Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Touristic Infrastructure Protection Solutions





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Abstract	This deliverable summarizes the content of Demonstration Event I, held in
	Girona, Spain, where the tools and methods developed under the WUITIPS
	project were showcased at the Costa Brava pilot site. The document is
	organized as follows: the introduction provides an overview of the event's
	objectives, agenda, and organizational details. This is followed by a section
	featuring concise CVs of all speakers who presented during the event, offering
	readers insight into their expertise and backgrounds. Subsequently, the
	document presents abstracts and printouts of all talks, arranged in the order
	of the event agenda. The concluding section highlights key takeaways and
	outlines future directions based on the roundtable discussions, offering
	valuable insights and reflections from the event.

(1) Draft / Final

(2) Public / Restricted / Internal

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1. Introduction

The Demonstration Event I took place in Girona, Catalonia (Spain), on November 29th 2024. The event was organized by the Diputació de Girona in its premises at "Casa de Cultura" Centre (Figure 1).

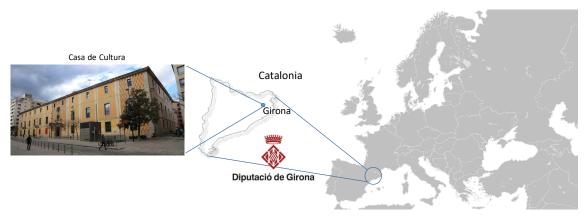


Figure 1. Venue of the 1st International WUITIPS Workshop

The primary objective of the event was to showcase the WUITIPS methods as applied to the Girona pilot site (Alt Empordà) to key local stakeholders. These included the Catalan Fire Agency (Bombers de la Generalitat de Catalunya), the Catalan Civil Protection Agency, technicians from the Cap de Creus Natural Park, municipal authorities and technicians responsible for wildfire management and prevention, and managers of tourist infrastructure. Additionally, we welcomed invited experts from research institutions, such as the CTFC (Centre Tecnològic Forestal de Catalunya, Spain) and the PCF (Pau Costa Foundation, Spain), who provided valuable feedback during the final roundtable discussion. In total, 30 participants attended the event in person, with an additional 5 joining online (Figure 2).

The event was structured as a half-day session, featuring presentations and concluding with a roundtable discussion, as outlined in the agenda provided in Table 1. The day began with a warm welcome from M. Pipió (DDGI) followed by the presentation by the project coordinator, E. Pastor (UPC), on the main aims and outcomes of the WUITIPS project, followed by a review of vulnerable zones in the Girona province.

Next, the UPC team introduced the tools developed within WUITIPS for assessing the vulnerability of tourist infrastructures. This included a demonstration of the Web Tool designed for quick vulnerability self-assessment by tourist managers, which featured evaluations of various sites in Catalunya. Additionally, they showcased the Performance-Based Design Approach for fire safety engineering, applied to the Puntà Milà Camping site (l'Escala, Girona).

After a coffee break, the focus shifted to human vulnerability assessment. E. Ronchi (ULUND) presented the TourSafe tool, which helps municipalities evaluate how they account for the vulnerability of tourists in their areas. He also discussed the methods developed for creating archetypes and simulating tourist evacuations, demonstrated through the Puntà Milà case study.

The day concluded with a roundtable discussion moderated by external expert E. Plana (CTFC). This session facilitated an exchange of ideas on the scalability and implementation of WUITIPS products and services, providing valuable insights for future applications.



Figure 2. The WUITIPS Demo Event held at Casa de Cultura, Girona, on November 9th 2024. Top left: E. Ronchi. Top right: E. Pastor. Bottom: P. Vacca.

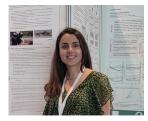
Table 1. Demo event I program

Time	Subject	Presentation by
9:15 - 9:30	Welcome	M. Pipió (DDGI)
9:30 - 10:00	The WUITIPS project overview – Vulnerable zones in Girona Province	E. Pastor (UPC)
	Tools for vulnerability assessment of tourist	E. Planas (UPC)
10:00- 10:45	infrastructures	M. Codina (UPC)
		P. Vacca (UPC)
10:45 - 11:15	Coffee break	
11:15 – 11:45	Tools for human vulnerability assessment - Evacuation of	E. Ronchi
11.15 - 11.45	tourist infrastructures	(ULUND)
11:45 – 12:15	Vulnerability of tourist roads – the case of Gi-614 to Cadaqués	E. Pastor (UPC)
12.15 – 13:15	Round table discussion – Implementation and Scalability	E. Plana (CTFC)

2. Speakers

A short biographic note of each of the speakers is given here, in order of appearance.

Maria Pipió



Maria Pipió is a forest engineer specialized in forest fire prevention in wildland urban interface (WUI). She has a Master's degree in Management of Sustainable Development and Climate Change from Toulouse Business School (France). She leads the municipal fire prevention support program at wildland urban interface in the Provincial Council of Girona (Diputació de Girona). She has previous experience in cross-border projects for increasing wildfire management capabilities among Spain and France, by leading DDGI effort in past POCTEFA project COOPEREM

Elsa Pastor



Elsa Pastor, PhD, is Full Professor at the Chemical Engineering Department of Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya - BarcelonaTech and research scientist at the Center for Technological Risk Studies at UPC. She develops teaching and research activities in diverse fields related to wildfire management and technological risk analysis. Over the last 20 years, she has studied several aspects of fire behavior and dynamics by a multidisciplinary approach, combining both experimental and modeling techniques in a wide range of scenarios. She has profited from diverse fire environments (i.e. wildfires, wildfire research burning campaigns, outdoor large-scale industrial testing fields, compartment fires, laboratory set-ups, etc.) to observe monitor and analyze flames and their effect to different types of assets and ecosystems.

She has been the leader of the European Project (DG-ECHO cofounded) WUIVIEW, aimed at designing, setting-up and operating a virtual workbench service for the analysis of fire risk in the surroundings of buildings at the wildland-urban interface and the WUICOM - BCN Fire resilient communities of Barcelona project, aimed at developing and implementing a holistic approach to analyse risk at Barcelona metropolitan area due to WUI fires, accounting for infrastructural, societal and ecosystems vulnerabilities. She is currently leading the European project (DG-ECHO) WUITIPS - Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Touristic Infrastructure Protection Solutions, aimed at advancing towards a harmonised understanding of the wildfire problem in touristic areas, providing knowledge on the impact of fire on buildings, installations, cultural heritage, infrastructures and the involved population and the European project (DG-ECHO) FIREPRIME - European Program for Wildfire-Prepared Communities, aimed to establish an EU-wide program promoting fire resilience in WUI communities.

Pascale Vacca



Pascale Vacca, PhD, is a Fire Safety Engineer, assistant professor and postdoc at Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya. Her research includes the assessment of risks and vulnerabilities of buildings, properties and communities located at the Wildland-Urban Interface. She worked as technical coordinator of the UPC team of the European projects WUIVIEW, focusing on the development of a performancebased methodology for the analysis of WUI vulnerabilities with the use of CFD tools, and WUITIPS, focusing on the PBD analysis of vulnerabilities of WUI touristic infrastructures. She was also part of the research team of the WUICOM-BCN project, aimed at developing and implementing a holistic approach to analyze risk to WUI fires of the Barcelona metropolitan area that accounts for infrastructural, societal and ecosystems vulnerabilities. She is also the current technical coordinator of the European Project (DG-ECHO) FIREPRIME - European Program for Wildfire-Prepared Communities, aimed to establish an EU-wide program promoting fire resilience in WUI communities

Eulàlia Planas



Eulàlia Planas, PhD, is a Full Professor at the Chemical Engineering Department of the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC). Head of the Centre for Technological Risk Studies and UPC Coordinator of the International Master of Science in Fire Safety Engineering. In the field of wildfire research, she has developed infrared image processing systems to quantify fire progression (rate of spread, fire intensity, and flame geometry) and aerial fire attack effectiveness. She has also worked on providing systems to deliver fire behaviour forecasts for decision-making, based on data assimilation and inverse modelling. Currently she also works on the study of the wildlandurban and wildland-industrial interface, developing methodologies based on CFD modelling to study the effects of burning fuels on structures, relying on performance-based criteria to assess building vulnerability and sheltering capacity. Prof. Planas is also involved extensively on experimental fire research.

Martí Codina



Martí Codina is currently completing his bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering at UPC and interning at the Centre for Technological Risk Studies (CERTEC) at UPC. As a technician for the European-funded projects WUITIPS and FIREPRIME (DG-ECHO), he has leveraged his expertise in GIS and Python programming to contribute significantly to the development of the WUITIPS mapping tool and the vulnerability self-assessment web platform.

Enrico Ronchi



Enrico Ronchi, PhD, is an Associate Professor at Lund University, Sweden. His research and education activities are focused on evacuation and human behaviour in fire in complex infrastructures, buildings and large-scale evacuation scenarios (e.g., due to wildfires). His work has been published in over 150 publications (including >90 peer-reviewed journal papers). He is currently Associate Editor for the journals Fire Technology and Safety Science and member of the editorial board of the Fire Safety Journal. He has also worked to translate his work into practice through his involvement with multiple committees and publications with the International Standards Organization, Society of Fire Protection Engineering and governmental agencies.

Eduard Plana



Eduard Plana, he is a forest engineer with a Master's degree in Wildfire Management from the University of Lleida. Currently he is a researcher at CTFC (Centre Tecnològic Forestal de Catalunya, Spain), leading the Forest Policy and Risk Governance group. His expertise lies in wildfire risk management, environmental governance and communication, and strategic planning of forest landscapes, with a particular focus on the relationship between forests and society. He has coordinated and participated in various European projects and international consultancy efforts, including the National Forest Plan of Lebanon (World Bank, 2013) and the Wildfire Strategy for Tunisia (FAO, 2015). Additionally, he has been involved in organizing numerous international conferences, seminars, outreach events, and media features on forests and wildfires. Currently, he teaches in several international master's programs.

3. Presentations

An abstract of each of the presentations, as well as the printout of the slides shown during the workshop are reproduced here. All presentation were given in Catalan, for a better engagement of stakeholders.

3.1. The WUITIPS project overview, Vulnerable zones in Girona Province, by Elsa Pastor

3.1.1. Abstract

Wildfires pose a growing threat to populated areas, particularly in the wildland-urban interface (WUI), in a context of climate change that is leading to increasingly intense and destructive fires. WUI areas frequented by tourists are especially vulnerable, as the population is often highly heterogeneous and generally unprepared or uninformed about wildfire risks. Furthermore, buildings and tourist infrastructures rarely incorporate systematic prevention measures or are adequately equipped to mitigate the impacts of wildfires. This issue is even more pronounced in cross-border regions.

Based on experience gained from previous projects and the analysis of recent emergencies, it has become evident that there is a need to improve wildfire risk analysis methodologies in WUI areas, with a particular focus on tourist infrastructures and cross-border situations. It is also essential to characterize and model human behaviour during wildfires in heterogeneous population groups, define fire scenarios, and assess exposure to fire and vulnerability. Moreover, there is a need to develop technical guidelines for creating wildfire self-protection plans tailored to tourist infrastructures.

The WUITIPS project aims to address these needs by developing a new wildfire risk management framework specifically for the tourism sector, harmonized and applicable at the European level. This framework seeks to provide support to agencies responsible for wildfire prevention and management, as well as to managers of tourist infrastructures and fire protection engineers, to facilitate planning, risk analysis, and the design of mitigation strategies. Additionally, the project aims to develop harmonized EU-level guidelines, standard methodologies, and practical tools, offer concrete examples for end-users, and establish a European discussion forum on this issue.

WUITIPS has developed various tools that contribute to this management framework, such as mapping tourist interface points (TIPs), tools for human vulnerability and evacuation analysis, tools for analysing the vulnerability of tourist establishments, and performance-based analysis methods. In terms of mapping, a method has been designed to identify areas vulnerable to wildfires with the presence of tourist infrastructures by identifying TIPs. This method uses GIS layers (OpenStreetMap, Corine Land Cover) and defines the WUI based on buffers of 200 meters for forest areas and 50 meters for grasslands.

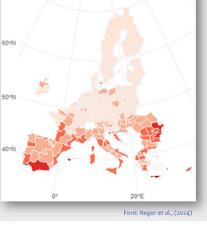
By using the density of TIPs as an indicator, municipalities with the highest tourist pressure in the province of Girona have been identified. When these data are cross-referenced with the static wildfire hazard map (INFOCAT), it becomes clear that the municipalities with the greatest tourist pressure in interface zones are Girona city, Tossa de Mar, Palafrugell, Palamós, Cadaqués, and Blanes. Although the method relies on various hypotheses that still need validation, this approach will allow for a more detailed municipal-level picture of European regions with the highest tourist pressure and wildfire risk in the future.

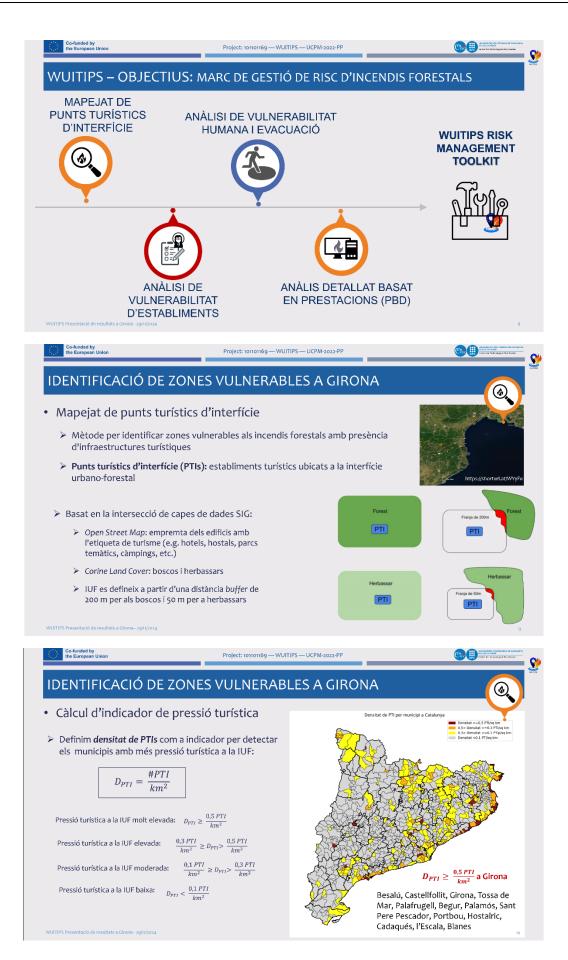
3.1.2. Presentation printout

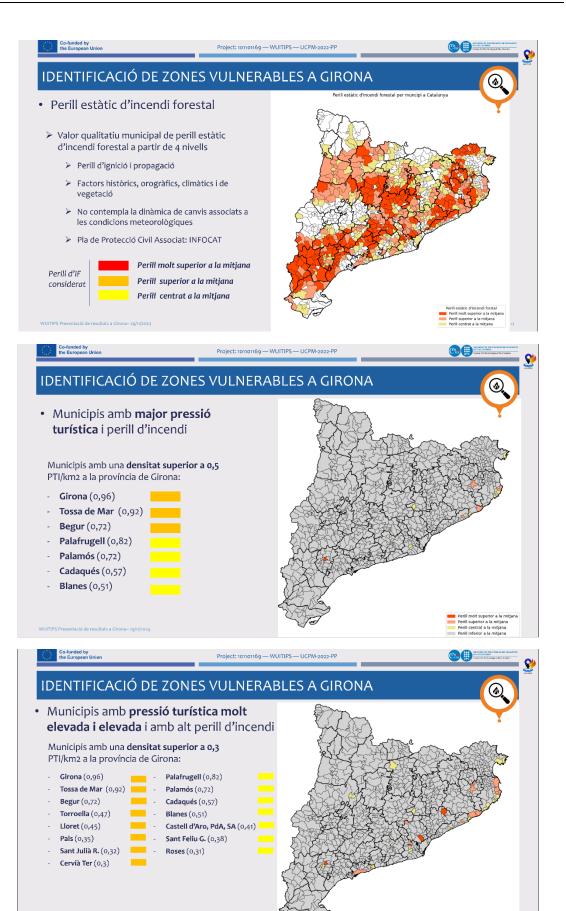




- Desenvolupar metodologies estàndard i productes per a l'anàlisi de vulnerabilitat i protecció contra incendis.
- > Elaborar directrius harmonitzades a nivell de la UE.
- > Proporcionar exemples pràctics als usuaris finals.
- Crear una fòrum de discussió a nivell europeu sobre aquesta problemàtica.







3.2. Tools for vulnerability assessment of tourist infrastructures, by Eulàlia Planas, Martí Codina and Pascale Vacca

3.2.1. Abstract

In the WUITIPS project, two methodologies have been developed to assess the vulnerability of tourist infrastructures. The first is a user-friendly tool for infrastructure managers that enables self-assessment through a web-based questionnaire. The second methodology is a detailed analysis designed for fire protection engineers, using computational fluid dynamics (CFD) simulations with the FDS tool.

The first methodology aims to achieve three objectives: collect data on tourist infrastructures at the WUI, which is valuable for local authorities and risk managers; calculate a vulnerability index (VI) based on the entered data; and provide managers with feedback on their infrastructure's strengths and weaknesses in terms of wildfire resilience. The tool's vulnerability model is built on data provided by tourist managers, categorized into five key areas: environmental characteristics, property features, building characteristics (which could be used as a refuge), people's vulnerability, and emergency preparedness. This data is used to calculate a real-time vulnerability index, which updates whenever changes are made.

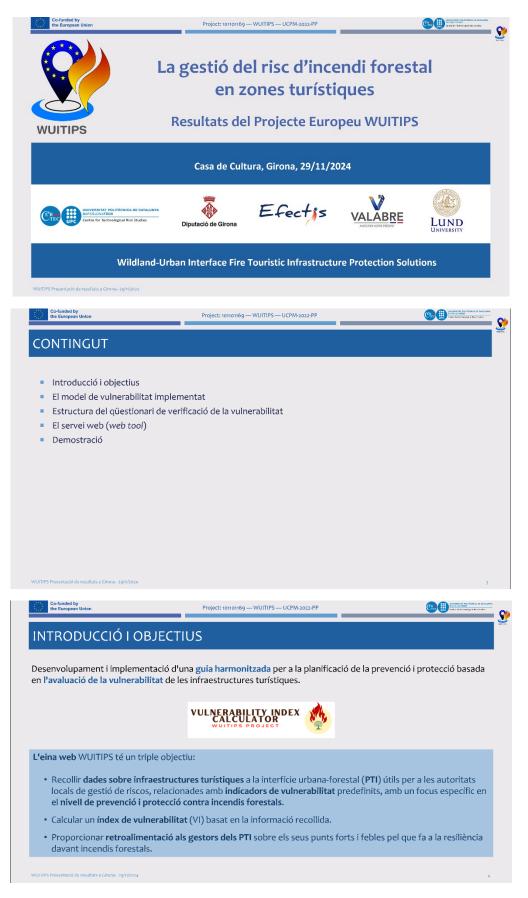
The tool consists of two primary components: a database that stores all information and a website where managers input data, view the vulnerability index, and receive recommendations for improving protection and prevention measures in case of a high-risk index. The database is designed to integrate with platforms like EPLFM's and DDGI's for easy access by those involved in wildfire prevention and emergency response. The web tool is available in multiple languages (Catalan, Spanish, English, Italian, Greek, and French) for broader use in Southern Mediterranean countries.

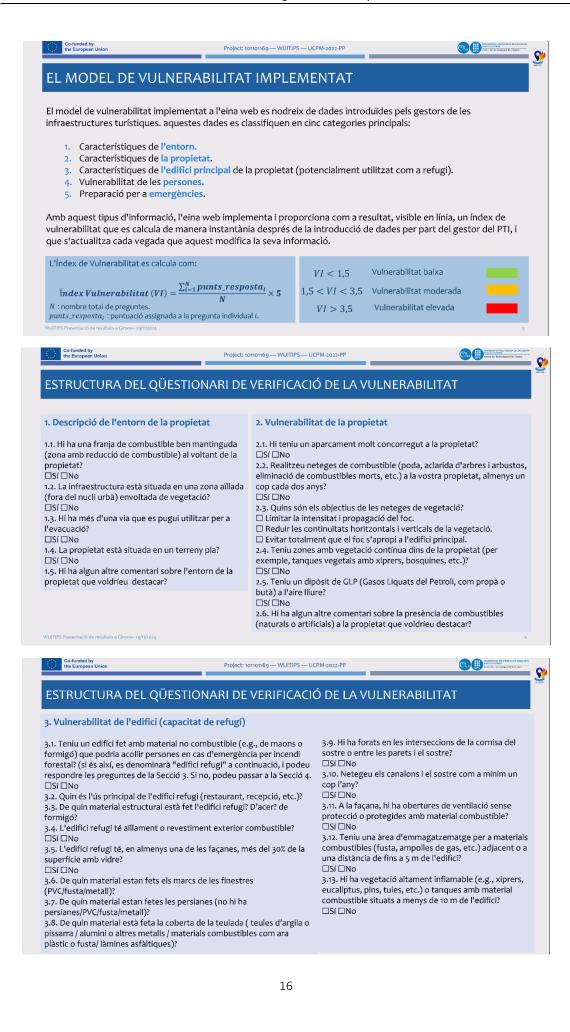
The second methodology, which focuses on detailed vulnerability analysis, uses performancebased design (PBD), a widely accepted strategy in fire protection engineering. PBD aims to ensure fire safety by establishing specific safety objectives and defining quantitative parameters to assess the acceptability of safety measures. This method includes defining the scope, safety objectives, acceptance/rejection criteria, and fire scenarios, all of which are addressed using CFD simulations such as FDS.

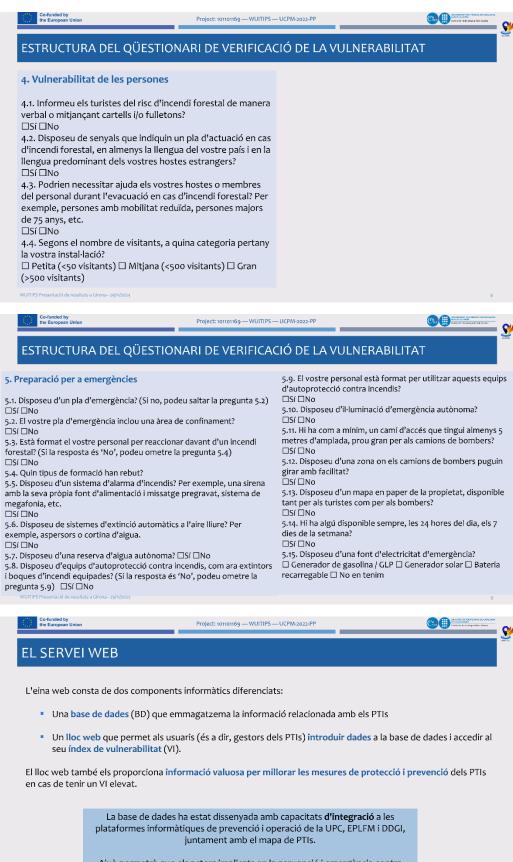
The WUITIPS project has explored how this methodology, traditionally used for indoor fires, can be adapted for wildfire scenarios at the WUI. This approach enables a detailed vulnerability analysis of infrastructures exposed to wildfire risks. Specifically, it helps identify and quantify secondary fire sources, evaluate the confinement capacity of buildings, and detect effective risk mitigation measures. The information provided is quantitative and highly detailed, supporting informed decision-making by infrastructure managers. This methodology has been demonstrated in Puntà Milà Camping (l'Escala, Girona), where it has shown clear utility.

PBD is designed for establishments with specific characteristics, and it is expected that, in the near future, it will be fully integrated into fire protection engineering projects. This integration will allow for its effective application in infrastructures located at the WUI, offering advanced solutions to reduce vulnerability and enhance safety in high-risk scenarios, contributing to a more resilient response to wildfire events.

3.2.2. Presentation printout

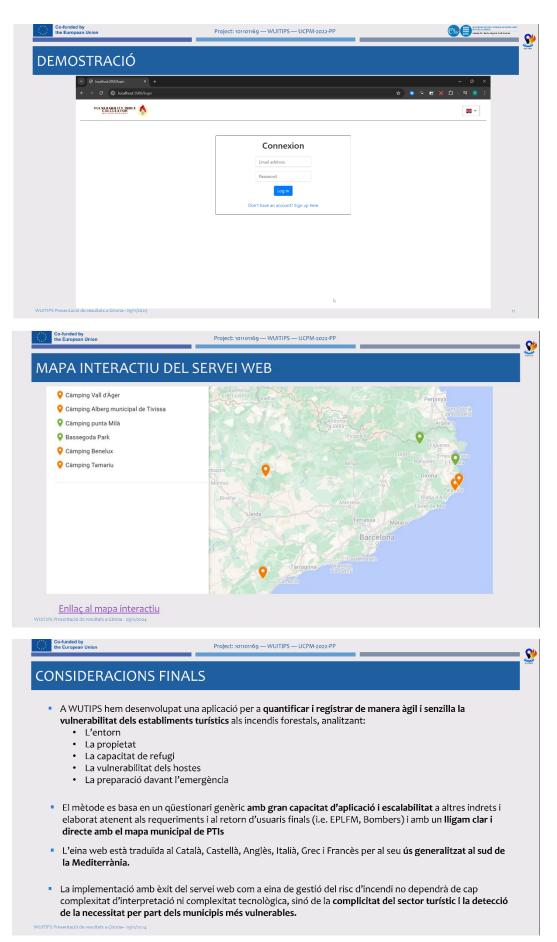






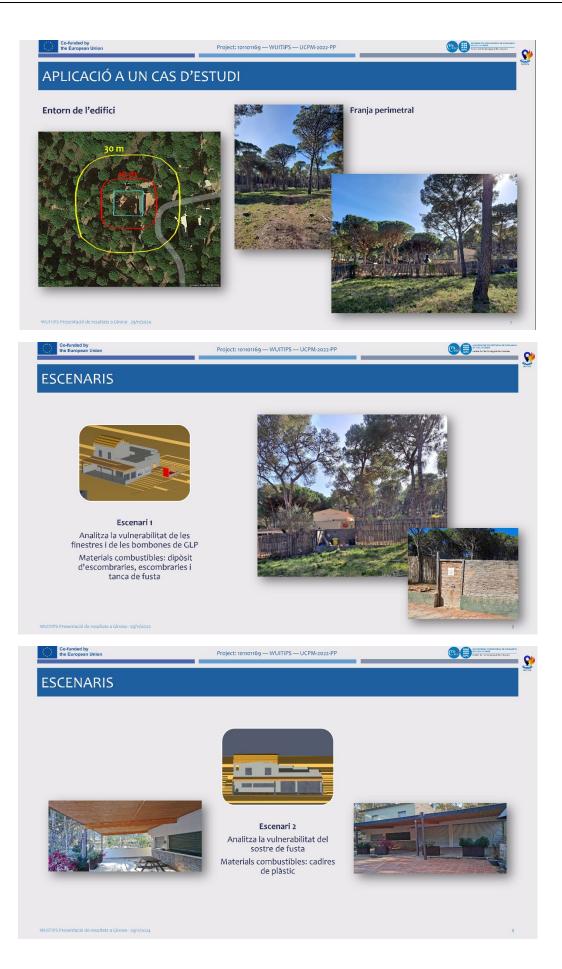
Això permetrà que els actors implicats en la prevenció i emergència contra incendis puguin accedir i utilitzar aquesta informació de manera fàcil.

VUITIPS Presentació de resultats a Girona- 29/11/2024













3.3. Tools for human vulnerability assessment - Evacuation of tourist infrastructures by Enrico Ronchi

3.3.1. Abstract

This presentation focussed on tools for the assessment of human vulnerability in case of wildfire scenarios, with particular emphasis on tourist populations unprepared for emergency evacuation situations. Effective emergency strategies must consider human behaviour and decision-making processes. For instance, tourists, often unfamiliar with wildfire risks, face unique challenges in evacuation. Cross-border regions with diverse cultures and languages further complicate evacuation efforts. Addressing tourist vulnerability necessitates understanding human characteristics influencing decision-making and developing tools for their assessment.

This presentation reviewed possible tourist responses in wildfire scenarios through a literature review and the results of a set of interviews conducted with stakeholders. Then it provided an overview of a set of valuable tools adopted during the WUITIPS project, including evacuation modelling applied to touristic infrastructures (with its use exemplified for the case study of the camping of Punta Milà) and the newly developed TOURSAFE tool, designed to assess human vulnerability in touristic areas prone to wildfires. The tools aim to enhance the protection of tourist populations, offering a guideline for good practices for human protection.

3.3.2. Presentation printout

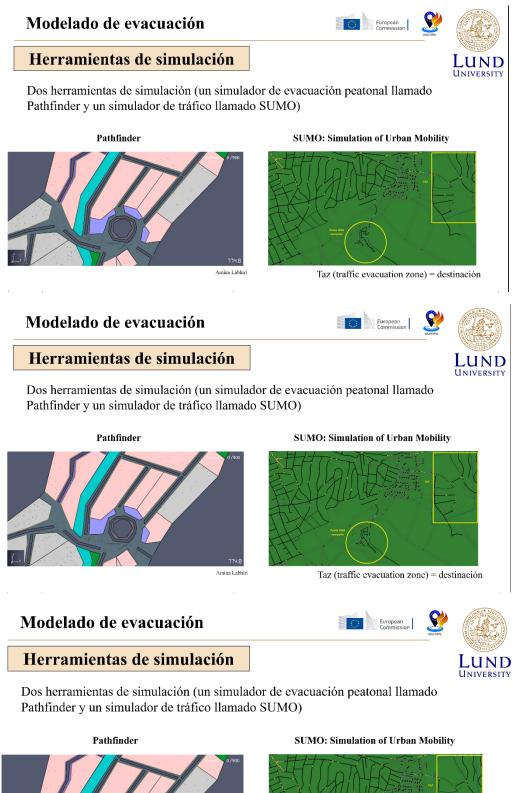


- La herramienta TOURSAFE Desarrollo de TOURSAFE Testeo de TOURSAFE





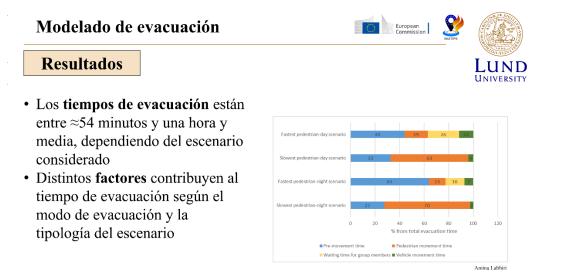


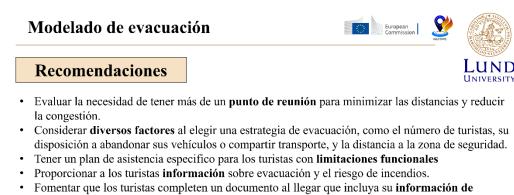




Taz (traffic evacuation zone) = destinación

Amina Labhiri





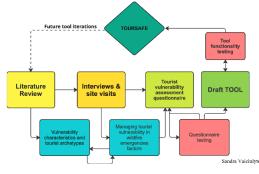
- **contacto** y los **idiomas** que hablan, para que las órdenes de evacuación puedan emitirse en varios idiomas.
- · Asegurarse de que los turistas reciban órdenes de evacuación de una fuente oficial.
- Los escenarios de evacuación nocturna pueden ser los más complejos, por lo que es importante planificar para esos casos.



European Commission

Desarrollo de TOURSAFE

TOURSAFE es una **herramienta** para evaluar la vulnerabilidad humana en áreas turísticas.



Evaluación de la vulnerabilidad humana \rightarrow ayuda a elegir las acciones para proteger a los turistas.

La herramienta TOURSAFE



European Commission

¿Como funciona TOURSAFE?

- TOURSAFE va a pedir una serie de preguntas relativas al área turística de interés
- TOURSAFE produce una evaluación de la vulnerabilidad humana para distintos temas
- TOURSAFE responde con un conjunto de recomendaciones personalizadas basadas en la información proporcionada. También identifica vulnerabilidades específicas.

Theme	Weighing for vulnerability assessment		
	Low	Medium	
Wildfire frequency	1	2	3-4
Peak wildfire season and tourism	1	2	3-4
Communication	12-17	18-21	23-55
a. Language			
b. Channels			
c. Functionality			
d. Communication type			
Tourist and resident types	5-10	11-15	
Transportation & assembly (evacuation by private vchicles)	1-2	3-4	5-8
Transportation & assembly (evacuation by foot or by public transport)	1-3	4-7	8-12
Human vulnerability	1-3	4-5	6-8
Reaching remote populations	1	2	3-4
Financially inclusive emergency planning	2	3-6	
Challenges and opportunities	0-3	4-8	

La herramienta TOURSAFE



El testing de TOURSAFE se ha echo con

- un alcalde de un ayuntamiento en Catalunya, •
- un técnico de medio ambiente y cartografía,
- un investigador de incendios forestales •



La herramienta TOURSAFE





Después de contestar las preguntas, se obtiene un archivo .html con la evaluación y las recomendaciones







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3.4. Vulnerability of tourist roads - the case of Gi-614 to Cadaqués, by Elsa Pastor

3.4.1. Abstract

Wildfires can have a devastating impact not only on urban areas located at the wildland-urban interface but also on other critical infrastructures such as roads, railways, and industrial sites. This risk is particularly concerning in tourist areas with high traffic volumes, such as Cadaqués during the summer, where the GI-614 experiences severe congestion, with vehicles stalled along stretches of up to 7 km. Tragic events like the wildfires in Mati (Greece, 2018) and Pedrógão Grande (Portugal, 2017) have highlighted the vulnerability of these scenarios and the urgent need to identify problematic roads, better understand entrapment risks, and improve emergency planning and prevention strategies. In Cap de Creus, where wind-driven wildfires are recurrent, the combination of challenging topography, dense vegetation, and high traffic intensity underscores the importance of implementing effective fuel management and safety measures to mitigate risks and protect lives.

This context raises key research questions about road infrastructure safety and human protection. It is crucial to determine which road sections, such as those along the GI-614, are most vulnerable to wildfires and to assess the potential intensities and spread rates of typical fires threatening these critical points. Furthermore, understanding which fuel treatments could effectively reduce fire exposure in vehicle entrapment scenarios is essential. Additionally, evaluating whether vehicle occupants could withstand the impact of a wildfire while confined in their cars and identifying the most effective preventive measures to minimize potential damages are vital aspects of this research.

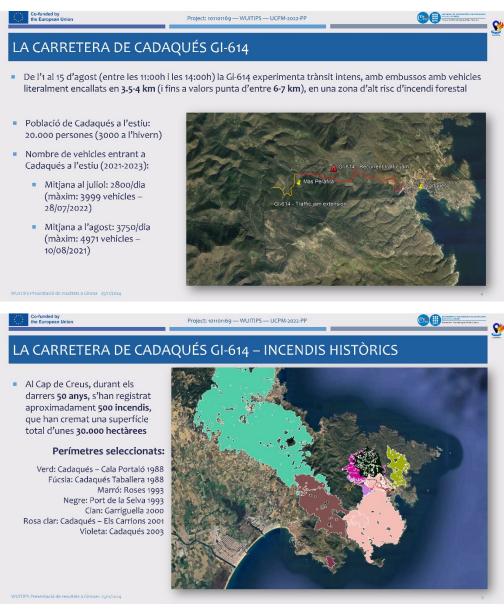
To address these challenges, a research methodology combining multiple tools and strategies was applied. First, a qualitative analysis of the topography and fuels in the congestion-prone area of the GI-614 was conducted, followed by the definition of a typical wildfire scenario. Meteorological data were parameterized using the MESONH physical simulator, semi-empirical wildfire scenario simulations were carried out with FARSITE, and detailed fire exposure and vulnerability analyses were performed using the CFD tool FDS.

The simulation study aimed to evaluate the effectiveness of 50-meter-wide fuel treatment strips on both sides of vulnerable sections of the GI-614. The results show that while these treatments significantly reduce risk, they do not completely eliminate critical exposure, especially in areas affected by counter-winds. Preliminary findings also indicate that confinement within vehicles offers limited protection, as radiation from flames reaching the road can exceed tolerable levels.

As a viable alternative, a land-use change is proposed, prioritizing the establishment of agricultural zones, such as vineyards and olive groves, in the most vulnerable areas to effectively reduce wildfire risk.

3.4.2. Presentation printout





Co-funded by the European Unior Project: 101101169 — WUITIPS — UCPM-2022-PP

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LA CARRETERA DE CADAQUÉS GI-614 – INCENDI TIPUS

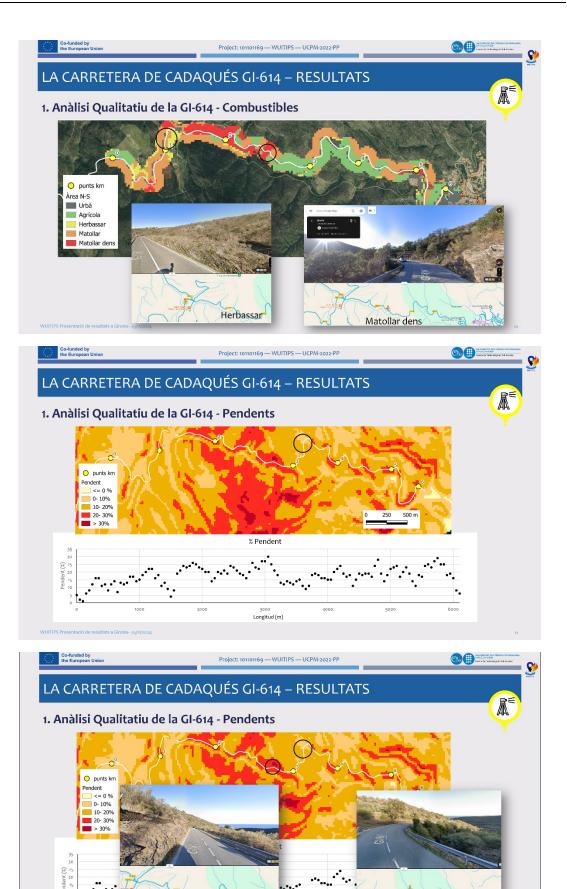
Incendi tipus: Foc de Vent amb Relleu

- Vents de N-NW
- Forta interacció entre el vent, la topografia i la disponibilitat de combustible.
- El perímetre segueix la línea general de les carenes amb el vent paral·lel a la carena.
- El cap de l'incendi s'alinea amb la línia de màxima velocitat del vent.
- En serralades perpendiculars a la direcció del vent, apareixen contravents que faciliten la propagació ascendent (focus secundaris)









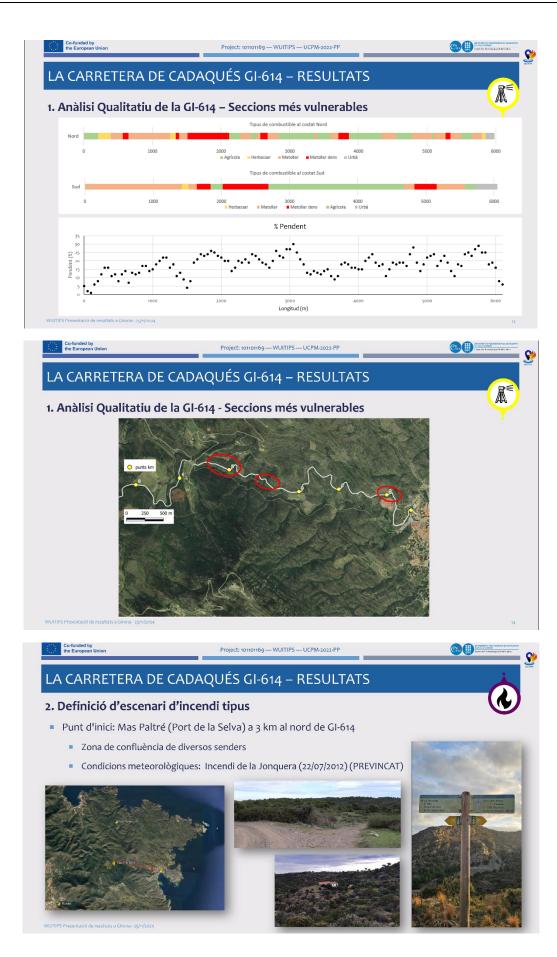
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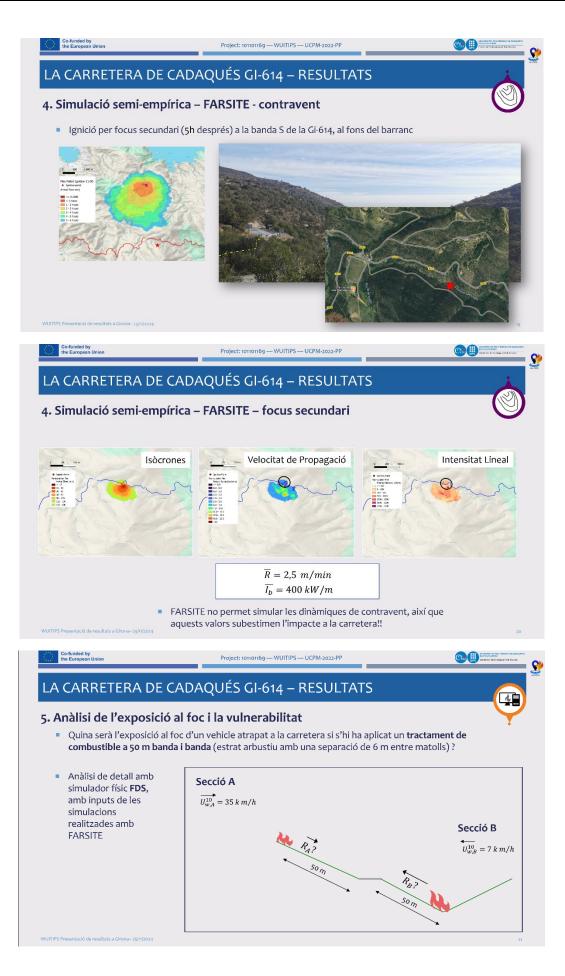
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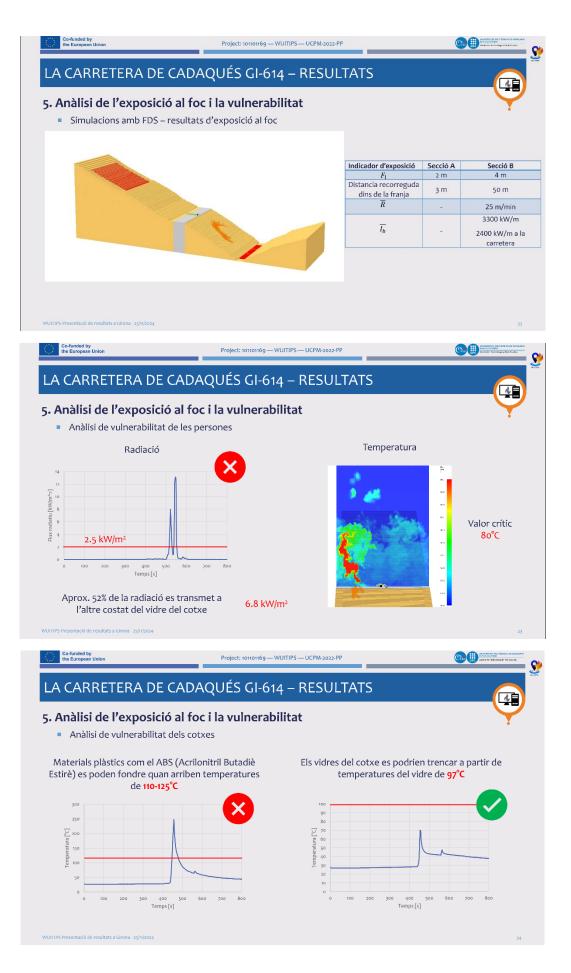
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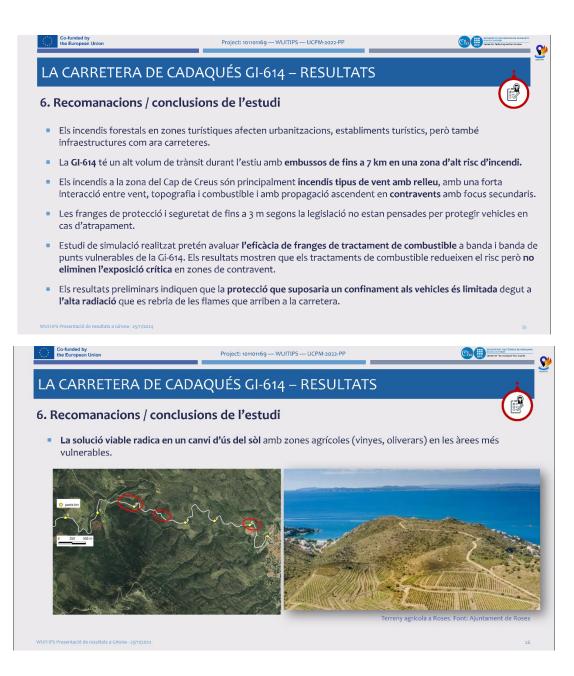
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4. Round table discussion – take home messages

The WUITIPS project aims to mitigate wildfire risks in tourist areas and infrastructure, focusing on the Spanish-French border region, particularly in Girona Province, encompassing both mountainous and coastal tourist destinations. The demonstration event highlighted the methodologies and findings developed by the WUITIPS consortium at a pilot site in Girona. The event featured expert insights from local stakeholders, who participated in a roundtable discussion (Figure 3) centered on the applicability, implementation, and scalability of the proposed solutions.



Figure 3. Round table discussion with E. Plana as a facilitator

To summarize the key takeaways, the findings have been organized into two main aspects. The first focuses on a general evaluation of the preparedness of key stakeholders—tourism managers, authorities, and the general population—to recognize the wildfire risk, address it effectively, and adopt fire management solutions, such as those developed in the WUITIPS project, with varying levels of readiness across these groups. The second aspect highlights specific takeaways regarding the WUITIPS tools and studies, analysing the Tourist Infrastructure Mapping, the Toursafe, the Vulnerability Self-Assessment Web Tool and the wildfire risk analysis method in wildfire-exposed roads, and exploring other potential technologies and solutions that could complement the toolkit.

Take-home messages on preparedness of primary stakeholders

• The effective implementation of tools like those developed in the WUITIPS project relies heavily on **empowering the private sector**, particularly within the tourism industry, to take an active role in wildfire prevention and emergency preparedness. However, the competitive nature of the tourism sector often makes it hesitant to reveal vulnerabilities, such as inadequate wildfire prevention or emergency planning, due to

fears of negative economic repercussions. Addressing these weaknesses can meet resistance, as risk disclosure might deter tourists and impact revenue streams.

- To effectively engage the private sector, it is crucial to present initiatives and tools as opportunities for improvement and growth, rather than as liabilities. Risk management must be positioned as a value-added asset. Proposals such as introducing a "Fire Safe" labelling scheme or offering tax incentives to facilities that reduce their vulnerability are promising approaches. However, these solutions also raise challenges related to transparency and equity, which would need to be carefully managed to ensure fair and effective implementation.
- Regarding the role of public authorities, it has been emphasized that they cannot address all areas, particularly in light of the increasing wildfire risk and complexity expected in future scenarios. This limitation highlights the need to empower the private sector to take on greater responsibility in wildfire risk management. At the same time, disparities in messaging among different levels of public administration—local, regional, and national—have been identified. Addressing this inconsistency is crucial, as a unified and coherent approach across all administrative levels would strengthen the overall strategy and ensure more effective coordination.
- Building on this need for a more efficient approach, another promising strategy is to
 advocate for legislative changes that introduce specific mandatory measures requiring
 tourist establishments to enhance their wildfire risk management practices. For
 example, integrating the vulnerability analysis developed in the WUITIPS project into
 self-protection plans could provide a practical and actionable step toward improving
 preparedness and resilience across the sector.
- The general population needs a shift in risk perception, moving from a culture of fear to one of awareness and proactive engagement. Education plays a key role in fostering this change, starting in schools to build a foundation for long-term cultural transformation. In the short term, complementary measures are necessary, such as enforcing legal requirements from authorities and encouraging public awareness. The ultimate goal is to create a societal norm where tourists actively expect and demand effective risk management from establishments, integrating safety into the fabric of the tourism industry.

Take-home messages on WUITIPS tools and studies:

- There is a consensus that the European Union needs effective tools and solutions to tackle the challenges at hand, and the tools developed through the WUITIPS project represent an important step in this direction. In particular, studies that can be applied at the local level, such as the mapping of specific tourist establishments at the WUI, are seen as highly valuable, as they help identify specific needs in areas where municipalities often lack resources. The aim is to pinpoint where the problems are most concentrated so that resources can be allocated efficiently and work can begin where it is most needed.
- The assessment tools for human and structural vulnerability are widely regarded as user-friendly, with clear, easily interpretable content and questions. They enable users

to better understand their current situation and consider aspects they may not have previously considered. Additionally, users recognize that simple, low-cost actions can result in meaningful improvements. The fact that these tools not only identify vulnerabilities but also offer practical recommendations for enhancement adds significant value.

- It is widely agreed that there are **several other roads** in Girona and other wildfire-prone regions that are at **risk of entrapment during a wildfire**. Addressing this issue requires exploring multiple strategies, such as creating fuel reduction zones, implementing road closures, and improving infrastructure (like roundabouts and secondary roads) to facilitate potential evacuation. The primary focus should be on preventing entrapment, as past incidents have shown that it is difficult to predict how people will react when trapped on the road, especially when faced with smoke and heat, which may cause them to abandon their vehicles and flee on foot. While addressing this across all roads may be a complex challenge, it is equally important to focus on **urban planning in addition to emergency management**. The real challenge lies in integrating both aspects effectively.
- In addition to the tools developed in the WUITIPS project, there is a recognized need to develop a tool that can send alerts to the mobile phones of tourists staying at accommodations, as the necessary data is already available. This would enable establishments to notify clients about the actions they should take to improve emergency management.