



Development of master curricula for natural disasters risk management in Western Balkan countries (573806-EPP-1-2016-1-RS-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP)

NatRisk newsletter, Issue 1/April 2017

IN THIS ISSUE

- ❖ Project
- ❖ Consortium
- ❖ Kick-off meeting
- ❖ Workshop in Vienna
- ❖ Report on natural disasters in the Western Balkans
- ❖ Report on established practices in EU countries for natural disaster risk management (NDRM)

Welcome to the NatRisk newsletter!

This bulletin provides information on the latest NatRisk project activities.



Enjoy your reading and visit the NatRisk website (www.natrisk.ni.ac.rs) to find more information.

With the best regards,

NatRisk project team



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein

PROJECT

The project **Development of master curricula for natural disasters risk management in Western Balkan countries** (NatRisk) is capacity building action in the field of higher education, co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union.

The proposed project is in line with Regional Priorities for Joint & Structural Projects (Erasmus+ KA2 – Capacity Building in Higher Education) for the Region 1 (Western Balkan) and is related to the “Learning and teaching tools, methodologies and pedagogical approaches including learning outcomes and ICT-based practices (inter alia, flexible learning paths, blended courses, virtual and real mobility, practical placements etc.)“ and area „Environmental protection“.

The project goal is development and implementation of the advanced and modern master curricula in line with Bologna requirements and national accreditation standards that enable education of the specialists in the field of natural disasters risk management (NDRM). The new master study profiles that include comprehensive aspects of NDRM will be the result of analysed shortcomings of current system for NDRM in WB partner countries. Different aspects of NDRM request an interdisciplinary approach and cooperation between experts from various scientific fields. The existing study programmes deal only with specialized topics and there is no such kind of interdisciplinary study programmes in NDRM in WB partner HEIs.

The graduated students with acquired advanced knowledge will be directly involved and what is more important they will improve the process of identifying, analyzing and evaluating risks and in development of strategies to treat and mitigate existing and future risks harmonizing it with EU best practices. The modernised laboratory with the latest hardware and software equipment for simulations and assessments of natural disasters, where the students will gain practical knowledge that can be immediately applied, and the up-to-date library units will contribute to innovative new master study programmes.

WIDER OBJECTIVE

Education of experts for prevention and management of natural disasters in the region of Western Balkan (WB) according to the national and EU policies.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- ❖ Development and implementation of methodology for identification of natural disasters to be managed in WB region and all aspects of prevention and consequences in order to define specific competencies for professional practice
- ❖ Development and implementation of the new advanced master curricula in Natural Disasters Risk Management (NDRM) in line with the Bologna requirements and national accreditation standards
- ❖ Development of trainings for the public sector and citizens for reaction in case of various natural disasters

CONSORTIUM

The project Consortium is made up of 12 partners from EU countries and Western Balkan and one associated partner.



University of Niš



University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna



Middlesex University



University of Messina



Óbuda University



Technical University of Crete

Πολυτεχνείο Κρήτης



Academy of Criminalistics and Police Studies



University of Priština settled in Kosovska Mitrovica



University of Sarajevo



Police College, Department for police education



Technical College of Applied Sciences Urosevac with temporary seat in Leposavic



University of Defence in Belgrade



Republic Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia

KICK-OFF MEETING

The kick-off meeting for the NatRisk project was held in Nis, Serbia, on 15th-16th December 2016. The Consortium partners met for the first time at this meeting which was organized by the project coordinator University of Nis. This was an opportunity for all partners to meet and discuss the plans and future of this project.



Presentations from the event can be downloaded from:

<http://www.natrisk.ni.ac.rs/activities?id=20>

WORKSHOP IN VIENNA

The workshop on master curricula best practices in EU countries was held in Vienna, Austria, on 5th-7th April 2017. It was organized by the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna.

The objective was to introduce to all project partners the most relevant issues related to the realization of activities WP1.1 Identification of natural disasters to be managed in WB and WP1.2 Introduction with established practices in EU countries for NDRM.



Presentations from the event can be downloaded from:

<http://www.natrisk.ni.ac.rs/activities?id=35>

REPORT ON NATURAL DISASTERS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

Information about natural disasters in Western Balkan region is indispensable for developing master curricula for risk management in these countries. According to work package 1.1 a partnership between BOKU and all partners from the Western Balkans is foreseen to close the knowledge gap about natural disasters. Information about natural disasters, analysis of risk management aspects and survey of responsible institutes are documented for Western Balkan countries.

In this report information of several reports was merged to get an overview about all natural disasters in the Western Balkans. Natural disasters, which have occurred in Western Balkan countries, are qualitatively and/or quantitatively identified for all WB project partners.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, a significant number of various kinds of natural disasters such as floods, landslides, earthquakes, wild fires, droughts, blizzard and snow drifts occurs with different frequency intensity.

Kosovo* is exposed to frequent floods, heavy snowfall, drought, and other meteorological hazards.

Occurrence of significant number of various kinds of natural disasters, of different frequency and intensity is specific for the territory of Serbia. With an average of 100 disasters in ten years from the beginning of the 19th century, number of the natural disasters by the end of the 20th century reached the number of even 2.800 disasters in ten years.

Each WB country pursues its own strategies, how to deal with natural disasters and how to manage the related risks. The objectives within this project include an assessment of the existing risk management in WB countries.

Also, the analysis of responsible institutes in line with natural disasters risk management was presented.

More details can be found on the web page <http://www.natrisk.ni.ac.rs/activities?id=32>

REPORT ON ESTABLISHED PRACTICES IN EU COUNTRIES FOR NATURAL DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT (NDRM)

In each country the development of risk management practices is correlating highly with the types of natural disasters occurring there. In this report overall statistics and relevant natural disasters are presented for each EU project partner (Austria, Hungary, Italy, Greece and the United Kingdom). Presented data sets have been the basis for establishing practices for natural disasters risk management in these countries.

The European Union decided to set up joint strategies on how to deal with natural disasters. This approach is justified, due to the fact that natural disasters often occur in large areas ignoring national borders and affecting many different states. These joint strategies are documented in EU-directives, which should be further implemented in national laws of the member states. The main aspects within these directives are the implementation of uniform standards, mutual learning based on national experiences and a rapid information transfer in case of emergency.

The risk management of natural disasters requires well-developed professionals with appropriate knowledge. It is the responsibility of national institutions including universities to educate the mentioned specialists. In a few European member states special master curricula dealing with natural disaster risk management have been established. Other member states in turn have included appropriate courses in existing master curricula. Lists of relevant master programmes are outlined for each EU project partner country. Further details on the master programmes are provided in an additional report specialized on master curricula.

More details can be found on the web page <http://www.natrisk.ni.ac.rs/activities?id=33>



For further information about the project please refer to the website www.natrisk.ni.ac.rs, and feel free to get in touch with us also via natriskuni@gmail.com or on one of our other social media channels.



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