparation of the Environment Outlook for the Arab Region.

European Co-Director Ronan de Saint Germain

MSc in “Risk Management”, is an expert in the field of crisis management. After 21 years in the French Civil Defence, he is now working as international consultant.

Communications Expert Milojka Saule,

Former EC Communications officer. She worked for five years at the EC Delegation in Cairo. Milojka Saule has recently worked as Communications Expert for the EU funded Euromed Audiovisual programme.

Media and Information Expert Alessandro Candeloro

Information engineer, worked for six years as the Information Manager of the EU funded Euro-Mediterranean Programme for the Environment developing a regional thematic knowledge management mechanism, known as the SMAP Clearing House.

Monitoring and Evaluation Expert Antonio Barbera

Former (technical and financial) monitoring expert in the framework of the EU funded Euromed

Junior International Relations Expert Erika Conti

Studied and worked for three years in Morocco and Egypt. After getting her PhD in “Politics in the Arab countries”, she is now back to Italy and works for the Civil Protection Department.

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