



PARTNERSHIP WITHOUT BORDERS

CODE VDIC (HUSKROUA/1702/8.1/0035)

Output 1.4.

Carpathian Region Disaster Response and Mitigation Network

MEMORANDUM of UNDERSTANDING

2020

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Carpathian Region Disaster Response and Mitigation Network
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

In the recent period, the number of natural and human-made disasters which struck the European Continent and Carpathian Region is growing and therefore the number of victims and the size of economic damages increase, that is, societies face a wide range of risks. These risks mean both severe concerns for the population and threat for the environment. It seems clear that more and more multi-factor damage can only be addressed through capacity building and a new integrated approach.

Increased vulnerability runs counter to the principle of sustainable development and the hope that Europe will become a better and safer place. Inhabitants and the environment protection are complex task systems that can only be managed in an integrated approach. The risk reduction and management are a particularly important safety activity. The integrated approach defines all Community Initiatives and Procedures and has an essential impact on the management and prevention of natural and man-made disasters.

An integrated approach is a critical element of regional cooperation between administrative regions, municipalities, universities, research institutes, NGOs and volunteers in different countries. This proceeding supports and promotes the regional interests of the Member States, Candidate Countries and European Economic Area (EEA) countries to prevent and reduce risks. This Agreement shall also apply to civil, ecclesiastical, associations and local authorities in the Carpathian region of Europe. Unexpected and periodic crises are affecting communities, as a result of which the population is striving for security. Globalization, the explosion of communication and information technology, accelerates life and unexpected challenges for disaster response professionals. Significantly increased and multi-impact risks caused by the system of tasks can only be countered by the development of intervention capacities. Creating the security expected by the population also requires multi-player integrated network projects. The increasing number of disaster and crises and the growing amount of damage they cause encourage volunteer organizations to improve their efficiency and capacity. Increasing the capacity and effectiveness of intervening volunteers, multiplying power and assets, and current development challenge. Capacity building is not only a tool development task but also an aimed human resource expansion activity. Increasing the motivation of disaster management volunteers and keeping them in an integrated disaster management system is an important task. So, the development of intervention capacities of the civil protection volunteer organizations is not only an internal matter of the voluntary organization but fitted with the integrated disaster management system of national capacity building as well. Near the modernization and retention of existing intervention capacities is necessary to display new, well-prepared and equipped volunteer intervention forces with using every possible source.

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Collaboration based on an integrated approach is one of the best-proven tools for building and maintaining a practitioner network. The common goal is a network, supported by a multidisciplinary community of stakeholders that brings together volunteer capacity development, intervention and prevention professionals in the project program area.

The network set up within the project will enable volunteer practitioners in the Carpathian region to connect and exchange with national and European stakeholders in a truly collaborative environment. The CODE VDIC network operates as a platform for national voluntary capacity networks, which led by the CODE VDIC Joint Relations Initiative. Its task is to mobilize the national communities of the Carpathian region and to involve them in the CODE VDIC community.

For the above principles and their enforcement, the following organizations shall establish a
Carpathian Region Disaster Response and Mitigation Network

Whereas the statements above mentioned has seemed right to the following organisations chiefly responsible:

From Hungary:

- **Zemplén Region Civil Protection and Disaster Management Association**
- **Volunteer Firefighter Association Pálháza**

From Slovakia:

- **Municipality of Kráľovský Chlmec**

From Romania:

- **Town of Seini**
- **Babeş-Bolyai University**

From Ukraine:

- **Transcarpathian Reformed Church**

(hereinafter: **Collaborating Parties**)

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WHEREAS in the aim above mentioned there is the wish to establish common actions in matter of civil protection, due to the analogous typology of natural and anthropologic risks of which the territories of signing regions are exposed,

WHEREAS, especially, in the legislative context, these actions find their main foundation in corresponding provisions and rules,

RECOGNISING the possibility of the occurrence of disasters and major accidents in the Region represented by the Collaborating Parties,

BEING AWARE that in the field of prevention and mitigation of disasters is common interest the exchange of scientific and technical information and collaboration,

CONVINCED by the necessity of cooperation among the Collaborating Parties the main objective of which is to prevent natural and anthropologic risks and prepare for their consequences,

WHEREAS to pursue these objectives, with one accord, the following principles should be enforced:

The legal basis for Union cooperation in the field of disaster management is Article 196 of the Treaty of Lisbon, which provides that the European Union shall promote solidarity, by supporting and, where appropriate, complementing Member States' actions in the field of civil protection, and to promote European coordination in order to improve prevention, preparedness and response to natural and man-made disasters. The Lisbon Treaty elevated civil protection to a level of EU fundamental rights instead of the former low level of regulation, however, Member States have not transferred competences to the EU, civil protection remains the exclusive competence of the Member States.

- 1.) By the Regulation (EC) No.1260/1999 which defines at its articles 20 and 21 the ambit of action of communitarian initiatives, among them "cross-border, trans-national and interregional cooperation intended to encourage the harmonious, balanced and sustainable development of the whole community area ('INTERREG');
- 2.) Decision no 1313/2013/EU of the European parliament and of the council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism

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3.) By the Decision No. 1600/2000/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 July 2002 laying down the Sixth Community Environment Action Programme. OJ L242/1 of 10.9.2002.;

WHEREAS

- the legislation above mentioned, promotes the aggregation of the interested Collaborating Parties with the aim of assuring the best service to their respective citizens, by comparison and exchange of experiences and professionalisms in the prevision and prevention of risks matter and in the civil protection matter.
- the Collaborating Parties have been engaged for a long time in the experiences of Agenda 21 (constituted during the Earth Summit in Rio 1992) in order to affect concretely the principles of sustainable development.
- the Common Cross Border territories of Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, Ukraine, (Carpathian Region) are affected by different typologies of risks, with a lot of similar profiles, as hydro geologic risks and risks linked with human industrial and productive activities;

WHEREAS regional institutional bodies which subscribe this Agreement Protocol think that it is convenient to extend the opportunities that proceed from the present protocol to public and private local institutional subjects that operate in civil protection matters.

HAVING REGARD to the outcome of the meeting that took place in Sátoraljaújhely (Hungary) on 25th of September 2019 when the collaboration between the parties has begun and the basis for a reciprocal relationship was set, promoting and individuating multiple areas of common interest.

THINKING IT CONVENIENT to list and define these principles and planned activities in the present Agreement Protocol in order to start common actions and collaboration in matter of civil protection.

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THE COLLABORATING PARTIES AGREE AND ADOPT WHAT FOLLOWS:

The Collaborating Parties recognise – among their tasks – the absolute value of the protection of life, territory, environment and every kind of built-up area by damages or risk of damage consequent to calamitous events, relevant at regional, national or international level.

The Collaborating Parties, in accordance with the motivations mentioned in the Preamble and intended to be here integrally referred to, underline the importance of co-operation in matter of civil protection and intend to promote and value, with this deed, the reciprocal activity of international collaboration in matter of civil protection, especially:

- a) to promote the development of co-operation among partners in order to implement common intervention methodologies in case of disasters, both national and transnational.
- b) to set up a network to spread and master the knowledges in the civil protection field. It will be realised through good practices exchange, personnel training, developing of common action plans and guideline definition to intervention co-ordination. To reach this target will be also used the instruments given by the European Union.
- c) To increase the information level and the awareness of population about civil protection matters, in order to increment the self-protection tools of each single person, involving youth for a future perspective.
- d) To create stable interconnections among civil protection institutions, authorities, scientific communities and civil protection operators.

The Collaborating Parties will meet annually and will jointly test the state of the implementation of the requirements of the present Agreement and of the progress of the jointly defined and started programmes.

CLOSING PROVISIONS

- 1.) The present Agreement Protocol will go on three years and could be revised with one accord between the signing parties.
- 2.) The present Agreement Protocol will enter into force on the day of the signing of it.
- 3.) The present Agreement Protocol was made in the English language, in Hungarian original copies, in 1 original for each Collaborating Party, equal in value. Every Party will arrange to translate it into its own language.

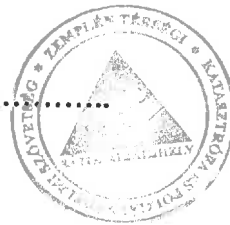
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Organisation: Zemplén Region Civil Protection and Disaster Management Association

Date, place 24.08.2020, Sator Aljauhely

Signature

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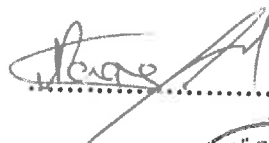
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Organisation: Volunteer Firefighter Association Pálháza

Date, place

24.08.2020 Pálháza

Signature





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Organisation: Municipality of Královský Chlmec

Date, place AUGUST 27, 2020 KRÁLOVSKÝ CHLMEC

Signature

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Organisation: **Town of Seini**

Date, place 24.08.2020

Signature GABRIELA - FLORICA TOLBURE



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Organisation: **Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai**

Date, place *25.08.2020, Cluj-Napoca*

Signature **Rector**
 Prof.univ.dr. Daniel DAVID

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Organisation: Transcarpathian Reformed Church

Date, place

Berehove, 29.03.2020

Signature

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