



ASSESSMENT OF THE RISK OF DISASTERS IN HASKOVO REGION WITH CROSS- BORDER IMPLICATIONS IN GREECE



Interreg
Greece-Bulgaria
European Regional Development Fund



CONTENTS

Abbreviations used	3
I. Assessment of the risk of disasters in Bulgaria	4
1. National dimension of disaster standards	5
2. Disaster Risk Analysis in Bulgaria	9
3. Assessment of the risk of disasters in Haskovo region with cross-border implications in Greece	13
3.1. Key natural and man-made disasters for Haskovo region with cross-border implications	15
3.1.1. Floods.....	15
3.1.2. Forest fires (wildfires)	17
4. Current issues for risk assessment and disaster risk reduction	20
II. SWOT analysis of the organization of the voluntary formations of the Republic of Bulgaria and their interaction with the Greek volunteers	22
1. Introduction	22
2. Activities of the Voluntary Formations.....	23
3. Basic Principles for setting up Voluntary Formation	24
4. Normative basis regulating the activity of voluntary formations	25
5. Vision and Perspective for the Development of Voluntary Formations.....	26
6. Status of voluntary units	26
7. Main conclusions.....	29
III. Project for Operational Procedure for Volunteers from Haskovo Region to Operate in Disaster Management on the Territory of Greece	30
1. Performing operations in EARTHQUAKE	30
1.1. Objective	30
1.2. Applicability	30
1.3. Specific activities	30
1.4. Description of the procedure	31
1.5. Forces and means of intervention.....	33
1.6. Responsibilities.....	34
1.6.1. The parties:.....	34
1.6.2. The head of the intervention team:.....	34

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“. This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

1.6.3. Contact person	34
2. Performing operations in FLOODS.....	35
2.1. Objectives	35
2.2. Floods	35
2.3. Specific activities carried out in the immediate danger of flooding.....	35
2.4. Description of the procedure	36
2.5. Forces and resources	38
2.6. Responsibilities	39
2.6.1. Parties:	39
2.6.2. The head of the intervention team:	39
2.6.3. Contact person:	39
3. Performing operations in large and complex in development FOREST FIRES.....	39
3.1. Objectives	39
3.2. Applicability	40
3.3. Specific activities	40
3.4. Description of the procedure:	41
3.5. Forces and resources	43
3.6. Responsibilities	44
3.6.1. Parties:	44
3.6.2. The head of the intervention team:	44
3.6.3. Contact person:	44
4. Final provisions	45
5. Safety and security - general measures	45
Sources of information.....	46

Abbreviations used

BAS	Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
GDFSPP	General Directorate "Fire Safety and Protection of the Population"
VF	Voluntary formation
EC	European Community
URS	Unified Rescue System
DPA	Disaster Protection Act
LWS	Local warning systems
MoEW	Ministry of Environment and Water
MoI	Ministry of the Interior
UERW	Urgent Emergency Restoration Works
NIGGG-BAS	National Institute of Geophysics, Geodesy and Geography at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
NIMH-BAS	National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
NSI	National Statistical Institute
NEWDS	National Early Warning and Disclosure System
UN	United Nations Organization
TETRA	European System for Mobile Communications (Terrestrial Trunked RAdio)
DRM	Disaster risk management
CDM	Central Dispatch Management

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A "Гърция-България 2014-2020". "This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program "Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020", Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A "Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020" Cooperation Programme“

I. Assessment of the risk of disasters in Bulgaria

Disasters caused by natural phenomena or human activities often occur in the Republic of Bulgaria, and their social and economic consequences can have a significant adverse effect on its development and economic growth, therefore disaster risk reduction is of paramount importance for the sustainable development of the country. In the coming decades, climate change is expected to lead to an increase in the frequency and magnitude of disasters. More frequent and stronger storms and floods, as well as long-term droughts and devastating forest fires, can have a significant negative impact on society's existing capabilities after such dangerous events. For this reason, and due to the complexity and scale of disasters, it is necessary to unite the efforts of all responsible institutions and to actively involve them in disaster risk reduction activities, which is expected to lead to a significant reduction in human, social, economic and natural damage and losses.

In recent years, **disaster risk reduction has become a global priority**. In 2005, the **Hyogo Framework for Action was adopted: "Building the Sustainability of States and Communities to Disasters"** (the Hyogo Framework). The framework is a 10-year plan adopted by 168 UN member states that are committed to working on five action priorities in order to reduce disasters - loss of life, social and economic assets for the communities and the countries, and building disaster resilience.

The **2015-2030 Disaster Risk Reduction Framework (Sendai Framework)** was adopted by the Member States in **March 2015** at the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan. The Sendai Framework is the heir to the Hyogo Framework and is the first major agreement in the post-2015 development agenda, with seven goals and four priorities for action. The Sendai Framework is a 15-year voluntary agreement of UN member states recognizing that the state has the primary role in disaster risk reduction, but this responsibility should be shared with other stakeholders, including local authorities and the private sector. The Sendai Framework aims to significantly reduce the risk of disasters in terms of loss of life, livelihoods and health, as well as economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of people, businesses, communities and countries.

With the adoption of the Sendai Framework, the new global approach is agreed, which is a transition from disaster management to disaster risk management.

At European level, there are the following important documents on flood risk management and population disaster protection:

- **DIRECTIVE 2007/60 / EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 23 October 2007 on the assessment and management of flood risks.** The purpose of the Directive is to define a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks by seeking to reduce the adverse effects on human health, the environment, the cultural heritage and the business of floods in the Community.
- **DECISION No 1313/2013 / EU OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 December 2013 on the Union Civil Protection Mechanism.** The European Union Civil Protection Mechanism (the "Union Mechanism") was set up to promote rapid and effective operational coordination between national civil protection services. It aims to

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A "Гърция-България 2014-2020". "This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program "Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020", Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A "Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020" Cooperation Programme“

strengthen cooperation between the Union and the participating countries (EU Member States and six non-EU countries) and facilitate civil protection coordination to improve the effectiveness of prevention, preparedness and response systems for natural and man-made disasters. This cooperation includes: preventive and proactive actions within the Union as well as disaster response actions following a request for assistance through the Union Mechanism.

- **COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT (17.6.2016 SWD (2016) 205 final/2) — Action Plan on the Sendai Framework Program for Mitigation of Disasters for the Period 2015-2030: Risk Based Disaster Approach in All EU Policies.** The European Commission recognizes that, although several policy initiatives already contribute to the implementation of the Sendai Framework Program, this is only happening in a fragmented way as there is still no systematic, risk-based approach to all EU policies in order to meet the goals of Sendai.
- **Commission Staff Working Document SEC (2010) 1626 final - Guidelines for Risk Assessment and Mapping for Disaster Management.** The guidelines are designed to assist countries in further developing national risk management approaches and procedures that take into account the future impacts of climate change. The focus of these guidelines is on the processes and methods for assessing and mapping national risks in the prevention, preparedness and planning phases that are part of the broader framework for disaster risk management.

1. National dimension of disaster standards

Following the amendments to the **Disaster Protection Act**, the Advisory Council for Assistance to the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria in the formation of the state policy in the field of disaster protection has been set up, which performs the functions of the **National Disaster Risk Reduction Platform**.

The **law on the Ministry of Interior** concerns the activities of the Ministry of Interior related to the protection of civil rights and freedoms, protection of national security, protection from crime, fire safety and protection of the population. The law assigns specific activities to DG "Fire Safety and Protection of the Population".

The **Defense and Armed Forces Act of the Republic of Bulgaria** provides for the Ministry of Defense to ensure, inter alia, the maintenance and use of the Armed Forces in disasters as well as the participation in the overcoming and / or disaster relief.

The **Ordinance on the Terms and Procedures for Disaster Risk Assessment, Assessment and Mapping** determines the conditions, procedures and government structures responsible for the analysis, assessment and mapping of the risks of disasters on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria. The document identifies five potential disaster risks: seismic risk; flood risk; risk of a nuclear or radiation accident; geological risk (landslides, rockslides, active faults and other geological processes); risk of forest fires. The analysis, assessment and mapping of disaster risks is carried out every six years by the relevant competent authorities.

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“.“ This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A “Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020” Cooperation Programme“

The **Health and Safety at Work Act** defines, inter alia, emergency prevention and response tools, including coordination with fire departments and civil protection units, and provides for the development of relevant regulations.

Territory Planning Act covers planning, investment design and construction, as well as relevant threat-based regulation.

Additional sectoral legislation on disaster risk management includes, for example, the **Environmental Protection Act** transposing Directive 2012/18 / EC on the control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances and the **Water Act** implementing the Directive on floods (2007/60 / EC). Bulgaria is also introducing the **Climate Change Reduction Act**, adopted by the Parliament in February 2014, which includes a commitment to develop a National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period to 2030.

Pursuant to the **Disaster Protection Act**, the Council of Ministers is entrusted with the adoption of the **Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction 2014-2020**. The strategy aims to outline a coherent framework for defining strategic priorities for action on disaster risk reduction and to support the implementation of measures for their implementation at national, regional, municipal and site-oriented level. The Strategy will also help identify and prioritize specific areas for cross-border and regional cooperation as well as ensure that problems are solved in a coordinated way with a view to developing long-term disaster risk reduction capacity. One of the main priorities of the strategy is: **Priority II. Identifying, assessing and monitoring the risks of disasters**. Expand and maintain effective national systems for forecasting, monitoring, early warning and disaster reporting. Activities:

- **1. Identifying, analyzing and assessing the risks of disasters at national, district, municipal and site-oriented level.** Knowing the adverse phenomena, especially in the context of growing volatility and climate instability, allows for a better understanding of the risks, their management, increasing preparedness for response and minimizing harmful effects. It is necessary to make a detailed inventory of existing sources of disaster-related information, as well as to set up an information system for collecting data on disasters that is currently lacking. This will make it possible to compare the available data and provide a basis for assessing the possibilities for better use of information by different users. Information on the economic consequences of disasters is also important because it provides an opportunity to assess the costs and benefits of various disaster prevention measures. The description of one risk scenarios and multiple risks scenarios in risk assessment, mapping and risk scenario assessment, data collection and analysis, aggregation and dissemination of statistics on disasters, damages and losses, are possible through the use of international, national and local mechanisms. Risk assessment can help promote prevention and preparedness by improving capacity analysis and capability planning by using appropriate geographic information systems and modeling technologies and systems. Hazard mapping can identify areas that are vulnerable to specific risks, which is an important tool for planning authorities and provides essential information to the public. To reduce the risk, it is necessary to periodically develop and update maps of major types of risks that, along with the

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е финансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“.“ This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program “Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020”, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A “Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020” Cooperation Programme“

information they provide, are widely disseminated and made publicly available to relevant professionals, society and communities at risk. For flood risk management, plans will be developed to focus on prevention, protection and preparedness, including flood forecasts and early warning systems. To take account of the likely impacts of climate change on flood risk, it is foreseen to review and update the ex ante risk assessment, risk maps and plans.

- **2. Planning, building, expanding and maintaining the monitoring, forecasting, early warning and disclosure systems.** Reducing the risk of disasters and promoting a culture of sustainability is done not only by informing about the dangers, physical, social and economic risks, but also through the effective use of the monitoring, forecasting, early warning and disclosure systems. An important step in this is to provide maintenance in the operational regime of the NIMH-BAS and NIGGG-BAS systems for forecasting, monitoring and early warnings of dangerous phenomena of hydrometeorological and seismic origin and development, improvement and staffing of the National Seismological Network and the National System of Strong Earth Movements as well as improving the process of collecting, processing and exchanging disaster risk data from the Center for Aerospace Surveillance at the MoI. It is also necessary to encourage the process of building local warning systems (LWS) on the territory of the whole country in construction sites category I, II and III under Art. 137 of the Spatial Development Act, or carrying out activity which creates a danger for the occurrence of a disaster. It is also necessary:
 - To integrate the built-up LWS into the National Early Warning and Disclosure System (NSRF) in disasters and to realize the possibility of public disclosure, focusing on sites with massive attendance in Sofia and in the big regional cities in the country;
 - To use the Ministry of Interior's digital radio communication system according to the TETRA standard¹, as a transmission environment between NSRF components and increasing cross-border real-time data exchange, forecasts and warnings, supporting the development of regional data sharing / data sharing standards / protocols;
 - To establish a National Water Management Center in real time. The Center will provide real-time information on surface water status throughout the country - meteorological forecasts of NIMH - BAS, information from the water level monitoring system of hydrometric stations of the rivers and the water level of the dams.
 - It is necessary to develop a National Monitoring System for early detection and disclosure of forest fires. The centralized collection, processing and analysis of the information will allow efficient management decisions and proper allocation of the tasks among all the state structures involved in the management and operation -

¹ TETRA is a digital radio system standard established by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute ETSI. TETRA is a cellular radio system analogous to GSM systems. The TETRA standard is designed to provide a reliable communication environment for public safety authorities, or so-called professional mobile networks (PMR).

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“. This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

MOEW, BD, NIMH - BAS, Dams and Cascades Enterprise, CSM "Irrigation Systems" EAD, Executive Agency "Study and Maintenance of the Danube River ". The development and upgrading of the National Operational Center and the Regional Operational Centers for Disaster Protection and their integration through the establishment of basic emergency response infrastructures will contribute to effective coordination, cooperation and disaster management, both at national level and with the coordination centers of the EU, NATO and the UN and will enable rapid and accurate preparation of comprehensive and accurate analyzes and exchanges of experience and good practices. The development of a National System for Monitoring, Early Detection and Disclosure of Forest Fires will help their early detection and rapid quenching.

National Disaster Protection Program 2014-2018 is a key document for disaster prevention, response and disaster policies setting out strategic priorities, objectives and tasks in the context of disaster protection. The main tasks of the Program are as follows:

- assessment and mapping of the risks of earthquake, nuclear and radiation accident, geological risk;
- finalizing flood risk assessment and drawing up threat maps and risk maps;
- implementing measures to reduce the risk of disasters;
- Improving the resilience of critical infrastructure facilities in disasters;
- completion of passports of buildings;
- preparation of the executive authorities bodies and the forces of disaster response;
- completing the siren system as part of the National Early Warning and Disclosure System for the hazards registered by the monitoring systems for meteorological, hydrological, seismological, chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, ecological and other objects and phenomena.

A strategy for the development of voluntary formations for protection against disasters, fires and other emergencies in the Republic of Bulgaria for the period 2012-2020 has been developed in accordance with the provisions of the MoI Act and the Disaster Protection Act. The strategy aims to achieve effective intervention in the event of disasters, fires and other emergencies and to ensure the active participation of people in the protection of their lives, health and property and environmental protection. The Strategy takes into account the low level of volunteering activities and proposes measures to provide funding for formations, improve the level of training and raise public awareness of the need for voluntary actions and organizations.

Plans for flood risk management. In order to implement a unified national approach to flood risk management and to cover the specificities of the four river basin districts, a National Catalog of Measures and National Priorities for Flood Risk Management is developed. The catalog is used by the four Basin Directorates for the mapping of potential risks and the preparation of the programs of measures to the Flood Risk Management Plans. The four flood risk management plans were approved by the Council of Ministers in December 2016. They address all aspects of risk management, focusing on prevention, protection, preparedness,

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A "Гърция-България 2014-2020". "This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program "Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020", Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A "Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020" Cooperation Programme“

including flood forecasts, early warning systems and river basin characteristics (River basin "Black Sea Region", River basin "East Aegean Region", River basin "West Aegean" and River basin "Danube Region") for the period from 2016 to 2021.

Agricultural Risk and Crisis Management Program (2016) identifies potential risks and crises in the agricultural sector as a result of various factors, including climate change. The document proposes certain risk and crisis management measures.

2. Disaster Risk Analysis in Bulgaria

In connection with major natural and man-made hazards in the last decade, the Republic of Bulgaria is affected by a large number of high-intensity disasters, which is why our country falls into the areas characterized by high risk in this sphere. Hazard identification is a long and ongoing process aimed not only at the current hazards but also to their development in time. It is important to take into account the historical development of hazards as incidents that have occurred or have been avoided because they can contribute to analyzing the historical repetition of some natural or man-made disasters.

The Republic of Bulgaria is exposed to the following types of hazards:

- **Seismic hazard.** Seismic impacts are characterized by their unpredictability, especially in terms of time, which causes large-scale negative consequences - victims and injuries to the population, material damage, etc. From seismological point of view, Bulgaria is located in the Alpine Himalayan seismic belt, characterized by high seismicity. The question of actual forecasting - the simultaneous determination of the strength, location and time of the earthquake, is still not a single global solution. The seismic hazard can not be controlled, but the seismic risk can be managed and reduced. The reduction of seismic risk is mainly due to the improvement of the spatial planning and the engineering-technical design, the construction and the operation of the constructions;
- **Flood hazard.** Floods are common natural disasters on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria. They can cause huge damage as they affect urban territories, productive agricultural lands and forest lands. According to the scientific classification for this type of hazards and according to the Water Act, the floods can be natural and technogenic - caused by other influences, such as damage to a hydrotechnical facility, which can lead to an accident, and to prevent critical situations in hydrotechnical facility. Floods over the last few years have shown that the flood risk reduction activities that have been applied so far are not sufficient and a policy of comprehensive flood risk management should be put in place under "coexistence conditions" with them. Such an integrated approach - flood risk assessment and management, is enshrined in the European Floods Directive, which was adopted in 2007. Its requirements have been introduced into national legislation through the Water Act in 2010. Reducing the risk of floods is done primarily by constructing hydrotechnical protection systems and facilities, good spatial planning of the territory and not least - increasing the readiness to prevent or reduce the negative consequences of floods through preventive measures, training the

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участници в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A "Гърция-България 2014-2020". "This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program "Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020", Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A "Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020" Cooperation Programme“

population, adequate preparation, planning of rescue activities, etc. It is also necessary to regularly clean the riverbeds and maintain them under conditions of natural conductivity;

- **Danger of landslides.** The territory of the Republic of Bulgaria is characterized by a high degree of landslide and erosion-abrasion activity. Large scale landslides, rockslides, abrasion and other unfavorable geodynamic processes have been manifested, which act steadily and destructively, they are difficult to predict and suddenly occur. With their unpredictability they threaten the security of settlements, resorts, residential, business and industrial buildings, the technical infrastructure. The Territorial Planning Act imposes the obligation of the Ministry of Regional Development to carry out activities for registration and monitoring of the landslide areas in the country and of the regions with erosion and abrasion processes;
- **Danger of forest fires.** They are one of the major hazards to the composition, structure and functioning of forest ecosystems. Climate change over the last decade has led to increased incidence of forest fires and the size of the affected areas. Ice interruptions, ice rolls, snow interruptions and snow rolls, incl. in forest areas, lead to ecological catastrophes, affecting tens and hundreds of thousands of acres of forest area. In the conditions of global warming and drought, it is logical to expect an increase in the fire hazard in forest ecosystems. The anthropogenic nature of over 90% of fires imposes the categorization of forests near urbanized areas as high-risk. At present these are about three quarters of the forests in Bulgaria. For this reason, fire-fighting activities and forest fire management should be designed and implemented similar to those in the Mediterranean (Greece, France, Spain, Portugal, etc.), where the whole or most of the territory is considered to be heavily endangered from fires;
- **Danger of meteorological phenomena such as drought, strong winds and windspout, heavy snowfalls, snow storms, icing and extreme temperatures.** Drought is a consequence of reducing precipitation over a long period of time. Often a number of meteorological elements such as high temperatures, strong winds and low relative humidity coexist with drought, which makes this phenomenon strongly manifested. A number of drought indicators in the atmosphere and on the ground have to be monitored operationally to determine the extent of drought and its impact. The negative trend observed in the many-year changes in precipitation for many regions of Bulgaria shows that there is a high probability of occurrence of frequent and intense droughts in the country. This imposes the necessity to exploring and analyzing the risk of drought and developing and implementing measures to reduce and possibly eliminate it. Scientific studies on current climate change and rainfall and air temperature regime, European legislation in this area, as well as the measures foreseen in the management plans of the four river basins related to adaptation to climate change, water scarcity and droughts should serve as a basis for developing such measures and improving the risk management of droughts. Over the last few years there has been an increase in the number of settlements with seasonal or year-round

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“.“ This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

water regime. **The hurricane wind**, which exceeds the wind load in the sizing of buildings and objects, is a rare phenomenon, but it nevertheless occurs. Strong winds in the country can lead to power cuts, road blocking, infrastructure violations and a threat to people's lives and property. The specificity of the continental climate is also the basis of possible **snowdrifts**. **Snow blizzards and icy snow** are a common phenomenon for our country, especially in its northeastern part. They are typical for December and January, but can be also seen during the rest of the winter months. Snow storms and frosting cause air traffic disruption, road blocking, and may put many lives in a risky situation. Snowfalls can be disastrous mainly in settlements and cause not only traffic blocking, disruption of electric power supply and water supply, but also medical provision and supply of food to the population. Low temperatures are the reason for the icing of power lines and other open communication lines. Annually, about 50-60% of the country is affected by snowdrifts and frosting. Extreme temperatures can also be attributed to natural disasters. On the one hand these are anomalously low temperatures in the spring, autumn and winter periods - frosts, on the other - anomalously high temperatures during the summer - hot. In addition to impeding the day-to-day activities of the person, extreme heat causes various accidents and crisis situations. In case of excessive heating the railroad tracks deform and the asphalt surface softens, which can lead to derailment of trains and other serious problems. Failure of conductors on the power lines causes serious disturbances and damages the power grid. Critical situations may also occur in a number of productions. Extreme heat can also result in human victims;

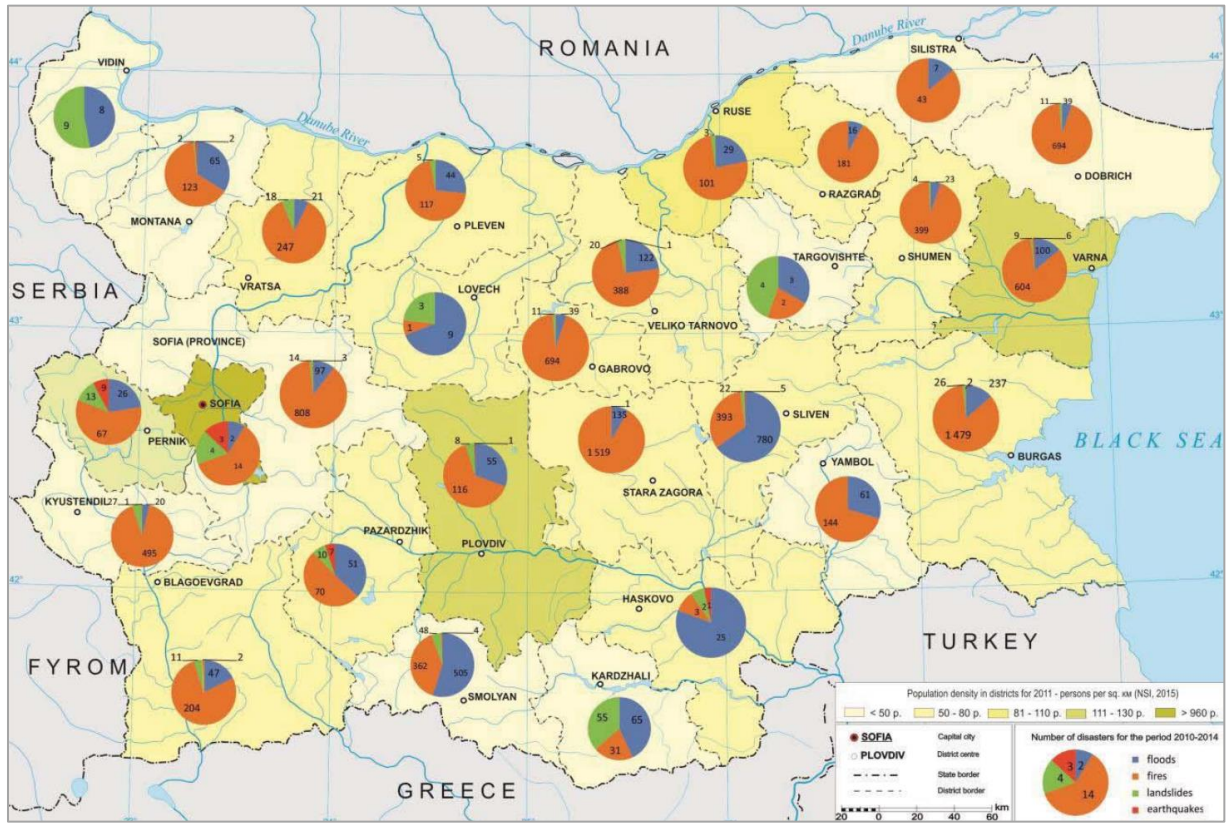
- **Danger from nuclear or radiation accidents.** Despite stringent safety measures for the operation of different types of nuclear reactors and the availability of automated management, control and protection systems, the practice of operating them indicates that situations may arise which are accompanied by an emergency release of radioactive substances into the environment. Radioactive contamination could occur both in an emergency situation at Kozloduy NPP, with the release of radionuclides into the environment as well as in case of transboundary radioactive contamination due to a nuclear or radiation accident in other countries, and also in incidents with means of transport (cars, railway wagons, navigable means and aircrafts) carrying radioactive materials. In recent years, there has also been a worrying tendency to increase attempts to exploit radioactive sources for terrorist purposes.
- **Danger of industrial accidents and accidents when transporting hazardous substances, materials and waste.** On the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria there are companies classified and registered as "high-risk enterprises" as well as "low-risk enterprises", according to the requirements of the Environmental Protection Act and the Ordinance for the Prevention of Major Accidents with Hazardous Substances and Mitigation of Their Consequences. These are mainly enterprises of the chemical industry, explosive manufacturing and trade, petroleum and petroleum products and gas. Major industrial accidents often have severe consequences for the population and the environment, and

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участници в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“.“ This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

their impact may also affect territories beyond national borders. This underlines the need to improve existing control of major industrial accident hazards involving hazardous substances and taking appropriate preventive action to ensure a high level of protection in the Republic of Bulgaria for the population and the environment;

- **Danger of biological contamination.** The existing production and economic conditions, the structure of agriculture, the geographical location of the country, the worsening international epizootic and epiphytic situation, trade, import and export of live animals, products of animal and plant origin are conditions for the occurrence of outbreaks of biological contamination. The boundaries of the biological outbreak are determined by specialized anti-epidemic and anti-epizootic formations of the competent veterinary authorities, which under certain conditions act in synchronicity and those of the infected plants are determined by the phytosanitary inspectors of the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency;
- **Danger of hailstorms.** As an atmospheric phenomenon, hailstorms cause sensitive losses in agrarian production. At the same time, they cause great material damage to the building stock and the farm buildings, and often lead to human victims. The most dangerous are hailstorms, where the damage to crops in the field is 50 to 100%. Hailstorms, in their extreme occurrence as separate or series of storms and as events accumulated in one season, are disastrous in character and can significantly affect the economic performance of agriculture and hence of the national economy.

According to the National Statistical Institute (NSI) of Bulgaria, natural disasters and fires have caused damages of nearly USD 1 billion from 2010 to 2016. During this period, over USD 600 million were spent on reconstruction, and over USD 100 million were spent for rescue and emergency activities. The disaster risks for the country are expected to increase, given the increasing urbanization and industrial development and climate change. For this reason, Disaster Risk Management (DRM) plays an important role in the sustainable development of the country and is among the priorities of the Bulgarian government. The following map presents the different natural hazards that have arisen by regions in Bulgaria for the period 2010-2014, according to NSI data.



3. Assessment of the risk of disasters in Haskovo region with cross-border implications in Greece

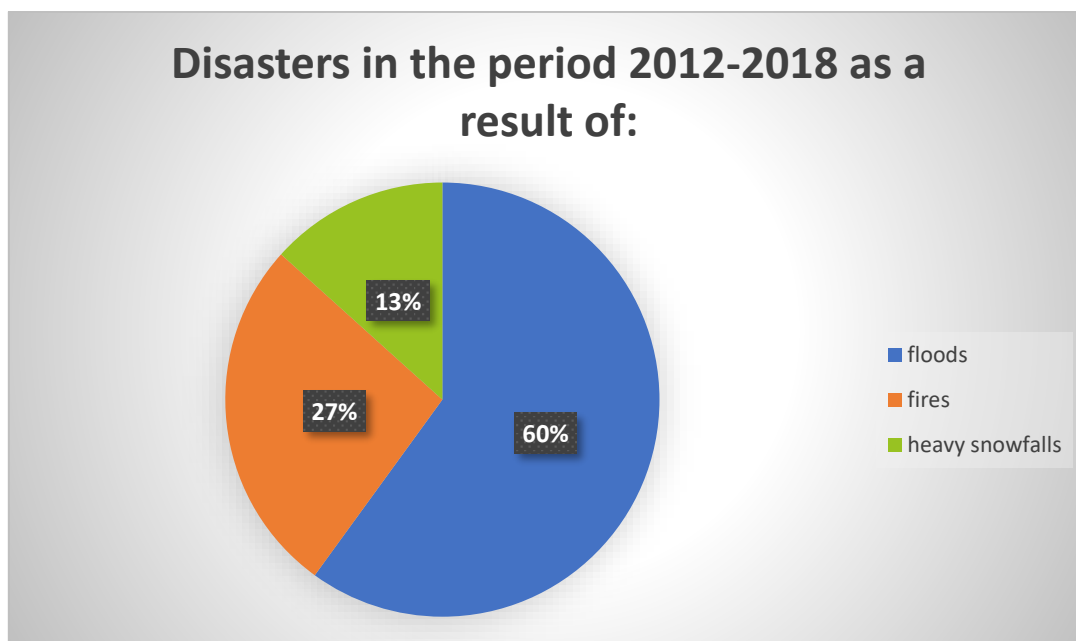
The data about the disasters occurring on the territory of Haskovo region for the period after the amendments /SG no. 39 of 20.05.2011/ in the Disaster Protection Act, when the procedure for declaring a state of disastrous situation is specified, are presented as follows:

- **2012 – Flood:** 06.02. Disastrous situation on the whole territory;
- **2013 –** No disastrous situation announced;
- **2014**
 - **Flood:** 06.09. Disastrous situation on a part of the territory of the region част /the municipalities Dimitrovgrad , Harmanli and Simeonovgrad/;
 - **Flood:** 17.09. Disastrous situation on the territory of the Municipality of Mineralni bani;
 - **Flood:** 04.12. Disastrous situation on the territory of the Municipality of Topolovgrad;
 - **Flood:** 11.03. Disastrous situation on the territory of the Municipality of Svilengrad;
- **2015**
 - **Flood:** 01.02. Disastrous situation on the territory of the Municipality of Topolovgrad;
 - **Heavy snowfall:** 09.03. Disastrous situation on the territory of the Municipality of Ivaylovgrad;
 - **Heavy snowfall:** 09.03. Disastrous situation on the territory of the Municipality of Mineralni bani;

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“. This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program “Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020”, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A “Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020” Cooperation Programme“

- 2016
 - **Flood:** 17.01 . Disastrous situation on the territory of the Municipality of Haskovo;
 - **Flood:** 17.01. Disastrous situation on the territory of the Municipality of Topolovgrad;
 - **Fire:** 31.07. Disastrous situation on the territory of the Municipality of Madzharovo;
 - **Fire:** 03.08. Disastrous situation on the territory of the Municipality of Harmanli;
 - **Fire:** 20.08. Disastrous situation on the territory of the Municipality of Harmanli;
 - **Fire:** 22.08. Disastrous situation on the territory of the Municipality of Harmanli;
- 2017 - No disastrous situation announced;
- 2018 - **Flood:** 27.06. Disastrous situation on the territory of the Municipality of Ivaylovgrad;

The analysis shows that there are 15 disastrous situations in the period 2012-2018, 9 of which have occurred due to floods, 4 due to fires and 2 due to heavy snowfalls. The relative values of the graphical data appear as follows:



It is also noteworthy that there has been no reported disaster situation in the two of the surveyed years.

The disastrous situation is a regime introduced into the disaster area by the bodies designated by the law related to the implementation of measures for a certain period of time in order to overcome the disaster and to carry out rescue and emergency restoration works. The relative disaster protection plan is introduced with the declaration of a state of disastrous situation. A state of disastrous situation shall be declared provided it is in occurrence, it has already occurred, or there is a danger of a disaster to occur that is related to:

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“. This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

- Loss of human life, and / or
- Damage to human health, and / or
- Significant damage to property and / or economy, and / or
- Significant environmental impacts associated with soil, water or air pollution with chemical, biological or radioactive substances and materials or the destruction of species.

The main natural and man-made hazards of a **cross-border nature** are **floods** and **forest fires (wildfires)**. These are the most repetitive disasters in recent years in the area. In the case of floods and forest fires, this is a high level of risk. "High" level of risk - these are the classified significant risks with a sufficiently large potential for the harmful consequences for which priority should be given to them. This means that measures must be planned and implemented to mitigate or eliminate these risks as well as to include them in the Disaster Protection Plans, planning and conducting exercises and training, introducing monitoring of the level of risk at a certain time.

3.1. Key natural and man-made disasters for Haskovo region with cross-border implications

3.1.1. Floods

Nationally, according to National Statistical Institute data, the most common natural disasters are floods. Between 2010 and 2016 floods have caused damages of over BGN 661 million (or about USD 440 million).

Haskovo Region is within the Basin Directorate of the East Aegean Region and covers the water catchments of the rivers Maritsa, Tundzha, Arda and Byala Reka. The East Aegean region is the Bulgarian part of the international river basin of the Maritsa River and according to the Floods Directive it is necessary the competent authorities for the cross-border river basins in the risk management plan to perform exchange information and coordination. Basin Directorate develops preliminary assessment, flood risk management maps and plan at river basin management.

Typical for the region are **two types of floods**:

- Natural from river spills or floods
- Technogenic due to accidents and misuse of hydrotechnical facilities

In most cases, the catastrophic effect is due to the combined impact of torrential rains and snow melting, and / or the combination of accidents with hydrotechnical facilities.

The consequences of the floods are 4 types:

- For **human health** - perished, affected persons, affected elements of critical infrastructure for public use.
- For **economic activity** - affected elements of public water supply, damage to economic sites, affected elements of infrastructure /roads, railway lines, bridges/

- For the **environment** - affected agricultural areas, wastewater installations, protected areas
- For **cultural and historical heritage** - affected sites

On the basis of repeatability over the years, critical flood areas on the territory of Haskovo region can be summarized as:

- The Maritsa River and the tributaries and the Haskovo River, the Harmanlianska River, the Bisera River and the Sazlia River
- The Arda River
- The Byala reka
- The Tundzha River /on the territory of the Haskovo region locally only in the village of Srem/

According to the Basin Directorate data, significant floods in the East Aegean Basin area are as follows:

- Maritsa - 116
- Arda - 41
- Tundzha - 33
- Byala reka - 2.

In 11 of the significant past floods there are also human victims. In the majority of registered cases there is information about affected residents and residential homes. In 155 of the significant past floods there is an exceedance of the significance threshold for the affected inhabitants for the location (if it is a settlement) or for the included settlements where the location is presented as a line. Affected wells, pumping stations and public water treatment plants are in 44 of the significant past events.

80 of the past events were evaluated as significant in relation to affected economic sites and 62 related to affected property, some being assessed as significant by both criteria. According to the criterion of affected infrastructure (roads - highways, I and II class, railways, bridges, transmission networks and other linear infrastructure) the threshold of significance exceeds 122 of the previous floods. Data on affected agricultural areas of more than 100 decare were collected in 75 of the significant past floods.

By category "Environment" for 26 of the significant past floods there are data about flooded sewerage of settlements and Urban wastewater treatment plants. In 6 of the significant past events, businesses and other sources of pollution were affected. The information gathered shows only three cases of affected monuments of culture.

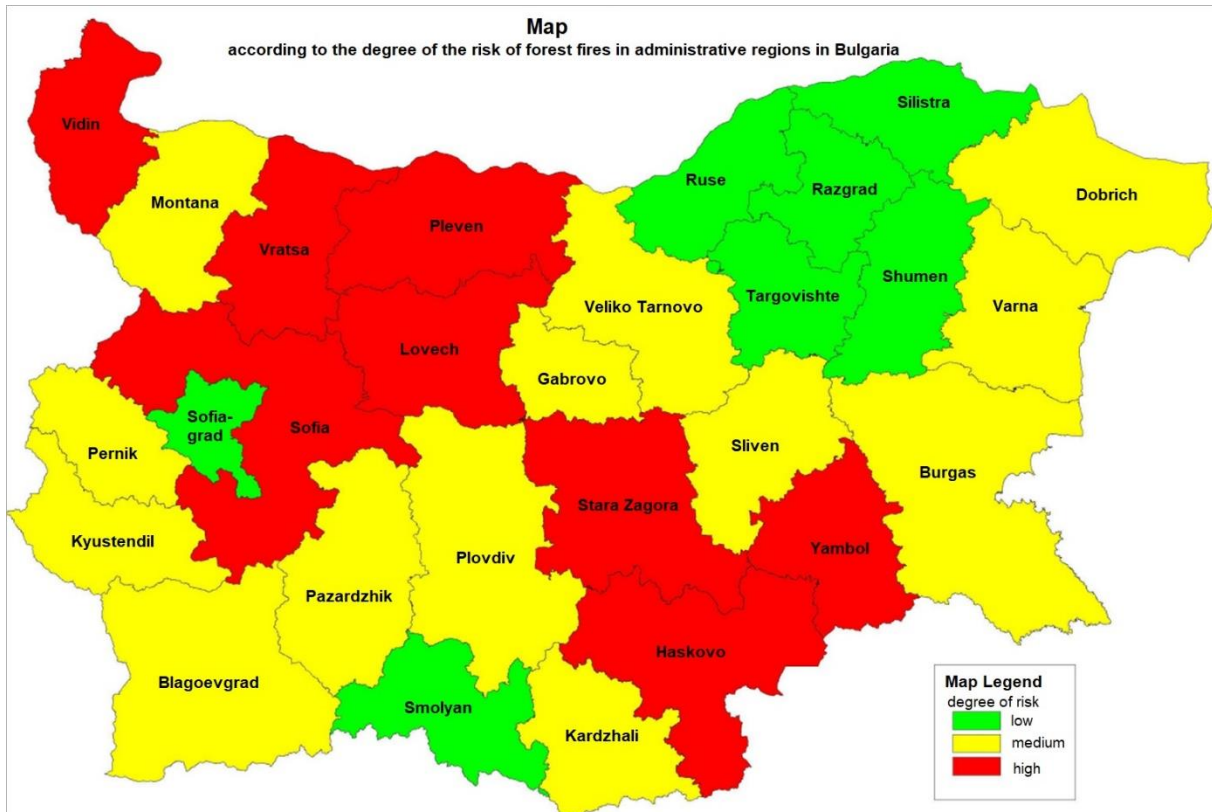
With the exception of the Tundzha River, the other three rivers in high water crossing have a **significant cross-border effect** on the Hellenic Republic and a **high level of flood risk** requiring exchange of information and coordination between institutions on both sides of the border in order to prevent victims, destruction and damage.

Based on weather patterns, climate change is forecast for Bulgaria over the next hundred years. They forecast milder winters in the coming decades, reducing the number of days with peak temperatures, increasing the summer days by 18-20% in most lowland areas in southern Bulgaria, and hotter days increasing to 30% by the end of 21st century. The East Aegean region is most affected by the expected changes. The modeling of climate change and, in particular, trends in variation in rainfall and incidence rates of precipitation show two divergent trends. One is for a slight reduction in precipitation, including in the basins of the rivers Maritsa and Tundzha. The other is to increase the incidence of intense rainfall. The trends of varying the occurrence of precipitation with daily amounts over a certain boundary increase by 18-20% in the middle and upper part of the Maritsa river basin. It may be expected that less precipitation will occur less frequently, and the intense rainfalls generating floods will be more likely in the Pazardzhik-Plovdiv field, which, although less occurred, is also visible in the Haskovo-Harmanliy field. Trends in the variation of the maximum runoff and the occurrence of floods indicate that in the Maritsa, Tundzha and Arda basins there is a probability of 5-10% increase in the occurrence of high water flood hazard and also the likelihood of flooding the risk of high water and floods increases by 10-15%.

3.1.2. Forest fires (wildfires)

The total forest area of Haskovo region covers an area of 202 712 ha, representing 4.82% of the total forest area of the country. The afforested area is 179 967 ha - hence the forestry area is 32.90%. By category the forest territories are divided into coniferous - 10.54%, deciduous - 78.24% and the non-forest areas are 11.22%. Fire hazard class I areas are 22.0% of the total forest area.

In connection with the "Assessment and mapping of the risk of forest fires on the territory of the country", assigned to be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food for the needs of the RDP 2014-2020 - Measure 8. " Investments in forest areas, development and improvement of the viability of forests " (Contract ПД 50-130/03.10.2016)., based on data on forest fires for the period 2006-2015, and the methodology for calculating the "forest fire index" based on the number of fires recorded and the areas burned by regions, maps were created in GIS at the level of administrative regions in the country. Fire risk is classified in 3 grades - low, medium and high. The administrative regions with the highest risk are in the northwestern parts of Bulgaria (Vidin, Lovech, Vratsa, Pleven, Sofia) and in the central parts of Southern Bulgaria (Haskovo, Yambol, Stara Zagora). According to the map, low-altitude areas with a high proportion of farmland near forests are the most risky, reflecting the fact that about 80% of all fires are caused by human activity, mostly burning farmland for grass cleaning. In the following figure the map is presented according to the degree of the risk of forest fires in administrative regions in Bulgaria.



The forest fires are very characteristic of the region of Haskovo, as their main prerequisite are the periods of prolonged droughts. According to NIMH - BAS data, Southeastern Bulgaria is the region with the lowest rainfall during the summer period, due to which in July, August and September there are typical periods of drought, especially risky for mass fires. There is a tendency that particularly intensive and large they become since 1999, with a certain cyclicity over the years. The territories that cover forest, forest lands, agricultural land and urbanized areas in most of the cases reach to several thousand acres, and there are cases of fires of 100 to 200 thousand decares. In the presence of moderate or strong winds, these fires are an extremely dangerous disaster that could endanger human life.

According to the data of the FEA in the report "Carrying out assessment and mapping of the risk of forest fires on the territory of the country" the average annual forest burning rate in the region is 0.69%, which is 3.29 times the average for the country. The average annual size of a fire is 49.4 ha or 3.1 times the average for the country. The fire activity for the period can be estimated as very high, especially for the years 2006 and 2007, when the number of fires occurred exceeds the average for the period respectively 1.93 and 1.86 times and the burned area is respectively 1.65 and 6.29 times the average. The average size of a fire in 2007 reaches the outstanding 163.5 ha. By type of forest fires in the region are: peak - 23.05% and low - 76.35%.

The border areas of the region are extremely risky for the development of large-scale forest and field fires, given the crossed and hard-to-reach terrain, the lack of road

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“. This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

infrastructure, and they can easily cross the state border. One of the preconditions for their development is the strong depopulation of the regions, which contributes to their late discovery and the lack of human resources for the control. One of the main ways of combating forest fires is the use of a large number of people to work with handouts in difficult-to-use areas. The difference in the border areas related to the organization of fire-fighting in the internal areas of the country is that it can not be relied on a quick and timely intervention to provide additional assistance from neighboring fire and forest services. The involvement of responsible institutions on the other side of the border requires appropriate procedures and time.

The consequences of forest fires are three types:

- **Environmental** - Direct air pollution from flue gases and fine dust particles. Soil deforestation and erosion. Change of water outflow, disturbance of the thermal and water balance of ecosystems. Destruction of unique habitats of rare, protected species, limiting biodiversity. Deterioration of the sanitary condition of forests. Reduce the absorption capacity of CO². The environmental consequences can not be limited by state borders and have a **direct cross-border effect** on the territory of the neighboring state, even if the fire does not pass through the border.
- **Economical** - Wrecking forest resources after a long-term investment - a loss of wood. Extraordinary separation of means to limit harmful consequences. Reducing land productivity and worsening growth conditions. Reduce revenue.
- **Social** - Deterioration of microclimate and business conditions. Decline in tourism business. Limiting the livelihoods and impoverishment of the population. Depopulation of the regions.

Summarized data on the number of forest fires and destroyed forest massif in Haskovo region are presented in the following table:

Year	Number of forest fires	Destroyed forests / decares/
1999	32	13930
2000	86	35794
2001	85	56596
2002	9	113
2003	18	11864
2004	13	546
2005	7	1158
2006	32	5247
2007	37	49120
2008	18	6114

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“.“ This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

2009	12	2307
2010	2	25
2011	17	1453
2012	39	12301
2013	44	6760
2014	4	11
2015	20	1032
2016	52	29240
2017	12	1584
TOTAL	539	190987

The data show that most fires were reported in 2000 and 2001. The total number of forest fires in the presented 19-year period is 539. On average, in the period since 1999, there are 28.4 fires.

The reasons of occurrence in over 95% of the cases are mainly due to human activity. These occurring as a result of natural phenomena are below 1%. The reasons can mainly be classified into the following groups:

- Careless handling of fire by workers, shepherds, excursionists, tourists and others;
- Uncontrolled incineration of household waste or extensive parts of dry grass vegetation near forest massifs;
- Technical failure of machines and vehicles working in the forest and in the field;
- Children's play with fire;
- Self-ignition of substances and materials;
- Natural phenomena (lightning);
- Short circuits and failures of electrical transmission lines that pass over and close to forests;
- On purpose.

Establishing the exact cause of forest fires in most of the cases is very difficult and in practice cases of investigation of the causes can not be closed and found guilty.

4. Current issues for risk assessment and disaster risk reduction

Current issues of risk assessment and disaster risk reduction can be summarized as follows:

- **The lack of a strategic framework** for disaster risk assessment is one of the major challenges. The activities so far have not been strategic, as their approach is mainly based on the development of projects and programs that are often **uncoordinated and inappropriate**. **Currently available data on disasters are scattered, limited and difficult to compare** - different criteria are used, such as number of victims, amount of damage,

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“.“ This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

scale, number of events occurring in a given period of time. The data on the physical and economic consequences of disasters are, at least, indicative.

- **Insufficient involvement of insurance companies.** In many Western European countries, the insurance business is one of the main pillars of disaster risk analysis and assessment, given the data that they have of occurring events and damages.
- **Insufficient analytical capacity** of the responsible institutions. The measures implemented so far have been inconsistent and limited in scope.
- **Coordination between the responsible institutions is not at the required level, and the frequent change of the regulatory framework in the sector, the lack of effective coherence, consistency and continuity of the responsible structures, has a negative impact on the risk assessment of disasters.** This leads to a decrease in administrative capacity at national, district, municipal and sectoral levels, as well as loss of expertise and past experience.

The basis for disaster risk assessment is the collection and dissemination of good practice information on the successful development of comprehensive policies in this area. **The awareness of responsible institutions** ensures easy use of good practices in the planning of preventive measures and measures, and awareness of the population facilitates their implementation. The first step in addressing gaps in the available information on disaster risk is to carry out the risk assessment. The next step is to study good practices that help to reduce the risk of disasters and increase the responsible attitude of management institutions and society to disasters.

Ensuring continuity in the development of disaster risk assessment methodologies, collection, aggregation and use of existing information in the institutions.

Capacity of NGOs is not sufficiently used.

II. SWOT analysis of the organization of the voluntary formations of the Republic of Bulgaria and their interaction with the Greek volunteers

1. Introduction

Increasing the risk of disasters, fires and other emergencies on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria is particularly visible after 2000, which is the result of climate change and the continuing concentration of the population in several industrialized and urbanized regions and the depopulation of many others. Under the pressure of rising risks, effective strategic decisions need to be sought, involving more involved civil society structures and local authorities. One way to do this is to encourage and develop citizens' initiatives to set up Voluntary Formations for the protection of disasters, fires and other emergencies with the main purpose of **increasing the level of protection of the population in case of disasters, fires and emergencies.**

In this regard, the state has **committed to the following tasks in the long term:**

- Establishment and functioning of self-acting Voluntary Formations on the territory of the municipalities in the areas with low intensity of accidents as state delegated activity;
- Improving the effectiveness of interdepartmental coordination and communication with state and local authorities, NGOs and employers to develop an effective voluntary organization for disaster, fire and other emergencies;
- Strengthen motivation to engage and participate in voluntary organizations and reduce disengagement through competitive pay for volunteer work;
- Improving effective communication with the components of the Unified Rescue System;
- Interaction with specialized groups of employees and workers for firefighting actions;
- Enhancement of qualification for performing fire-fighting and rescue activities of the participants in the Voluntary Formations and their teamwork skills;
- Improving the interaction between the structures of the General Directorate Fire Safety and Protection of the Population and the Municipalities to Improve the Effectiveness of the Voluntary formations;
- Provision of voluntary formations through buildings, fire and rescue vehicles, equipment, personal protective equipment, technical and communication tools for effective protection of the population;
- Using the opportunities of public-private partnerships and other opportunities to engage the private sector to support the voluntary formations;
- Work on projects to provide additional financial resources and improve the material and technical base;
- Effective spending resources to ensure fire safety and protection of the population;
- Forming incentive mechanisms for business executives in which volunteers work;
- Using good practices from other countries in the field of voluntary formations;
- Promoting volunteer formations through information and media policy aimed at raising citizens' interest in volunteering.

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“. This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

2. Activities of the Voluntary Formations

Voluntary formations are created by mayors of municipalities on a decision of the municipal councils. They are the result of the initiative of local authorities and of individual citizens. A volunteer is a person who is involved in a voluntary formation to prevent or manage disasters, fires and emergencies and to eliminate their consequences. The volunteer in preventing or managing disasters, fires and emergencies and removing the consequences thereof has powers analogous to firefighters and rescuers under Art. 124 Law on the Ministry of the Interior.

In municipalities with a population of up to 20,000, it is compulsory to create voluntary formations in accordance with the legislation. Decisions on the use of voluntary formations are taken by mayors of municipalities in accordance with municipal disaster protection plans or other cases provided by law.

The creation and organization of voluntary formations takes place on a territorial basis and is a result of the initiative of local authorities and citizens living on their territory to carry out independent actions and / or to support the main components of the Unified Rescue System. The activities of the voluntary formations shall be carried out in strict compliance with and implementation of the related laws and by-laws, both by the institutions and by the citizens. They can be used successfully in limiting and eliminating the consequences of floods, forest fires, earthquakes, adverse weather phenomena strong winds, heavy snowfalls, snow storms, ice and extreme temperatures, urgent emergency restoration work, first- assistance to victims and other activities to protect the population. Legal entities may also create voluntary formations at their own expense. For the implementation of these activities, the volunteers undergo the necessary types of training - initial basic course, support, specialized training and training for the head of voluntary formation. The training will be carried out by representatives of the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Health, the Bulgarian Red Cross and other institutions. Training is carried out locally or in vocational training centers at the Ministry of the Interior and in other accredited schools and centers. The Territorial Authorities of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry - MoI help the mayors of the municipalities in the preparation of the volunteers. The mayor of the municipality is obliged to provide training and equipment of the volunteer, to insure the volunteer against an accident that occurred during or in connection with the fulfillment of his contractual obligations as well as for the time of training. The costs of training, equipment and insurance are at the expense of the state budget as a state delegated activity. The funds are granted with an annual decision of the Council of Ministers: for training - BGN 50 per year; insurance - BGN 150 per year; for equipment - BGN 1000 per 5 years.

For the time of training or performing tasks in preventing or managing disasters, fires and emergencies and eliminating their consequences, the legislator has regulated that the volunteer is dismissed by the employer or the appointing authority for the performance of civil, public and other duties. For the time of participation in the events and activities, the volunteer receives remuneration at the expense of the state budget under conditions, in the order and in the amounts determined by the Council of Ministers, this time being recognized as an official

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участници в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“. This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

or work experience. The volunteer is not obliged to perform his duties when he or members of his household were immediately affected by the disaster, fire or emergency, promptly notifying the mayor.

With the creation of voluntary formations, disaster protection, fire and other emergency response activities are set on a broad public basis. For their effective functioning a mechanism has been built up which regulates the processes of interaction and coordination with the bodies of the state and local authorities.

3. Basic Principles for setting up Voluntary Formation

- Leading role of civil society and local authorities. Voluntary formations are created by the mayors of municipalities on a decision of the municipal councils. They are the result of the initiative of local authorities and of individual citizens. Decisions on the use of voluntary formations are taken by mayors of municipalities in accordance with municipal disaster protection plans or other cases provided by law.
- Coordinating State Function. The State, in the face of its institutions, takes political decisions and initiates the necessary legislative changes to encourage and facilitate the process of setting up and operating voluntary formations. The construction of voluntary formations is part of the national policy for the prevention and provision of fire safety and protection of the population from disasters and other emergencies. The interoperability and coordination of the activities of the volunteer units with the other components of the Unified Rescue System are carried out by the Ministry of the Interior through the National Operational Center / Operational Center of the General Directorate of Fire Safety and Protection of the Population.
- Humility. The objectives of this activity are to be carried out in the unconditional and irrevocable respect of the fundamental rights of the person. Protection against fires, disasters and other emergencies is primarily aimed at preserving and protecting human life and health. This makes the involvement of citizens in voluntary formations a humane act, a manifestation of high moral and social responsibility.
- Democracy. The realization of the voluntary formations is based on the democratic choice of the citizens living in the municipalities of the Republic of Bulgaria and the decisions of the elected representatives in the local authorities. Citizens' participation in them is a matter of free personal choice.
- Decentralization. The creation and organization of SFs takes place on a territorial basis and is a result of the initiative of the local authorities and the citizens living on their territory.
- Legality. The activities of the voluntary formations shall be carried out in strict compliance with and implementation of the related laws and by-laws, both by the institutions and by the citizens. Voluntary formations can not be used to perform tasks other than those specified in the Disaster Protection Act.
- Cooperation and partnership. The development of the volunteer formations takes place in cooperation and partnership between the structures of the civil society, the central,

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“.“ This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

regional and municipal authorities, as well as with the active participation of the citizens themselves. Enhancing the security of society and of individual citizens is a priority and an important component of the common security policy pursued through collaboration and cooperation within the European Union.

- Sustainability. Strategic development is an important and consistent policy of the government and local authorities to ensure civil security. The measures and policies set out therein are applied continuously, consistently and purposefully, which contributes to achieving a long-lasting and stable effect.
- Scientific justification. In the implementation of the policy and the construction of the voluntary formations, results and conclusions from specialized research in the field of civil security are used.
- Transparency and accountability. Successful implementation requires an active policy to raise awareness among civil society about national policy to protect the population from disasters, fires and other emergencies as well as the place and role of voluntary formations in its implementation. This requires publicity when considering the results of its implementation activities by the local authorities and the state institutions responsible for it.
- Economic feasibility. The implementation of the strategy for the development of voluntary formations aims at maximizing the impact, in view of the means invested in protecting the population from disasters, fires and other emergencies.
- Compliance with European Standards and Norms. Implementation of the strategy is based on good practices in the countries of the European Union. One of the results of its implementation will be the achievement of average-European standards and security standards for firefighters and rescuers.

4. Normative basis regulating the activity of voluntary formations

- **Disaster Protection Act** - Chapter Four. Participation and assistance of individuals, legal entities and sole traders in disasters, Section III. Voluntary formations. The Act regulates the public relations related to the protection of life and health of the population, the protection of the environment and the property in case of disasters.
- **Mol Act and the Rules of Organization and Activities of the Ministry of the Interior** - The law regulates the principles, functions, activities, management and structure of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (Mol) and the status of its employees.
- **Regulation on the procedure for creating and organizing the activities of voluntary formations to prevent or handle disasters, fires and emergency situations and elimination of consequences.** The text establishes the order for setting up and organizing the activities of the voluntary formations for prevention or management of disasters, fires and emergencies and elimination of their consequences.
- **Ordinance No I3-1669 of 17 August 2012 on the procedure for establishing, maintaining and keeping a register of voluntary units for overcoming or managing disasters, fires and emergencies and elimination of their consequences**

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“.“ This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program “Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020”, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A “Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020” Cooperation Programme“

- **Strategy for Development of Voluntary Formations for Protection against Disasters, Fires and Other Emergencies in the Republic of Bulgaria for the Period 2012-2020.** The Strategy has been developed to achieve effective intervention in the event of disasters, fires and other emergencies on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria and to ensure the active participation of people in the protection of their lives and health, the protection of the environment and property. It is aimed at forming a new nationally responsible policy for the active participation of citizens in activities aimed at ensuring their own safety.

5. Vision and Perspective for the Development of Voluntary Formations

Voluntary formations have a special place in the fire safety and disaster protection and emergency situations. Over the years, volunteering goes through many changes and ups and downs, but now it has become an essential tool for helping ensure protection of the population. Volunteer formations will be developed in accordance with good European practices as **self-acting** units capable of providing effective protection to the population in low accident intensity areas and successfully assisting the fire safety and protection of the population for disaster, emergency cases. Volunteer formations should be **established as effective operational structures** with high quality of the skills and competences acquired by the volunteers for carrying out fire-fighting and rescue activities, for teamwork and interaction with the other participants. With the creation of voluntary formations, disaster protection, fire and other emergency response activities will be placed on a broad public basis. For their effective functioning it is necessary to improve the mechanisms that regulate the processes of interaction and coordination with the bodies of the state and local authorities. **The pooling of volunteer formations with other civil society structures** and organizations related to rescue and protection of populations in disaster situations will be possible through the establishment of the Association of Volunteer Firefighters and Rescuers.

6. Status of voluntary units

As of **July 20, 2018** on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria there are registered **3037** volunteers, organized in **225 volunteer formations**, according to the *Register of Voluntary Disaster Protection Formations on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria* and number of volunteers by municipalities, which is led by the General Directorate of Fire Safety and protection of the population - the Ministry of Interior. This makes 0.43 volunteers per 1,000 population. By this indicator Bulgaria takes 26th place among 30 countries according to the International Association of Fire and Rescue Services (CTIF). Leading countries such as Slovenia and Austria have respectively 32.47 and 29.7 volunteers per 1,000 population. Far ahead of our country are close to us countries like Croatia, occupying eighth place with 12.09 volunteers and Romania occupying 10th place with 6.91 volunteers. With regard to the average number of professional firefighters per 1,000 population, with a score of 0.9, Bulgaria ranks well in the 8th place among the 30 countries. Taking into account the integrated indicator, which includes the reporting of the sum of the average number of volunteers and professional firefighters per 1,000 population, Bulgaria falls in 27th place, the leading countries are Slovenia with 32.74 and

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участници в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“. This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

Austria with 30.0 per 1000. The Republic of Bulgaria is one of the last places of provision with firefighters and rescuers per 1000 inhabitants, which reflects on the level of safety of society. To reach the average European levels of security, it is necessary to increase the number of firefighters and rescuers, which requires large financial and material resources. It is expedient to do this by establishing truly functioning voluntary formations on the territory of the municipalities. Currently, volunteers do not have the necessary training, training and equipment to carry out independent operations. Voluntary formations can not completely replace professional fire and rescue services, but they are an additional resource that is constantly available to local authorities and for emergency assistance.

There are registered and functioning **4 Voluntary Formations in Haskovo Region** with a total of **55 volunteers distributed by municipalities** as follows:

- Municipality of Svilengrad: **Volunteer formation "Svilengrad"** - 20 people
- Municipality of Lyubimets: **Volunteer formation "Sheynovets"** - 15 people
- Municipality of Topolovgrad: **Voluntary formation "Sakar - 12"** - 15 people
- Municipality Madzharovo: **Voluntary formation "Madzharovo"** - 5 people

With **231 276 inhabitants** in the Haskovo region, according to NSI data as of December 31, 2017, this makes **0.24 volunteers per 1000 population**. By this indicator, the area is considerably lower than the average for the country. According to the Disaster Protection Act, municipalities with a population of up to 20,000 are obliged to create voluntary formations, such as Simeonovgrad, Mineralni bani, Stambolovo and Ivaylovgrad. Currently, the Municipal Councils in Ivaylovgrad and Stambolovo have taken the relevant decisions and municipalities are in the process of building voluntary formations. The practice of recent disasters and the involvement of volunteers in them as well as in less intensive incidents shows that their intervention is extremely useful and effective in helping the parts of the Unified Rescue System. The so far established formations in Haskovo region for the last few years have gained considerable practical experience and, accordingly, the effectiveness and the utility of these formations is real and without an alternative. Volunteer formations in the future should become an important part of the Unified Rescue System. They will work in a social environment that affects the motivation and stimulation of citizens wishing to join them. Analysis of this environment is necessary to identify problematic areas and to create effective solutions for their overcoming and changing the environment in a positive direction.

The following figure presents the SWOT analysis of the organization of the voluntary formations of the Republic of Bulgaria and their interaction with the Greek volunteers.



- There is a good start to building a relevant system that has long tradition in leading countries;

- Real experience has been gained in setting up, training and working in real-life situations and disasters of voluntary formations;

- A good basis for legal and regulatory legislation is built;
- There is a mechanism for tangible stimulation of volunteers;

- A good level of interaction with the professional forces of the General Directorate for Fire Safety and Population Protection has been developed;

- A good and effective mechanism for the provision of firefighting, life-saving and other auxiliary vehicles from the Mol side to the voluntary formations;

- With the creation of voluntary formations, disaster protection, fire and other emergency response activities will be placed on a broad public basis.

Political and institutional:

- Difference between public needs and the state of the level of protection of the population;
- Lack of a comprehensive state policy in the field of volunteering.
- Dependence on personal attitude (positive or negative) by mayors of municipalities.
- Inconsistency of the legal base with that of the European Union;

Economic:

- Low Gross Domestic Product from there insufficient funds to provide the civil security system;
- Insufficient economic incentives for volunteers;
- Insufficient business interest in ensuring fire safety and protecting the population;
- Currently, volunteers do not have the necessary training, preparation and equipment to carry out independent operations.

Social:

- The lack of traditions in the country for volunteering;
- Low motivation of the population to participate in volunteer formations;
- Lack of public support and positivism towards voluntary formations;
- Negative influence of the economic situation in the country;
- Demographic situation of small municipalities and aging population.

- Beginning has been put in place, and under the appropriate impact and support there is a prospect of their development and effective functioning, and corresponding achievement of the main goal

- Increasing the level of protection of the population in case of disasters, fires and emergencies;

- Active State Impact Mechanisms to Support the Development and Validation of Voluntary Formations: 1. The first mechanism is to make changes in the legal framework to facilitate and encourage the creation of voluntary formations and the participation of citizens in them. 2. The second mechanism is to make a positive change in the existing public attitudes by conducting an effective information and media campaign in support of voluntary formations;

- Voluntary formations can not completely replace professional fire-fighting and rescue services, but they are an additional resource that is permanently available to local authorities and to assist in emergency situations of the main components of the unified rescue system;

- Voluntary formations to become a major means of helping to ensure the protection of the population;

- Volunteer formations to be built and developed in accordance with good European practices as self-acting units in the structure of the unified rescue system, capable of providing effective protection to the population in low-accident areas;

- The pooling of volunteer formations with other civil society structures and organizations related to rescue and protection of population in disaster situations will be possible through the establishment of the Association of Volunteer Firefighters and Rescuers.

- The existing external environment has an adverse impact on the development of voluntary formations;

- The current state of the economic and social environment makes it difficult to form and secure the voluntary formations with material and technical base and staff;

- Insufficient financial incentives and motivation for participation in volunteer formations;

- The demographic picture in the country and the aging of the population have a negative impact exactly on these small municipalities, which are most in need of voluntary formations;

- Politizing the activity of voluntary formations.

S

Strengths

W

Weaknesses

O

Opportunities

T

Threats

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“. This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

7. Main conclusions

The existing external environment has an adverse impact on the development of voluntary formations. The current state of the economic and social environment makes it difficult to form and secure the voluntary formations with material and technical base and staff. Insufficient financial incentives and motivation for participation in voluntary formations. Estimates of the state of the economic and social environment are contradictory. It can be assumed on the basis of their present state and development trends that they will preserve their unfavorable impact on the fire safety and protection of the population, including the development of voluntary formations. Despite this, the start is put in place and with the right impact and support there is perspective for their development and effective functioning, and consequently the achievement of the main objective - Increasing the level of protection of the population in case of disasters, fires and emergencies. At this stage, there are two mechanisms for active State influence to support the development and validation of voluntary formations:

- The first mechanism is to make changes in the legal framework to facilitate and encourage the creation of voluntary formations and the participation of the citizens in them.
- The second mechanism is to make a positive change in the existing public attitudes by conducting an effective information and media campaign in support of voluntary formations.

III. Project for Operational Procedure for Volunteers from Haskovo Region to Operate in Disaster Management on the Territory of Greece

1. Performing operations in EARTHQUAKE

1.1. Objective

- Establishment of a system of rules for the organization and coordination of joint actions of Voluntary Formations in operations for the eradication of the consequences of an earthquake on the territory of the Hellenic Republic.
- Defining the ways and means of intervention in the cross-border area of the Republic of Greece and the Republic of Bulgaria for the purpose of searching and rescue, ensuring the protection of the life and health of the population, the protection of the environment and the property during an earthquake.

1.2. Applicability

Operations for the eradication of the consequences of earthquakes are carried out on request of assistance after severe earthquakes with human casualties, injuries and material damage. They are carried out with the purpose of searching and rescuing victims under the rubble, as well as emergency and restoration work.

1.3. Specific activities

Операциите по ликвидиране на последствията от земетресение, извършвани от The operations for the eradication of the consequences of an earthquake carried out by Voluntary Formations of the Haskovo Region and Voluntary Formations from Greece are in the following order:

- 1. Prior to conducting Urgent Emergency Rehabilitation Actions in an earthquake, **intelligence** are conducted to determine the:
 - routes to travel to the area of injury, condition of roads and road facilities;
 - extent and nature of the destruction;
 - buildings subject to destruction which are not subject to construction;
 - the side and highway passages;
 - areas with activated landslides and collapses;
 - places and sites where urgent emergency restoration work must be started immediately;
 - the extent of destruction of the elements of the technical infrastructure facilities and the secondary damage caused by them;
 - the possibility of using different means of communication;
 - the possibility of using mechanized means;
 - places convenient for deploying control stations;
 - outbreaks of fires;
 - the presence of contamination with radioactive sources, hazardous chemicals and agents of biological contamination;

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“.“ This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program “Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020”, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A “Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020” Cooperation Programme“

- the presence of concentrations of explosive and flammable gases in the air above the allowable values;
 - the state of hydro-technical facilities - dams, dykes, tailings ponds and others.;
 - the state of the railway network, airports and ports;
 - places suitable for the deployment of temporary points for concentration and allocation of victims;
 - suitable places to deploy field hospitals;
 - appropriate places for the perished;
 - suitable places for heliports;
 - suitable locations for placement of tent camps, distribution of food, water, medicines, etc;
 - appropriate locations to deploy crossing points to and from the defeat area.
- 2. According to the data from the conducted intelligence, an assessment of the situation is carried out, tasks are assigned to the teams, the procedure for carrying out the emergency urgent restoration works is determined and the observance of the safe working conditions. The following shall be carried out in the course of the activities:
 - to notify the electricity company to turn off the electrical power in the region;
 - operators are advised to discontinue water supply and pipelines for liquid or gaseous substances;
 - urgent fortification works are carried out in semi-destroyed buildings and facilities;
 - access of mechanized means and equipment to the affected areas is ensured;
 - searching for and removing injured people under the ruins, providing air to people buried, illuminating the area for rescue operations
 - Extinguishing action is taken on fires that have occurred;
 - emergency drainage of threatened areas is carried out;
 - performed evacuation of people and animals; deconcentration of cultural and material values.
 - tent camps are organized for the injured population;
 - cleanup of the destroyed areas.

1.4. Description of the procedure

No	Action	Responsible	Time to perform the action
1.	Receive a notification of emergencies on the territory of the partner country.	Mayor of Municipality	
2.	Prior announcement of the forces and means foreseen in the joint intervention plan.	Mayor of Municipality	On receipt of the announcement
3.	Request additional information.	Mayor of Municipality	When needed

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“. This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

4.	Request for assistance	The country on which territory an earthquake occurred	When needed
5.	Analysis and evaluation of the possibilities (forces and means) for assistance according to the operational situation on the territory of the municipality. Confirmation of assistance accompanied by details of the teams that can be sent.	Mayor of Municipality	Up to 120 minutes from the start of the announcement
6.	Logistic preparation of the mission.	Mayor of Municipality	After sending confirmation to help
7.	Disclosure of competent authorities in connection with the crossing of the State border for intervention activities (missions) in the partner country under the procedure for crossing the state border in emergencies.	Mayor of Municipality / General Directorate for Fire Safety and Protection of the Population	After sending confirmation to help
8.	Moving forces and means and crossing the state border	Commander of voluntary formations / Head of Intervention Team /	Up to 180 minutes from the announcement
9.	Making contact with the contact person.	Commander of VOLUNTARY FORMATIONS / Mayor of the municipality	On arrival in the host country
10.	Accept the mission and inform about the readiness to implement it.	Head of the intervention team	Upon arrival at the intervention site / Operational base
11.	Provide support teams with the necessary technical means to ensure compatibility with the equipment and facilities of the host country.	Head of Operations	Upon arrival at the intervention site / Operational base
12.	Provision of means of communication in emergencies.	Head of Operations	Upon arrival at the intervention site / Operational base

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“.“ This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program “Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020”, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A “Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020” Cooperation Programme“

13.	Implement mission tasks according to the organizational rules of their own country.	Head of the intervention team	Mission duration
14.	Request for additional forces and aid funds.	Head of the intervention team	When needed
15.	Completion of interventions and reporting.	Head of the intervention team	After completion of the mission
16.	Moving forces and resources to a base for operations.	Head of the intervention team	Upon completion of the mission / an order from the Head of Operations
17.	Provide a reserve of forces and means to replace existing ones in case of prolonged intervention action.	Head of the intervention team	When needed
18.	Submitting a report to the Head of Mission on site through the contact person.	Contact person / head of intervention team	Upon completion of the mission or periodically (on long missions)
19.	Sending reports on the mission to the Mayor of the Municipality and the National Operational Center.	Contact person / head of intervention team	Upon completion of the mission or periodically (on long missions)
20.	Restore the operational readiness of forces and means.	Head of intervention team	Upon completion of the mission
21.	Information about the readiness of the teams for a new mission.	Head of intervention team	immediately
22.	Completion of the mission upon a decision by the host country or upon termination of the mission.	Head of intervention team	Upon decision by the host country or receipt of an order to terminate the mission

1.5. Forces and means of intervention

No	Type of specialized equipment	Quantity	Staff
1.	Transport vehicle - a minibus	1	6
2.	Transport vehicle - pickup	1	4
3	Rescue boats with a wheelchair - 4 seats	2	

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“. This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

4.	Motor pumps and equipment to them	4	
5.	Life jackets	15	
6.	Neoprene special clothing for working in shallow waters	10	
7.	Motor chainsaws	5	
8.	Generator 10 kW	2	
9.	Backpack for firefighting.	10	
10	Overalls "type" fishing"	10	

Additionally, a detailed inventory (inventory list) is applied - a blank form to be filled in before departure and provided at the boundary of the contact person.

Depending on the circumstances at the time the procedure is started, the resources provided may be different from those indicated in the tables.

1.6. Responsibilities

1.6.1. The parties:

- all assistance and intervention activities in the event of an Emergency shall be organized and implemented in accordance with this Procedure;
- the updating of the current procedure is subject to a change in the legal basis, the operating environment or on the proposal of the country concerned;
- for the time of intervention, all teams are required to comply with local law;
- during operational activity intervention teams interact with other local bodies, in compliance with the orders of the Head of Operations.

1.6.2. The head of the intervention team:

- is responsible for the safety of the intervention teams during their movement;
- is responsible for the safety of personnel during the intervention;
- is responsible for timely submission of up-to-date information during the intervention;
- is responsible for complying with its own specific organizational and regulatory requirements in the implementation of the mission;
- during the performance of the intervening activities, maintains a permanent connection with the Head of Operations (to which he / she is subordinate) through the contact person;
- the head of the intervention team shall also assume the responsibilities of the contact person, unless another person is appointed.

1.6.3. Contact person

- provides the host country with the information to analyze and assess the capabilities (forces and means) for assistance and their data;
- shall transmit the intervention reports to the Head of Operations;

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участници в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A "Гърция-България 2014-2020". "This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program "Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020", Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A "Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020" Cooperation Programme“

- c) ensures the continuous exchange of information between the Head of Operations and Team Manager for intervention;
- d) sends periodic reports to the National Operations Center.

2. Performing operations in FLOODS

2.1. Objectives

- Establishment of a system of rules for the organization and coordination of joint actions of Voluntary Formations in operations for the eradication of the consequences of floods on the territory of the Hellenic Republic.
- Defining the ways and means of intervention in the cross-border area of the Republic of Greece and the Republic of Bulgaria for the purpose of ensuring the protection of the life and health of the population, the protection of the environment and the property during floods.

2.2. Floods

Joint flood operations are carried out upon request for assistance during the following main phases:

1. imminent flood hazard;
2. flood;
3. after flood.

2.3. Specific activities carried out in the immediate danger of flooding

- 1. Organizing monitoring of water levels and the condition of hydraulic structures, dams and tailings as information on possible floodplain areas is collected and exchanged between the two units.
- 2. Emergency lowering of the water level.
- 3. Tamping, cutting, etc..
- 4. Removing water flow streams.
- 5. Emergency stabilization, upgrade of existing and construction of temporary dikes through:
 - a) using modular elements;
 - б) arranging sacks with inert materials;
 - в) accumulation of inert materials;
- 6. Setting up of camps for temporary accommodation of the endangered population.

Activities during flood

1. Intelligence of the area of flooding and places where it is possible to find endangered people, animals and cultural values, determining the parameters of water - height of the water column, temperature and speed of movement.
2. Relocate people, animals and movable cultural assets from the flooded areas.
3. Collection of information on the technical infrastructure in the area of flood.

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“.“ This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

4. Determination of the places suitable for setting up temporary camps, points and locations for deployment of field hospitals and heliports.

5. Where there is evidence of the presence of hazardous substances in the flooded area that may cause damage or cause environmental pollution, the storage sites shall be inspected and, where practicable, apply measures to limit / prevent damage or pollution.

6. Pumping.

Activities after flood

After the withdrawal of the water within normal limits, eradication activities are carried out on the consequences of the flood:

1. Searching for missing people.
2. Removal of dead people and animals.
3. Drainage of buildings, endangered facilities, etc.

4. Supporting the clearing of the affected roads, including the seizure of small quantities of compacted earth masses on areas with activated landslides and collapses with specialized equipment.

Where necessary, the removal of perished humans and animals is carried out using alpine gears, diving equipment and equipment, flow-through and / or floating equipment.

In case of transport of dead animals, flooded food or other items that would be potential sources of biological contamination or cause an epidemic or epizootitis, and in the case of disinfecting activities, personal protective equipment as prescribed by the competent authorities.

2.4. Description of the procedure

No	Action	Responsible persons	Time to perform the action
1	Receive a notification of emergencies on the territory of the partner country.	Mayor of Municipality	
2	Prior announcement of the forces and means foreseen in the joint intervention plan.	Mayor of Municipality	On receipt of the announcement
3	Request additional information.	Mayor of Municipality	When needed
4	Request for assistance	The country on which territory an earthquake occurred	When needed

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“. This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program “Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020”, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A “Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020” Cooperation Programme“

5	Analysis and evaluation of the possibilities (forces and means) for assistance according to the operational situation on the territory of the municipality. Confirmation of assistance accompanied by details of the teams that can be sent.	Mayor of Municipality	Up to 120 minutes from the start of the announcement
6	Logistic preparation of the mission.	Mayor of Municipality	After sending confirmation to help
7	Disclosure of competent authorities in connection with the crossing of the State border for intervention activities (missions) in the partner country under the procedure for crossing the state border in emergencies.	Mayor of Municipality / General Directorate for Fire Safety and Protection of the Population	After sending confirmation to help
8	Moving forces and means and crossing the state border	Commander of voluntary formations / Head of Intervention Team /	Up to 180 minutes from the announcement
9	Making contact with the contact person.	Commander of VOLUNTARY FORMATIONS / Mayor of the municipality	On arrival in the host country
10	Accept the mission and inform about the readiness to implement it.	Head of the intervention team	Upon arrival at the intervention site / Operational base
11	Provide support teams with the necessary technical means to ensure compatibility with the equipment and facilities of the host country.	Head of Operations	Upon arrival at the intervention site / Operational base
12	Provision of means of communication in emergencies.	Head of Operations	Upon arrival at the intervention site / Operational base
13	Implement mission tasks according to the organizational rules of their own country.	Head of the intervention team	Mission duration
14	Request for additional forces and aid funds.	Head of the intervention team	When needed

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“. This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

15	Completion of interventions and reporting.	Head of the intervention team	After completion of the mission
16	Moving forces and resources to a base for operations.	Head of the intervention team	Upon completion of the mission / an order from the Head of Operations
17	Provide a reserve of forces and means to replace existing ones in case of prolonged intervention action.	Head of the intervention team	When needed
18	Submitting a report to the Head of Mission on site through the contact person.	Contact person / head of intervention team	Upon completion of the mission or periodically (on long missions)
19	Sending reports on the mission to the Mayor of the Municipality and the National Operational Center.	Contact person / head of intervention team	Upon completion of the mission or periodically (on long missions)
20	Restore the operational readiness of forces and means.	Head of intervention team	Upon completion of the mission
21	Information about the readiness of the teams for a new mission.	Head of intervention team	immediately
22	Completion of the mission upon a decision by the host country or upon termination of the mission.	Head of intervention team	Upon decision by the host country or receipt of an order to terminate the mission

2.5. Forces and resources

No	Type of specialized equipment	Quantity	Staff
1.	Transport vehicle - a minibus	1	6
2.	Transport vehicle - pickup	1	4
3	Rescue boats with a wheelchair - 4 seats	2	
4.	Motor pumps and equipment to them	8	
5.	Life jackets	20	
6.	Neoprene special clothing for working in shallow waters	20	
7.	Motor chainsaws	6	

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“. This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

8.	Generator 10 kW	2	
9.	Overalls "type" fishing"	20	

Additionally, a detailed inventory (inventory list) is applied - a blank form to be filled in before departure and provided at the boundary to the contact person.

Depending on the circumstances at the time the procedure is triggered, the resources and resources provided may be different from those indicated in the tables.

2.6. Responsibilities

2.6.1. Parties:

- all assistance and intervention activities in the event of an Emergency shall be organized and implemented in accordance with this Procedure;
- the updating of the current procedure is subject to a change in the legal basis, the operating environment or on the proposal of the country concerned;
- for the time of intervention, all teams are required to comply with local law;
- during operational activity intervention teams interact with other local bodies, in compliance with the orders of the Head of Operations

2.6.2. The head of the intervention team:

- is responsible for the safety of the intervention teams during their movement;
- is responsible for the safety of personnel during the intervention;
- is responsible for timely submission of up-to-date information during the intervention;
- is responsible for complying with its own specific organizational and regulatory requirements in the implementation of the mission;
- during the performance of the intervening activities, maintains a permanent connection with the Head of Operations (to which he / she is subordinate) through the contact person;
- the head of the intervention team shall also assume the responsibilities of the contact person, unless another person is appointed.

2.6.3. Contact person:

- provides the host country with the information to analyze and assess the capabilities (forces and means) for assistance and their data;
- shall transmit the intervention reports to the Head of Operations;
- ensures the continuous exchange of information between the Head of Operations and Team Manager for intervention;
- sends periodic reports to the National Operations Center.

3. Performing operations in large and complex in development FOREST FIRES

3.1. Objectves

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A "Гърция-България 2014-2020". "This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program "Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020", Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A "Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020" Cooperation Programme“

- a) Establishment of a system of rules for the organization and coordination of joint actions in the case of large and complex forest fires occurring during prolonged drought and high temperatures and causing disaster situations on the territory of the Hellenic Republic;
- b) Defining the ways and means of intervention in the cross-border area of the Republic of Greece and the Republic of Bulgaria in case of large and complex forest fires in affected large forests, endangered places, people, livestock and infrastructure.

3.2. Applicability

The operations related to the eradication of forest fires carried out by Voluntary Formations from the Haskovo region and voluntary formations in Greece are in the following order:

1. intelligence operations and monitoring the spread of fire by walking the site of the fire
2. operations to evacuate endangered people, animals and material assets.
3. operations fighting forest fires.

3.3. Specific activities

In the event of a long extinction of a large forest fire, shift work is provided in accordance with the weather conditions, the specifics of the work and the forces available, the duration of the change being determined by the Head on the spot.

Upon the change of the rescue teams, the transfer and acceptance of the area is organized without interruption of the work by both the management and the working teams on the spot.

For the organization of the operation, **the operations manager:**

1. Performs intelligence, using people who know the area.
2. Organizes evacuation of endangered people and animals.
3. Organizes emergency first aid to injured people and their transport to medical establishments
4. Determines the type, the rate of spreading and the size of the fire, the relief of the locality, the expected development of the fire during the period of extinction and the possibility of its spreading to settlements, clearings, plantations, etc..
5. Explores the places where the rate of incidence of combustion (areas with juniper, dry grass, coniferous forests, temporary timber stores, etc.) can be increased.
6. Explores places that can help to stop combustion without interfering with people and places to organize defensive lines (roads, streams, meadows, ponds, exposed areas, etc.).
7. Explores the roads and approaches for moving mechanized fire extinguishing devices.
8. Examines natural water sources that can be used in firefighting.

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“.“ This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program “Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020”, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A “Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020” Cooperation Programme“

9. Defines the locations for the construction of the support lines to limit the development of the fire.
10. Directs intelligence and monitoring the spread of fire by walking the fire site, using a topographic map, a dron, a helicopter, an airplane, etc.
11. Focuses and puts into action the basic forces depending on the situation.
12. Manages the extinguishing of ground fire with non-mechanized hand tools (backpipe fire extinguishers, shovels, beaters, paddles, etc.), burial with inert materials (soil), burning of vegetation around the protective lane and creation of embankment belts by plowing.
13. Determines the limitation of peak fire by making a perpendicular glade to the spread of combustion and by firing fire by defining a supporting lane (natural and / or artificial barriers) and preparing groups of technical means for making the ignition.
14. In the presence of forces and means, he organizes simultaneous extinguishing throughout the perimeter of the fire or the most dangerous areas.
15. Organizes the creation of glades.
16. Organizes the separation of the area covered by the fire and the sequential eradication of the combustion in them.
17. Organizes the elimination of combustion in depth with sequential movement along the plots and the front of the fire.
18. Organizes extinguishing on the fire front with sequential elimination of flaming on the flanks and in depth.
19. Directs the concentration of the necessary forces and means at the site of the fire using the extinguishing groups to the state forest units and voluntary formations.
20. Distributes work in groups, defining a reserve of forces and resources.
21. Follows the measures for protection and safety of participants in firefighting.
22. Organizes food, medical assistance, replacement and rest of participants in fire fighting.
23. At night, he provides stations to monitor the risk areas and performs extinguishing actions when needed to save people or protect buildings that are threatened by fire.
24. Organizes fire monitoring after liquidation and, where necessary, provides on-call staff and equipment.

3.4. Description of the procedure:

No	Action	Responsible persons	Time to perform the action
1	Receive a notification of emergencies on the territory of the partner country.	Mayor of Municipality	
2	Prior announcement of the forces and means foreseen in the joint intervention plan.	Mayor of Municipality	On receipt of the announcement

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“.“ This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

3	Request additional information.	Mayor of Municipality	When needed
4	Request for assistance	The country on which territory an earthquake occurred	When needed
5	Analysis and evaluation of the possibilities (forces and means) for assistance according to the operational situation on the territory of the municipality. Confirmation of assistance accompanied by details of the teams that can be sent.	Mayor of Municipality	Up to 120 minutes from the start of the announcement
6	Logistic preparation of the mission.	Mayor of Municipality	After sending confirmation to help
7	Disclosure of competent authorities in connection with the crossing of the State border for intervention activities (missions) in the partner country under the procedure for crossing the state border in emergencies.	Mayor of Municipality / General Directorate for Fire Safety and Protection of the Population	After sending confirmation to help
8	Moving forces and means and crossing the state border	Commander of voluntary formations / Head of Intervention Team /	Up to 180 minutes from the announcement
9	Making contact with the contact person.	Commander of VOLUNTARY FORMATIONS / Mayor of the municipality	On arrival in the host country
10	Accept the mission and inform about the readiness to implement it.	Head of the intervention team	Upon arrival at the intervention site / Operational base
11	Provide support teams with the necessary technical means to ensure compatibility with the equipment and facilities of the host country.	Head of Operations	Upon arrival at the intervention site / Operational base
12	Provision of means of communication in emergencies.	Head of Operations	Upon arrival at the intervention

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“.“ This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

			site / Operational base
13	Implement mission tasks according to the organizational rules of their own country.	Head of the intervention team	Mission duration
14	Request for additional forces and aid funds.	Head of the intervention team	When needed
15	Completion of interventions and reporting.	Head of the intervention team	After completion of the mission
16	Moving forces and resources to a base for operations.	Head of the intervention team	Upon completion of the mission / an order from the Head of Operations
17	Provide a reserve of forces and means to replace existing ones in case of prolonged intervention action.	Head of the intervention team	When needed
18	Submitting a report to the Head of Mission on site through the contact person.	Contact person / head of intervention team	Upon completion of the mission or periodically (on long missions)
19	Sending reports on the mission to the Mayor of the Municipality and the National Operational Center.	Contact person / head of intervention team	Upon completion of the mission or periodically (on long missions)
20	Restore the operational readiness of forces and means.	Head of intervention team	Upon completion of the mission
21	Information about the readiness of the teams for a new mission.	Head of intervention team	immediately
22	Completion of the mission upon a decision by the host country or upon termination of the mission.	Head of intervention team	Upon decision by the host country or receipt of an order to terminate the mission

3.5. Forces and resources

No	Type of specialized equipment	Quantity	Staff
1.	Transport vehicle - a minibus	1	6

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“. This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program „Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020“, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A „Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020“ Cooperation Programme“

2.	Transport vehicle - pickup	1	4
3.	Motor pumps and equipment to them	6	
4.	Beaters	20	
5.	Motor chainsaws	6	
6.	Backpack for firefighting.	20	

Additionally, a detailed inventory (inventory list) is applied - a blank form to be filled in before departure and provided at the boundary to the contact person.

Depending on the circumstances at the time the procedure is triggered, the resources and resources provided may be different from those indicated in the tables.

3.6. Responsibilities

3.6.1. Parties:

- all assistance and intervention activities in the event of an Emergency shall be organized and implemented in accordance with this Procedure;
- the updating of the current procedure is subject to a change in the legal basis, the operating environment or on the proposal of the country concerned;
- for the time of intervention, all teams are required to comply with local law;
- during operational activity intervention teams interact with other local bodies, in compliance with the orders of the Head of Operations

3.6.2. The head of the intervention team:

- is responsible for the safety of the intervention teams during their movement;
- is responsible for the safety of personnel during the intervention;
- is responsible for timely submission of up-to-date information during the intervention;
- is responsible for complying with its own specific organizational and regulatory requirements in the implementation of the mission;
- during the performance of the intervening activities, maintains a permanent connection with the Head of Operations (to which he / she is subordinate) through the contact person;
- the head of the intervention team shall also assume the responsibilities of the contact person, unless another person is appointed.

3.6.3. Contact person:

- provides the host country with the information to analyze and assess the capabilities (forces and means) for assistance and their data;
- shall transmit the intervention reports to the Head of Operations;
- ensures the continuous exchange of information between the Head of Operations and Team Manager for intervention;
- sends periodic reports to the National Operations Center.

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A "Гърция-България 2014-2020". "This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program "Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020", Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A "Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020" Cooperation Programme“

4. Final provisions

- a) The procedure will be provided by RMA "Maritza" and the partners of the project with acronym "eOUTLAND" to the municipalities with established and functioning self-acting Voluntary formations, which can intervene in the cross-border area
- b) The procedure may be updated independently of the review.
- c) This procedure can be used in conjunction with other procedures

5. Safety and security - general measures

- Use only drinking water
- If the team is exposed to criminal activity, immediately report to the Police to ensure presence in the work area
- If you are out of camp, contact the supervisor for any problem
- Be sure you have contact with other team members
- Inform the police about any suspicion you notice
- Provide comprehensive monitoring access to the area for work
- Do not allow visitors to enter the work area before identification
- All visitors to be accompanied in the work area
- Plan an evacuation path and make sure it is not obstructed
- Ensure adequate workplace protection, physical means and emergency call capability. Also, take into account the advice of specialists
- Do not carry large sums of money in yourself
- If you leave the base camp, be sure someone knows where you are, how long you will be absent, and approximate return time
- Do not travel alone outside the camp Take an order for your mission
- Make sure you have the Head's number. If you have a problem - contact the Head
- Keep official documents in a safe place
- The passport, driver's license and other important documents must be kept in the pocket (copies of the documents also)
- All team members should carry their personal documents and all other important documents
- In case of detention, ask for permission to call the Head / Deputy
- Always be ready for a quick move
- The "emergency" bag must always be prepared in the room / tent
- The technical equipment in the base camp must be ready at all times
- The collection points must be known to each member of the team
- Personal mobile phones should be available 24 hours a day and be with you
- In case of relocation or evacuation at night, the team leader calls members by telephone
- In case of need for medical treatment, go to the nearest hospital

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програмата за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6д.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A "Гърция-България 2014-2020". "This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program "Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020", Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A "Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020" Cooperation Programme“

Sources of information

- Directorate General "Fire Safety and Protection of the Population"
- Register of Voluntary Formations for Protection against Disasters on the Territory of the Republic of Bulgaria and Number of Volunteers by Municipalities as of 20.07.2018
- The National Statistical Institute (NSI)
- Basin Directorate "East Aegean Region"
- The International Fire and Rescue Services Association (CTIF)
- Regional Directorate of Fire Safety and Protection of the Population - Haskovo
- Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy 2014-2020.
- Strategy for Development of Voluntary Formations for Protection of Disasters, Fires and Other Emergencies in the Republic of Bulgaria for the Period 2012-2020.
- "Assessment and mapping of the risk of forest fires on the territory of the country", commissioned for implementation by the MAF for the needs of the RDP 2014-2020 - Measure 8. "Investments in forest areas, development and improvement of the viability of forests" (Contract RD 50 -130 / 03.10.2016)
- Report "Carrying out assessment and mapping of the risk of forest fires on the territory of the country", EAF

„Този документ е създаден в рамките на проект „Опазване на биоразнообразието в зоните от Натура 2000 и други защитени зони от природни бедствия чрез сертифицирана рамка за трансгранично образование, обучение и подкрепа на доброволци за гражданска защита на базата на иновации и нови технологии“ (eOUTLAND), финансиран по Програма за сътрудничество INTERREG V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“, съгласно Договор за БФП № В2.6d.06/02.10.2017. Проектът е съфинансиран от Европейския фонд за регионално развитие и от националните фондове на страните, участващи в Програмата за сътрудничество Interreg V-A „Гърция-България 2014-2020“. This document has been created within the framework of the Project „Protecting biodiversity at NATURA 2000 sites and other protected areas from natural hazards through a certified framework for cross-border education, training and support of civil protection volunteers based on innovation and new technologies“ (eOUTLAND), financed under the INTERREG V-A Cooperation Program “Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020”, Subsidy Contract No B2.6d.06/02.10.2017. The Project is co funded by the European Regional Development Fund and by national funds of the countries participating in the Interreg V-A “Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020” Cooperation Programme“