Balkans Regional EWS

Program Overview

The overall objective of this program is to improve hazard monitoring, early-warning, and disaster management (DM) decision-making outcomes through enhanced capacity within the Balkans Region to: 1) access automated international, regional, national, and local hazard information and exposure data; 2) share information between stakeholder agencies; and 3) disseminate alerts and warnings to at-risk communities. This enhanced capacity aims to improve disaster outcomes, resulting in reduced fatalities and disaster impacts. This objective is expected to be reached in a multi-year phased approach. Pacific Disaster Center (PDC) will work with U.S. Forest Service (USFS) International Programs (IP) Project Team and regional and national stakeholders in the Balkans to assess and build upon current disaster management and early warning capacities.

Key Activities

- Initial stakeholder engagement and disaster management (DM) / early warning system (EWS) capacity assessment.

- Initial capacity and data development using PDC's DisasterAWARE® platform including disaster management operations, training, and data subject matter expert (SME) training.

- Data and checklist training and operationalization plan, building skills to operationally use DisasterAWARE, available data, and checklists.

- Finalize the Balkans Region EWS deployment plan and final reporting on actions taken, findings, and recommendations.

60 Million

people living in the geographic area known as the Balkans

Project Duration: November 2022 - July 2023
Project Funding: U.S. Forest Service
Geographic Area: 500,000+ km^2

Project Partners

PDC's DisasterAWARE Pro®

All project stakeholders and training recipients will receive accounts on PDC's DisasterAWARE Pro into which project-related data for disaster management decision making will be stored. Accounts will persist beyond the project period of performance and can be requested at:

https://disasteraware.pdc.org.

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Project Timeline

2022   **2023**

START   FINISH

November
- Initial stakeholder engagement to identify EWS/DM needs and priorities

December
- Assess Information Communication Technology (ICT), data and information, DA processes, training capacity, plans, etc.
- Refine Phase I Plan

JANUARY
- Deliver DisasterAWARE user training
- Develop DisasterAWARE preparedness and response checklists

FEBRUARY - MARCH
- Initiate development of national and regional data content

APRIL
- Build skills to operationally use DisasterAWARE, available data, and checklist(s)
- Train on advanced features and capabilities of DisasterAWARE

MAY - JUNE
- Develop plan for deployment of regional EWS including:
- Customized DisasterAWARE system components and hosting
- Hazard, exposure and related data content
- User and admin training
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)/checklists
- Institutionalization (policy, budgeting, etc.)
- Transition and Sustainment (technical, financial)
- In-country/regional technical assistance
- Draft Deployment Plan, review with stakeholder, and finalize Deployment Plan

JULY
- Final Report documenting actions taken, observations and findings, opportunities and recommendations