MONITOR II

Monitor II
Practical Use of MONITORing in Natural Disaster Management

MONITOR II: the project.

While severe natural hazards are increasing – also in SEE, South Eastern Europe – hazard and contingency planning are lagging behind. The predecessor project MONITOR (www.monitor-cadses.org) has successfully developed a methodology for monitoring hazard processes and demonstrated the practical usability. These solutions are well able to serve improved risk management, but still some major obstacles have been identified to reach these aims, and they are common to all partner territories:

LACK OF AVAILABLE HAZARD MAPS AND CONTINGENCY PLANS

The effort of preparing hazard maps and contingency plans is high because no commonly accepted methodology in plan development is available. Standardised terminology and a common best-practice knowledge base are needed.

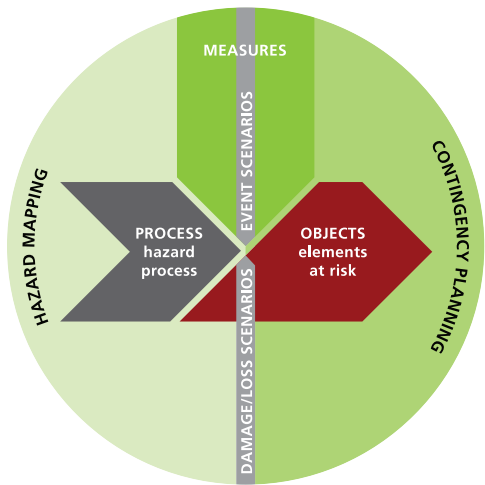## LACK OF USABILITY OF HAZARD MAPS AND CONTINGENCY PLANS

Most of existing contingency plans are well suited for providing experts and task forces with a clear course of actions in case of a disaster. But when it comes to usability and effectiveness, great potential for improvements can be found.

LACK OF COMMUNICATION SUPPORT BETWEEN STAKEHOLDERS

Experts, practitioners, decision makers and the public have differing problem views and specific requirements on the presentation of information.

LACK OF TRANSNATIONAL APPROACH

Natural hazards do not end at national borders. Still, transnational standards in hazard mapping and contingency planning are fragmentary. In the scope of MONITOR II, gaps in existing hazard and contingency plans will be reduced. Where existing, their usability will be improved by implementing regular update procedures for emergency preparation and by

integrating real-time situation maps in case of disaster.Within the broad range of hazards, MONITOR II specifically deals with floods and landslides, as prominent examples of natural hazards. However, the concepts and solutions of MONITOR II are being developed in a more general way, which allows for application and adaptation to other types of hazards as well. The main objective of MONITOR II is to improve information provision for disaster management. This will integrate communication between hazard experts, decision makers and civil protection services with improved flow of information.

CONTINGENCY PLANS AND HAZARD MAPS

Until now, in the case of trans-national emergencies and their prevention, the cooperation between member countries is often hampered by the existence of different procedures and standards. The aim of MONITOR II is to agree on a harmonised methodology for both, hazard maps and contingency plans. Moreover, common guidelines aim at the communication of complex information like forecasts and warnings to allow an efficient cooperation in real-time beyond national borders.

CSA

In order to fill the gap of harmonized tools for supporting hazard mapping and emergencies the "Continuous Situation Awareness" (CSA) system is developed. MONITOR II is offering a platform for public, politicians, emergency services and experts to discuss their needs concerning the development of a user-friendly CSA system, which is implemented and eva-luated in test-beds. The CSA system aims at supporting the users in planning tasks, situation assessment, decision making, communication and documentation of natural hazards.

ENHANCING PREPAREDNESS

The prevention of natural hazards requires intensive awareness raising and training for preparedness. The ambitious communication structure and dissemination strategy of MONITOR II helps to achieve these objectives. MONITOR II aims at enhanced preparedness through permanent media work such as a project website, a common communication and dissemination plan as well as the presentation of multi-lingual information material to a broad audience.

MONITOR II: the partnership.

Partners supported by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

LEAD PARTNER

BMLFUW
Federal Ministry of
Agriculture, Forestry,
Environment and Water
Management, Forest
Department
Vienna, Austria
www.lebensministerium.at

PROJECT PARTNERS

02 OEBB
Federal Railways
Railnet Austria Inc.
Railway Services
Natural Hazards
Management
Vienna, Austria
www.oebb.at

03 PUH
Torrent and Erosion
Control Service
Ljubljana, Slovenia
www.puh.si

04 UL-FGG
University of Ljubljana
Faculty of Civil and
Geodetic Engineering
Ljubljana, Slovenia
www.fgg.uni-lj.si

05 BZ-CP
Autonomous Province of
Bolzano South Tyrol
Department of Fire Control
and Civil Protection
Bolzano, Italy
www.provinz.bz.it/zivilschutz

06 ROMSILVA
National Forest
Administration
Development Department
Bucharest, Romania
www.rosilva.ro

07 UNIMORE
University of Modena
and Reggio Emilia
Department of Earth
Sciences
Modena, Italy
www.terra.unimore.it

08 DAG
State Forestry Agency
Sofia, Bulgaria
www.dag.bg

11 IMIBAS
Institute of Mathematics and
Informatics at the Bulgarian
academy of Sciences
Sofia, Bulgaria
www.math.bas.bg/
index.html

12 REMTH
The Hellenic Republic
Region of East Macedonia –
Thrace
Komotini, Greece
www.remth.gr

13 OTRG
Office of the Tyrolean
Regional Government
Regional Forestry
commission (public)
Innsbruck, Austria
www.tirol.gv.at/wald

10% PROJECT PARTNER

UNIBG
(financed by Lead Partner)
Belgrade University
Faculty of Forestry
Department of Ecological
Engineering in Soil and
Water resources Protection
Belgrade, Serbia
www.sfb.bg.ac.yu

MONITOR II: facts and figures.

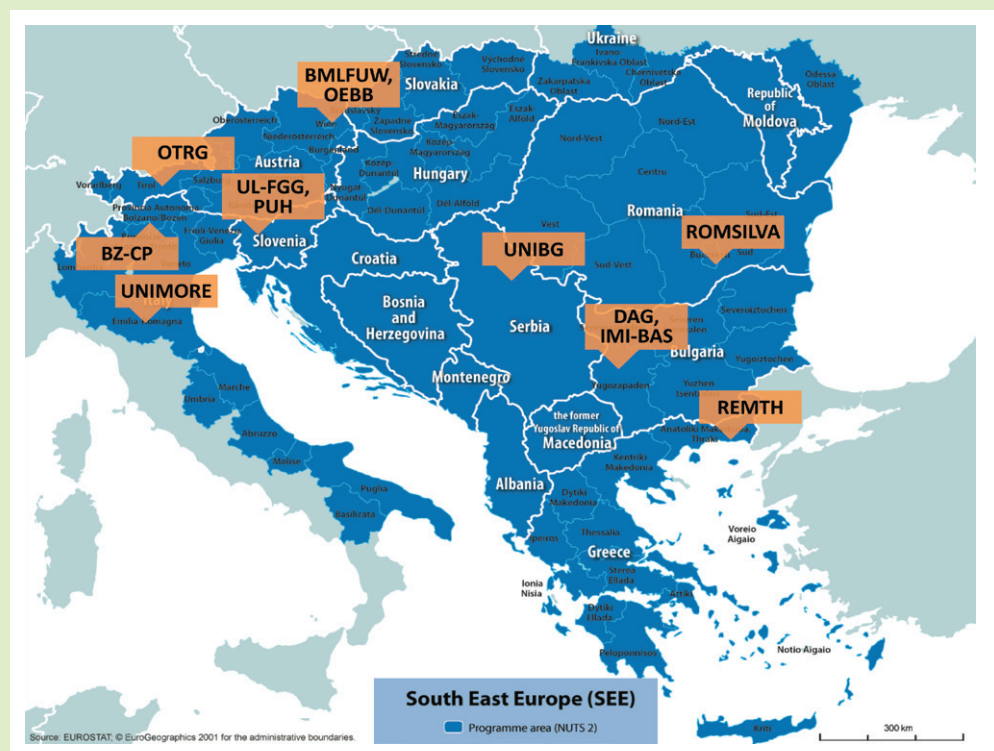| PROJECT ACRONYM	MONITOR II
Projekt title	Practical Use of MONITORing in Natural Disaster Management
Project code	SEE/A/118/2.2/X
FUNDING PROGRAMME	SOUTH EAST EUROPE (SEE)
Priority	Protection and Improvement of the Environment
Area of Intervention	Improve prevention of environmental risks
PROJECT PARTNERS	
ERDF partners*	11 (1 lead partner, 10 project partners)
10% partner**/Observer***	1/1
Involved countries	7 (AT, BG, GR, IT, RO, SI, SRB)
PROJECT DURATION	
01.06.2009 – 31.05.2012	
PROJECT BUDGED	
Total budget	2,358,000 Euro
ERDF budget	2,004,300 Euro

*   Partners supported by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
**   Partner financed by the Lead Partner
*** non financing partner

MONITOR II: the programme.

The South East Europe programme (SEE) is a unique instrument which, in the framework of the Regional Policy's Territorial Cooperation Objective, aims to improve integration and competitiveness in an area which is as complex as it is diverse.

The programme is supporting projects developed within four Priority Axes: Innovation, Environment, Accessibility, and Sustainable Growth Areas - in line with the Lisbon and Gothenburg priorities, and is also contributing to the integration process of the non-EU member states.

More information about MONITOR II and SEE:
www.monitor2.org, monitorii@prisma-solutions.at
www.southeast-europe.net