



European Union



European Civil Protection



Rome, 18 June 2015

## IPA FLOODS NEWS-ALERT

### **Rome, 23 June 2015: 1<sup>st</sup> IPA FLOODS Steering Group convened at Italian Civil Protection Headquarters**

On 23 June 2015 the Headquarters of the Italian Civil Protection Department will host the 1<sup>st</sup> Steering Group Meeting of the Programme for Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Floods in the Western Balkans and Turkey - IPA FLOODS.

IPA FLOODS is the Regional initiative funded by the European Commission Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (DG ECHO) whose implementation has been assigned to the Consortium established by the Italian Civil Protection Department (DPC), as leader, jointly with the Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief (URSZR), the German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW), the National Protection and Rescue Directorate of the Republic of Croatia (DUZS), the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agencies (MSB), CIMA Research Foundation (Italy) and Studiare Sviluppo (Italy).

The Programme started on January 2015 and will run until end 2016. Its goal is to increase flood risk management capacities at national, regional and EU levels in the Beneficiaries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo\*, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey. To this purpose, IPA FLOODS supports capacity building for flood preparedness and response and approximation to the EU Floods Directive in the beneficiaries.

The meeting convened on 23 June will gather the Programme Steering Group members, namely the IPA FLOODS Focal Points in the Beneficiaries, representatives from the EC Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (DG ECHO), the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South-Eastern Europe (DPPI SEE) and the International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC) and partners of the Programme implementing Consortium. As observers, the Steering Group will take benefit of the attendance of representatives coming from the Civil Protection of Italian Regions and from the Italian National Fire-Fighters Department.

The morning session will be opened by Mr Curcio, Head of the Italian Civil Protection Department, together with Mr Kopke, Deputy Head of Unit within DG ECHO and Mr D'Angelo, IPA FLOODS Programme Director. The meeting will follow with an overview of the activities carried out during the first months of Programme implementation and a discussion on the Programme work-plan for the next months.

*For more information about IPA FLOODS Programme please contact the IPA FLOODS Secretariat at [ipafloods@protezionecivile.it](mailto:ipafloods@protezionecivile.it) or refer to the Programme factsheets herein enclosed*

\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/99 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence



ADMINISTRATION



FOR CIVIL PROTECTION AND DISASTER RELIEF



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