



SPRÁVA O ČINNOSTIACH V RÁMCI PROJEKTU DRM FRAME

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PROJECT DRM FRAME

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ABSTRACT: *The “DRM Frame” project is an innovative initiative aimed at enhancing skills and capacities in civil protection and resilience. By integrating vocational education and training (VET) opportunities and scientific contributions from higher education institutions (HEIs), the project seeks to provide effective solutions for addressing natural disasters. Aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 11 – “Sustainable Cities and Communities,” the project contributes to global efforts in disaster risk reduction and sustainable development.*

KEYWORDS: Disaster Risk Management, Disaster Management Cycle, Criss Management, Civil Protection, Curriculum

INTRODUCTION

Disaster Risk Management (DRM) is increasingly recognized as a crucial aspect of modern governance and development due to the growing frequency and intensity of natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes, storms, and wildfires. These disasters pose significant threats to human lives, infrastructure, and the environment, disrupting societies and economies on a global scale. In light of these escalating risks, the need for a structured and comprehensive approach to disaster risk management has never been more urgent. DRM FRAME is a strategic response aimed at minimizing the devastating impacts of disasters through a systematic approach that encompasses preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. This framework provides essential guidelines for populations, governments, and organizations to better understand, assess, and reduce risks before disasters occur, while also improving their capacity to respond effectively when emergencies arise. One of the key advantages of a well-established DRM framework is that it not only helps in reducing the immediate harm caused by disasters, such as loss of lives and damage to property but also enhances long-term resilience. By investing in preparedness and capacity-building, societies can create robust systems that are better equipped to withstand and recover from future disasters. Addressing disaster risk through comprehensive projects like the DRM FRAME is essential for several reasons. Climate change and rapid urbanization are exacerbating the vulnerability of the population to natural hazards, making traditional approaches to disaster management insufficient. Extreme weather events are becoming more frequent and unpredictable, often overwhelming local capacities. A dedicated project ensures that specific, measurable actions are taken to address these growing challenges in a coordinated and strategic manner.

1. ABOUT THE PROJECT

The “Disaster Risk Management Framework” (DRM FRAME) project with project number No 2023-1-EL01-KA220 VET-000162006 is an innovative endeavor aimed at addressing the pressing need for comprehensive tools in the fields of civil protection and resilience. With a primary focus on enhancing the skills and capacities of professionals in these critical sectors, the project also seeks to stimulate local development opportunities. In response to the urgent challenges posed by natural disasters, the project endeavors to provide effective solutions. Natural disasters can have devastating effects on communities and infrastructure, highlighting the critical importance of robust civil protection and resilience measures. By investing in the development of relevant skills and capacities, communities can better prepare for and respond to disasters, potentially saving lives and minimizing damage and losses. Central to the project’s approach is the integration of vocational education and training (VET) opportunities, along with scientific contributions from higher education institutions (HEIs). This collaborative effort ensures a comprehensive and evidence-based approach to addressing the multifaceted challenges of disaster risk reduction. Furthermore, the project’s alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

(SDGs), particularly SDG 11 – “Sustainable Cities and Communities,” underscores its commitment to promoting sustainable development principles. By supporting the “DRM Frame” project, stakeholders have the opportunity to contribute to the realization of this vital SDG and advance sustainable development efforts globally. In summary, the “DRM Frame” project represents a significant stride forward in strengthening civil protection and resilience capacities, fostering local development, and contributing to global sustainable development objectives.

There are several partners in the project who are actively involved in the solution of the project. These partners include the following:

- **The Center for Security Studies (KEMEA)** is a think tank on homeland security policies and a public research organization established in 2005 within the Hellenic Ministry of Citizen Protection, aiming to support security policy implementations and civil protection consultation in Greece at a strategic level. Meanwhile, it constitutes the National Authority regarding Critical Infrastructure (CI) Protection, as well as the Contact Point with the European Commission relevant authorities and the EU Member-States. Furthermore, the activities KEMEA is involved in, include:
 - Certification of private-security professional practitioners at the national level;
 - Research and development in the context of National and European projects on the topics of physical and cyber security and civil protection, in close cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs), working under the auspices of the Ministry of Citizen Protection, civil protection national and regional authorities;
 - Training of practitioners from public services and organizations in new systems and technologies, supporting security and civil protection activities;
 - Organization of table-top and field exercises to test and evaluate the preparedness and response of organizations to emergencies and crises, as well as to evaluate and validate innovative systems and methodologies developed within research projects;
 - Drafting of standardization and policy recommendations in the field of security and resilience after consultation with numerous crisis management and civil protection experts.
- **UTH – The University of Thessaly**, with 37 Departments, and 8 Faculties is a University with its own identity and with a prominent position in our national educational system. The University of Thessaly provides undergraduate and postgraduate programs and extra-curricular modules in specific research and business fields, for over 43000 students. The main mission of the University of Thessaly is the promotion of scientific knowledge through research and the contribution to the cultural and economic development of the local community and wider society. It is known for its excellent research performance and outstanding scientific achievements, in accordance with international standards. As one of the University of Thessaly's central institutions, the Center of International Education (CIE) <http://cie.uth.gr/> supports all major processes at the University and provides basic and individually tailored services to systematize and unify the decentral training in the various fields. The main mission of CIE is to provide a sustainable environment for potential international partnerships and to provide increased opportunities for research staff, faculty, students, and other target groups to be actively involved in various international initiatives.
- **University of Camerino (UNICAM)** is a ‘city campus university’ chartered in 1336, with about 600 staff, about 8,000 undergraduate students, and 180 PhD candidates, of which about 40% are international students. UNICAM has 5 Schools which conduct research and training activities in specific scientific fields: Architecture and Design; Science and Technology; Biosciences & Veterinary Medicine; Law; and Pharmacy. Each School manages its activities in an internationally integrated culturally oriented environment. High-quality of student services and excellence in education and research are the main strategies of the University of Camerino. UNICAM is the first university in Italy to introduce quality control procedures in its institutional activities. It is a holder of quality control certification of ISO 9001:2000 for all university activities and services such as tutoring services, placement, and cultural and sporting activities.
- **The University of Camerino** has adopted the European Charter for Researchers and a Code of Conduct for their Recruitment. UNICAM is the national contact point for the Italian Euraxess

portal for the mobility of researchers and one of the four Italian Universities to obtain the prestigious European acknowledgement “HR excellence in research”. UNICAM objectives have been focused on Didactics and Research – supported by good teaching methods, excellent professors/ student ratio (1 professor for 25 students), structures (56 laboratories and 15 libraries), services that offer academic assistance to students such as guidance, tutoring, internship and job placement.

- **ISEM – International Security and Emergency Management Institute (ISEMI)** is a non-profit organization providing publicly beneficial services registered within the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic. ISEMI is a professional platform of former, and active police and national security officers, rescuers, military, civil protection and crisis management experts from around the world with necessary security clearance and relevant long-term experience in emergency management, crime prevention and the fight against organized crime, counter-terrorism and CBRN-E threats.
- **Synthesis** refers to the ABILITY to put parts TOGETHER to form a NEW WHOLE. In Hegelian philosophy, synthesis is the NEW idea which RESOLVES the CONFLICT between thesis and antithesis. Their PASSION is the CREATION of NEW ideas and forms and their REALISATION in EDUCATION, BUSINESS and SOCIETY for the GOOD of the PEOPLE and the PLANET. The mission of the “Hub Nicosia Incubation” programme is to identify innovative business ideas and support their commercialization in an effective way for the benefit of both shareholders and society at large. The programme provides the necessary infrastructure, support services and financial investment plans to selected innovative companies in order to ensure their success and viability in the market.
- **Connect Brussels** is a non-profit organization, established under the Belgian Law on July 19, 2019. The mission of the organization is to connect and encourage European youth to participate actively in daily civil life through creative activities, activism and volunteering. Its aim is to stimulate youth participation in the democratic political dialogue, empower the European identity through activities and reinforce a European youth culture that respects diversity, social pluralism and solidarity. The vision it aspires is to become the main connection hub for European Youth and Youth Centers in Europe, acting in the heart of Europe itself. By consolidating young people across Europe, Connect Brussels desires a unified Europe, promoting respect and equal rights for every culture and nation without any stereotypes.

All this information about the project and partners is available on the website: <https://drmframeproject.eu/>

2. ABOUT THE PROJECT THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE PROJECT SOLUTION

As part of the current state of the solution, work package 2 (WP2) has been completed and work package 3 (WP3) is currently being processed. With the aim of reaching out to a wider number of stakeholders who could provide different inputs and viewpoints on the current educational offer, needs and gaps in the field of Disaster Risk Management in the partner countries, an online survey. The results of the survey will form the basis for the Structure of the DRM-FRAME Curriculum. The aim of the curricula is to improve skills capacity and increase preparedness in DRM, in relation to all the phases of the disaster management cycle i.e., focusing on prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. The DRM-FRAME curricula will give priority to the approaches that encourage innovation, capacity, flexibility, digital readiness and resilience. The curricula will promote interactive learning with the use of digital tools and will encourage the target audience to get involved in the training in the following areas:

- Fundamental skills in DRM, with a focus on cooperation techniques and advanced technologies.
- Participatory planning and readiness for emergencies.
- DRM integration in policy making in various fields, to create cross-sectional policies.
- DRM planning enhancement by tailoring tools and approaches to the specific spatial, social and economic factors of the regions.
- Problem-solving and gaining other skills for implementing disaster risk management measures.

The target audience of the DRM-FRAME curriculum is diverse, including various individuals and organizations that can contribute to DRM. The DRM-FRAME curriculum should satisfy various needs that differ between the various target groups. Primary Target Audiences are:

- Public managers: there is a need for coordination and communication at all levels when implementing a policy so it is vital to gain knowledge in the field and get familiar with the use of advanced technologies that can reduce risk and improve monitoring.
- Policymakers at the local, regional, and national levels: training will help in creating effective strategies that promote cooperation at different levels to prioritize community resilience and long-term sustainability.
- Volunteers: training will help understand in depth the multiple needs and priorities for tailored tools and approaches when handling a case, to successfully manage a disaster.
- Emergency Services: people working in the civil protection, fire brigade, police, and other first-responder organizations, are in the front line so they need to be continuously trained and kept up to date, to face at best any challenge that can occur, ensuring effective emergency response.
- Education and training experts, VET providers, and researchers: there is a need to arouse interest in the field and encourage future initiatives. Especially early training from a young age can help in long-term public awareness and improve the effectiveness of DRM policies in the future.
- Experts in the fields of infrastructure, economy, environment, health, and law: there is a need to integrate DRM in different sectors in order to safeguard assets and create resilient strategies with reduced risk.

Secondary Target Audiences are:

- Media professionals: journalists and, social media managers who need to be trained because of their activity, to disseminate news in the most reliable way and be able to raise public awareness.
- NGOs: NGOs in the field of health, social rights and , cultural integration that need training to be able to provide help in emergencies, especially when vulnerable populations are involved.
- General Public: anyone interested in DRM because of their work or because of their desire to delve deeper into the subject, for personal motives and pursuits.

CONCLUSION

Many citizens, especially in regions prone to natural disasters, lack the resources and expertise needed to effectively manage disaster risks. This gap highlights the necessity for targeted initiatives that provide these communities with the tools, training, and resources needed to build local resilience. The DRM FRAME project seeks to fill this gap by focusing on enhancing the skills and capacities of professionals involved in civil protection and disaster management, while also stimulating local development opportunities. Through vocational education and training (VET) and the involvement of higher education institutions (HEIs), the project ensures that solutions are not only practical but also backed by scientific research and expertise. Moreover, by developing and implementing a DRM framework, the project aligns with global sustainability efforts, particularly the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Specifically, it supports SDG 11 – "Sustainable Cities and Communities", which calls for making cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.

Disasters can undermine decades of development progress, pushing vulnerable populations further into poverty and destabilizing regions. By addressing disaster risk management through a structured project, stakeholders can help secure sustainable development, prevent losses, and build safer communities. In summary, DRM FRAME is not only crucial for reducing the immediate effects of natural disasters but also for fostering long-term resilience and sustainable development. In an era where climate-related disasters are on the rise, the need for a dedicated project that integrates education, capacity-building, and scientific expertise is essential for protecting communities and advancing global disaster risk reduction efforts.

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