WUITIPS – Project Overview

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BASIC INFORMATION

- Project full name: Wildland-Urban-Interface fire Touristic Infrastructures Protection Solutions
- Duration: 2 years (01/02/2023 – 31/01/2025)
- Consortium
  - Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya - UPC (Coord.) – Spain
  - Diputació de Girona (DDGI) – Spain
  - Efectis France (EFR) – France
  - Entente Pour La Forêt Méditerranéenne (EPLFM) – France
  - Lunds Universitet (ULUND) - Sweden

- Area of interest
  - SP - FR border
BASIC INFORMATION

- Project ID: 101101169
- **Total project eligible cost: 708,389,22€**
- **EC financial contribution: 602,128,58 € (funding rate 85%)**
- Topic: Cross-border risks
- Type of Action: Internal
- Priority: Risk Assessments / Early Warning Systems / Risk Awareness / Marine Pollution
- Outcomes (as indicated in the Call):
  - “Cross-border risk assessments for identified cross-border risks are developed”
  - “A network of competent authorities at national and sub-national level for specific risks is established”
BACKGROUND AND NEEDS

- Extreme wildfires are an increasing problem across the world and particularly in Europe, involving a serious civil protection challenge.

- Wildfires pose a growing threat to tourist destinations at the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI), particularly in the Mediterranean Europe.
  - Tourists are generally unaware of fire risk.
  - Tourism-oriented facilities do not systematically contemplate their preparation for a forest fire impact.
  - This is particularly evident in trans-boundary touristic regions.

- No harmonised approach and actions for fire risk assessment of touristic areas is shared between neighbouring Member States:
  - No harmonized understanding of the vulnerability of touristic areas.
  - Nor common and coherent messages and recommendations of good practices for prevention and protection.
AIM AND OBJECTIVES

- WUITIPS aims to explore, identify and characterize vulnerabilities and performance of risk mitigation measures in tourist facilities as well as the associated population, in emergencies due to forest fires in cross-border situations across EU. With this knowledge captured, WUITIPS will...

1) Develop **standard methodologies for wildfire vulnerability analysis** of assets and people in touristic infrastructures

2) Elaborate an **EU harmonized guideline** for fire prevention and protection planning in touristic infrastructures

3) Provide end-users with **examples of application** of products in pilot sites

4) Create a living lab of knowledge transfer with a complete ecosystem of stakeholders and end-users across EU
FORESEEN ACTIVITIES

- Feb ‘23: Kick-off Meeting at UPC, Barcelona.

- **May 11th, ‘23: Workshop 1 “Towards and harmonized framework for cross-border fire management in touristic infrastructures”**.
  - Stake-holders from other cross-border vulnerable areas:
    - Huelva-Algarve (Spain-Portugal)
    - Alpes Maritimes-Imperia (France-Italy)
    - Adriatic Croatia (Croatia-Slovenia)
    - Piera and Chalkidiki (Greece-Macedonia/Bulgaria)

- Oct’23: Study tour and technical meeting – Girona area
- Jan-Mar’24: Data gathering and site visits Girona/South of France
- **Oct’24: Demonstration event – Girona**
- Jan’25: Demonstration event – Aix-en-Provence
- **Jan’25: Workshop 2 “Minimizing cross-border fire risk in EU touristic areas”**
Thank you!

More information:
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