



IPA DRAM

DISASTER RISK ASSESSMENT AND MAPPING IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY

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Editorial -NOVEMBER UPDATE

Dear Reader,

Here we are with a new issue of the IPA DRAM Newsletter, dedicated to the Regional Workshop and Steering Committee held in Antalya, Turkey in June 2018 and later updates. Enjoy your reading!

On behalf of the IPA DRAM Team

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REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON SEISMIC RISK

The area encompassing Balkans and Turkey is one of the most seismically active regions in Europe. As a consequence of this, seismic risk assessment is rightfully perceived as a priority in the Balkan countries and in Turkey, and the need for a homogeneous approach in the region has been put forward several times during the first part of the IPA DRAM program development. In fact, the assessment of earthquake risk constitutes the first step to support decisions and actions to reduce potential losses. IPA DRAM responded to this need by organizing a Regional Workshop focused on seismic risk assessment methodologies and tools, which was held in June 2018 in Antalya, Turkey.

The general objectives of the workshop were:

- to support the Partner Countries in exchanging experience on the status of the seismic risk assessment in the Region, also in connection to landslides and rock-falls, and improve the knowledge of how these topics are tackled internationally and specifically in EU MS
- to define common grounds for a homogeneous approach to seismic risk assessment and management in the Region
- to improve the regional cooperation and the cooperation with EU MS on the technical level on the specific theme of multi-hazard approach, namely seismic risk and landslides/rock-falls.

Being the Programme in full implementation phase, the workshop was also oriented to target specific Objectives derived from the Plans of Actions, that have been identified as common achievements among Partner Countries; they can be summarized as:

- to analyze how the current methodologies for Earthquake risk assessment applied in the different Countries can contribute to the NDRA in compliance with the EU DRA guidelines;
- to prepare a regional roadmap on seismic risk assessment focusing on its contribution to the NDRAs (e.g. regional and cross-border scenarios)
- to concretely share experiences in post-disaster data collection, mitigation and preparedness within the framework of seismic risk

Results of the workshop can be identified in the creation of a **regional network of experts** and the **development of a regional roadmap**.



This event was also an occasion to deal with the analysis on sub-topics, which are key aspects to develop a proper approach to risk assessment and management related to seismic risk, namely: hazard assessment, risk assessment & risk mapping and post-disaster data collection, mitigation strategies and preparedness. The first part of the workshop aligned the countries and the IPA DRAM Programme experts on the current status of seismic risk assessment in the Partner Countries. A survey on the current methods applied in the Region together with the Partners was drafted during the workshop, through interactive working group sessions facilitated by the IPA DRAM experts. Specifically, the participants were asked to list the current methodologies, highlight the limitations of the current approaches, identify data, models and information gaps to be tackled in a priority manner, identify the need for harmonization of the approach in the Region. The second part of the workshop addressed the determination of relevant seismic scenarios to be focused onto three main aspects: the cross-comparability of national scenarios between different countries, the regional/cross border dimension of the scenarios, the multi-hazard and cascading effects. A final session was devoted to the explanation and consolidation of the scenarios and a set of consolidated scenarios were presented to the IPA DRAM working groups that had the possibility to decide whether to include them in the official NDRA.

Nowadays, all countries in the Region have professional institutions or agencies, established at the national level, which monitor and record seismic activity within the country and that developed specific expertise in seismic DRA. The workshop provided an excellent opportunity for the creation of a network of experts. Participants were also be asked to identify the modalities to keep alive the network as well as to identify sources of funding to keep the interaction going on. In order not to disperse the potential of the expert network and of the initial effort put into the regional workshop development from the Partner Countries experts side, a roadmap at regional level has been traced with two main objectives: the inclusion of the cross-border/regional dimension into the technical guidelines as proposed within the IPA DRAM project, the inclusion of cross-border/regional scenarios into the NDRAs to complement the national scenarios.

In the next months, this will also strongly affect the capability assessment that will follow the NDRA preparation.

IPA DRAM STEERING COMMITTEE

The third Steering Committee of the IPA DRAM Programme was held back to back with the Regional Workshop in Antalya, Turkey. Members of the Consortium (ACPDR Slovenia, CIMA Foundation Italy, MSB Sweden, NPRD Croatia), Partner countries (Albania, BiH, Kosovo*, Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey), EC DG ECHO and Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South Eastern Europe (DPPI SEE) took part to the two-day meeting.



Hanna Norell, IPA DRAM Programme Director, Biljana Zuber, DG ECHO Programme Manager and Yusuf Aysu, Head of Department from AFAD welcomed the participants. Hanna Norell kicked off the interventions by highlighting the partnership approach with partners to strengthen ownership and sustainability of the programme and programme results. So far, the approach has been paying off and partners are now taking initiative and showing leadership. She also highlighted the importance of the partnership with other international stakeholders, promoting transparency and complementarity with others to create synergies and strengthened results. A very good example is the strong collaboration and joint action with UNISDR within the area of disaster loss data collection, but also with DPPI SEE on the possible upgrade of seeKMS (knowledge management system/ online platform). Norell also emphasized the importance of monitoring and evaluation of the programme and closed by mentioning the activities proposed by the Consortium in addition to the Terms of Reference, such as Exchange of

experts (Montenegro to Serbia), support of working group workshops and the facilitation of Partners' participation in events on EU- and international level.



Cvetka Tomin, Team Leader of the IPA DRAM Programme, gave a speech on re-capturing activities during the programme period:

- two national workshops on disaster loss data and risk assessment and mapping were held back to back in all Partner Countries (overall 14 TWs, 135 participants, number doubled than required in TOR, 67% male and 23% female participants; half of participants from CP agencies and half from civil society, other gov. institutions)
- a number of IPA DRAM documents have been produced: i) Analysis of compliance with the EU guidelines on NDRA and the UNISDR Words into Actions', ii) IPA DRAM Technical guidelines for NDRA, iii) DESINVENTAR / Sendai table of compliance, iv) Key datasets for risk mapping
- under the Activity B “Facilitating the exchange of expertise and networking” Partners have been invited to platform meetings on EU or international level: i) UNISDR/ Sendai monitoring system launch, Civil protection forum, EU Working group on loss data. One exchange of experts has taken place between Montenegro and Serbia, which was very successful. Results are described in a report, annexed to the Progress report and SC is encouraged to read it.

Tomin highlighted the importance of the establishment of national working groups led by the IPA DRAM NCs and functioning as entry-points to the implementation of the programme activities on national level. She also underlined the importance of Consortium support with ~~the so-called non-key~~ experts from MS civil protection agencies and scientific institution (CIMA). Last but not least, a special thank you was dedicated to the contribution of technical components, setting the agenda on priorities and strategies (Stefania Traverso, Roberto Rudari, Marco Massabò).



DISASTER LOSS DATA

The Sendai Monitoring Framework is becoming more and more operational and countries are starting to report for several Sendai targets. DLD is essentially related with target A, B, C and D that have been aligned and integrated with SDGs. IPA DRAM reinforced the commitment to support Partners for the reporting to Sendai in deadlines of October 2018 and March 2019. In coordination with UNISDR, IPA DRAM will assist the countries in applying the "Technical Guidance for Monitoring and Reporting on Progress in Achieving the Global Targets of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction" and adopt DesInventar-Sendai as IT system for establishing National Disaster Loss Database. As DesInventar is being used in the region, IPA DRAM, in coordination with UNISDR, offered to countries the upgrade of the system to DesInventar-Sendai or, for Partners that do not have DesInventar and that are interested in the system, IPA DRAM will assist in the adoption of the system. DesInventar for Albania, Kosovo* and Serbia is being upgraded to DesInventar-Sendai and the datasets have been already transferred in the new system. Montenegro has decided to adopt DesInventar-Sendai while BiH is in the final consultation for the adoptions. Since Turkey and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia already have a system for disaster loss data, IPA DRAM will follow up with the Partners to identify the more suitable solution that will guarantee the sustainability of the process. Partners are in the position to continue the implementation of Action Plans as endorsed by the Working Groups. IPA DRAM will assist the working group and dedicated advisory missions will be organized in the autumn. IPA DRAM encouraged the Partner to report for the second Sendai deadline in October 2018 and to speed up the process to analyze, thorough the Sendai Compliance table provided by IPA DRAM, "who collect what" and identify the institutions that are responsible for the collection of specific set of data.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The tool to analyse the DRA methodologies has been completed and applied in all countries with the exception of Serbia where the methodology was already analysed and evaluated as full compliant with the EU guidelines, and Turkey that had not a methodology at the time of the analysis. The recommendations derived for the analysis were at the basis of the amendment of the PoA for DRA. In case of Turkey assistance has been provided in sharing the EU MS good practices as a basis for the methodology preparation. The two-steps approach that includes the amendment of the laws or by-laws addressing DRA responsibilities in connection with a regulation that sets the practical methodology (*i.e.* the technical guidelines) has been discussed in the Partner Countries and widely accepted. Its flexibility also for future modification of the methodology is recognised. The technical guidelines template has been prepared and shared with the Partner Countries as a starting point for the NDRA development.

RISK MAPPING

During the technical workshops, Partners discussed about key datasets for risk mapping and will continuously be supported to develop in depth the approach to key datasets for risk assessment and mapping, aiming to widen hazard-related knowledge on data. Another priority is the development and deployment of the so called Electronic Regional Risk Atlas (ERRA), to be acknowledged among Partner Countries and at regional level, that provides a disaster-oriented environment designed to build

a common understanding about risk assessment and scenario representation, linked to a network of information providers that spans from geographical to historical to monitoring data.



Roberto Rudari, IPA DRAM RA KE, presented the report titled “Overview of risks in Western Balkans and Turkey”. It follows the same structure as the JRC-compiled report “Overview of risks that the EU faces” and its draft version was shared in advance with Partners. It will be revised continuously with support of Partners’ input.

Although work on national level will continue, the work on regional level will be scaled up and will include intensified discussions with DPPI on how to strengthen the regional platform through IPA DRAM activities, which in some cases can be taken over by DPPI to ensure sustainability of the results. IPA DRAM team will also consider how to better communicate the instruments available for Partners to strengthen the work on national level.



IMPULS PROJECT

IPA DRAM Programme has been invited to the Day of Spatial Data Infrastructure in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The event was held in Mostar on September 6, 2018 and is part of the IMPULS project.

IPA DRAM Risk Mapping and ERRA Key Expert, Stefania Traverso, participated with a talk on the great advantage of connecting the National Spatial Data Infrastructures currently existing in Western Balkans: specifically for the IPA DRAM Programme, it would support accessibility to information and activities on risk mapping.

Traverso's intervention was the occasion to officially launch an operational collaboration between IPA DRAM Programme and IMPULS project, as the two on-going parallel projects could benefit from each other and become a good practice of optimization of resources at regional scale

SENDAI FRAMEWORK MONITORING SYSTEM AND DISASTER LOSS DATABASE TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR PARTNER.

The "Training of Trainers" workshop, a five-day technical training activity was organized by United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) with the support of the Government of Germany, on 17-21 September 2018, UN Campus Bonn, Germany. Experts on behalf of IPA DRAM from BiH (Almir Beridan) and Serbia (Jelena Dimic) took part to the workshop.

Twenty-six participants, mostly from regional organizations from all regions of the world, were engaged on hands-on training and intensive discussion. These efforts have improved understanding and use of the online Sendai Framework Monitor (SFM), launched in March 2018, to monitor progress on implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. Workshop participants had an opportunity to review the Sendai Framework Monitoring Process and got first-hand experience in using both the SFM System and DesInventar (widely used Disaster Loss Database).

. WHAT'S UP NEXT

- Advisory missions in the Partner Countries
- Exchange of Experts from Serbia and the FYR of Macedonia – November 5th-9th, 2018 CIMA Foundation, Savona, Italy and JRC, ISPRA
- Regional Workshop "Evidence-based disaster risk management: DLD and Wildfires" and 4th Steering Committee – November 12th-15th 2018 Ljubljana, Slovenia
- EFDRR EUROPEAN FORUM ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION – November 21st-23rd Rome, Italy

CONTACTS

IPA DRAM Technical Secretariat

c/o Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB)

SE-651 81 KARLSTAD

Sweden

Email: ipadram@msb.se • Phone: 0046 771 240 240

For press queries

Silvia Parisi

Email: silvia.parsi@protezionecivile.it