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IPA FLOODS

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IPA FLOODS

FOCUS ON IPA FLOODS **Issue n°1**

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Editorial

Dear Readers,

This is first issue of **FOCUS ON IPA FLOODS**, the e-bulletin aimed to **inform** and **keep updated** the relevant **stakeholders** on the **activities** carried out in the framework of the recently launched (January 2015) **Programme for Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Floods in the Western Balkans and Turkey (IPA FLOODS)** - the Regional initiative **funded** by the European Commission Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (**DG ECHO**).

In this issue you will know more about the ongoing activities in cooperation with **the Beneficiaries** and about the **first public event in which the IPA FLOODS Programme has been presented**, the 30th DPPI Regional Meeting held in Belgrade on last 22-23 April; you will get a **preview on the fact-finding missions** carried out in the Region, in relation to **capacity building for flood response** (Civil Protection Modules) and for **support with approximation to the EU Floods Directive**; finally you will have an insight of the pillars and activities foreseen by Activity 1 of the Lot 1, clearly summed up in the **FOCUS ON BOX**.

Enjoy the reading!

Feedbacks from the Inception Visits in the Programme Beneficiaries

In early **February** to early **April 2015** **IPA FLOODS Consortium representatives** conducted **visits** in **all Programme Beneficiaries**, i.e. **Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey**, to meet with national disaster management and water management authorities and present Programme purpose, components and participatory implementation approach, with emphasis on the rationale for the development of multi-national Civil Protection Modules, flood response equipment and key activities in relation to the support for implementation of the EU Floods Directive.

The **outcomes** of this first round of visits are **promising**: all Beneficiaries confirmed the relevance of IPA FLOODS scope to national risk profiles. A number of **Beneficiaries** are willing to host Programme activities and all **expressed high expectations** towards the opportunities for **cooperation** that will be made available with Programme support. During these visits Beneficiaries have been asked to nominate **IPA FLOODS Focal Points**: **two** representing the **national Disaster Management Authorities**, **one** within the **national Water Management Authorities**.

IPA FLOODS Consortium representatives met EU Delegations and Offices to the Beneficiaries and established cooperation with **similar initiatives** ongoing in the Region, including the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South-Eastern Europe (**DPPI SEE**) in Sarajevo and the International Sava River Basin Commission (**ISRBC**) in Zagreb.

The IPA FLOODS Consortium wishes to express highest appreciation for the warm welcome and the supportive environment in all Programme Beneficiaries.

Preview of Fact-finding Missions to IPA FLOODS Beneficiaries for Capacity Building for Flood Response

Activity 1 of the Programme's Lot 1 (see [FOCUS ON BOX](#)) addresses capacity building for preparedness to disaster response by supporting the establishment of multi-national Civil Protection Modules (**CPMs**) for flood response of the type "*Flood Rescue using Boats*" (**FRB**).

The ratio behind the **development of these Modules** doesn't make an exception to the broadly **consultative approach** that implementing Consortium is committed to ensure throughout Programme implementation.

To this purpose in April-May IPA FLOODS Programme Management representatives and EU Civil Protection Modules' Experts (from DPC - Italy, URSZR - Slovenia and Italian National Firefighters Dpt.) are conducting a number of **operational needs' assessment missions** in the Programme's Beneficiaries.

In **support** to the IPA FLOODS delegation work, experts from the implementing Consortium contributed to draft an "**assessment checklist**" aimed to **facilitate the collection and analysis of information** on existing capacities and resources - including the available equipment and its standards compared to EU levels - as well as on organizational arrangements in place at different levels in the Beneficiaries in relation to water rescue services with a **specific focus on FRB**.

The effective practical organization and conduction of the missions

is relying on the **cooperation and support by the appointed IPA FLOODS Focal Points** in the Beneficiaries, which facilitated

liaising between the Programme and organizations expected to be met, and ensure broad and effective exchange of information required for the smooth implementation of these visits.



1. IPA FLOODS Delegation at General Directorate for Civil Emergencies HQ in Tirana, Albania

The **general results** of these consultations will be reported to the IPA FLOODS Programme Steering Group to be held on next June in Rome and will **help developing CPMs in line with EU standards and tailored to the Beneficiaries' requirements.**

IPA Programme Director to the 30th DPPI Regional Meeting in Belgrade

Mr Luigi D'Angelo, **IPA FLOODS Programme Director**, had the pleasure to **attend the 30th Regional Meeting of the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South Eastern Europe (DPPI SEE)** held on 22nd - 23rd April 2015. The meeting - hosted by the Sector for Emergency Management (Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia) and co-organised with the DPPI SEE Secretariat - was aimed also to serve **as comprehensive platform for an exchange of information and related updates on activities** focusing on cross-border cooperation in the South Eastern Europe. Mr D'Angelo was kindly invited to present Programme's activities and expected results to the audience, therefore the event represented a perfect occasion to raise IPA FLOODS awareness and ensure visibility of its actions.



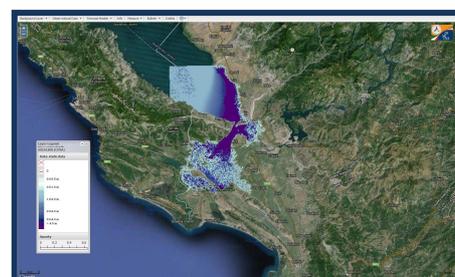
2. IPA FLOODS Programme Director delivering his speech on 22nd April

IPA FLOODS Experts to support Capacity Building for the approximation to the EU Floods Directive in Western Balkans and Turkey

Activity 2 of the Programme Lot 1 addresses capacity building and provision of support for the **approximation to the EU Floods Directive (EUFD)** and the implementation of an integrated approach to flood risk management encompassing prevention, preparedness and response (*FOCUS ON BOX on this Activity to be published in the next issue*).

Experts from **IPA FLOODS Consortium**, representatives from CIMA and Italian Civil Protection Department, started conducting visits to **meet and discuss with the Flood Directive Advisory Groups (FDAGs)** - gathering representatives of institutions, organization, services and agencies that are involved in national flood risk assessment and management with focus on prevention and preparedness within each beneficiary - in order to **assess the level of approximation and implementation of the EU Floods Directive** in all Beneficiaries as well as the needs and gaps to be deal with.

The outcome of these national consultations will be useful for the next steps foreseen under this component: a **report including for each beneficiary an analysis of the current approximation of EU Floods Directive**, including a survey of existing data and maps, a description of the national/local studies concerning the flood risk assessment and risk management plans.



3. Modelling Flooded Areas in Lake Skadar/Shkodra Cross-Border Region (Albania-Montenegro) - December 2010 - DEWETRA DSS (Decision Support System)

In the course of these missions IPA FLOODS Experts are appreciating the proactive cooperation that are providing the Flood Directive Focal Points nominated within each Beneficiary especially in leading and liaising with the newly-established national FDAGs.

FOCUS ON BOX Lot 1 Activity 1

| Activity 1: Capacity building for flood preparedness and response through establishment of multinational Civil Protection Modules for flood response – Flood Rescue using Boats (FRB) | |
|---|--|
| The Programme for Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Floods in the Western Balkans and Turkey has been launched by the EC DG ECHO to contribute to increasing flood risk management capacities in the Programme's beneficiaries at national, regional and EU levels | |
| Implementing Consortium | The Italian Civil Protection Department (DPC), as leader, 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). |
| Beneficiaries | Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey |
| Target groups | Disaster Management Authorities and agencies or institutions in charge for water management and flood risk prevention in the Beneficiaries |
| Activity 1. Specific Objective | To increase Beneficiaries' capability to develop effective national civil protection systems and collaborate in a coherent manner in dealing with floods at regional/European level (prevention, preparedness and response) |
| Activity 1. Expected Result | Operational multinational Civil Protection Modules (CPMs) for Flood Rescue using Boats (FRB) able to operate regionally and through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism |
| Work packages | |
| A.1: Establish and equip multinational CPMs for Flood Rescue using Boats (FRB) involving all Beneficiaries in line with EU framework/practices | |
| A.2: Establish Standard Operating Procedures according to the EU Guidelines for SOPs and based on the experience of existing EU (multinational) Civil Protection Modules | |
| A.3: Establish border-crossing/Host Nation Support protocols according to the EU Guidelines on HNS | |
| A.4: Train staff of the multinational CPMs | |
| A.5: Organize a regional field-exercise for the multinational Civil Protection Modules with participation of CPMs of the same type from the Participating States of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism | |
| * This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence. | |

Stay tuned to learn more about us!

IPA FLOODS 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 goal of IPA FLOODS is to increase **flood risk management** capacities at national, regional and EU levels in the Beneficiaries of **Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo***, **Montenegro, Serbia** and **Turkey**. To this purpose, the Programme supports capacity building for **flood preparedness and response** and **approximation to the EU Floods Directive** in the Beneficiaries.

* 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

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