



ЦЕНТАР ЗА УПРАВУВАЊЕ СО КРИЗИ
CRISIS MANAGEMENT CENTER

CRISIS MANAGEMENT CENTRE BULLETIN
SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2009

NATIONAL PLATFORM FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION – A FOUNDATION FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF THE CIVIL SECURITY PILLAR



For more than two years the Crisis Management Centre is working on the establishment of a serious civil security pillar, which is necessary for the normal and impeccable functioning of the society. Many questions, dilemmas, analysis, assessment, etc. were raised. Ways to build the system in Macedonia were sought, which will create a structure that will not bring back what we had twenty years ago, but will rather build a new strategy that follows the trends of our contemporary times, the new technological developments and the new needs of

the contemporary Macedonian social life. Truly difficult task for such turbulent times. The task was to assemble the puzzle called Crisis Management. To mobilize the coordination and networking forces and to link the loose laces. The foundations need to be sound, with stabile basis so that it can withhold the high demanding projects related to building this system. Macedonia needed a basis for a new start. This basis was found in the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction that will act as a foundation that will give birth to the more difficult tasks to come. In a very short period of time this Platform managed to unify all positive resources in the state, both material and technical, including the human resources. When all this was systematized and organized in an orderly approach, we could see that the Macedonian State has respectable capacities that, when put in a system, will without any doubt yield results. Representatives from the ministries, the academic institutions, and non-governmental organization set at a joint table. Their cooperation is necessary, and each partial action yields partial results. The National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction has grown into a strategic document that serves as a source for the new working approach. The intensive international contacts together with the Management Team of the Crisis Management Centre have contributed to spreading the word about this Macedonian model of the National Platform even outside our borders. Macedonia has become the 11th European country and the 53rd country in the world to establish such a structure of actions. Macedonia, through the Crisis Management Centre, has built a structure with solid foundations; a structure that needs a strong inter-institutional bloodstream that will bring life to this organism. In order for us to be able to realize this objective we will need the strong commitment of all stakeholders and factors that play a role in this domain, as well as of all competent bodies and all citizens in general.

MACEDONIA WAS ELECTED CO-CHAIR OF THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL FORUM ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION FOR 2010

At the conference dedicated to the European National Platforms and the Institutions responsible for the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, held on November 12 in London, the Republic of Macedonia was elected Co-Chair of the European Regional Forum on Disaster Risk Management in 2010, whereas Sweden was elected to be the Chair. At this conference the Director of the Crisis Management Centre, Pande Lazarevski PhD, represented Macedonia. The European Forum unifies the efforts of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), the Council of Europe, the European Network of National Platforms, the European Commission, as well as of other regional initiatives related to risk reduction. In this direction, at the workshop Mr. Pande Lazarevski PhD presented the structure and the challenges of the National Platform of the Republic of Macedonia for Disaster Risk Reduction. The participants at the conference have pledged the Forum should be developed into a Platform through introduction of a higher degree of institutionalization. UNISDR, the Council of Europe and the Office of the Great Britain's Cabinet organized the Conference. In the meantime, in Istanbul on 16-19 November the Annual Meeting of the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Initiative for South-East Europe – DPPI SEE took place (an institutional successor of the South-East Europe Stability Pact). The role of the Chair of the DPPI activities for this year was given to Macedonia represented by the Directorate of the Republic of Macedonia for Protection and Rescue. At the meeting the Director of the Crisis Management Centre, Mr. Pande Lazarevski PhD, also took part as a Co-Chair of the European Platform on Disaster Risk reduction. Lazarevski presented the National Platform of the Republic of Macedonia, which was pointed out as a possible model for the organization of the national platforms of the countries in the region.

DELEGATION OF UN/ISDR VISITS THE CRISIS MANAGEMENT CENTRE

The Director of the Secretariat of United Nations' International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR), Mr. Salvano Briceño, accompanied by Ms. Paola Albrito, Regional Coordinator for Europe in Skopje, on November 4th 2009 were on an official visit to the Republic of Macedonia. In the Crisis Management Center the United Nation Delegation had a meeting with the Chair of Steering Committee and Minister for Internal Affairs, Ms. Gordana Jankuloska, as well as with the Director of the Crisis Management Centre of the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Pande Lazarevski, PhD. Mr. Briceño was introduced with the dynamic of the implementation of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, as well as with the steps that are undertaken in the direction of coordination and networking of the resources available to the State.

Macedonian authorities were given recognition for the establishment of the National Platform System, which places Macedonia among the 11th European countries that are implementing this strategy; at the same time the guests encouraged the continuation of the activities within the crisis management system.

After the meeting, the United Nations' Delegation met with the representatives of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. The Director of the Crisis Management Centre, Mr. Pande Lazarevski, PhD presented the revised version of the National Platform and its implementation phases. Among the present representatives was the Minister for Justice, Mihajlo Manevski, academic Georgi Efremov - Chair of the Consultative Expert Council of the National Platform, the General Secretary of the Red Cross of the Republic of Macedonia

- Sait Saiti, the President of the Broadcasting Council - Zoran Stefanoski, Prof. Valentin Mircevski, PhD. - Coordinator of the National Laboratories Network, as well as representatives of many other institutions responsible for the implementation of the National Platform.

The United Nations' Delegation also had a meeting with the President of the Republic of Macedonia, Gjorge Ivanov, PhD.



THIRD SESSION OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE IN EXTENDED MINISTERIAL COMPOSITION

On November 19th, 2009, the Third Session of the Steering Committee of the National Platform in an extended ministerial composition, chaired by the Minister of Internal Affairs, Gordana Jankuloska, was held at the Crisis Management Centre.



The Director of the Crisis Management Centre, Pande Lazarevski PhD informed the Committee about the establishment of the European Forum (platform) for Disaster Risk Reduction in London, by UNISDR and the Council of Europe. At the London Meeting the Republic of Macedonia was elected Co-Chair for the upcoming 2010, together with Sweden as Chair.

The first revision of the National Platform of the Republic of Macedonia for Disaster Risk Reduction was performed at the session, two months ahead of the plan. It was noted that the majority of the European countries have expressed their interest in the Macedonian model. The Steering Committee in extended ministerial composition reviewed the reports for the work of the working groups in the Council of State Secretaries, as well as the analysis of the situation in the inspectorates and the other inspection bodies, which were presented by the Director of the State Administration Inspectorate. The progress of the project on the Introduction of the Single European Emergency Number E-112 in the Republic of Macedonia was reviewed at the session, along with the other issues related to the functioning of the National Platform.

THE NATIONAL PLATFORM PRESENTED IN THE LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT UNITS



In the course of October and November the representatives from the Crisis Management Centre held several meetings with Mayors and representatives from the Local Self-Government Units to discuss the implementation of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction of the Republic of Macedonia with a special review of its implementation at regional and local levels.



The National Platform was first presented on October 22nd in the municipalities in the Eastern region: Lozovo, Sveti Nikole, Stip, Karbinici, Cesinovo-Oblesevo, Probistip, Kocani, Zrnovci, Vinica, Makedonska Kamenica, Delcevo, Pehcevo and Berovo. The second meeting was held on November 4th, with mayors and representatives from the local self-government in Strumica, Bosilovo, Vasilevo, Novo Selo, Gevgelija, Bogdanci, Dojran, Valandovo, Radovis and Konce, and the third meeting was held on November 19th with the mayors and representatives from the municipalities of Veles, Negotino, Kavadarci, Gradsko, Rosoman, Caska and Demir Kapija.

At the meeting special emphasis was placed on the functioning of organizational units at the lowest levels - the local and urban communities, as well as on the role that the citizens play.



The next activity in this plan was to inform all members of the Municipal Councils and the representatives of the urban and local communities about the implementation of the tasks that emerge from the National Platform.

It is expected that in the upcoming period the mayors will undertake actions to constitute the Local Councils for Prevention thus putting into function the local and urban communities and finalizing the framework for the coverage of the National Platform even in the smallest forms and shapes of the organizational setting.

MUNICIPALITY OF RADOVIS AWARDED THE CRISIS MANAGEMENT CENTRE WITH THE MUNICIPAL AWARD

The mayor of Municipality Radovis, Mr. Robert Velkov, awarded the Crisis Management Centre with the November 6th award "Golden Plate" for their participation in the recovery from the consequences from the storm that took place in Radovis on December 4th, 2008. The award was given at the Gala Session of the Municipal Council that celebrated the 65th Anniversary from the liberation of Radovis. The Head of the Department for Operations and Coordination Mr. Dusko Petrovski received the award on behalf of the Crisis Management Centre.



STRENGTHENING OF THE CAPACITIES OF THE CRISIS MANAGEMENT CENTER

The project "Strengthening of the Capacities of the Crisis Management Center", was initiated in 2008 and it is financially supported by the Government of Japan and UNDP Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery. Its main goals are to support the Government in further strengthening of the system for crisis management and ensuring effective and timely response to both natural and man-made disasters. This will be achieved through several steps: 1) identification of capacity-building needs of the Crisis Management system; 2) formulation of a National Crisis Management Plan; 3) improving hazard monitoring of the capacities of the Crisis Management Center; 4) strengthening of the capacities and resilience of local authorities and communities; and 5) public awareness-raising.

Some of the key activities implemented within this project include:

SCHOOL TRAINING DRILL FOR EVACUATION AND RESCUE IN CASE OF EARTHQUAKE

UNDP and the Crisis Management Center (CMC), in cooperation with the Macedonian Red Cross, the Directorate for Rescue and Protection and local institutions from the municipalities of Strumica, Veles and Kicevo organized three training drills for evacuation and rescue of high school students in case of earthquake. The events took place in the following schools:

- High School "Dimitar Vlahov" in Strumica, on 9 October 2009
- High school "Koco Racin" in Veles, on 3 November 2009
- High School "Mirko Mileski" in Kicevo, on 9 November 2009



Training drill in Kicevo, 9th November 2009

A total of 1597 high school students (450 from the high school Dimitar Vlahov in Strumica, 250 from the high school Koco Racin in Veles and 897 from the high school Mirko Mileski in Kicevo), 144 teachers and other staff (60 from Stru-



Training drill in Strumica, 9th October 2009

mica, 15 from Veles and 69 from Kicevo) actively participated in these training drills.

The main objective of the drills was to test the functionality of the schools' evacuation plans, which were also developed in the frames of the project, as well as the coordination among institutions and rescue and protection systems in cases of natural disasters. Strengthening capacities and building confidence in the systems' institutions, especially the ones at local level, is crucial for reducing potential negative impact on vulnerable groups, particularly children.

STRENGTHENING OF THE CAPACITIES AND RESISTANCE OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND COMMUNITIES

There is an ongoing implementation of small-scale risk reduction projects in three selected micro-regions, Veles, Strumica and Kicevo. As part of the overall efforts to improve the preparedness at local level, on 29



Hand-over of basic fire fighting equipment for the Strumica micro-region, 29th October 2009

October 2009, representatives of the CMC and UNDP handed-over basic open-air firefighting equipment to the municipalities of Strumica, Novo Selo, Bosilovo and Vasilevo. This equipment will be used for protection of tourist sites and cultural-historical monuments in the municipalities.

In Kicevo, a swamp on the Fifth Route, near the neighborhoods Deveana, Pod



Cleaning the swamp on the Fifth Route in Kicevo, August 2009

Krushino and Ivani represented a potential source of pollution. Formed by improper sewage management of atmospheric water, it grew 450m large and 5m wide and served for disposal of communal and construction waste. Mechanical excavation was used to clean the waste disposal, and conditions for future construction of a sewage channel were provided. This will lead to the improvement

of the overall well-being of the people living in the neighborhood. In Veles, activities for stabilization of the potentially unstable rock that is jeopardizing the nearby church St. Pantelejmon and houses are in their initial phase. All of the above mentioned interventions and activities are co-financed by the municipalities with their own budget resources.

GENDER COMPONENT OF THE PROJECT

The CMC and UNDP developed GIS (Geographic Information System) software which included gender disaggregated data as one of the layers within the software that CMC is using for monitoring of crises, creation of action plans and evaluation. The gender data will provide substantive support to authorities in planning their activities in accordance with the specific needs of both men and women. The CMC and UNDP also managed to mainstream gender into the comprehensive desk review of the current crisis management system in the country. Within this assessment, a specific chapter named as "Aspects of gender equality in the crisis management process" was elaborated. This chapter includes an overview of the gender issues, country needs for mainstreaming gender equality in the crisis management system, assessment of the Macedonian laws related to crisis management system and recommendations for increasing the level of gender equity in the crisis management system.

In order to ensure that gender based activities will continue after the project closure, UNDP has recommended the establishment of a Gender Thematic Group (GTG) and the appointment of a Gender Focal Point within the CMC. The main goal of the GTG is to promote and secure gender equality during the processes of planning and decision making, and to address the needs of the vulnerable groups before, during and after the crisis period. It is expected that the GTG will take on a leading role in the future to promote gender educational activities not only within the CMC, but also among other institutions which are part of the crisis management system.

As a support to the CMC's Gender Thematic Group, Web Based Gender Repository Database and Web Based System for Learning, Exams and Survey (E-Learning) software were developed. The Gender Repository Database software presents an application where qualitative and quantitative data related to gender activities will be accumulated in order to ensure better approach of CMC for cohesive gender based analysis, monitoring and evaluation process. The working version of the application is uploaded on CMC's Intranet System. The Web Based System for Learning, Exam and Survey software will raise the awareness of the CMC's employees about gender issues into crisis management area and will contribute for development of human approach where gender issues will be easily addressed, properly considered and effectively resolved. As a basis for strengthening the employee's knowledge, a Guide for Gender Mainstreaming into Crisis Management and set of approximately 60 questions have been developed.



Participants of the workshops, May 2009

A gender expert, engaged by the CMC and UNDP, held two workshops in May 2009 focusing on gender equality and gender mainstreaming into crisis management. Representatives from the Directorate for Protection and Rescue, Macedonian Red Cross, CMC and UNDP participated in these workshops. It is expected that the trained participants will contribute to the development of the future project activities, including the development of a draft version of a Gender Responsive National Crisis Management Plan.



E-Learning software application

The Guide will be inserted into the software and will help the CMC employees to understand gender concepts, gender equality, gender mainstreaming and connections between gender and crisis management. After the successful passing of the exam, printed Certificates will be generated. The working version of the application is installed within the CMC's system.

Thanks to this project, the needs of the vulnerable groups are being strongly taken into consideration. The CMS's institutions have proven their interest to take an active part in the implementation of activities which will lead to increased preparedness of women, children and other vulnerable groups when it comes to dealing with crisis. The systems' institutions also proved their interest to support women to take an active role before, during and after crisis period, and ensure their participation in the decision making processes.

CIRSIIS MANAGEMENT TRAINING ORGANIZED IN THE CRISIS MANAGEMENT CENTRE

Three-day training on crisis management was held at the Crisis Management Centre on September 15th -17th. The training was organized by the representatives from the National Guards of the State of Vermont, in cooperation with the



USA Embassy in the Republic of Macedonia. Among the trainers were Jan Hepburn, Elizabeth Tracy and Terry Lively, experts in public safety from Vermont.

At the beginning the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was presented, whereupon the Director of the Crisis Management Centre, Pande Lazarevski PhD presented the achievements in this area made in the past several months.

The programme has encompassed training on the public alert system and the way it functions in Vermont, on public information, pre-disaster and post-disaster alert messages; the trainers have also presented the management programmes for extraordinary circumstances, as well as the civic radio-amateur service for emergency situations.

During the training the Vermont State Operational Centre for Emergency Situations and the System for Command Responsibility were presented

Special attention was paid to engaging volunteers. Besides the representatives from the Crisis Management Centre the training welcomed also representatives from other institutions and institutes from the Republic of Macedonia.

SIMULATION EXERCISE "NATIONAL CRISIS COMMAND CENTRE"

From 22nd to 26th September the Crisis Management Centre held a simulation exercise titled "National Crisis Command Centre for Weapons of Mass Destruction". The representatives from the Government of USA, Department of Defense, the Federal Bureau for Investigations and the Department for Homeland Security realized the exercise.

The exercise focused on incidents involving weapons for mass destruction, and one of the priority objectives of the exercise were international cooperation, inter-institutional coordination, as well as information management. The organization of such exercise is of paramount significance for the evaluation of the capacities and the resources of the institutions responsible for coping with crisis situations.

Representatives from the following state institutions responsible for provision of response to incidents involving weapons for mass destruction, or any other



type of incident that may result in the establishment of a Operational Command Centre, participated in the exercise: Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Health, Directorate for Safety from Radiation, Directorate for Protection and Rescue, as well as the Crisis Management Centre – in other words – the institutions that are a part of the Crisis Management System of the Republic of Macedonia. The Deputy Chief of the USA Mission to the Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Tomas Navratil addressed the audience at the final ceremony.

Prior to the exercise there was training in Crisis Management for Incidents Involving Weapons for Mass Destruction, which was held from 22nd to 25th June 2009 in Ohrid. The objective of the training was Crisis Management of Incidents that may involve weapons for mass destruction.

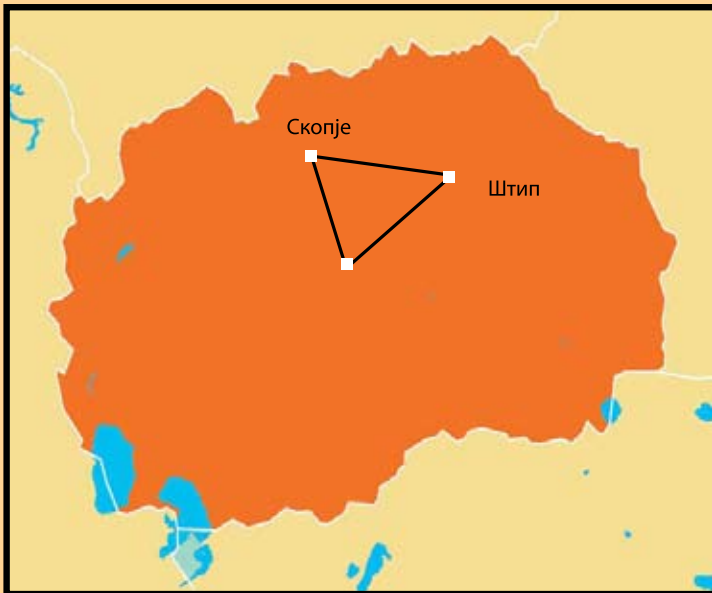
INTRODUCING THE SINGLE EUROPEAN EMERGENCY NUMBER E-112

The conceptual design of the E-112 system is defined with the use of different international experiences in its functioning, the implementation of the E-112 in various states, with special consideration of the specificities of the Republic of Macedonia. The implementation of the system will provide for a single communication and coordination support for all emergency services. This system will be able to use the possibilities offered by the information and communication systems, the GIS system, as well as the emergency management system based on the standard operational procedures.

The implementation of E-112 is a responsibility of the Republic of Macedonia that emerges from the Directive on Universal Services and Users' Rights relating to Electronic Communications Networks and Services (2002/22/EC), and which obliges all EU member-states to implement the Single European Emergency number E-112

The establishment of the E-112 system and the introduction of the single emergency number are proscribed by the provisions of the Law on Crisis Management and the Law on Electronic Communications.

The 112 number will replace the current emergency numbers: for the police 192, the fire department 193, the emergency medical services 194 and the Crisis Management Centre 195. The citizens will use only one number instead of the current four. By dialing 112 the information about the incident will immediately be reported to: the police, the fire department, the emergency medical services and the Crisis Management Centre.



The E-112 system in the Republic of Macedonia foresees three operational call centres for emergency events and for coordination of the police, the emergency medical services, the fire department and the teams for protection and rescue in emergency cases. These centres will be located in Skopje, Stip and in one of the towns in the southern region, and each of them will have the possibility to receive calls from anywhere on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia, if need be.



- The E-112 system shall receive all emergency calls from any location in Macedonia;
- All operators of public telephone networks are obliged to secure that the users of the public telephone services, including the public phone booths, can free-of-charge dial the emergency numbers;
- The Public Telecommunication Networks Operators may not restrict the access and the use of the emergency numbers;
- The E-112 system shall receive calls from all landline and mobile telecommunication networks;
- The E-112 system should be projected in such a way that it enables reception of all electronic calls from vehicles (e-call and AVLS –Automatic Vehicle Location System in cases of traffic accidents);
- The E-112 system should be projected in such a way that it enables equal access to the E-112 number and equal use of the communication means for the people with disabilities;
- The recording of communications and the associated data for transmission is allowed in the E-112 service for the purpose of their record, identification and action;
- The operators that will enable access to the public communications network and use of the public communications services should undertake measures that will secure the undisturbed access and use of the E-112 number in cases of natural disasters;
- All calls from the territory covered by one regional E112 centre need to be routed by the public communications operators towards that centre;
- In case the regional centre is not functioning, public telecommunications operators shall direct all calls to the other emergency E-112 call centres;
- Each of the regional emergency E-112 call centres shall be linked to the public telecommunications network in a way that will fully satisfy smooth reception of all emergency calls.

WORLD CAR ACCIDENTS VICTIMS DAY WAS MARKED



On November 15th at the main square "Macedonia" in Skopje the World Car Accidents Victims Day was marked. The Republic Council for Road Traffic Safety, together with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Health, the Red Cross of the Republic of Macedonia, the Public Health Institute, the Crisis Management Centre, AMSM and the World Health Organization, in order to contribute to lowering the tendency of increased accidents and road victims have disseminated information and education materials related to traffic.

The Crisis Management Centre had its own stand where it promoted the newest materials. The citizens were mostly interested about the introduction of the single European emergency number E-112 which needs to be established in the upcoming period. The Minister for Internal Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia, Ms. Gordana Jankuloska visited the Crisis Management Centre stand.



Contact information:
 Dimce Mircev St. NN Skopje
 Tel: 3 249 101, fax: 3 249 102
www.cuk.gov.mk

The Crisis Management Centre would like to thank the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Government of Japan for their financial assistance for the printing of this Bulletin.



ALO 195 TV Show on Crisis Management



The Crisis Management center in cooperation with the Macedonian Radio Television in the course of 2009 has started with the realization of a TV project entitled ALO 195.

The cycle of the TV show covered and will cover topics related to various types of risks and hazards, accidents and catastrophes that are a composing part of our everyday life.

The objective of the project is to bring closer to the viewers the National Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction, to present the competent institutions and bodies responsible for providing response to regular and crisis situations, as well as to present the measures and activities that are undertaken within the stages of prevention, early warning, coping and overcoming the consequences of certain crisis conditions.

Within the period September – December 2009 the following topics were covered:

- Prevention from the Pandemic Virus A (H1N1);
- Maritime Accident in the Lake Ohrid;
- Earthquakes and Coping with this type of Natural Disaster;
- Fire at Monastery Bigorski and the Manner of Protection of the Cultural and Material Heritage;
- The Role of the State Institutions;
- Forensics – Consolidation of Laboratories;
- Insurance Companies and their Role in Crisis Situations;
- Psychiatric Treatment in the Period After the Crisis.

