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Progress Report 7

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Summary

PROJECT TITLE: Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters in Eastern Partnership countries – PPRD East 2

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COUNTRIES: Republic of Armenia, Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine, in the following referred to as Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine

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The opinions expressed in this report are the sole responsibility of the authors and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

¹ During the writing of this report, the project management at the side of the Contracting Authority has been transferred to NEAR C1 following Mr Moret departure from the EU Delegation in Ukraine and Ms Elisabeth Hundhammer has taken over the role of EU Project Manager.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADT	Advanced Training Course
AM	Armenia
APSFRR	Areas of Potentially Significant Flood Risk
AZ	Azerbaijan
BAT	Basic Training Course
BY	Belarus
CA	Contracting Authority
CAG	Country Advisory Group
CBRN	Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear
CIMA	International Centre on Environmental Monitoring Research Foundation (Italy)
CMC	Crisis Management Centre (Finland)
CP	Civil Protection
CPESS	Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Sector of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Moldova (now replaced by GIES)
CPV	Civil Protection Volunteerism
DEM	Digital Elevation Model
DEMA	Danish Emergency Management Agency
DG	Directorate General
DG ECHO	Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
DG NEAR	Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations
DIPECHO	Disaster Preparedness ECHO Programme
DK	Denmark
DLD	Disaster Loss Data
DPPI SEE	Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative of South East Europe
DRA	Disaster Risk Assessment
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EADRCC	Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre
EaP	Eastern Partnership
EC	European Commission
EFAS	European Flood Awareness System
EFFIS	European Forest Fire Information System
EIB	European Investment Bank

EMA	Emergency Management Agency of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia (Previously Emergency Management Department of the MoIA)
EMERCOM	The Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defense, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters
ENPI	European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument
EMS	Emergency Management Service of Georgia (newly established CP/DRM authority in Georgia)
EoE	Exchange of Experts Programme
ERRA	Electronic Regional Risk Atlas
ERCC	Emergency Response Coordination Centre
EU	European Union
EUCPM	European Union Civil Protection Mechanism
EUD	European Union Delegation
EUFD	European Union Flood Directive
EU MOLDEX 2017	Full-scale Field Exercise organised within the PPRD East 2 Programme
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency (USA)
FH&RM	Flood Hazard and Risk Maps
FP	Focal Point
FRM	Flood Risk Management
FRMP	Flood Risk Management Plan
GDACS	Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System
GE	Georgia
GEF	Global Environment Fund
GFI	Geomorphic Flood Index
GIES	General Inspectorate of Emergency Situations of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova
GIS	Geographic Information System
GIZ	German Development Agency
GLoFAS	Global Flood Awareness System
HNS	Host Nation Support
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICDO	International Civil Defence Organisation
INSARAG	International Search and Rescue Advisory Group
INSPIRE	Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe
IT	Information Technologies
IWRM	Integrated Water Resource Management

JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
JRC	Joint Research Centre
KE	Key Expert
LL	Lessons Learnt/Lessons Learned
LoP	List of Participants
MARDE	Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment in the Republic of Moldova
MD	Moldova
MENR	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (Azerbaijan)
MENRP	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection (Georgia)
MES	Ministry of Emergency Situation
MIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs
MNP	Ministry of Nature Protection (Armenia)
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAG(s)	National Advisory Group(s)
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NCEMA	National Crisis and Disaster Management Authority
NCS	National Communication Strategy
NEA	National Environmental Agency (Georgia)
NFP	National Focal Point
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NKE	Non-Key Expert
NPC	National Programme Coordinator
NPP	Nuclear Power Plant
NSDI	National Spatial Data Infrastructure
OPM	Operational Management Training Course
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PFRA	Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment
POI	Points of Interest
PPRD East	EU funded "Programme for the Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Man-made and Natural Disasters" in the ENPI East Region, EU Flagship Initiative
PSA	Public Service Announcement
QGIS	used to be Quantum GIS, a free and open-source cross-platform
RA	Republic of Armenia
RAD	Raising Awareness about Disasters
RC	Red Cross/Red Crescent Society

REC	Regional Environmental Centre
RF	Russian Federation
RTTX	Regional Table-Top Exercise
RW	Regional Workshop
SAR	Search and Rescue
SC	Steering Committee
SES	State Emergency Service of Ukraine
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
SSCMC	State Security and Crisis Management Council of Georgia
TA	Technical Assistance
TL	Team Leader
ToR	Terms of Reference
TTX	Table Top Exercise
UA	Ukraine
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UCC	Urban Search and Rescue Coordination Cell
UHMI	Ukrainian Hydro-meteorological Institute
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
UN OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
US(A)	United States (of America)
WG	Working Group
WMS	Web Mapping Services
WMS-T	WMS with time support
WRMS	Water Resources Management Service

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Progress Report provides an overview of the implementation of the EU Programme for "Preparedness, Prevention and Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters in EaP Countries" (PPRD East 2) in the period December 2017-May 2018 and presents a proposed work plan for the next reporting period (June-November 2018). This report is based on the PPRD East 2 Work Plan 2016-2018 and the previous Progress Reports, all approved by the EU.

Chapter 1 provides the Programme synopsis, Chapter 2 presents a brief summary of the Programme's overall implementation in the period December 2017 – May 2018, while Chapter 3 details implementation progress made within each Activity Area during this 7th reporting period. Chapter 4 presents Partner Countries' updates and finally Chapter 5 presents activities proposed to be implemented in the next reporting period (June-November 2018)².

During the six months of this reporting period, all six Partner Countries continued with the Programme implementation. The focus during the reporting period was on organizing and conducting the Regional Lessons Learned (LL) Conference and consequently on the preparation and carrying out the Lessons Learned Consultative Missions. The Regional LL Conference aimed to identify lessons from both the Regional Table Top Exercise (RTTX) and the full-scale field exercise named EU MOLDEX 2017. In broad terms, the observations tabled at the Conference fall in two categories: observations relating to the planning and conduct of a large-scale field exercise and observations relating to the coordination of the international (regional) response to a large-scale disaster. One of the recommendations made at the Regional LL Conference was that the PPRD East 2 experts should conduct consultations with each of the Partner Countries to identify the specific LL by each country and to ascertain that remedial action in the form of changes to legislation or Standing Operating Procedures (SOPs) will be introduced where and when relevant. Respective LL Consultation Missions took place in Georgia (17-19 April 2018), Ukraine (25-26 April 2018), Azerbaijan (01-03 May 2018), and Moldova (23-24 May 2018). LL Consultative Missions to Armenia (19-21 June) and Belarus (26-27 June) took place during writing this report, not within the reporting period. Attached in Annex 3 is the PPRD East 2 draft Calendar of Events planned for 2018.

The 6th EU Civil Protection (CP) Forum was organised on 05-06 March 2018 in Brussels, and the PPRD East 2 Programme was strongly represented - through the participation of 2 Partner Countries' representatives – Ms Rusudan Kakhishvili from Georgia and Ms Nadejda Chetraru from Moldova - and the Programme's Team Leader, Mr Sergej Anagnosti in 3 panel sessions under the 4th pillar "Fostering resilience in Europe's Neighbourhood", as well as through the presence of PPRD East 2 National Programme Coordinators from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. The participation and the attendance of the Eastern Partners Countries to this Forum represent a significant step ahead in their cooperation with DG ECHO and with the EUCPM, as well as in the preparation of the potential next phase of the PPRD East Programme.

During the reporting period **Armenia** went through a change of Government with the appointment of a new Prime Minister, Mr Nikol Pashinyan. A new Minister for Emergency Situations, Mr Hrachya Roshtomyan, has also been appointed. The Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES) launched the reform and improvement of the Civil Protection and Disaster Risk Management (CP/DRM) legal framework with an intention to merge the Law on Civil Defence and the Law on Population Protection in case of Emergencies. One of the changes/improvements expected is the responsibility/mandate of MES to draft and adopt secondary regulatory legal acts.

² The idea of extending the Programme for additional 6 months has been proposed to EC (6 months no cost extension) but no agreement has been received before the end of May 2018.

Profound legal and institutional CP/DRM reforms are underway as well in **Georgia**. As of 01 January 2018, the Emergency Management Service of Georgia was established by merging three institutions: the State Security and Crisis Management Council, the Emergency Management Agency of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the State Material Reserve Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The new Service is reporting directly to the Prime Minister. The Government is in the process of developing the new CP/DRM law. Reacting to a direct request received from DG ECHO and EMS, the PPRD East 2 Programme provided comments and recommendations on the draft Law, which were welcomed and appreciated. The PPRD East 2 team met the new EMS Deputy Head Mr Shalva Khutsishvili.

These reforms affected the implementation of activities addressing legal approximation and institutional sustainability. Nevertheless, the Programme continued insisting on the establishment of new relevant inter-institutional Working Groups (WGs) and nominations of pro-active national thematic focal points, as well as on providing technical support and assistance to the already established WGs.

In **Azerbaijan**, two inter-institutional WGs were established. The inaugural meeting of the Disaster Risk Assessment (DRA) WG was held on 03 May 2018 with the objective to commence the work on the establishment of national DRA system that reflects the EU DRA Guidelines and the EU DRA good practice. The inaugural meeting of the Flood Risk Management (FRM) WG was held during the writing of this report (13 June 2018).

In **Belarus** further progress is made in establishing a Civil Protection Volunteerism (CPV) system, whereas in **Moldova** the Host Nation Support (HNS) legislation and Standing Operating Procedures (SOPs) were tested at a HNS Table-Top Exercise held on 23-24 January 2018. With the help of the Programme, Moldovan officials went on a study visit to Croatia to study the country's DRA experience, focusing on the development of a DRA methodology and conducting DRA at national level.

In **Ukraine**, further steps were undertaken in the approximation to the European Union Flood Directive (EUFDD) – a decision is reached to test the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) methodology on the Tzisa river basin.

The Programme continued collaboration and exchange of information with all relevant initiatives active in the region and in the EU neighbourhood. In particular, the Programme participated at the “Ukraine on the Path of Sustainability” Panel Discussion and Signing of the Seat Agreement between the Government of Ukraine and the Regional Environmental Centre organised by the Regional Environmental Centre (REC). Additionally, Programme experts attended a bilateral seminar of the EU-CHEM-REACT Project implemented by a consortium led by the International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security. The Programme exchanged information and experience with the PPRD South III Programme and established contacts with the new leadership of the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative of South East Europe (DPPI SEE) Secretariat and with the UNDP implemented Kura II: Advancing Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Across the Kura River Basin Project.

1. PROGRAMME SYNOPSIS

1.1. OVERALL OBJECTIVE

The overall objective of the PPRD East 2 is, as per the Programme's ToRs, to contribute to the peace, stability, security and prosperity of the Eastern Partner Countries and to protect the environment, the population, the cultural heritage, the resources and the infrastructures of the region by strengthening the countries' resilience, preparedness and response to man-made disasters and disasters caused by natural hazards.

1.2. PURPOSE

Based on the results of the PPRD East Programme - Phase 1, the purposes of the PPRD East 2 are:

- Strengthening Partner Countries' civil protection capacities for disaster prevention, preparedness and response;
- Strengthening regional cooperation and bringing the Partner Countries progressively closer to the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism (EUCPM).

The Programme covers Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

1.3. RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED

Result A. In the Partner Countries, the institutional and legal framework on disaster management and prevention is improved and approximated to the *EU acquis* and best practices. This entails in particular that:

- a. The relevant provisions of the *EU acquis* and best practices related to the prevention and management of disasters (e.g. EU Floods Directive, EU Civil Protection policies) are transposed in the national legislations or regulatory frameworks and are implemented. In case this relevant *EU acquis* and best practices cannot be fully transposed during the lifetime of the Programme, national roadmaps leading to it are established and approved;
- b. Development of regional and national action plans implementing Risk Assessment Policies/Strategies and progress in the development of national risk assessments and disaster risk management planning are achieved;
- c. Legislative framework and inter-institutional arrangements in this domain have been adapted and formalised, in particular on the basis of the recommendations of the PPRD East Programme Phase 1.

Result B. Partner Countries and Participating States of the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism (EUCPM) cooperate closely through regular exchanges of information, expertise and best practices, trainings, table-top exercises and a joint regional exercise.

Result C. The Electronic Regional Risk Atlas (ERRA), developed under PPRD East Programme Phase 1 is further developed and put in practical use by Partner Countries. Data accessibility and comparability is improved at national and regional levels, in line with the requirements of the Hyogo Framework for Action Agreement and in consistency with the European common approach for developing national loss databases and sharing of information.

Result D. Awareness about disasters (natural and man-made), their prevention and response, is improved in the Partner Countries, amongst CP professionals, volunteers and within the population in general.

1.4. GENERAL MANAGEMENT

The Programme is implemented from a Regional Office in Kyiv, Ukraine, and from a dedicated Programme Office in the Danish Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) in Birkerød, Denmark. The backstopping support is provided from the Stantec³ office in La Hulpe, Belgium.

The PPRD East 2 Steering Committee, the decision-making body of the Programme, was established during the Inception Period. The composition of the PPRD East 2 Steering Committee, as well as the list of National Programme Coordinators (NPCs), are available on the Programme's website⁴.

The Programme is managed by:

From the contracting authority:

- Mr Jean-François Moret, EU Project Officer, EU Delegation to Ukraine, in close cooperation with:
- Ms Asta Mackeviciute, DG ECHO, Brussels (who replaced Ms Erika Conti as of 23 April 2018), and
- Ms Angela Bularga, DG NEAR, Brussels.

From the contractor (backstopping team):

- Mr Flemming Klokager, Project Director, Birkerød, Denmark
- Ms Anca Andreescu, Senior Project Manager, Brussels
- Ms Caterina Cigala, Project Manager, Brussels
- Ms Chiara Bartolucci, Project Assistant, Brussels, and
- Ms Galina Sidelkovska, Project Assistant/Office Manager, Kyiv, Ukraine.

The following experts implemented the Programme during the reporting period:

- Key-Expert (KE) Team:
 - Mr Sergej Anagnosti, Team Leader (KE1)
 - Mr Michael Elmquist, Civil Protection Key Expert (KE2)
 - Mr Antonín Petr, Capacity Building Key Expert (KE3)
- Specialised Non-Key Experts (NKE):
 - Mr Roberto Rudari, Information and Data Sharing and ERRA NKE
 - Mr Marco Massabo, Flood Risk Management and Disaster Loss Data NKE
 - Mr Giorgio Boni, Flood Hazard NKE
 - Ms Natasa Holcinger, Disaster Risk Assessment NKE
 - Mr Davide Miozzo, Volunteerism in Disaster Risk Management NKE
 - Ms Tatiana Bedrina, Flood Risk Management and Disaster Loss Data NKE
 - Mr Luca Cenci, GIS NKE
 - Mr Massimo Sardo, ERRA IT NKE
 - Mr Esa Ahlberg, ADT Course Director and Team Trainer NKE
 - Mr Alan Pellowe, Team Trainer NKE
 - Mr Phil Langdale, Team Trainer NKE

³ Previously MWH sa/nv.

⁴ <http://pprdeast2.eu/en/about-pprdeast2/steering-committee/>, <http://pprdeast2.eu/en/about-pprdeast2/nacionalnye-koordinatory/>

- Mr Vlad Petre, Team Trainer NKE
- Mr Ville-Veikko Pitkanen, Team Trainer NKE
- Mr Martin Thomsen, Team Trainer NKE
- Ms Veronique Ruggirello, Information & Media NKE
- Ms Anastasiya Nurzhynska National Communication Strategy NKE
- Local Coordinators (Non-Key Experts):
 - Ms Karine Taslakyán, Armenia
 - Mr Tarlan Arzumanov, Azerbaijan
 - Ms Elena Kachynskaya, Belarus
 - Mr Kakhaber Mamuladze, Georgia
 - Ms Iordanca-Rodica Iordanov, Moldova
 - Ms Olena Goryeva, Ukraine.

Annex 1 provides information on the use of resources up to the end of the reporting period 7. The figures are indicative; final figures will be provided after the relevant expenditure verification is completed.

During the 7th reporting period it has become clear that the overall resources available for the implementation of the last year of the Programme are sufficient to allow implementing activities even beyond the contractual end of the Programme planned for the 30 November 2018. For this reason, a proposal for a 6-months no cost extension has been presented to the Contracting Authority (CA).⁵

This no-cost 6-months extension would help decreasing the gap between the PPRD East 2 and a possible follow-up phase, which will help maintaining the excellent cooperation and the rhythm of reforms reached under the PPRD East 2. On the other hand, notwithstanding the overall availability of resources on the Programme and independently from the CA decision of pursuing a Programme extension, a redeployment of resources among budget lines is necessary in order to better match the resources available with the actual needs of the Programme. Some reallocation had already taken place in agreement with the CA during the 6th reporting periods (AO 75) and further *ad hoc* reallocations have been requested via administrative orders (92, 99 and 100) during the 7th reporting period, while a more comprehensive and sustainable reallocation has been requested at the time of writing this report.

With reference to the presence of the Key Experts in the EaP region, it was approximately 31% for the KE1, 30% for KE2 and 25% for KE3, with details provided in the table below.

Notwithstanding the ToR requirement of minimum 50% of key experts' days spent in the beneficiaries countries, it has been agreed with the CA that as long as the presence of the KEs in the region continues to contribute to the implementation of this Work Plan and considering the fact that the Work Plan was designed and agreed with both the EU and Partner Countries, it is acceptable to continue with this level of presence in the Partner Countries.

The Programme will continue to monitor the presence of the Key Experts in the region closely and will provide this information in the progress reports.

⁵ At the time of writing this report (August 2018), this request for extension has been granted by the European Commission.

	1st reporting period	2nd reporting period	3rd reporting period	4th reporting period	5th reporting period	6th reporting period	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Apr 2018	May 2018
Sergej A.												
<u>Region</u>	60	46,5	33,5	45,5	20	34	0	0	3,5	3	4	6
<u>Home-based</u>	47	62	63	69	74,5	85,5	18	21	8,5	11	12	17
<u>Other</u>	8	12,5	15	3	18	2	2	0	3	9	3	0
SUM	115	121	111,5	117	112,5	121,5	20	21	15	23	19	23
Micheal E.												
<u>Region</u>	43,5	42	24,5	23	19	30	0	3	3	0	8	6
<u>Home-based</u>	47	21,5	38,5	49	6,5	41	7	14	14	10	12	9
<u>Other</u>	9	42	31	25,5	65	20,5	0	3	3	2	0	0
SUM	99,5	105,5	94	95,5	90,5	91,5	7	20	20	12	20	15
Dusan Z.												
<u>Region</u>	3,5											
<u>Home-based</u>	9											
<u>Other</u>	8											
SUM	23,5											
Antonin P.												
<u>Region</u>	7	67	21	35,5	15	37,5	0,5	3	6	0	4	11
<u>Home-based</u>	10	56	88	80	96	89,5	18,5	18	13	12	13	11
<u>Other</u>	55	3	17	13,5	10	0	0	0	0	9	0	0
SUM	22	126	126	129	121	127	19	21	19	21	17	22

2. SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME'S PROGRESS (DECEMBER 2014 - MAY 2018)

During the **first reporting period** (December 2014 – June 2015), the focus was twofold: 1) on the implementation of the initial Programme activities, namely organisation of the first round of the National Advisory Group (NAG) meetings, participation at the EU CP Forum, organisation of the ERRA Regional Workshop and conceptualisation and preparation of the first Basic Training Course (BAT) and follow-up assessment missions, and 2) on the finalisation, and subsequent adoption, of the Inception Report and Work Plan at the 1st Steering Committee meeting, plus development of the Programme's motto and logo, communication products and design of the PPRD East 2.

During the **second reporting period** (July – November 2015), the main accomplishments were the successful organisation of all planned capacity building events: all 4 BATs, Disaster Lost Data (DLD) and EU Floods Directive (EUFD) Regional Workshops – and the update of all six Country Profiles, available on the Programme's website since December 2015 for Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, and since March 2016 for Azerbaijan.

During the **third reporting period** (December 2015 – May 2016), the main achievements were the development, endorsement and adoption of the PPRD East 2 Work Plan 2016-2018 and its subsequent implementation, what mostly entailed further capacity building through Operational Management (OPM) and Advance Training Courses (ADT) and five HNS Table-Top Exercises (TTX), the finalisation of the Regional Guidance on FRM and the appointment of thematic focal points, plus the establishment of respective national thematic Working Groups (WGs).

During the **fourth reporting period** (June – December 2016) the Programme continued to implement country specific activities, either through national inter-institutional WGs or through direct communication and cooperation with the appointed thematic focal points. At the regional level, in addition to the development of the Draft Flood Risk Management Protocol for Trans-boundary Dniester River Basin and the Draft Guidelines to Develop the National Communication Strategy for Raising Awareness about Disasters in English and Russian, regional workshops on lessons learned, ERRA, development of national communication strategies, and cooperation with journalists and communication experts, as well as the CP volunteerism study tour were organised. The planning of the full-scale field exercise EU MOLDEX 2017 commenced. The reporting period concluded with the 3rd round of National Advisory Group/Country Advisory Group (NAG/CAG) meetings.

During the **fifth reporting period** (December 2016 – May 2017) the Programme focused on the preparation and organisation of the full-scale field exercise EU MOLDEX 2017, also by conducting the 1st Planning Conference and the Regional TTX. The second and final civil protection Advance Training Course and the CPV Regional Workshop were complemented with the implementation of country specific activities, either through national inter-institutional WGs (like the ones on Raising Awareness on Disasters (RAD) in Belarus and on the FRM in Moldova) or through direct communication and cooperation with the appointed thematic focal points. The 3rd National Programme Coordinator (NPC) and Steering Committee (SC) meetings were organised at the beginning of the reporting period.

During the **sixth reporting period** (June-November 2017) the main efforts were dedicated to finalising the preparation of and to effectively and efficiently organise the full-scale field exercise EU MOLDEX 2017 on 18-21 September 2017 in Moldova. Before the exercise, the regional 2nd Planning Conference and Regional FRM Workshop were successfully organised in Moldova and Georgia respectively, whereas after the exercise, the Programme focused on the development of the EU MOLDEX 2017 video⁶, preparation of the follow-up Lessons Learnt (LL) Conference, implementation of the country specific activities and preparation of the 4th round of NAG/CAG meetings. The PPRD East 2 team met the newly appointed

⁶ <http://pprdeast2.eu/en/2017/eu-moldex-2017-video/>; <http://pprdeast2.eu/ru/2017/eu-moldex-2017-video/>

Head of the Emergency Management Agency of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) of the Republic of Georgia and the Steering Committee member Mr Nikoloz Siradze, as well as the newly appointed Minister of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Armenia, Mr Davit Tonoyan.

During the **seventh reporting period** (December 2017 - May 2018) the focus on Capacity Building was on organising the Regional LL Conference (February 2018) which was followed-up with the LL Consultative Missions to Partner Countries. At the regional level, a 4th NPC meeting was organised with the aim to present and discuss Programme implementation in 2017, to agree on the Programme implementation in 2018, as well as to provide the opportunity for Partner Countries to inform the European Commission about the needs and expectations after the end of the 2nd Phase of the PPRD East Programme. At the national level, the 2nd HNS TTX was organised in Moldova, the 2nd CPV WG held in Belarus, and inaugural meeting of the national inter-institutional DRA WG was organised in Azerbaijan. In addition, the study visit on DRA of Moldavian experts to Croatia was organised. Reacting to the requests received from DG ECHO and the Emergency Management Service of Georgia, PPRD East 2 experts undertook an ad-hoc review of the newly drafted Law on Civil Protection of Georgia. Also, at the national level, ERRA IT missions to Partner Countries were prepared and scheduled to take place in June - July 2018 with the main objectives to secure that the national ERRA installations are functional, as well as to provide capacity building to national IT experts in administration and maintenance of the ERRA platform.

The Programme website was maintained and regularly updated in English and Russian (<http://pprdeast2.eu/en/>, <http://pprdeast2.eu/ru/>), as was – in almost real-time – the Programme’s Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/PPRDEast2/>).

In total, 2 regional and 4 national events were organised by the Programme during this 7th reporting period. The Programme also facilitated Partner Countries’ participation at 3 events organised by EU – 6th CP Forum, 23rd Working Group Floods meeting and workshop, and 11th Working Group DLD meeting and workshop. In total 83 persons participated at these events, out of which 61 (73%) were representatives of key beneficiaries (i.e. national CP authorities), while 22 (27%) were representatives of other national and international CP and DRM institutions and organizations (Annex 2), which again confirmed the interest for the PPRD East 2 activities, also outside the CP circles.

Considering the whole implementation period – December 2014-May 2018 – the PPRD East 2 organised and/or facilitated participation of a total of 2600 experts at 80 (37 regional and 43 national) events (exercises, meetings, workshops, seminars, conferences, study tour, study visit, forums) - 1381 (53%) were representatives of CP/DRM authorities, while 1219 (47%) were representatives of other national and international CP and DRM institutions and organizations (Annex 2).

3. DETAILED PROGRESS ON EACH ACTIVITY AREA DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

This Chapter presents in detail the activities undertaken during this 7th reporting period (November 2017 – May 2018). It follows the structure and format of the PPRD East 2 Work Plan 2016-2018 presented in Chapter 5 of the Progress Report #2. The focus during this 7th period was the preparation and conduct of the Regional LL Conference and on follow-up activities on FRM, DRA, DLD, LL, HNS, CPV and RAD activities at the regional and national levels. Following can be reported during the reporting period:

Armenia

- new Steering Committee member, National Programme Coordinator, thematic Focal Points and members of intra-ministerial working groups were appointed by the Order #56 of the Minister for Emergency Situations “On regulating the implementation process of “Prevention, Preparedness and

Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters in the Eastern Partnership Countries” Program 2nd phase and repealing Order #623 adopted on 6 July 2017 by the Minister of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Armenia” (available in Annex 4)

- Policy Brief for the inclusion of main provisions of EUFD to Armenia legislation is being drafted by the Programme, to be shared with the key beneficiary by 15 September 2018
- LL Consultative Mission conducted on 18-22 June 2018, update of the CP Profile (Chapter 2 of the Country Profile) was agreed upon
- bilateral meetings with FRM National Focal Points (NFP) and DLD NFP scheduled for 28 June 2018
- 5 experts participated at 3 regional events, all 5 from MES.

Azerbaijan

- national DRA and FRM inter-institutional WGs established, inaugural meetings held on 03 May 2018 and 13 June 2018 respectively, the latter not within the reporting period
- LL Consultative Mission conducted on 30 April - 03 May 2018, update of the CP Profile (Chapter 2 of the Country Profile) was agreed upon
- the State Programme for Flood Prevention (2013-2015) is being reviewed by the Programme, and the recommendations for improvement will be sent to the key beneficiary by the end of September 2018
- 16 experts participated at 3 regional and 2 national events (5 in total), 8 from MES and 8 from other national institutions

Belarus

- 2nd CPV WG meeting held on 27 February 2018 in Minsk, agreed on steps needed to be undertaken for development and adoption of the consequent secondary legislation - Governmental and Ministerial Decrees on CPV
- 8 experts participated at 2 regional and 1 national events (3 in total), 7 from MES and 1 from the Belarus Red Cross Society

Georgia

- establishment of the Emergency Management Service as the national CP/DRM authority and PPRD East 2 Programme key beneficiary
- comments and recommendations provided on new draft Law on CP
- development of the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) Methodology almost concluded
- EMS expert participated at the 6th CP Forum as panellist
- achievements in approximation to the EUFD presented at the 23rd EU Working Group on Floods Meeting and Workshop on 20-22 March 2018
- achievements in developing national DLD collection and processing system presented at the 11th EU DLD Working Group Meeting and Workshop on 16-17 April 2018
- LL Consultative Mission conducted on 16-20 April 2018, update of the CP Profile (Chapter 2 of the Country Profile) was agreed upon
- 6 experts participated at 5 regional events, 5 from EMS and 1 from National Environmental Agency (NEA)

Moldova

- General Inspectorate of Emergency Situations of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova (GIES) expert participated at the 6th CP Forum as panellist
- 2nd HNS TTX conducted on 23-24 January 2018
- PPRD East 2 analysed the Study on PFRA and Flood Hazards and Risk Map (FH&RM), developed by Beta-Studio within the European Investment Bank (EIB) funded FRM Project
- achievements in developing national DLD collection and processing system presented at 11th EU DLD Working Group Meeting and Workshop on 16-17 April 2018
- DRA Study visit to Croatia organised on 23-27 April 2018
- 41 experts participated at 5 regional and 2 national events (7 in total), 30 from GIES and 11 from other national institutions.

Ukraine

- PPRD East 2 provided comments and recommendations on the methodologies for PFRA and FH&RM developed by the Inter-Departmental Flood Risk Management Working Group
- Tisza river basin selected as a pilot river basin for testing the PFRA Methodology
- achievements in approximation to the EUFD presented at the 23rd EU Working Group on Floods Meeting and Workshop on 20-22 March 2018
- achievements in developing national DLD collection and processing system presented at 11th EU DLD Working Group Meeting and Workshop on 16-17 April 2018
- 7 experts participated at 5 regional events, 6 from the State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SES) and 1 from the Ukrainian Hydro-meteorological Institute

3.1. ACTIVITY AREA A

Activity Area A addresses FRM and approximation to the EUFD, DRA and approximation to the INSPIRE Directive. It aims at improving Partner Countries' existing legal and institutional framework, in line with the EU acquis and EU good practices.

Activity A.1 Capacity Building for the Implementation of the EU Floods Directive (EUFD) and for addressing flood prevention

▪ Task A.1.1 Update on EUFD adoption in the EaP region

- Subtask A.1.1.3 Legal and Institutional Framework for FRM and Approximation to the EUFD

The activities of this subtask aim to provide Partner Countries with assistance to enhance their FRM practices through approximation to the EUFD.

During the reporting period the following activities were implemented:

Armenia: Consultations were held with the newly appointed FRM Focal Point and agreement was reached that PPRD East 2 will develop a Policy Brief with a proposal for the inclusion of the main provisions of EUFD in Armenia. The Policy Brief will be based on the current Water Code adopted by the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia on 4 June 2002. The Water Code has been provided by the new focal point, and translated and analysed by the Programme. The draft Policy Brief is being developed by the Programme, with the intention to have it drafted, and sent to MES and the Ministry of Nature Protection (MNP) for commenting in July 2018.

Azerbaijan: national inter-institutional WG for drafting a secondary legal act on FRM in line with the EUFD has been established, composed of MES (Water Resources State Agency, Legal Department, the Main Department of Operations, Chief Department of Early Warning of Emergency Situations), the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, the Institute of Geography of Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, and Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society. The Programme prepared the Draft Action Plan for FRM

WG and Draft Agenda (Annex 5) for the inaugural meeting that took place on 13 June 2018 in Baku. At the meeting it was agreed that MES will share with the PPRD East 2 the Water Code n°418-IG of 26 December 1997 and the Rules for floods and mudflow management from 2000 for review. Comments and recommendations provided by the Programme should be endorsed by the national FRM WG and the analyses should be used by MES and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MENR) for amending the Water Code and for the revision of the Rules.

The State Programme for prevention of floods and mudflows on the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan (2012-2015) has been received on 12 June 2018. At the inaugural FRM WG meeting it was clarified that the comments requested from the PPRD East 2 Programme will be utilised for the development of the new State Programme. PPRD East 2 is reviewing the provided document.

Georgia: during the reporting period, PPRD East 2 and NEA continued to work on the testing of the PFRA methodology on the pilot river basin Rioni (more details available in Task A1.3). The results of the testing are to be used as basis for the development of the national PFRA methodology as secondary legislation (example of Hazard map, the Population Vulnerability map and the Population Risk map are available in Annex 6). The approach adopted by Georgia for the approximation to EUFD consists of inclusion of the main provisions of EUFD into Georgian national legislation (PPRD East 2 proposed modification of the Article 40 of the national Water Code) and in developing methodologies for PFRA, FH&RM and FRMP. It should be noted that the development of the FH&RM and Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP) methodologies, as the step following the development of the PFRA methodology, will be conducted as part of the Project “Scaling-up Multi-Hazard Early Warning System and the Use of Climate Information in Georgia” which should be implemented by UNDP with the funding approved by the Green Climate Fund.

Moldova: the governmental reform conducted during the reporting period in Moldova gave the responsibility to implement EUFD to the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment (MARDE). Ms Victoria Gratii from MARDE has been nominated in March 2018 as a contact person until the new FRM Focal Point is appointed. PPRD East 2 has shared with Ms Gratii the draft *Schema for clarifying roles and responsibilities of different institutions in the implementation of EUFD, namely Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment, Flood Hazard and Risk Mapping and Flood Risk Management Plan* developed during the previous reporting period (Annex 5 to the progress report #6). The FRM Focal Point in consultation with the FRM WG should review the Scheme and decide on the next steps. Furthermore, PPRD East 2 has analysed the Study on PFRA and FH&RM, developed by the consultant company Beta-Studio within the EIB funded FRM Project (Annex 7). The Study is in compliance with the EUFD requirements and with the EU good FRM practice.

Ukraine: during the reporting period the PPRD East 2 provided comments and recommendations on the methodologies for PFRA and FH&RM developed by the Inter-Departmental Flood Risk Management Working Group, which were included into the revised versions. The main recommendation on PFRA methodology is to test the PFRA methodology on a pilot river basin before applying it to the whole country, in order to detect and resolve possible challenges in the application. SES selected the Tisza river basin as a pilot river basin in May 2018, but the SES/Ukrainian Hydro-Meteorological Institute (UHMI) contact person to lead the implementation of this activity is still to be appointed.

Flood Risk Management in Dniester River Basin

PPRD East 2 continues cooperating with the Global Environmental Fund (GEF) financed Programme on “Enabling trans-boundary cooperation and integrated water resources management in the Dniester River Basin”, in order to seek synergies for promoting the adoption of the FRM protocol. Furthermore, PPRD East 2 resent the draft FRM protocol to the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment of Moldova and to the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resource of Ukraine. As no response was received, PPRD East 2 asked for assistance in this matter from respective key beneficiaries, GIES and SES, and the EU Delegations in Chisinau and Kyiv as well.

Participation to the European Working Group on Floods

PPRD East 2 has facilitated participation of two Partner Countries to the 23rd Meeting of the Working Group on Floods held in Paris on 20-22 March 2018. Mr Yuriy Nabyvanets from the Ukrainian Hydro-meteorological Institute and Mr Ioseb Kinkladze from National Environmental Agency of Georgia participated in the meeting.

▪ Task A.1.3 Development of flood hazard maps and flood risk maps

Georgia and Ukraine expressed an interest in the application of PFRA methodology presented at the Regional FRM Workshop, as these two Partner Countries are in the process of developing a regulation on the PFRA methodology. As described above, Ukraine has selected Tisza river basin as pilot river basin for testing the methodology, but as the contact person for the implementation of this activity is still to be appointed, the actual testing will commence in the next reporting period.

As for Georgia, the testing the PFRA methodology advanced substantially. The Geographic Information System (GIS)-based approach for PFRA was applied – the following activities have been accomplished:

- **Study Area Selection and Data Procurement:** initially, a pilot river basin (i.e., the Rioni River Catchment) was selected as a test river basin. Subsequently, the required geospatial data needed for the PFRA was collected. The dataset consisted of: a digital elevation model (DEM), census data, land cover data, points of interest (POI), additional geographic layers (such as the official river network and auxiliary topographic information such as contour lines) as well as an existing 1000-year return period flood extent map derived from hydraulic modelling. Since POI data were considered not accurate for this study area (i.e., relevant information was missing in the POI layer), the aforementioned GIS-based methodology was applied only for the assessment of the PFRA for population.
- **Preliminary Flood Hazard Assessment:** the flood hazard assessment was carried out by adopting a geomorphological approach named Geomorphic Flood Index (GFI); Samela et al., 2017; Samela et al., 2018). GFI is able to provide flood hazard maps that represent the susceptibility of the areas to flood hazard. In other words, it allows the delineation of flood prone areas according to the geomorphology of the catchment. The automatic processing chain presented during the abovementioned workshop was implemented in an open source GIS environment (QGIS). Given the importance of topographic data for the hazard assessment, that in turn strongly affects the quality of PFRA results, particular care was placed in the selection of the DEM. Freely available datasets were tested, however the product that was used for the assessment was obtained by interpolating the auxiliary topographic data (contour lines) collected during the data procurement phase. This was required for improving the quality of the DEM in flatter areas. Moreover, the DEM was hydrologically conditioned by using the official river network. This produced a reliable topographic product that, in turn, produced reliable result in terms of flood hazard map. The latter was calibrated by using the 1000-year return period flood extent map.
- **Flood Exposure and Vulnerability Assessment for Population:** the exposed population was estimated by considering census data. The latter were also used to carry out a holistic, indicator-based, flood vulnerability assessment for the population that accounted for characterising the following vulnerability aspects: physical vulnerability, social vulnerability and environmental vulnerability (Cenci et al., 2016). Census data were used for obtaining the following indicators (that in turn were used for the assessment of two vulnerability “spheres”): “Buildings Density” and “Buildings Number of Floors” for physical vulnerability; “Population Density”, “Percentage of Specific Categories at Risk” (i.e., children and elderly) and “Gender Differences” for population vulnerability. In order to assess the environmental vulnerability, a detailed land cover map was used.
- **Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment:** The preliminary flood risk for population was assessed by means of a matrix-based approach in which the flood hazard and the holistic population vulnerability of the

exposed elements were accounted. At the moment there is an on-going activity aimed at defining Areas of Potentially Significant Flood Risk (APSFR) by attributing the flood population risk level to different stretches of the river network. Examples of Hazard map, the Population Vulnerability map, and the Population Risk map are available in Annex 6.

Activity A.2 Development and/or further improvement of national risk assessments

▪ Task A.2.0 Improving legal and institutional framework on Disaster Risk Assessment

During the reporting period, it has been recommended to the Partner Countries to intensify the implementation of DRA related activities. National efforts in addressing DRA have been monitored, analysed and assisted in all Partner Countries that selected DRA as a priority.

Armenia: after reviewing the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) National Strategy, PPRD East 2 advised the MES on the next steps needed for starting the national DRA process that reflects the EU DRA Guidelines and EU good practice, i.e. to develop a separate DRA methodology and to establish a national inter-institutional DRA WG in order to enable a clear division of roles and responsibilities, and to ensure that disaster risk analyses' results are comparable. At the 4th NPC meeting held in February 2018, the new timeline for DRA implementation in Armenia has been presented to the Steering Committee member, Mr Davtyan, with an aim to use the remaining Programme implementation time as efficiently as possible. The proposed timeline has been provisionally accepted at the meeting, with the condition that the final decision on the next steps and on the establishment of the national DRA WG will be communicated to the Programme by 10 March 2018. As no final decision was received, a reminder was sent to the MES in May 2018, with no reply.

Azerbaijan: after the new timeline was presented to the Azerbaijan NPC at the 4th NPC meeting held in February 2018, the national inter-institutional DRA WG was established, and the inaugural meeting held on 03 May 2018. PPRD East 2 facilitated the preparation of this meeting by drafting the meeting agenda and recommending potential members. At the meeting all participants were presented with the DRA process and the EU DRA Guidelines, so the initial roles and responsibilities determination was initiated at the meeting. After the meeting the PPRD East 2 sent to the national DRA Focal Point and the NPC the revised list of proposed members of the main risk assessment working group, the proposed and discussed list of the single risk working groups members, and the adjusted DRA implementation road map, for completion and adoption (also available in Annex 9).

Georgia: the National DRR Strategy was received and discussed during the previous reporting periods as the sole DRA related document available for distribution since the Threat Assessment is not a document available for review. Developing a separate national DRA guideline document was suggested in order to properly quantify and evaluate disaster risks in accordance with the EU DRA Guidelines and the EU good practice. During the previous reporting periods PPRD East 2 also suggested the members of a DRA WG and of single risk WGs. During the 4th NPC meeting held in February 2018 a new timeline was presented and recommended. The National Programme Coordinator informed about the existence of another document that is regulating the risk assessment methodology and requested a revision of this document. The document, *Decree on Development of the Procedures for Preparing the Emergency Risk Management Plan*, was reviewed as requested. The document can be used as good guidance framework, but it is missing a few determinative figures such as the scoring criteria that would allow risks to be comparable. PPRD East 2 also commented on the draft Law on Civil Protection recommending more precise definition of disaster risk reduction and DRA processes in the Law. At the margins of the Round table discussion on the new CP Law held on 29 May 2018, the current situation regarding DRA was discussed. As Georgia is already drafting a national DRA in accordance with the EU Risk Assessment Guidelines, there is no need for PPRD East 2 assistance in this area. There is, however, a need for assistance with simplifying the methodology for the local level risk assessments and determining the score criteria for the local level. This process should start after the adoption of the new Law on Civil Protection.

Moldova: During the previous reporting periods PPRD East 2 identified the necessary steps Moldova needs to prepare a bankable DRA project proposal. At the 4th NPC meeting held in February 2018 PPRD East 2 presented the new timeline for the DRA development in Moldova, which mainly depends on the GIES decision on the financial source of the Project. The timeline was provisionally accepted, but a concern of continuing with the initiated DRA process was communicated due to the fact that the responsibility to develop the national DRA was reassigned, during the Governmental reform, to another agency.

On 23-27 April 2018, PPRD East 2 organised, in close cooperation and with great assistance provided by the National Protection and Rescue Directorate of the Republic of Croatia, a study visit of Moldovan experts to Croatia on the topic of DRA (DRA Study visit Agenda is available in Annex 10). The process of developing a national DRA system, the legislative framework required to efficiently coordinate DRA process as well as the experience in conducting national DRA were presented and shared. Methodologies for specific risks relevant for Moldova (fire, earthquake, flood, snow and ice) have been presented by different experts and scientific institutions involved in the DRA process in Croatia. Moldova reported the Study visit to be important and very informative – attached in Annex 10 is the draft report, the official and signed report and decision on the next steps are yet to be communicated to PPRD East 2.

Ukraine: “Regulations on risk management organization” have been reviewed by PPRD East 2 during the last reporting period. At the last NPC meeting held in February 2018 the new, revised timeline was presented starting with defining the specific roles and responsibilities as one of the first steps. SES representative confirmed at the 4th NPC meeting that the recommendations and comments on the Regulations provided by the PPRD East 2 will be accepted and adopted and the proposed revised timeline was provisionally accepted. Despite that the need to develop a separate DRA guidelines document has been previously communicated, an official decision and the need to review the new legislative framework is yet to be provided. The official decision should have been communicated in March, and although a reminder was sent in May, no response was received. An overview of the measures aimed at a risk-oriented approach was provided to the Programme in June 2018 during the writing of this report. As stated in the overview, Ukraine has either developed or is working on developing different single risk assessment methodologies and methods such as for geological risks, floods and fires. In addition, the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine #342 of 10 May 2018 approved the “Methodology for developing the criteria to assess the degree of risk associated with economic activity and determined the frequency of implementation of the planned state supervision (control) measures”, as well as the unified forms of Acts to be issued based on the results of scheduled (unscheduled) state supervision (control) measures. However, the Programme has no opportunity to confirm that these methodologies are in conformity with the EU DRA Guidelines and the EU good DRA practice.

▪ **Task A. 2.2 Multi-Risk Disaster Assessment at National Scale**

Accessible and comparable disaster risk information at national level is crucial for improving DRM strategies and practices. This task aims at elaborating and producing new, harmonized and more accessible disaster hazard and risk assessments at national levels and uploading them to the ERRA platform. As the development of DRA methodologies in the Partner Countries is still ongoing, this activity has not actually started yet as no substantial advancements have been achieved by the Partner Countries.

Activity A.3 Provision of support for the improvement of countries’ legislative framework and inter-institutional arrangements in Georgia

▪ **Task A.3.2 Support for recommendation uptake**

All CP/DRM related activities addressing approximation to the INSPIRE Directive are closely connected with ERRA. As a consequence of that, the ERRA IT mission to Georgia was used also to support CP/DRM and all other institutions involved in feeding the ERRA system in an INSPIRE-compliant manner.

In the preparation of the mission the National Agency of Public Registry of the Ministry of Justice (the leading national agency for the implementation of the INSPIRE Directive in Georgia) was contacted by the EMS in order to clarify the status of the approximation to the INSPIRE Directive in Georgia. The draft of the Law for Data Responsibility and Preparation has been prepared and submitted and is currently awaiting approval. As a result, the overall approximation to the INSPIRE Directive has slowed down and should pick up the pace again when the Law is adopted. This also put on hold the experimental test of the NSDI Geoportal that Georgia should have conducted with the support of the Swedish experts. Taking this into account, it was decided to proceed with EMS and the National Environmental Agency (NEA) in uploading all data in the updated ERRA installation following the general rules of the INSPIRE Directive, at least for metadata preparation that presumably will comply with the requirements of the metadata model that will be in force when the Law is passed in Georgia. This will allow an easy connection of the ERRA Metadata Catalogue to the National Geoportal catalogue once the national Geoportal will be up and running. During the mission to Georgia, training has been provided to the EMS and NEA staff on the ERRA metadata editor on how to prepare the INSPIRE compliant metadata, both from the theoretical standpoint and the practical one. As NEA is in the final phase of developing the PFRA Methodology in line with the EUFD, the possibility of preparing the PFRA layers according to the INSPIRE data model has been also discussed. In that sense, the PPRD East 2 Programme experts that are already in contact with NEA staff for the PFRA will give support also in that direction.

3.2. ACTIVITY AREA B

Activity B.1 Capacity building through CP trainings and exchange of information, expertise and best practice regarding the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (EUCPM)

▪ Task B.1.1 Strengthening Network of National Programme Coordinators and Operational 24/7 Contact Points

During the reporting period, the network of NPCs and Operational Contact Points was strengthened through the conduct of a Regional Conference (see below on Task B.1.2) discussing lessons learnt from the Regional Table-Top Exercise (conducted in March 2017), and through their participation at the 6th EU CP Forum.

The PPRD East 2 Programme was strongly represented at the 6th European Civil Protection Forum through the participation of 2 Partner Countries' representatives – Ms Rusudan Kakhishvili from Georgia and Ms Nadejda Chetraru from Moldova - and the Programme's Team Leader in 3 panel sessions under the 4th pillar "Fostering resilience in Europe's Neighbourhood", and through the presence of the PPRD East 2 National Programme Coordinators from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

The first debate focused on "key elements for making international assistance effective" and Moldova was represented by Ms Chetraru, Head of Analysis, Planning and Coordination Directorate at the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations (GIES) of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Panellists agreed that common procedures among countries are at the base of international assistance effectiveness, and multinational teams represent a challenge, yet an added value. Expressing her point of view, Ms Chetraru explained that running regional field exercises is a key element in order to test procedures and also multinational teams. She complemented her statement with the example of the recent EU MOLDEX 2017 full-scale field exercise that took place in Moldova in September 2017 under the auspices of the PPRD East 2 Programme.

At the second panel titled "Towards a stronger partnership between UCPM and Europe's neighbours, what are the priorities?" Ms Kakhishvili, Disaster Manager at the Emergency Management Service, represented Georgia. This panel reflected the statement of Commissioner Stylianides that "the new hard reality of complex, more frequent natural disasters made the Mechanism stretch to its limits". The debate raised the issue of the mobilisation capacity of rescue teams under the Mechanism when several countries are facing the same type of disaster simultaneously. This was the case during the summer of 2017 when

several European and Southern Mediterranean countries had to deal with devastating forest fires. Ms Kakhishvili explained that NATO allies and Partner and neighbouring countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Iran, and Turkey) have helped Georgia to contain a major forest fire in the Samtskhe-Javakheti region in August 2017 through the activation of the NATO Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC).

The third panel was about “linking risk assessment to emergency planning” where the Team Leader of the PPRD East 2 Programme Mr Anagnosti took part. It was an opportunity to recall that prevention and preparedness remain at the core of disaster risk management process. This is where EU funded Programmes play an essential role in the field of capacity building as a supporting tool to achieve approximation of the EU legislation and institutional sustainability. To guarantee the sustainability of the established procedures, initiated processes and achieved results beyond duration of the Programme, *“we do not work for them (Partner Countries), but with them”*, explained Mr Anagnosti. He also highlighted the importance of the regional dimension, especially for the trainings and exercises, which was supported by the remark from another panellist who explained that *“exchanging business cards over the rubbles is already too late”*.

In addition, the CP EoE Programme supported PPRD East 2 by funding the participation of experts from Moldova as observers at the module exercise “EURACARE Flight & Shelter + ModEx DK” held on 26-28 January 2018 in Denmark (Annex 11).

▪ **Task B.1.2 Capacity Building through Lessons Learnt**

The importance of observing, recording, and acting upon lessons from the field exercise was repeatedly stressed during the planning and preparations for the EU MOLDEX 2017 exercise. As mentioned in the previous progress report, a first exchange of post-exercise impressions took place at the “Workshop on Transfer of Technical Knowledge and Experience” conducted on 21 September 2017 in Moldova. On 07-08 February 2018, a formal LL Regional Conference was conducted in Prague, Czech Republic, at the invitation of the Directorate General of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic. Three experts from each of the “assisting” Partner Countries - Exercise Focal Point, the Lessons Learnt Focal Point, and the Team Leader of the participating rescue team – were invited, whereas the exercise host country, Moldova, participated with six experts. The conference was furthermore attended by one representative of the EU Civil Protection Team and three exercise evaluators, in addition to representatives of the Czech Republic, DG ECHO, the Organisation on Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the PPRD East 2 experts and Stantec. A report on the Regional Conference, together with a list of participants, is attached in Annex 12.

The Regional Conference aimed to identify lessons from both the RTTX and the full-scale field exercise in the following categories:

- Lessons pertaining to legal or administrative regulations concerning HNS, including customs and visa regulations and border control
- Lessons pertaining to legal or administrative regulations concerning requesting international emergency assistance
- Lessons pertaining to legal or administrative regulations concerning offering emergency assistance to a foreign country
- Lessons pertaining to the coordination and communication between assisting teams from different countries
- Lessons pertaining to the cooperation between foreign assisting teams and teams from the host nation
- Lessons concerning the practical conduct of rescue operations
- Lessons concerning the planning and conduct of full-scale field exercises.

In broad terms, the observations tabled at the Regional Conference fall in two categories: first, observations relating to the planning and conduct of a large-scale field exercise; and second, observations relating to the coordination of the international (regional) response to a large-scale disaster.

In regard to the planning and conduct of exercises, it was noted that EU MOLDEX 2017 was almost too well planned, leaving little room for the participating teams to prioritise and plan their interventions. Furthermore, the elaborate HNS arrangements by Moldova meant that the teams did not have to face problems with accommodation, food and water. A couple of teams expressed their regret that the continuation of exercise activities after dark was cancelled. It was strongly recommended that night-time operations must be included in any future exercise. The media play, using young journalist students as representatives of the media, was not found to be entirely satisfactory. Neither the students, nor the local area commanders, were sufficiently prepared for the task of simulating interviews at the scene of a disaster. Finally, the exercise brought to light the problem of border crossing with rescue equipment. While customs fees are not to be paid in case of a real disaster, such exemption did not apply in connection with an exercise, so ad hoc arrangements had to be made.

In regard to observations relating to (real) coordination of international disaster response, it was generally noted that the teams had excellent cooperation in solving the tasks, but that it would be useful if more team members were able to communicate in English. There was little interaction between the teams at the Base of Operations, and it was recommended that the establishment of an Urban Search and Rescue Coordination Cell (UCC) could be a means to enhance such interaction. There was generally insufficient knowledge of some of the current tools for international coordination, such as the Virtual On-Site Operations Coordination Centre, the UCC, the roles and responsibilities of the Reception and Departure Centre, and the interface between the Local Emergency Management Authority and the On-Site Operations Coordination Centre.

In conclusion, it was recommended that PPRD East 2 organise a workshop focusing on these coordination tools. It was further recommended that PPRD East 2 experts conduct consultations with each of the Partner Countries to identify the specific lessons learnt by each Partner Country, and to ascertain that remedial action in the form of changes to legislation or Standing Operating Procedures has taken place or will be implemented in the near future.

In follow-up to the above recommendation, Consultative Missions on LL have taken place in Georgia (17-19 April 2018), Ukraine (25-26 April 2018), Azerbaijan (01-03 May 2018), and Moldova (23-24 May 2018). Drafted reports are attached in Annex 13.

In **Georgia**, the lessons learnt had formed the basis for a complete revision of the Law on Civil Protection, streamlining the arrangements and providing a mechanism for a rapid coordinated Government response to any request for assistance. In **Ukraine**, the lessons learnt had resulted in a revision of the training of members of the Urban Search and Rescue Team, placing more emphasis on language training and familiarisation with the INSARAG guidelines. In **Azerbaijan**, the lessons learnt related particularly to the need for pre-planned transport arrangements to ensure that rescue teams can deploy quickly when needed. This involved negotiations with the national airline company, which had now been initiated. In **Moldova**, the lessons learnt had resulted in a revision of the SOPs for HNS, and the development of draft legislation to ensure that customs fee exemptions can apply not only in real disasters but also for the purpose of exercises.

Activity B.2 Capacity building through Table-Top Exercises (TTXs) on Host Nations Support (HNS)

All TTXs (6 individual for each Partner Country and 1 Regional TTX) were completed during the previous reporting periods according to the Programme's Work Plan 2016-2018.

▪ Task B.2.1 Follow-up on the HNS TTXs organised in each Partner Country

During the meeting with HNS NFP and MES representatives on 08 November 2017 it was agreed that **Armenia** will develop a draft Governmental Decree on HNS and will provide this draft to PPRD East 2 team for commenting in January 2018. This deadline was postponed to 20 May 2018, and the final draft of the Governmental Decree on HNS was received on 12 June 2018.

As reported in the previous Progress Report, due to the experiences and lessons learnt by the MES of **Belarus** during the EU MOLDEX 2017, the MES abandoned the original plan to have the HNS “host nation” function as a separate section in the “Plan for protection of population and territory in case of natural and man-made disasters in Republic of Belarus” and decided to develop one single document regulating all HNS procedures. The plan is to have the document developed during the second half of 2018.

In **Georgia**, the Governmental Decree for “Developing rules of Host Nation Support Activities in the field of Civil Safety” is still waiting finalisation and adoption. The initial reasons for this delay were the internal commenting process (in particular, MIA legal experts claimed that the HNS elements already exist in other legislative documents) and then the on-going internal reform, complemented with not fully clarified roles and responsibilities of the EMA and the State Security and Crisis Management Centre. Although the latter issue was resolved with the establishment of Emergency Management Service, the finalisation of the Governmental Decree is still pending due to the on-going development of a new Law on CP. Once the new Law is adopted, the Governmental Decree will be updated and finalised, and the HNS Country team will be re-established, in order to develop the HNS SOPs.

In **Moldova**, which has the Governmental Regulation on HNS and HNS Standard Operating Procedures (HNS SOP) already adopted and in place, the HNS activities focused on their integration into the national disaster risk management system. With an aim to support and enhance this integration process, the PPRD East 2 Programme and the GIES conducted yet another HNS Table-top Exercise (HNS TTX) on 23-24 January 2018. The HNS TTX proved to be a very good instrument to test the new HNS SOPs. Since all national HNS related stakeholders took active part in this HNS TTX, it also significantly contributed to the implementation of the HNS SOPs across the entire spectrum of Moldovan authorities active in national disaster risk preparedness and response system. All steps exercised during the HNS TTX, i.e. activation of the national HNS team, decision to request international assistance, communication of the request to the ERCC, preparation of HNS arrangements for incoming teams, etc. were analysed and openly reviewed during the plenary discussion after the TTX, thus identifying recommendations for further improvement of the HNS system in Moldova.

After the TTX, participants completed an overall event evaluation. Feedback was extremely positive, with an average level of satisfaction of 4.8 (out of maximum 5). In total, 31 participants took part in the TTX – 19 from GIES, 1 from Ministry of Defence, 1 from Ministry of Internal Affairs, 1 from Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, 1 from Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, 2 from Civil Aviation Authority, 1 from National Agency for Food Safety, 1 from Material Reserves Agency, 1 from General Inspectorate of Police, 1 from General Inspectorate of the Border Police, 1 from Operational Guidance and Inspection Service, and 1 from Customs Service. The report is attached as Annex 14.

One of the lessons learnt by Moldovan authorities during the EU MOLDEX 2017 resulted in the drafting of a new Law “On exemption of taxes and legal fees connected to the entry/exit into/from the Republic of Moldova of international intervention teams/modules” which is to amend three existing Laws – Tax Code no. 1163 from April 1997; Law on Customs Tariff no. 1380 from November 1997; and Customs Code no. 1149 from July 2000. The aim of the new Law is to streamline border-crossing procedures, including exemption of any customs and export/import fees for international teams coming to support Moldova in emergency response operations or for exercises, or transiting through Moldova territory. The comments provided by the PPRD East 2 experts on the draft Law were highly welcomed and accepted.

In **Ukraine**, the initial draft of the HNS legislative document, developed by SES and commented on by the PPRD East 2 experts in June 2017, was further discussed during the LL Consultative meeting on 25 April 2018 in Kyiv. Consequently, the PPRD East 2 provided additional comments on the draft. On 3 May 2018

SES circulated the draft to the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Upon receiving comments from MIA and agreeing on the final draft, it will be shared with other central bodies for their commenting.

As for the possibility to organise, in close cooperation with DG ECHO, the Pan-European Conference on HNS, the PPRD East 2 was informed that DG ECHO, although welcoming the initiative, is not able to organise any specific event like this during 2018, thus the decision has been reached not to organise the proposed Pan-European Conference on HNS within the PPRD East 2 Programme.

Activity B.3 Capacity building through full-scale field exercise

The full-scale regional field exercise EU MOLDEX 2017 was reported upon in the previous progress report. A complete report on the exercise is attached as Annex 15.

3.3. ACTIVITY AREA C

Activity C.1 Further development of ERRA

▪ Task C.1.1 Further improvement of ERRA

In this reporting period efforts have been made in the selection of the ERRA IT expert to be employed in the ERRA IT installation and maintenance missions to be performed in the next reporting period. CV analyses and interviews of candidates were performed by the backstopping team with the support of the ERRA & Data and Information Sharing NKE under supervision of the Team Leader. Once the selection and approval process were concluded, contact was established with the ERRA IT Focal Points in Partner Countries with an aim to consult with them on the ERRA IT missions in order to complete the missions before the summer. While negotiating the most suitable mission dates, the questionnaire that checks on the status of the current ERRA installation and on key datasets (available in Annex 16) was shared with ERRA IT Focal Points with an aim to obtain the most updated information so each single ERRA IT mission is fully cognizant of the situation in the country and thus well prepared. The key datasets shared within the questionnaire provided also the opportunity to the key beneficiaries to undertake preliminary institutional mapping of the data and an initial data collection before the ERRA IT mission. Thus collected key datasets were used in the capacity building sessions during the mission.

The two main objectives of the ERRA IT missions are: to restore and make existing ERRA IT installations fully functional, and to provide the necessary training to the institutions hosting the installation on how to administer the system, upload the data, style the data and compile the metadata catalogue. In addition, each mission has additional specific objectives depending on the Partner Country visited. In this reporting period the mission to Georgia was completed with the following accomplishments:

- the main ERRA installation has been set up as a new installation at the premises of the EMS as the old installation could not be recovered because it resides on the server of the Ministry of Internal Affairs,
- a second installation has also been set up on a server at NEA. The finalisation of this installation (creation of the administrator profiles) will be completed remotely directly on the NEA servers.
- the capacity building sessions have been delivered both to the EMS and NEA experts.
- in addition, the Institute of Seismology was visited, and the agreement was reached on data exchange on near real time earthquakes and the new seismological hazard maps, so that all this data will be institutionally linked to the EMS ERRA installation, and
- the agreement on the ERRA nodes automatic synchronization has also been reached between the EMS and NEA.

At the end of the ERRA IT mission the EU Delegation in Tbilisi received a debriefing from the PPRD East 2 team.

In addition, as reported in the progress report #6, the unsolicited Project Proposal “Atlas Extender AtEx” was received from the Institute of Geography of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine. It was analysed by the PPRD East 2 Programme from the programmatic perspective, and is now being analysed by the PPRD East 2 from the IT perspective. Once the PPRD East 2 analysis is completed, response will be provided to the Institute and the State Emergency Service of Ukraine (tentatively till the end of September 2018).

- **Task C.1.2 Interoperability of ERRA [or using ERRA to visualise results of Early Warning Systems, as requested by Azerbaijan]**

- Subtask C.1.2.2 Enhancement of ERRA interoperability

The initial work has been done on linking the European Flood Awareness System (EFAS), the European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS), the Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System (GDACS), the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) - Global Assessment Report, and the Joint Research Centre (JRC) INFORM platform to ERRA. The link to the GDACS system has been renewed according to the new specifications of the GDACS service and it is now part of the installation package of ERRA. The EFFIS Web Mapping Services (WMS) links to ERRA has been verified and tested on a new ERRA installation (done in Georgia) and they are working properly. The password protected WMS with time support (WMS-T) from EFAS (or the Global Flood Awareness System (GLOFAS)) have been also tested but some issues regarding the authentication have been encountered. JRC has been contacted in this respect but their reply has not yet been received.

In the case of visualisation of EFAS on ERRA nodes, a formal agreement has to be concluded between JRC and the National Hydro-Meteorological Services, so the latter can receive EFAS data and redistribute it to interested institutions, and also on the ERRA national platform(s). This was discussed during the ERRA IT mission to Georgia with the Institute of Hydro-meteorology of NEA and modalities on how to link EFAS service were clarified. NEA is in the process to sign the EFAS agreement and will provide the EMS access to EFAS data through ERRA before August 2018.

Activity C.2 Improving national disaster loss data collection and processing

- **Task C.2.3 Support for the implementation of a system for collection of Disaster Loss Data (DLD)**

- Subtask C.2.3.1 Legal and institutional development of DLD system

Armenia: during the reporting period, PPRD East 2 analysed the legal acts that regulate the DLD system in Armenia and provided recommendations for aligning the legislation with JRC-DLD Guidance and the Sendai Framework. The analysis and recommendations are reported in Annex 17. The following legal acts have been analysed:

1. Annex 1 to Decree N62-A of Minister of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Armenia on Classification of Emergency Situations, dated 5 May 2011;⁷
2. Decree N1582-N of Government of Republic of Armenia on approving the procedure for Assessing the damages caused to natural and legal persons due to emergencies, dated 10 November 2011;⁸

⁷ The Annex 1 to Decree № 62-A of the Minister of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Armenia dated 5 May 2011 represents the criteria for classification of emergencies, descriptors of emergencies by their types and other relations concerning such classification. The emergencies are classified by the scale and origin. The classification of natural emergencies in Armenia provides expanded definition of natural, biological and technological emergencies. The classes and sub-classes of natural emergencies applied in Armenia correspond to INSPIRE Directive natural hazard categories and sub-categories and represents also many other defined as significant for the territory of Armenia.

3. Decree N352-A of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia dated 10 April 2012 on approving the composition and activity procedure of the Republican Commission assessing the damages caused to natural and legal persons due to emergencies and on declaring void the Republic of Armenia Prime Minister's Decree N97-A of 8 February 2007.⁹

These three legal acts regulate DLD collection for assessing the level of emergency and for estimating the damages. They also define official procedures for assessment and recording of damages due to emergencies, as well as procedures for setting up the commissions as well as their operation. The comparison of the loss indicators described by Decree 352-A and Decree N62-A with the Sendai Targets (target A, B, C, D) and the JRC-DLD Guidance concluded that, in principle, loss indicators used in Armenia are in agreement with JRC-DLD Guidance and Sendai Targets. Nevertheless, several key indicators are missing and should be added, like indicators for critical infrastructure, productive sectors and cultural heritage. Moreover, additional disaggregation of different economic sectors will be highly beneficial for both the reporting requirements of Sendai Framework and for the usefulness of datasets to national stakeholders.

Georgia: Ms Nana Tabaghua from the EMS has been appointed as new DLD Focal Point. Based on her request, PPRD East 2 reviewed the Draft Disaster Damage and Loss Assessment Methodology, elaborated in the framework of UNDP Project "Enhancing Capacities for Development of National Disaster Loss and Recovery System". The Methodology proposed a disaster damage and loss classification that basically envisages: direct losses, indirect losses to producers, indirect losses to consumers, and macro-economic consequences. Most of the existing practices and legislations on DLD focus mostly on direct damage because of the inherent difficulty to estimate indirect losses. The Methodology is a big step ahead on the definition of data to be collected with very clear identification of economic sectors and loss indicators for each sector. The main PPRD East 2 recommendations are as follows:

- the methodology contains useful and valuable information, though the presentation of such information is not always reader-friendly. A more structured outline, with clear definition of the scope of the methodology as well as of the roles and responsibilities of each institution, would be highly beneficial and would enhance the readability of the document;
- clear and consistent methodology for direct loss assessment for all sectors should be developed, and, in a second stage, estimation of indirect losses should be introduced. Specific forms for field assessment should be also included.

In order to facilitate the implementation of these two recommendations, PPRD East 2 provided to the DLD Focal Point two examples of legislation on DLD collection systems, namely from Slovenia and from Moldova.

UNDP Georgia is continuing to assist the EMS in the revision of the DLD methodology. UNDP Georgia hired a new local consultant to undertake that revision. PPRD East 2 Programme agreed with the EMS to provide the national DLD Focal Point and the newly engaged UNDP consultant technical assistance - in the form of guidance and coaching - in the revision of the national Georgian DLD Methodology drafted by UNDP Georgia.

⁸ The Decree № 1582-N dated 10 November 2011 on approving the procedures assessing the damages sets out the activities related to assessment of the damages caused to natural and legal persons due to emergencies.

⁹ The Decree 352-A dated 10 April 2012 establishes the composition of the Republican Commission on assessment of damages due to emergencies of different character. It provides list of members of permanent composition of Republican commission, with the Chairman of the Commission being the Minister of Emergency Situations.

Moldova: GIES is currently preparing an amendment to national legislation related to DLD registration and collection (internal Regulation Order CPESS No. 139 of 04.09.2012) in line with Sendai Framework and JRC (including subdivision for economic sectors) and have drafted the necessary template tables (Annex 18). The procedure of definition of new indicators was based on:

- table of comparison of Moldova indicators and JRC indicators;
- recommendations of PPRD East 2 on the need to define/introduce additional indicators (Annex 23 of the progress report #6);
- identification of national indicators in relation to the ones that are already collected; and
- preparation of regulation amendments (on going).

The updated MD DLD Action Plan is available below:

Actions	Expected Time Frame
Finalization of the Comparison of the classification of emergencies and associated losses that is adopted in Moldova and the JRC DLD Guidance (2015); comparative analysis of loss data currently collected in Moldova and the JRC DLD Guidance (2015)	Completed
Definition of set of National Loss indicators based on JRC DLD Guidance (2015) as well as the Sendai indicators (Events registered in database, Indicators for DLD accounting, Thresholds for Disaster Loss Data)	Completed
Identification of the main institution responsible for the coordination of the collection and recording of DLD and of the role of other ministries, national agencies and local authorities	On-going
Definition of Legislative Acts to be developed for adapting the current legal framework to enable the sharing of data at EU and at global level.	Completed
Draft of the amendments of the Decree of the Chief of the (former) Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Sector (CPESS) no. 139 of 4 September 2012 on the statistical record of emergency situations and their consequences in the Republic of Moldova and its adaptation according to the JRC - DLD Guidance and the Sendai Framework	September 2018
Identification of the loss indicators for targets A-D for reporting (including required disaggregation level for each indicator) in accordance to Sendai Framework and JRC guidance.	Completed

Ukraine: during the previous reporting period the recommendations for aligning the classification of emergencies and associated losses of Ukraine with JRC-DLD Guidance (2015) and Sendai Framework targets has been finalized by PPRD East 2 (available in Annex 24 of the progress report #6). These recommendations are being (still) reviewed by SES as the definition of national damage and loss indicators is still on-going.

The table below summarizes the current status of activities:

Action	Status
Comparison of the classification of emergencies and associated damage and losses introduced in Ukraine and the classification included in the JRC-DLD Guidance (2015); comparative analysis of the damage and loss data available in Ukraine, and the data envisaged in the JRC-DLD Guidance (2015)	Finalized
Definition of a set of national damage and loss indicators on the basis of the JRC-DLD Guidance (2015), as well as the indicators included in the Sendai Framework (events registered in the database; the criteria for recording the disaster damage and loss data; thresholds of the disaster damage and loss data)	On-going

- Subtask C.2.3.2 Improving data accessibility and comparability at national, regional and European level

The PPRD East 2 Regional Workshop on Disaster Loss Data collection and processing is scheduled to take place on 24-25 July 2018. During the reporting period, PPRD East 2 has developed the scope and aims of the workshop as well as the draft Agenda (Annex 19).

As a result of direct contact PPRD East 2 established with the European Working Group on DLD coordinated by the DG ECHO, the PPRD East 2 has been invited to present the status and practices of DLD collection and sharing in the Eastern Neighbourhood region at the 11th European Loss Data Workshop organised on 16-17 of April 2018 in Brussels, Belgium. PPRD East 2 DLD non-key expert delivered a presentation on “Networking and loss data sharing at Regional Level - PPRD East 2” (available at http://drmkc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/Portals/0/Partnerships/Seminars/11th_EU_Loss_Data_Workshop/Presentations/marco_massabo-networking_and_loss_data_sharing_at_regional_level_-_pprd_east_2.pdf). In addition, PPRD East 2 facilitated the participation of representatives from Moldova – Mr Alexandr Tatarov from GIES, from Georgia – Ms Nana Tabaghua from EMS, and from Ukraine – Mr Vyacheslav Anishchenko from SES.

3.4. ACTIVITY AREA D

Activity D.1 Review and Further development and implementation of the Communication Strategy

▪ **Task D.1.1 Revision and update of the PPRD East Communication Strategy**

The main focus continued to be on drafting National Communication Strategies (NCS) for Raising Awareness about Disasters (RAD) in those Partner Countries where the national inter-ministerial WGs were established and are active.

As reported in the previous progress report, MES of **Armenia** decided that the NCS will be developed in a form of "National Strategy for Crisis Communication and Public Awareness in Emergency Situations", to be included in the National DRM Strategy and to develop a public “Awareness and Information Policy”. Additionally, the PPRD East 2 team was informed during the 4th NPC meeting on 22 February 2018 that Armenia is going to develop a new Law on CP and that the RAD should be additionally defined in this Law. However, according to information received from the MES while writing this report the development of the "National Strategy for Crisis Communication and Public Awareness in Emergency Situations" has been suspended because according to the Armenian Constitution the MES does not have the mandate to draft and adopt secondary legislation (e.g. the Strategy), and this mandate can be given to the MES only after redrafting and improving the legal DRM framework. This reform is not to be finalised before November 2018.

In **Belarus**, there is no progress to be reported from the previous reporting period. After the inaugural meeting of the RAD WG on 14 March 2017 which discussed the initial draft of the National Communication Strategy prepared by the MES, and guidance/recommendations for the next steps of the Strategy development, the draft of the NCS was shared with the Ministries concerned. The Ministry of Education provided a number of comments that imply a complete rewriting of the prepared NCS. After this step, despite repeated interventions from the PPRD East 2 team, no progress has been achieved. The situation and ways ahead were discussed at the 4th NAG meeting on 23 November 2017 and it was proposed by the MES to convene yet another meeting of the national RAD WG with the presence of Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, NGOs, Red Cross of Belarus, etc. to analyse and agree on the next steps. The initial planning was to organise this meeting before the end of March 2018, however as the PPRD East 2 team was informed later on by the NPC, the NFP for RAD is not interested to continue drafting the NCS. Taking this recent development into consideration, the Programme is now in the process of clarifying with the NPC and the SC member whether the position of RAD NFP implies that for the MES Belarus addressing RAD within the PPRD East 2 Programme is not a priority anymore.

During a meeting between representatives of GIES and PPRD East 2 team on 24 January 2018 and a meeting on 23 May 2018, it was pointed out that due to the internal reform of the state administration in **Moldova** there is a need to identify and define roles and responsibilities of governmental entities in the area of communication about disasters and in the area of raising awareness about disasters. GIES, after the reform, is responsible for one risk only – that one being fires - and as such does not have the mandate to lead development of a national level communication strategy. Therefore, GIES plans to continue using the service level communication strategy developed in 2015 and does not plan to continue the development of the NCS.

In **Ukraine**, the NFP for RAD in Ukraine – Ms Inna Gurinenko – who was appointed on 10 October 2017 was replaced by a new NFP – Ms Galyna Plachynda - in December 2017. A meeting of an ad-hoc RAD WG was organised on 20 December 2017 with an aim to discuss the initial draft of the NCS and to agree on a way ahead in drafting of the NCS. The main conclusion of the meeting was to continue the drafting and to establish an official inter-ministerial RAD WG to carry on this task. It was also concluded that in order to provide this RAD WG with a proper mandate it needs to be established by an Order of the Cabinet of the Ministers. Since this establishment through this Order was foreseen to happen only in the autumn of 2018, the PPRD East 2 encouraged the NFP at a meeting on 24 April 2018 to explore if this process could be shortened. NFP agreed to explore a possibility to establish the RAD WG via an Order of the Head of the SES instead, but no feedback was provided to the Programme yet.

Activity D.2 Collaboration with EU Delegations and coordination with other DRM initiatives in Partner Countries

▪ Task D.2.1 Synergies with other DRM initiatives

During this reporting period, the Programme continued cooperation with all EU and non-EU funded Programmes and Projects with which cooperation has been already established. As a way to further build synergies and avoid duplication and overlapping, the Programme continued inviting representatives of UN agencies, other international organisations, international and national NGOs, and national Red Cross/Red Crescent societies to Programme events. In addition, direct communication and exchange of experience has been established with the EU-CHEM-REACT Project implemented by the International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security (PPRD East 2 participated at the bilateral seminar organised on 28 March 2018 in Warsaw, Poland, the agenda and the conclusions of the seminar are available as Annex 21), with DPPI SEE newly appointed Head of Secretariat, with the PPRD South III Programme and the UNDP implemented Kura II: Advancing IWRM Across the Kura River Basin Project. The Programme also participated at the “Ukraine on the Path of Sustainability Panel Discussion and Signing of the Seat Agreement between the Government of Ukraine and the Regional Environmental Centre (REC)” organised by REC.

As reported in the previous progress report, the PPRD East 2 was invited to present Partner Countries' DRM experience within the 4th policy axis "Fostering cooperation with Europe's neighbourhood" at the EU CP Forum organised by DG ECHO on 05-06 March 2018 in Brussels, Belgium. The Programme presented the lessons learned, challenges and opportunities of working in the EaP region – questions received from DG ECHO and intervention bullet points are available as Annex 22.

PPRD East 2 also facilitated the Partner Countries' participation in the DG ECHO financed CP EoE Programme. However, as all available slots are utilised (not only for Neighbouring Countries but for EUCPM Participating States as well), no further opportunities within the current CP EoE Programme cycle are envisaged.

▪ **Task D.2.2 Coordination with EU Delegations (EUDs)**

During the 7th reporting period, the PPRD East 2 team continued systematically to inform all EUDs about the Programme events organised in their respective countries. EUDs were of course systematically invited and we, as always, offered to meet bilaterally. The LL Consultative Mission debriefing was delivered to EUD in Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine. Debriefing after ERRA IT mission and the participation at the round table discussion on Georgian new CP Law was also conducted at the EUD in Tbilisi. During the debriefing in Baku, the EUD informed the Programme that the Strategic Partnership Agreement between Azerbaijan and EU should be signed by the end of this year (2018).

3.5. ACTIVITY AREA E

Activity E.1 Fostering volunteerism in DRM

▪ **Task E.1.1 Improving National Volunteer Systems**

○ **Subtask E.1.1.3.1 Regional Joint Activities**

Although there were no regional level activities planned for this reporting period, the Programme adapted a "Set of Templates and Guidelines for Certification of Civil Protection Volunteer Organisations" to support the process of development of certification procedures of CP volunteer organisations in all Partner Countries, and to harmonise these certification conditions and parameters amongst the Partner Countries themselves, and between the Partner Countries and EU (available at the http://pprdeast2.eu/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/PPRD-East-2-Set-of-CPV-templates-and-guidelines_EN.pdf, http://pprdeast2.eu/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/PPRD-East-2-Set-of-CPV-templates-and-guidelines_RU.pdf).

One of the key challenges all Partner Countries are experiencing in setting up sustainable CPV system, is the low interest of the population to participate actively and to become registered and organised CP volunteers. Reacting to the need expressed by some Partner Countries on several occasions to promote the CPV concept properly, the Programme team thoroughly analysed how to address this request most suitably. The team concluded that a short video (Public Service Announcement (PSA)) would be the adequate raising awareness tool to promote the CPV concept and bring this new concept to the attention of the Partner Countries' population.

○ **Subtask E.1.1.3.2 Azerbaijan, Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine national activities**

In line with the agreement from the 4th NAG meeting, 2nd meeting of the CPV WG of **Belarus** was convened on 27 February 2018 in Minsk. The meeting was used, *inter alia*, to clearly present the steps and process which the CPV WG is going to take for the adoption of the amended Law on Fire Safety (foreseen in early summer 2018) which introduces the establishment of volunteer fire-fighting units, as well as to discuss and agree on steps needed to be undertaken for development and adoption of the consequent secondary legislation - Governmental and Ministerial Decrees on CPV (foreseen to be adopted within six

months after the adoption of the Law on Fire Safety by the Parliament). Detailed meeting report is in Annex 23.

Development of the draft CPV Regulation was slowed down due to the GIES involvement in the preparation of EU MOLDEX 2017 and due to the Governmental reform that took place in **Moldova** in autumn/winter 2017. However, during the GIES and PPRD East 2 meeting held on 23 May 2018, it was reiterated by the GIES that the CPV remains the priority and the GIES plans to finalise the draft “Regulation on the organization and functioning of volunteer activities within the Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Service” and to set-up a process for certification of CP volunteer organisations. However, no concrete time plan for this process was provided, till the conclusion of this Progress Report.

The situation in **Ukraine** remains the same as previously reported. Despite the PPRD East 2 efforts, the SES did not manage to identify and appoint an NFP for CPV who would be the link between PPRD East 2 and the existing SES WG which was created as a part of the on-going decentralization and reconstruction process of the national CP system. Thus the PPRD East 2 is not aware of the activities that are possibly conducted by this WG in the area of the CPV, and cannot provide support to any on-going developments.

Contrary to Ukraine that selected CPV as a priority to be addressed within the PPRD East 2 Programme, **Armenia** did not select CPV as a priority to be addressed within the Programme. However, positive progress in CPV was achieved with the technical support provided by the Programme. As previously reported, a draft Law for Volunteerism was developed under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Affairs and a draft Sub-law on CPV was developed by the MES. However, due to contradictory opinions of some national DRM stakeholders, the adoption of Law for Volunteerism got delayed. In order to mitigate this situation, MES is going to define the CPV concept in another institutional document – in the Law of rescue forces and rescuer status.

Similar to Armenia, **Georgia** did not select CPV as a priority to be addressed within the Programme. However, following the recent CP reform, Georgia expressed its interest to begin development of the legal and institutional CPV framework. The PPRD East 2 proposed a series of steps to support this process, however till the conclusion of this progress report no feedback was received.

Activity E.2 Ensuring Project Visibility

- **Task E.2.1 Develop and implement Visibility Plan**
 - Subtask E.2.1.2 Implement Visibility plan

During the reporting period, the Programme’s web portal continued posting on all planned and conducted activities, documents developed either by the Programme or by other relevant institutions. The Programme’s mailing list has now reached 1430 subscribers with confirmed (active) status, compared to 1095 six months ago. This again proves the growing interest in the PPRD East 2 activities in the Partner Countries, within the EU, amongst EU institutions and globally as well. Below are some key statistics showing a constant trend in terms of numbers of PPRD East 2 website visits:

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Dec 2017	8,782	17,760	182,841	273,644	10.43 GB
Jan 2018	7,719	15,853	153,815	253,827	10.29 GB
Feb 2018	10,960	18,951	171,821	294,414	11.39 GB
Mar 2018	6,486	16,095	140,819	270,882	14.25 GB
Apr 2018	5,433	13,968	115,397	248,010	12.77 GB
May 2018	5,714	15,263	156,349	307,773	13.22 GB
Total	38,535	84,148	782,313	1,458,679	76.39 GB

Figure 1: Programme's website statistics since December 2017 – May 2018

The PPRD East 2 Facebook page continued to be regularly updated and provided almost real-time information on the Programme's and Partner Countries activities and events as well as relevant ECHO Daily Flashes, ECHO Daily Maps and updates on EU Humanitarian Aid & CP issued by the ERCC and other relevant entities.

During the reporting period, a fifth and sixth PPRD East 2 Newsletter were prepared, focusing on HNS as CP thematic topic, and on the 6th EU CP Forum, as well as the PPRD East 2 Factsheet #2. Newsletter #5 and #6, and the Factsheet #2 in English and Russian are available at <http://pprdeast2.eu/en/category/publications/>. In addition, the Programme translated the DG ECHO fact-sheets on European DRM, Prevention and Preparedness, EU Civil Protection, and ERCC (available as Annex 24) into Russian, and disseminated English and Russian versions via its web site and its mailing list.

Activity E.3 Programme Management

▪ Task E.3.1 National Programme Coordinators meetings

The 4th NPC meeting took place on 22 February 2018 in Kyiv, Ukraine. It served to discuss the technical aspects of the Programme implementation in its previous year, and the activities to be implemented in 2018. It also provided the opportunity for the EC to discuss future DRM needs expressed by Partner Countries. The meeting report is attached as Annex 25.

▪ Task E.3.3 National Advisory Groups meetings

The 5th and final round of NAG/CAG meetings was initially planned to be conducted in late spring/early summer 2018. However, as numerous Programme activities were implemented and scheduled to be implemented in May, June and July 2018 (LL Consultative Missions, ERRA IT Missions, inaugural AZ FRM and DRA WG meetings, Regional Workshop on Coordination, Regional DLD Workshop), taking into consideration that the last round of NAG/CAG meetings should be utilised to report on overall achievements of the Programme in the region and in Partner Countries in particular as the final national level event within the Programme, and taking into account that at the time of developing these plans the decision on potential 6 months no-cost extension was still pending, it was decided to postpone the organisation of the 5th round of NAG/CAG meetings for September 2018.

▪ Task E.3.4 Programme Reporting

EU approved the Progress Report #6 on 23 February 2018.

4. COUNTRY UPDATES DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

The purpose of this section is to complement countries' background information presented in previous reports (Inception report and progress reports #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #6) and provide an update on substantial changes and key activities/events relevant to the CP, DRM and the PPRD East 2 Programme that have occurred during the reporting period in Partner Countries. The update provided below has been compiled on the basis of open-source information collected by the Programme.

4.1. ARMENIA

In the period December 2017 – May 2018, Minister of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Armenia received the following official delegations and discussed further and prospective cooperation in the field of CP and DRM:

- Ambassadors - The Head of the EU Delegation to Armenia Ambassador Mr Piotr Switalski and the Head of the Cooperation Section of the EU Delegation Mr Hoa-Binh Adjemian, H. E. Mr Jonathan Lacôte from France, Ms Judith Margareth Farnworth from United Kingdom, the Military and Air Force Attaché of the Russian Embassy in Armenia Major- General Evgeny Bulavintsev, Mr Tian Erlong from China, Mr Nawaf Alenezi from Kuwait, and Mr Jassim Mohamed Al Qasemi from United Arab Emirates;
- National organisations – President of the Fire-fighters Association of the Federal Republic of Germany Mr Hartmut Ziebs, Chief of the US Embassy's Office of Defence Cooperation Major Donald Harper and Head of the US Forest Service Fire Assessment Team Ms Jennifer Croft, Director of Eastern and Central Asia and the Caucasus Division of the Japan International Cooperation Agency Mr Hajime Taniguchi, Chief of the Department for Environmental Analysis and Control of the Atomic and Alternative Energy Commission of France Mr Benedict Gilpart, and delegation of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of Belarus;
- International organisations – the Delegation of the European Union led by Mr Dirk Lorenz, Deputy Head of Division for the Eastern Partnership Countries in the European External Action Service, Mr Bradley Busetto, outgoing UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Armenia, the delegation of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the newly appointed UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative Mr Shombi Sharp, and the World Bank delegation led by Mr Tafadzwa Dube, the World Bank Armenia Office DRM Specialist, Head of the WB mission's task team.

On 12 December 2017 the official ceremony of signing a Cooperation Plan between the RA MES and the Border Protection Department of the Russian Federation Federal Security Service was held.

On 21 January 2018, a large part of the canyon slope collapsed due to a landslide activated in the Tumanyan community of the Lori Region and created a risk for the railway and M6 highway. Thanks to the equipment provided by JICA within the framework of the Armenian-Japanese "Landslide Disaster Management in Armenia" Programme, a special platform for drainage works and horizontal drilling was undertaken by the MES thus mitigating the situation and reducing the further risk.

On 24-28 January 2018 the MES delegation headed by Deputy Minister Mr David Karapetyan visited the Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand and discussed development of early warning and weather forecasts capabilities of the Armenian MES Hydro-meteorological Service.

On 07 February 2018 a Memorandum of Understanding on "Scientific-Technical Cooperation and Training of Young Specialists" was signed between the MES Seismic Protection Survey, the Armenian Associ-

ation for Seismology and Physics of Earth, and the Institute of Geological Sciences of the Republic of Armenia National Academy of Sciences.

On 16 February 2018 within the framework of participation at the 17th Russian Investment Forum in Sochi Minister Tonoyan had a bilateral working meeting with the RF Minister for Civil Defence, Emergency Situations and Disaster Relief Mr Vladimir Puchkov.

On 05-19 March 2018 MES Rescue Service experts attended the training course on topic “Organization of Rescue and Other Urgent Activities in Emergency Zone during Peace Time and War” organised at the Saint-Petersburg University of State Fire Service of the Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defence, Emergencies, and Elimination of the Consequences of Natural Disasters (EMERCOM).

On 06 March 2018 the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Swiss Confederation to Armenia Mr Lukas Gasser handed over to MES 2 FLIR 50 heater devices to control the fire risk at the “Nairit Plant”.

On 12-17 March 2018 the pilot DRM Model Plan for Pre-school Educational Institutions was tested in four preschool educational institutions in the Stepanavan community in the Lori Marz within the framework of the Disaster Preparedness ECHO Programme (DIPECHO) “Strengthening National Capacity for Disaster Risk Reduction” Programme.

On 27 March 2018 at the margins of the General ICDO Assembly meeting held in Doha, Qatar, Minister Tonoyan met the Prime Minister and the Minister of Internal Affairs of Qatar His Excellency Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani,

On 06-08 April 2018 a 36-hour field exercise testing the INSARAG Guidelines was organised in the MES “Lusakert” Training Centre and Arzni Gorge.

On 13 April 2018 the MES Rescue Service launched the “Fire-fighting Preparedness Month”, during which fire-fighting drills were conducted in hotels and restaurant complexes, public catering facilities, large shopping and entertainment centres.

On 20 April 2018 the MES Rescue Service Deputy Director, r/s Major-General Vrezh Gabrielyan, met Mr Antony Couzian-Marchand, the Director of GALLICE International Organization and discussed the security issues of the 17th Summit of the International Organization of la Francophonie which should be held in Armenia on 11-12 October 2018.

On 08 May 2018 the Armenian Parliament has elected the opposition leader Mr Nikol Pashinyan as the country's new Prime Minister.

On 15 May 2018 Prime Minister Pashinyan visited the MES to introduce Mr Hrachya Rostomyan as the newly appointed Minister of Emergency Situations, as per Decree N-311-A of 12 May 2018.

On 16 May 2018 the MES held a special tactical drill “Organization and Implementation of Monitoring in Case of Nuclear and/or Radiation Nuclear Accident at ANPP” in Armavir Marz.

On 17 May 2018 a regular command staff training exercise was held at the MES. The topic of the training was “The Crisis Management National Centre’s activities and implementation of a possible calculation of the water-belt zone using geo-information systems in the event of the collapse of Aparan reservoir”.

An event titled “Resilient Armenia”, commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Spitak earthquake, is scheduled to be organised on 05-07 December 2018. An international conference, nationwide drills and an international Field Kitchen Competition should be part of the event.

4.2. AZERBAIJAN

On 21 December 2017 the Minister of Emergency Situations, General-Colonel Kamaladdin Heyderov met the Head of the National Emergency Management Authority of Israel’s Defence Ministry Bezalel Treiber.

In February 2018 the MES of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Federal Ministry of Interior of the Austrian Republic held avalanche search and rescue trainings, as well as exercised skiing. Austrian specialists

trained the Azeri experts on search and rescue of avalanche victims, how to behave in extreme conditions and skiing in mountainous relief.

On 29 March 2018 the MES international search and rescue team held a special tactical exercise on the “Organization of activities of international search and rescue team in international search and rescue operations”. The training focused on raising awareness and training of selected staff on INSARAG rules.

On 03-04 April 2018 representatives of the European Union Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence Initiative (EU CBRN CoE) visited Azerbaijan and held a number of meetings with MES counterparts.

On 11 April 2017 presidential elections were held in Azerbaijan. Incumbent President Ilham Aliyev was re-elected president for a seven-year term. During the establishment of the new Government Mr Kamaladdin Heyderov remains as the acting Minister of Emergency Situations, and in this capacity, he met the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency Mr Yukiya Amano on 19 April 2018.

On 30 May 2018 the international scientific-practical video seminar on "Fire safety of facilities" was held at the MES Academy. Participants were professors and teachers of the MES Academy, and MES State Academy of the Fire Protection Service, as well as from the Kokshetau Technical Institute of the Emergency Situations Commission of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Kazakhstan, from the Ural Institute of State Fire Service of the Russian Federation, and from the University of Civil Protection of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Belarus.

4.3. BELARUS

On 01 December 2017 Mr Vasily Stepanenko, the First Deputy Minister of ES of Belarus, took part in the XVIII meeting of the Belarusian-Polish subcommittee on cross-border cooperation held in Grodno.

On 26-29 January 2018, in Tinglev, Denmark, Mr Dmitry Tkachuk, a representative of the special purpose unit of the MES of Belarus, took part as a deputy head of the attestation commission in the re-certification of the Finnish Search and Rescue (SAR) team “FinnRescue” of the heavy class according to the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) standards during the exercise of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.

On 26-30 January 2018 Mr Alexander Khudoleev, the Deputy Minister of Emergency Situations of Belarus, led the Belarusian delegation in the joint exercise with the Republic of Uzbekistan experts practicing SAR in mountains, evacuation in the case of avalanches and from the ski-lifts, as well as providing psychological assistance to the victims.

On 31 January 2018 Mr Dmitry Kumsishvili, the First Deputy Prime Minister - Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, awarded Belarusian rescuers for their assistance in extinguishing a forest fire in the Borjomi-Kharagauli national park in August 2017.

On 05-09 February 2018 the MES participated in the Week of Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships under the auspices of UN OCHA.

On 6-7 February 2018, Mr Rustam Juraev, the Minister of Emergency Situations of Uzbekistan, visited Belarus and met Mr Vladimir Vashchenko, the Minister of Emergency Situations of Belarus, and Mr Stanislav Zas, State Secretary of the Security Council of Belarus, and discussed CP/DRM bilateral cooperation.

On 07 February 2018 Mr Andrei Kobayakov, the Prime Minister of Belarus, and Mr Maris Kuchinskis, the Prime Minister of Latvia, signed an Agreement between the Governments of Belarus and Latvia on early warning of nuclear accidents, information exchange and cooperation in the field of nuclear safety and radiation protection, the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on economic cooperation and an Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Civil Aviation SAR.

On 19 February 2018 Mr Alexander Lukashenko, the President of Belarus, signed a decree retiring Mr Vasily Stepanenko, the First Deputy Minister of Emergency Situations of Belarus, and appointing to this

position Mr Alexander Khudoleev. By another decree Mr Lukashenko appointed Mr Anatoly Dolgolevets to the position of Deputy Minister of Emergency Situations of Belarus.

On 26 February 2018, Minister Vashchenko met a US delegation, led by Mr Joseph Reinars, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) representative, and discussed the MES experience in fighting fires in ecosystems.

On 28 February 2018 MES representatives participated at the Main Planning Conference for the preparation of the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC) NATO field exercise "Serbia 2018" scheduled for 08-11 October 2018.

On 12-16 March 2018 authorized European experts conducted the partner audit of the National Report of the Republic of Belarus on the stress tests of the Belarusian nuclear power plan. 17 experts from 15 countries led by Mr Mark Foy, the representative of the Office for Nuclear Regulation of Great Britain, clarified and discussed information presented in the National Report, visited the construction site of the Belarusian NPP in Ostrovets, and prepared a preliminary version of the partner verification report.

On 11 April 2018 Minister Vashchenko observed the large-scale exercise held at the airport "Vitebsk" to test interaction and mutual cooperation of different Governmental institutions during emergencies caused by aviation accidents. More than 200 experts, 3 aircraft and more than 45 units of equipment were involved in the exercise.

As of 01 May 2018 a crew of 7 rescuers of the MES helicopter MI-8 were on duty in the mountain-wooded area in Turkey to assist in extinguishing forest fires and delivering local rescuers to the places of fires.

On 6-7 May 2018, Minister Vashchenko participated at the Joint Committee for Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Belarus and the Government of the United Arab Emirates meeting held in Abu Dhabi, UAE. On 06 May 2018 Minister Vashchenko met Mr Jamal Mohamed Al-Hosani, the General Director of the National Emergency Crisis and Disaster Management Authority of UAE and on 07 May 2018 the MoU on DRM cooperation was signed between the MES of Belarus and the Supreme Council for National Security of UAE, represented by NCEMA.

On 15 May 2018 during President Lukashenko's visit to Tajikistan, Minister Vashchenko signed the Comprehensive Action Plan for 2018-2020 to the implementation of the Agreement on DRM Cooperation with MES of Tajikistan.

On 17-18 May 2018, within the framework of the OSCE project, the joint Belarusian-Ukrainian TTX took place in Gomel focusing on increase in radiological and environmental awareness in the territories affected by the Chernobyl disaster in Belarus and Ukraine.

On 18-23 May 2018 Mr Vladimir Olikhver, Chief Operational Duty Officer of the Operational Department of MES, participated at the TTX "Cobalt 2018" in the Almaty region of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

On 21-23 May 2018, Mr Anatoly Dolgolevets, Deputy Minister of Emergency Situations of Belarus, led the Belarusian delegation at the meeting of the Contracting Parties at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Headquarters where the 6th National Report of the Republic of Belarus on the implementation of the Joint Convention on the Safety Management of Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste was considered.

On 23-26 May 2018 Belarusian rescuers took part in the multi-purpose international exercise "FENIX 2018" on the basis of the Educational Centre of Mazowiecki District Administration of the State Fire Service of the Republic of Poland.

4.4. GEORGIA

Structural changes have been announced in the Government of Georgia in November 2017. As part of these changes, the Emergency Management Service has been established on 01 January 2018 as the new CP/DRM authority by merging the State Security and Crisis Management Council, the Emergency Management Agency of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the State Material Reserve Department of the

Ministry of Internal Affairs. The State Security and Crisis Management Council has been abolished by the Ordinance of the Government of Georgia #562 dated 25 December 2017.

The Emergency Management Service is responsible and reporting directly to the Prime Minister of Georgia. Mr Giorgi Mghebrishvili is appointed as the Head of EMS, whereas Mr Shalva Khutsishvili is appointed as Deputy Head.

As the Government has to prepare the legal reform within the first 6 months of 2018 to be approved by the Parliament, the Emergency Management Service of Georgia initiated the development of the new Civil Protection Law of Georgia. The new Law will introduce the following changes:

- the new Emergency Management model, which should be more efficient and effective, will include only 2 management system levels, i.e. national and local, instead of 5;
- the main responsible body for the emergencies in the country will be the Emergency Management Service, instead of local authorities;
- within the CP planning process, there will be an increased scientific-research component and the Country Council of Experts will be established;
- the competencies and interoperability of the Government structures during emergencies will be clearly defined;
- a definition of the legal background for the CP volunteer system will be included, as well as the training and engagement of conscripts as auxiliary rescue forces;
- the fire monitoring system on the buildings such as hotels and public gathering places will be included;
- administrative fines and responsibilities for the violation of the fire safety rules will be increased;
- additional responsibilities of the water companies will be defined;
- the training model of rescuers will be improved.

In addition to the adoption of the new CP Law, 30 other Laws will be also changed and/or amended in order to establish the new emergency management model in the country. As part of consultation process, during the reporting period the EMS met with EUD and EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia, NATO Liaison Office in Georgia, the US European Command Joint Assessment Team and the Ambassadors of France, Germany, Great Britain, Japan, Poland and USA.

The Emergency Management Service of Georgia is planning to sign the MoU with DG ECHO on cooperation and sharing best practices, exchange visits of experts and implementation of the training modules. It is a step forward to the implementation of the EU Association Agreement and approximation to the EU standards.

During writing this report, on 13 June 2018, Prime Minister Mr Giorgi Kvirikashvili announced his resignation. It is yet to be observed if there will be any impact on the EMS and the whole process of establishing the new CP/DRM system in Georgia.

4.5. MOLDOVA

In the period January-May 2018 GIES carried-out the national-wide campaign “A safe house, a safe life”. Smoke detectors have been installed in private houses and apartments, and the families living in these houses and apartments benefited also from the training provided by GIES fire fighters and rescuers. Initially, over 800 families benefited from this campaign, and the campaign should be continued during the rest of the year. The first smoke detectors were installed on 19 February 2018 in Fauresti, a village near Chisinau.

On 01 May 2018 the joint field exercise has been conducted by GIES and the Department of Petroleum of the Free International Port of Giurgiulesti. The purpose of the exercise was to check the reaction and synchronization preparedness of the GIES fire fighters and the Port employees, as well as the coordination and cooperation capacity for response in the case of fire eruption in the Giurgiulesti Port Terminal.

4.6. UKRAINE

On 5 December 2018 SES and MES Belarus were announced to be awarded a grant under the EU-funded Programme of Territorial Cooperation of the Eastern Partnership Belarus-Ukraine. The purpose of the project is to increase safety of the population living in the border areas of the Kyiv region in Ukraine and the Gomel region in Belarus with the introduction of the system of landscape fire detection and environmental monitoring for the radiology-nuclear contamination, and by improving the coordination mechanism also through conducting international exercises. The Project should be implemented in cooperation with the German Development Agency (GIZ).

On 12-15 December 2018 SES Mobile Rescue Centre (MRC) experts took part in the closing event of the joint Ukraine-Polish Project "Improving the capabilities of the Ukrainian team in search and rescue operations through raising the level of professional skills of representatives of the Ukrainian team". During the event participants assessed lessons learnt of a two-year project including through conducting six command-staff Ukrainian exercises and a full-scale international field exercise with participating teams from Poland, the Czech Republic and Ukraine. Key priority actions were identified for future co-operation in preparing for the joint international re-certification procedure for the teams from Ukraine and Poland scheduled for 2019.

On 30 January 2018 SES took part in the conference on summing up the results of large scale international NATO EADRCC field exercise "Bosnia and Herzegovina 2017" held in September. The conference took place in Sofia, Bulgaria and addressed aspects of preparation for and conducting exercises, assessed the level of interoperability of rescue teams from different countries, and defined follow-up steps addressing shortcomings and challenges faced during the exercise. The next NATO EADRCC international large scale field exercise is scheduled to take place in Serbia in October 2018.

On 6 February 2018 Deputy Minister of Information Policy of Ukraine Mr Dmytro Zolotukhin, SES Head Mr Mykola Chechotkin and representatives of telecommunication operators of Ukraine signed tri-lateral Memorandum of Cooperation on implementing joint actions for reconstruction and a technical upgrade of the existing early warning system and approximating it to the world standards at national, regional and local level.

The cross-border cooperation meeting "Romania-Ukraine 2014-2020" took place in Ivano-Frankivsk on 22 February 2018 with the participation of the heads of law enforcement agencies of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, SES, and the local authorities of Ivano-Frankivsk, Chernivtsi and Odessa regions bordering Romania from Ukrainian side, and with the participation of the heads of law enforcement agencies of the Ministry of Interior from the Romanian side.

On 22 March 2018 President of Ukraine Mr Petro Poroshenko signed the Law "On ratification of the Agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of the Republic of Croatia on cooperation in the field of disaster prevention and liquidation of their consequences", already adopted by the Parliament on 28 February 2018. Cooperation Agreement was signed by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Economy, Enterprise and Small Business Ms Martina Dalych and the Head of SES Mr Chechotkin on 21 November 2016. It defines the principles and scope of cooperation between Ukraine and Croatia in CP/DRM, defines the forms of assistance that can be provided by the two parties including sending relief teams and experts, equipment, other in-kind assistance, as well as the exchange of relevant information and experience.

On 12 April 2018 SES met the Federal Office for Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance of the Federal Republic of Germany to discuss conducting the joint exercises on chemical and biological protection in case of emergencies or disasters.

On 19 April 2018 a high-level meeting on raising awareness about UNECE Convention on Trans-boundary Effects of Industrial Hazards was held in Kyiv. The Head of SES Mr Chechotkin emphasized that the implementation of the provisions of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on the Trans boundary Effects of Industrial Hazards includes several national executive bodies: Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, State Service on Labour, Ministry of Regional Development, Ministry of Infrastructure and State Emergency Service of Ukraine. He expresses an expectation that specific proposals would be developed in order for the Government to make a consolidated decision to reduce the risks of industrial hazards in Ukraine.

On 24-26 April 2018 a SES delegation, headed by its Head Mr Chechotkin, visited the Czech Republic. The purpose of the visit was on-site learning about the state system of fire protection in the Czech Republic. During the mission the SES delegation learned about operating features of the 112 Service, and how the work of professional fire-fighters and volunteers is organized.

On 6-12 May 2018 National University of Civil Protection of Ukraine representative participated at the advanced training course "Critical Infrastructure Protection - Best Practices and Innovative Methods of Protection" organised in Agadir, Morocco within the framework of NATO grant by the representatives of Poland and Morocco. The course brought together eighteen experts from nine countries and was designed to enable NATO member countries to share their expertise on civil security in one of the main priority activity areas.

The 4th Fire-fighter Combat Challenge Championship took place on 12-13 May 2018 in Pabianice, Poland. More than hundred participants took part in the contest. Ukraine was represented by two teams along with participating teams from the Czech Republic and Poland.

On 21 May 2018 the Head of SES Mr Chechotkin and his First Deputy Mr Ruslan Biloshitsky met representatives of the Federal Republic of Brazil. The parties discussed possible ways for establishing cooperation between counterpart agencies and the potential for signing a Memorandum of Cooperation on combating forests and urban fires, and for search and rescue operations. Head of the delegation of Brazil, Ms Maria Ferraz noted that the Federal Republic of Brazil is currently actively expanding its cooperation with the countries of Eastern Europe and had already established contacts with countries such as Albania, Azerbaijan and Armenia and is interested to engage in a partnership with Ukraine.

On 22-25 May 2018 XXXI International Fire and Sport Competition in memory of fire-fighters - heroes of Chernobyl was held in Ivano-Frankivsk. Fourteen teams from Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Slovakia, Turkey and Ukraine participated.

On 23-26 May 2018 the XV International Rescue Exercises "FENIX 2018" was held in Warsaw, Poland. Representatives of Poland, Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova and Ukraine participated. Ukrainian delegation was represented by the Lviv State University of Life Safety. Four exercise modules were carried out: preparation for and fire fighting in residential buildings, delivery of assistance to victims by the rapid reaction teams, stabilization of building structures, and organization of rescue operations in traffic accidents.

5. PLANNING FOR THE NEXT REPORTING PERIOD

The planning for the next reporting period was done taking into consideration the existing Contract, i.e. existing end of Programme being 30 November 2018. Thus, the next reporting period is considered as the final one. However, as above mentioned, Stantec has proposed the Contracting Authority a 6-months no-cost extension and, in case a positive feedback is received in this regard within a short timeframe, the PPRD East 2 Programme expert team is ready to adjust the Work Plan accordingly and provide an updated planning covering the whole extended period, i.e. till 30 May 2019. At the time of writing this report, a 6-months extension is being processed by the Contracting Authority, i.e. the EU Delegation to Ukraine. As the management of the Programme is transferred to DG NEAR in Brussels, the Programme is, at the time of writing this report, only in the position of suggesting some key activities to be undertaken during this extension, leaving their final approval to the new Project Manager from DG NEAR.

5.1. ACTIVITY AREA A

Activity A.1 Capacity Building for the Implementation of the EU Floods Directive and for addressing flood prevention

As reported in the Work Plan 2016-2018, activities presented here are aimed at providing assistance to Partner Countries to enhance their FRM practice and to support them in their efforts to approximate their national legal and institutional setup to the EUFD.

- **Task A.1.1 Update on EUFD adoption in the EaP region**
 - Subtask A.1.1.3 Legal and Institutional Framework for FRM and approximation to EUFD

During the next reporting period, the PPRD East 2 will continue assisting Partner Countries to advance towards the achievements of two main objectives:

- 1) Transposition of the EU acquis and improvement of their national institutional framework for FRM based on the EUFD;
- 2) Improvement of their institutional framework for FRM in the context of transnational river basins.

Building upon the progress already achieved, we are proposing the following.

Armenia: as agreed with the newly appointed national FRM Focal Point, during the next reporting period PPRD East 2 will finalise the Policy Brief. PPRD East 2 is also proposing to organise the FRM WG meeting with the aim of endorsing the Policy Brief and adopting the FRM WG Action Plan, based on the draft prepared by PPRD East 2 that will define the next steps for the approximation of Armenia's legislation to EUFD. The working meeting with the FRM Focal Point is scheduled to take place on 28 June 2018 in Yerevan, Armenia.

Azerbaijan: the PPRD East 2 assisted MES in conducting the inaugural FRM WG meeting held in Baku on 13 June 2018. As agreed, as soon as the PPRD East 2 experts receive the Water Code n°418-IG of 26 December 1997 and the Rules for floods and mudflow management from 2000 from the MES, these two documents will be analysed, and comments and recommendations will be provided to the FRM WG for their endorsement and utilisation for amending the Water Code and for the revision of the Rules. The experts will also review the State Programme for prevention of floods and mudflows on the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan (2012-2015) so that comments and recommendations provided by the PPRD East 2 are used for the development of the new State Programme.

Georgia: the PPRD East 2 experts will continue to support the Water Resources Management Service and the Legal Department of MENRP, NEA and EMS by:

- providing legal assistance, if requested by MERN, for the consultation process for the approval of the new Law on Water Resources Management that includes main provisions of EUFD;

- providing support for the finalization of the testing of the PFRA methodology to the Rioni river basin and specifically of the final part of the methodology for the identification of APSFR; and
- providing support, technical and legal, including advisory mission, to WRMS, NEA and EMS in drafting a secondary law/regulation on the Methodology for Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment based on the results of the testing being conducted in the Rioni river basin.

Moldova: PPRD East 2 will assist the FRM WG in the implementation of Action Plan, once endorsed by the new national FRM Focal Point (yet to be appointed), and if needed, again by the FRM WG. As stated in draft Action Plan, the following should be carried out in the next reporting period:

- review and approval of PPRD East 2 proposed amendments of the Regulation n.887 on Flood Risk Management for including time limits for PFRA, FH&RM, Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP);
- review of the PPRD East 2 analyses on preliminary definition of institutional responsibilities on FRM in Moldova. This activity is crucial for development of a Regulation on the clarification of FRM institutional framework in Moldova; and
- support MARDE in the process of officially adopting PFRA and FH&RM at the country level (continuation of already started activity, agreed with the former FRM Focal Point).

Ukraine: in the next reporting period, PPRD East 2 will support SES and facilitate the testing of the PFRA methodology on the pilot river basin (Tisza river basin) by applying the GIS method presented at the Regional FRM Workshop as the operational tool for PFRA in line with PPRD East 2 FRM Guidelines. The next steps planned to be implemented in Ukraine will closely follow the approach already successfully applied in Georgia, that is:

1. Collection of available data on hydrography, DEM and other geographic layers on exposure;
2. Application of GIS tool to the pilot river basin;
3. Based on the testing in the pilot river basin, provide feedback on practical applicability of the draft PFRA methodology (approved by the FRM WG but not yet legally in force); and
4. Revise/adjust the draft PFRA methodology, if needed.

Flood Risk Management in trans-boundary Dniester River Basin:

The new Dniester Treaty has been ratified by Ukraine in June 2017 and envisages the creation of the Dniester River Basin Commission, which, as per PPRD East 2 knowledge, is not established yet. PPRD East 2 will continue to follow closely the process of establishment of this Commission in order to initiate direct dialogue within the Commission on the finalization and endorsement/approval of the FRM Protocol.

In parallel, the Programme will continue consultations among line-ministries of Ukraine and Moldova for the finalization of the Protocol, also with the assistance of respective EUDs.

PPRD East 2 will continue coordination with the GEF financed programme on “Enabling transboundary cooperation and integrated water resources management in the Dniester River Basin”, in order to ensure the continuation of the activities for the promotion of the adoption of the FRM Protocol.

European Working Group on Floods – as the next working group meeting and workshop will be organised most probably in Autumn 2018, upon approval of the requested extension, the PPRD East 2 Programme would be able to continue providing further support to Partner Countries to present achievements in FRM and approximation to EUFD.

• **Task A.1. 3 Development of flood hazard maps and flood risk maps**

On the basis of the PPRD East 2 FRM Regional Guidelines and the training conducted during the Regional FRM Workshop on PFRA methodologies, PPRD East 2 will continue providing technical assistance for implementation of the PFRA methodology to Partner Countries that have started this process. At the

moment, Georgia is in the final stage of the testing and identification of APSFR, whereas Ukraine is just about to start. The technical assistance will be provided in the form of guidance and coaching as well as expert advisory missions, as/if needed.

Activity A.2 Development and/or further improvement of national risk assessments

▪ Task A.2.0 Improving legal and institutional framework on Disaster Risk Assessment (DRA)

PPRD East 2 intends to continue to assist the established inter-ministerial national WGs to further implement activities presented in the Work Plan 2016-2018 and review by-laws, regulations and procedures drafted by the WGs and respective responsible institutions. After determining the roles, responsibilities and risk data owners, establishing expert working groups for specific risks has also been recommended as part of the process in establishing sustainable DRA system in the country. Implementation of all these activities highly depends on the Partner Countries' readiness and commitment, and on the time remaining available for Programme implementation. Receiving positive EC response on the proposed 6-months no-cost extension would provide additional time for the Partner Countries to proceed further in the establishment of sustainable national DRA systems based on the EU DRA Guidelines and EU good practice.

Armenia: as presented above, PPRD East 2 is looking forward to receiving the MES' final decision on the establishment of the national inter-institutional DRA working group and the initiation of the establishment of the sustainable national DRA in Armenia based on the EU DRA Guidelines and the EU good practice. Assuming that the recently stated need for a stand-alone DRA document would be reconfirmed, PPRD East 2 will provide assistance in the establishment of the national inter-institutional DRA WG, as well as in defining specific institutional DRA roles and responsibilities, identification of key national risks, single risk WGs establishment, and in drafting the national DRA guidelines/methodology.

Azerbaijan: PPRD East 2 intends to provide further advice and guidance to the MES and national DRA WG in drafting secondary legal acts regulating DRA. At the inaugural meeting of the DRA WG a new timeline was proposed and accepted providing the national document's adoption and other national procedures are carried out without delay. In the next reporting period PPRD East 2 will provide assistance in hazard identification, in defining specific DRA roles and responsibilities, drafting a Government decision to provide for the legal framework, identifying the key risks and drafting the national DRA guidelines.

Georgia: as NPC informed the PPRD East 2, the national risk assessment drafting is in fact underway in Georgia. However, it is yet to be confirmed that the process and the document that is drafted are in line with the EU DRA Guidelines and the EU good practice. PPRD East 2 will provide assistance in determining this accordance, in reviewing all relevant documents, and/or in guiding the process, if necessary. At the moment, PPRD East 2 assistance is requested for simplifying the methodology and determining the risk score criteria for the local level DRA. As informed by NPC, PPRD East 2 should provide this technical assistance only when the new Law on Civil Protection is adopted.

Moldova: as soon as the official decision on the DRA national coordinating institution in Moldova is received from GIES, PPRD East 2 will assist in determining the timeline of the DRA process and, in the case that the decision to draft the national DRA through a separate project is still valid, in selecting project partners and in finalisation of the project proposal.

Ukraine: The "Regulations on risk management organisation" identify the Sectoral Risk Management Committee as the main national entity for defining the methodology for DRA at the national level. PPRD East 2 intends to support the Committee in the development of a roadmap and any DRA document if decided necessary. PPRD East 2 is also ready to review the new legislation, and especially different single risk assessment methodologies and methods that are developed or are currently being developed, as well as the recently approved "Methodology for developing the criteria to assess the degree of risk associated with economic activity and determined the frequency of implementation of the planned state supervision (control) measures" in order to assist Ukraine in the approximation of their DRA legislation and practice to the EU DRA Guidelines and EU good practice.

Activity A.3 Provision of support for the improvement of countries' legislative framework and inter-institutional arrangements

▪ Task A.3.2 Support for recommendation uptake

As a follow-up of the ERRA IT mission to Georgia it is expected that the ERRA databases in both the EMS and NEA installations will be populated during the next reporting period. As a consequence of the agreement reached during the mission, the metadata catalogue will also be populated following the general INSPIRE implementation rules.

In order to facilitate this process PPRD East 2 experts will follow the database population remotely offering support to both EMS and NEA whenever needed. Specifically, PPRD East 2 will support NEA in the preparation of the PFRA hazard and risk data in accordance to the INSPIRE data model.

5.2. ACTIVITY AREA B

Activity B.1 Capacity building through CP trainings and exchange of information, expertise and best practice regarding the EUCPM

▪ Task B.1.1 Strengthening the Network of National Programme Coordinators and Operational 24/7 Contact Points

During the remaining part of 2018, the main expectation is to receive support from the NPCs for the implementation of national HNS and LL activities in each Partner Country. As the PPRD East 2 is nearing completion, NPC support will be essential to coordinate the finalization of HNS documents developed at national level. In addition, NPC support is expected in the institutionalisation of the LL, as well as for the update of the Civil Protection Chapter in Country Profiles so as to ensure that correct and updated descriptions, including points of contact, are available at the end of the PPRD East 2 Programme.

▪ Task B.1.2 Capacity Building through Lessons Learnt (LL)

As mentioned above under Chapter 3.2, Activity B.1.2, consultative meetings discussing the implementation of LL have taken place in Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine. Meetings are planned to take place in Armenia on 19-20 June 2018 and in Belarus on 26-27 June 2018.

The recommended Regional Workshop on Coordination, also mentioned above under Chapter 3.2, Activity B.1.2, is planned to take place from 02-06 July 2018 at the DEMA Staff College at Snekkersten in Denmark. A draft List of Participants and the draft Agenda are available in Annex 26. As the Regional Workshop is planned to be conducted as a Train-of-Trainers event, PPRD East 2 experts are looking forward to witness how the key beneficiaries will organise the follow-up national workshop(s) so that the knowledge and skills received at the Regional Workshop is further disseminated at the national level. The PPRD East 2 experts are ready to provide technical assistance for the preparation and conduct of these follow-up national workshops, mainly in the form of facilitation and mentoring.

Activity B.2 Capacity building through Table-Top Exercises (TTXs) on Host Nations Support (HNS)

▪ Task B.2.1 Follow-up on the HNS TTXs organised in each Partner Country

During the next reporting period, the PPRD East 2 team will continue to cooperate closely with the NFPs and HNS Country Teams/inter-governmental WGs to finalise the development and implementation of the HNS legislation and SOPs, in line with Partner Countries' national specifics and the EU HNS Guidelines.

Particularly, the Programme experts will analyse the draft of the Governmental Decree on HNS of **Armenia**, and will provide recommendations to harmonise the draft with the EU HNS Guidelines and other existing international documents, lessons learnt during the EU MOLDEX 2017, etc. In **Belarus** and **Ukraine**, the Programme will support both countries in drafting and adopting the legal documents on HNS, and in **Georgia**, in re-launching the adoption of the Governmental Decree on HNS, re-establishment of the na-

tional HNS WG and development of HNS SOPs. In **Azerbaijan**, the PPRD East 2 team will support the establishment of the national HNS WG, which is planned by MES until the end of September 2018. In **Moldova**, the main effort will be placed on support for the finalisation and adoption of the new Law “On exemption of taxes and legal fees connected to the entry/exit into/from the Republic of Moldova of international intervention teams/modules”.

Depending on the efficiency of key beneficiaries to finalise the HNS legislation and SOPs, the PPRD East 2 is also willing to provide technical assistance and expertise in testing the legislation and SOPs through the national HNS TTXs, similar to the one organised in Moldova in January this year. If the proposed 6-months extension is approved, these proposed HNS TTXs will be organised in the autumn 2018.

5.3. ACTIVITY AREA C

Activity C.1 Further development of ERRA

▪ **Task C.1.1 Further improvement of ERRA**

During the next reporting period focus will be on conducting the ERRA IT missions with the goal to have all ERRA installations in Partner Country up and running, that IT experts of key beneficiaries and other ERRA hosting institutions are trained to properly administer and maintain national ERRA installations, and that all key datasets available at national level are properly uploaded into the national ERRA nodes. In addition to the in country ERRA IT missions, the follow up activities will ensure the provision of remote assistance that the ERRA databases are properly populated. This has been already agreed upon in Georgia as presented in Task A.3.2.

▪ **Task C.1.2 Interoperability of ERRA [or using ERRA to visualise results of Early Warning Systems, as requested by Azerbaijan]**

- Subtask C.1.2.2 Enhancement of ERRA interoperability

The configuration of the WMS services' links into ERRA will be consolidated also for the password protected services such as EFAS and GLOFAS. Additional services to be linked will be also explored if requested by the Partner Countries. As an example, the EMS Georgia asked to link the NASA services for fire monitoring and the USGS services for monitoring earthquakes, with an aim to bridge-over the transition period while establishing the link with the Institute of Seismology in Georgia. The Programme will explore technical and overall possibilities to accommodate this request.

Activity C.2 Improving national disaster loss data (DLD) collection and processing

▪ **Task C.2.3 Further support to the implementation of a DLD collection system**

PPRD East 2 intends to provide further support to Partner Countries, at legal and institutional levels, to improve DLD accessibility and comparability at national, regional, and European levels, in line with the requirements of the Sendai Framework for Action and the European “*Guidance for recording and sharing disaster damage and loss data – Towards the development of operational indicators to translate the Sendai Framework into action*” (JRC DLD Guidance)¹⁰.

- Subtask C.2.3.1 Legal and institutional development of DLD system

During the next reporting period, PPRD East 2 will continue to support Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine with the implementation of the endorsed DLD Action Plans.

¹⁰ Guidance for recording and sharing disaster damage and loss data – Towards the development of operational indicators to translate the Sendai Framework into action: EU expert working group on disaster damage and loss data; European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Institute for the Protection and the Security of the Citizen, 2015, ISBN 978-92-79-47452-1, ISSN 1831-9424

Armenia: PPRD East 2 is still committed to support the Commission or its technical bodies towards the endorsement of the Action Plan (developed by PPRD East 2) and its implementation for the amendment of current legislation. An advisory mission of PPRD East 2 has been scheduled for 28 June 2018 with the objective to accelerate the implementation of the draft Action Plan that is reported below.

Actions	Proposed Time Frame
Organize a new consultative session of the Republican Commission Assessing the damages caused to Natural and Legal person due to an Emergency. The scope is to refine and endorse the proposed DLD Action Plan that should target: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amendment of legislation - Implementation of Disaster Risk Management National Strategy 	January 2018
Comparison of the classification of emergencies and associated losses that is adopted in Armenia with the JRC DLD Guidance (2015) and Sendai targets;	Completed
Definition of set of National Loss indicators based on JRC DLD Guidance (2015) and Sendai targets that will be the base for the new Draft RA Government Decree	September 2018
Identification of the National institution responsible for the coordination of the collection and recording of disaster loss data; identification of the role of other ministries, national agencies and local authorities in the collection of Disaster Loss Data	2019
Draft amendments of the Government Decree for DLD system in Armenia	2019
Approval of the new Legal Act	2019

Georgia: PPRD East 2 will further assist the DLD Focal Point in the implementation of recommendations provided for the improvement of Disaster Damage and Loss Assessment Methodology, elaborated in the framework of the UNDP Project "Enhancing Capacities for Development of National Disaster Loss and Recovery System". Specifically, PPRD East 2 will provide technical assistance for defining a structure of the disaster damage and loss assessment methodology and for aligning the methodology to JRC DLD Guidance and Sendai Framework.

Moldova: as the DLD WG has taken the "Operational Decision to amend the Decree of the Chief of CPSS no. 139 of 4 September 2012 on the statistical record of emergency situations and their consequences in the Republic of Moldova and its adaptation according to the JRC - DLD Guidance and the Sendai Framework", and GIES has developed disaster loss data indicators for aligning the current legislation to JRC-DLD Guidance and Sendai Framework, PPRD East 2 is determined to provide assistance in the final step of developing amendment(s) of the legislative act. With reference to the Action Plan approved by the DLD WG, the expected timeline is described below.

Actions	Expected Time Frame
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Finalization of the Comparison of the classification of emergencies and associated losses that is adopted in Moldova and the JRC DLD Guidance (2015); comparative analysis of loss data currently collected in Moldova and the JRC DLD Guidance (2015)	Completed
Definition of the set of National Loss indicators based on the JRC DLD Guidance (2015) as well as the Sendai indicators (Events registered in database, Indicators for DLD accounting, Thresholds for Disaster Loss Data)	Completed
Identification of the main institution responsible for the coordination of the collection and recording of DLD and of the role of other ministries, national agencies and local authorities	On-going
Definition of Legislative Acts to be developed for adapting the current legal framework to enable the sharing of data at EU and at global level.	Completed
Draft of the amendments of the Decree of the Chief of CPESS no. 139 of 4 September 2012 on the statistical record of emergency situations and their consequences in the Republic of Moldova and its adaptation according to the JRC - DLD Guidance and the Sendai Framework	September 2018

Ukraine: as the feedback from the SES on recommendations for aligning the national DLD system to the JRC-DLD Guidance and Sendai Framework provided by PPRD East 2 is yet to be received, the implementation of the Action Plan has been slightly delayed, and the timeframe of the activities has been accordingly adjusted. Below are descriptions of the actions and an updated timeframe for the support that PPRD East 2 will provide to SES and the inter-ministerial national WG in the next reporting period.

Actions	Time Frame
Finalization of the comparison of the classification of emergencies and associated losses that is adopted in Ukraine and the JRC DLD Guidance (2015); comparative analysis of loss data currently collected in Ukraine and the JRC DLD Guidance (2015)	Completed
Definition of a set of national loss indicators based on the JRC DLD Guidance (2015) as well as the Sendai indicators (Events registered in database, Indicators for Disaster Loss Data accounting, Thresholds for Disaster Loss Data)	Recommendations have been provided by PPRD East 2, feedback has not been received
Identification of the main institution responsible for the coordination of the collection and recording of DLD and of the role of other ministries, national agencies and local authorities	2018
Revision of current legislation and preparation of amendments for enabling the sharing of DLD at EU and International level according to JRC DLD Guidance (2015) and Sendai indicators.	September 2018

- Subtask C.2.3.2 Improving data accessibility and comparability at national, regional and European levels

With an aim to further enable and enhance exchange of data on disaster losses at regional, European and international levels, PPRD East 2 is planning to organise the 2nd DLD Regional Workshop on 24-25 July 2018 in Kyiv, Ukraine. The objectives of the workshop are:

- share the achievements of Partner Countries in improving DLD collection and processing system and set the base for a common regional road map
- as the Sendai Framework and Sustainable Development Goals are strongly promoting and requesting countries to collect and report DLD for monitoring the reduction of disaster impacts to the economy and communities, and as the first reporting deadline was March 2018 and the next is October 2018, the workshop will provide the opportunity to highlight the challenges and opportunities on the Sendai Framework reporting
- considering that DLD are a fundamental source of information for DRA, the workshop will demonstrate in practical sessions how these data can be used for DRA and more specifically for improving the description of risk scenarios

JRC and UNISDR confirmed their participation as lecturers, and the draft Agenda and draft LoP are available in Annex 27.

European Disaster Loss Data Working Group – as the next DLD WG meeting and workshop will be organised most probably in October/November 2018, if the 6-months no cost extension is approved, the PPRD East 2 Programme would be in position to continue providing further support to Partner Countries to present their progress in DLD collection and processing.

5.4. ACTIVITY AREA D

Activity D.1 Review and implementation of the Communication Strategy

▪ **Task D.1.1 Revision and update of the PPRD East Communication Strategy**

Since the MES of **Armenia** does not have the mandate to draft the secondary legislations such as NCS, and this mandate will be given to the MES only when the on-going reform of the CP legislation is finalised (according to MES not before November 2018), it means that the development of NCS is on hold.

In order to continue providing support to Belarus and Moldova, PPRD East 2 needs to ascertain whether the position of the RAD NFP in **Belarus** not to continue the NCS drafting represents the official position of the MES to withdraw from drafting of the NCS. Similarly, PPRD East 2 needs to be informed by GIES which national institution will launch the process of identification of the roles and responsibilities in the area of raising awareness about disasters in **Moldova**, and when. The PPRD East 2 team plans to seek clarification of these points as soon as possible, thus the expert support can be provided either through participation of the PPRD East 2 experts at meetings of the national inter-ministerial WG or remotely.

In **Azerbaijan** and **Ukraine**, the support will focus on establishment of the national inter-ministerial RAD WG and launch of the NCS drafting process.

▪ **Task D.1.2 National awareness raising campaigns on Disaster Risk Management (DRM)**

and

▪ **Task D.1.3 National media campaigns on DRM**

and

▪ **Task D.1.4 Awareness raising in schools**

- Subtask D.1.4.2 Development and implementation of school awareness raising

All these three activities are aimed to be developed and implemented as part of the implementation of the National Communication Strategies for Raising Awareness about Disasters (that are to be developed within the Task D.1.1). As such, the concrete forms and themes of the campaigns and awareness raising

in schools should be discussed and defined with the national authorities during the drafting process of the National Communication Strategies and respective Action Plans, also in close cooperation with other relevant national stakeholders.

As the implementation of this subtask is subject to the implementation of the National Communication Strategies, it is unlikely for these tasks to be implemented before the end of the Programme.

Activity D.2 Collaboration with the EU Delegations and coordination with other DRM initiatives in Partner Countries

▪ Task D.2.1 Synergies with the other DRM initiatives

The PPRD East 2 expert team will continue to seek synergies with other CP, DRM and DRR related initiatives in the region and beyond. The aim is to ensure proper information sharing and reducing the risk of duplication with other EU and non-EU funded projects. As such, the PPRD East 2 plans to attend the 2018 Sub-Regional Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction organised in Yerevan, Armenia on 26-27 June 2018; the OSCE Round Table on the Protection of Critical Infrastructure and Furthering Chemical Safety and Security organised in Kyiv, Ukraine on 16 August 2018; and the International Kyiv-Warsaw Forum on developing cooperation in reducing chemical threats and enhancing chemical safety and security and voluntary fire service organised in Kyiv, Ukraine on 17 August 2018. And in the case that the 6-months no cost extension is granted, the PPRD East 2 experts are planning to participate at the DPPI SEE Regional Meeting organised in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina in November 2018 and at the 2018 European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction organised on 21-23 November 2018 in Rome, Italy.

▪ Task D.2.2 Coordination with EU Delegations

Excellent cooperation established with EUDs is expected to be further enhanced. Additional support will be requested from EUDs in exploring bilateral EU-Partner Country opportunities to address CP/DRM needs even further. Specifically, additional assistance will be requested from Moldova and Ukraine EUDs with an aim to finalise the Protocol on Flood Risk Management in the Dniester River Basin.

5.5. ACTIVITY AREA E

Activity E.1 Fostering volunteerism in DRM

▪ Task E.1.1 Improving the National Volunteer System

○ Subtask E.1.1.3.1 Regional Joint Activities

At the regional level, the PPRD East 2 team will focus on the development of the raising awareness video to promote the CPV concept in the Partner Countries. This video will be developed as the PSA in a form of 2D animation, maximum 1-1,5 minutes long. After its finalisation it will be distributed to all Partner Countries for further dissemination and their own use through their communication channels. At the same time, the CPV PSA will be also uploaded to the PPRD East 2 web site and Facebook page, and disseminated through the PPRD East 2 mailing list. The PSA will deliver two messages: one would be to promote the CPV and to encourage the population to become CP volunteer, and the other one to discourage the population to do so-called "spontaneous volunteerism".

○ Subtask E.1.1.3.2 Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine national activities

The PPRD East 2 experts will continue supporting Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine in the process of developing and implementing a legal and institutional CPV framework, and in developing and refining the national databases of CP volunteers and CP volunteer organisations.

As soon as the MES in **Armenia** finalises the draft Law of rescue forces and rescuer status, the PPRD East 2 experts will analyse it and will provide feedback and recommendations.

In **Belarus**, as soon as the Law amending the existing “Law on Fire Safety” is adopted, PPRD East 2 will assist the development of the Governmental and Ministerial Decrees on CPV, as well as in providing support in the development and creation of the national database of CP volunteer organisations and a system for their certification and registration.

In **Moldova**, the main focus remains on supporting the finalisation, adoption and implementation of the “Regulation on the organization and functioning of volunteer activities within the Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Service”, and on the establishment of the process for certification of CP volunteer organisations, including the development of a database of these organisations and volunteers.

In **Ukraine**, the PPRD East 2 will continue to seek potential synergies between the existing SES WG and the Programme by supporting and encouraging the NPC to identify the CPV NFP and to establish the link between the existing SES WG and the PPRD East 2.

If EMS **Georgia** confirms its readiness to address CPV within the Programme as per the PPRD East 2 proposal on how to launch the development of the legal and institutional framework for CPV, the PPRD East 2 team will together with the EMS develop a concrete plan of action, considering the Programme’s resources available as this activity was not originally included in the Programme’s Work Plan for 2016-2018.

Activity E.2 Ensuring Project Visibility

▪ Task E.2.1 Develop and implement Visibility Plan

○ Subtask E.2.1.2 Implement Visibility plan

The implementation of the visibility and communication plan will continue, in close cooperation with the national CP authorities, Local Coordinators and EU Delegations - in particular for the dissemination of press releases (prepared and translated by the Programme).

The website and the Facebook page will continue to be regularly updated. The PPRD East 2 team will continue to try to establish a “direct” link between the websites with key beneficiaries from Azerbaijan, Georgia and Ukraine and the PPRD East 2 website.

A 7th and 8th edition of the PPRD East 2 Newsletter will be conceptualized, developed and disseminated in the next reporting period, as well as the Programme Brochure and the Programme Video presenting the overall Programme achievements.

Activity E.3 Programme Management

▪ Task E.3.1 National Programme Coordinators meetings

The next NPC meeting is tentatively scheduled to take place in the last week of September 2018 in Brussels, Belgium, back-to-back to the 4th SC meeting and the PPRD East 2 Final Conference. However, if the proposed 6-months no cost extension is approved, the next, 5th NPC meeting will be used to discuss at the technical level the revised Work Plan covering the extended implementation period till 30 May 2019. The 6th NPC meeting will be then organised day before the 5th SC meeting and the Final Conference, both tentatively planned for the second half of March 2019.

▪ Task E.3.2 Steering Committee meetings

The 4th SC meeting should be combined with the PPRD East 2 Final Conference, tentatively scheduled to take place in Brussels, Belgium in the last week of September 2018.

However, if the proposed 6-months no cost extension is approved, the 4th SC meeting will be used to discuss, endorse and approve the revised Work Plan covering the extended implementation period till 30 May 2019. The 5th SC meeting combined with the Final Conference will be then organised in the second half of March 2019.

- **Task E.3.3 National Advisory Groups meetings**

The 5th and final round of NAG/CAG meetings in Partner Countries is scheduled for first three weeks of September 2018.

However, if the proposed 6-months extension is approved, the 5th and final round of NAG/CAG meetings will be organised in the last reporting period, as a final national event of the PPRD East 2 Programme. Tentative timing of the 5th round of NAG/CAG meetings is from second half of January till first half of March 2019. The intention is to have 5th NAG/CAG meetings one or two days long, depending on the achievements of each particular Partner Country, and to have NPCs and national thematic Focal Points to present the PPRD East 2 results and accomplishments to other national DRM actors and stakeholders.

- **Task E.3.4 Programme Reporting**

The Programme has to report to the European Commission every 6 months. The next progress report should be the Programme's Final Report. However, upon approval of the proposed 6-months extension, the next report will be the progress report #8, due on 31 December 2018.

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ANNEX 27 – 2ND DLD REGIONAL WORKSHOP – DRAFT AGENDA AND DRAFT LOP