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Rapid Multi-Risk Needs Evaluation and Planning Platform

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CBR Exposure, Resources and Capacity Portfolio

Executive summary of Civil Protection Resources, Capacities and Capabilities

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Executive summary

Efficient disaster and emergency response depend on the effective combination of resources, capacities, and capabilities. Resources include personnel, equipment, facilities, knowledge and funding. Capacities refer to the ability of institutions and systems to organize, coordinate, and sustain these resources, and develop them if they are missing. Capabilities represent the demonstrated ability to carry out critical response functions—such as search and rescue, medical aid, evacuation, or damage assessment—during real events. Together, these elements determine how quickly and effectively a response can minimize impacts and save lives.

Task 3.4 of the EMERGE project addresses the need for cross-border disaster response and interoperable civil protection systems. Its objectives are: (i) to assess national resources, capacities, and capabilities; (ii) to establish a harmonized database; and (iii) to enable timely sharing through the Guidelines (Deliverable 2.2). The focus is on earthquakes and earthquake-induced landslides at the regional cross-border level, considering differences in national systems, data availability, and institutional responsibilities.

Deliverable D3.5 presents an executive summary of the Civil Protection resources, capacities, and capabilities evaluated under Deliverable D3.4, which has a sensitive dissemination level. To ensure alignment with the EMERGE Rapid Needs Assessment (RNA) methodology—enabling the timely evaluation of urgent needs within the first 72 hours following a disaster (Deliverable D2.2) an essential database was designed within D3.4. This database comprises twelve attributes mapped to the metrics of identified needs, and its structure is presented in the Annex to Deliverable D3.4. Most of the required data were collected under Deliverables D3.1 and D3.3, and all data were standardized and validated by the project partners to ensure interoperability and reliability.

Data ownership, population, and management are the responsibility of the national Civil Protection authorities in CBR, ensuring compliance with national legal frameworks and data sensitivity requirements. The essential database, developed in D3.4 is integrated into the EMERGE Web-Based Platform (WBP), enabling near-real-time assessment of needs in relation to available resources and facilitating the identification of gaps and cross-border assistance requirements.

1. Introduction

Resources, capacities, and capabilities are core pillars of effective disaster and emergency response. *Resources* refer to the tangible and human assets available, such as personnel, equipment, facilities, and funding. *Capacities* describe the ability of institutions and systems to mobilize, coordinate, and sustain these resources through planning, governance, logistics, and operational procedures. *Capabilities* represent the practical, demonstrated ability to perform specific response functions—such as search and rescue, medical response, evacuation, or damage assessment—under real disaster conditions. Together, they determine how quickly, efficiently, and effectively a response system can prevent loss of life, reduce impacts, and support recovery.

The background and rationale of Task 3.4 stem from the increasing need for effective cross-border disaster and emergency response and the growing importance of interoperable civil protection systems capable of operating across national boundaries. In this context, the main objectives are: (i) to evaluate national civil protection resources, capacities, and capabilities; (ii) to establish a structured and harmonised database; and (iii) to support efficient cross-border information sharing through dedicated Guidelines (Deliverable 2.2). The scope of the task covers earthquakes and landslides triggered by earthquakes, while the institutional coverage includes regional (cross-border) levels. At the same time, certain limitations apply, reflecting differences in national systems, data availability, and institutional mandates across the participating countries.

This deliverable (D3.5) forms part of Work Package 3 (WP3) of the EMERGE project, which gives executive summary of the evaluated resources, capacities, and capabilities for disaster and emergency response in the cross-border region (CBR) carried out in the deliverable D3.4.

2. Concise Overview of Deliverable D3.4

An introduction to the development of the CBR database, as well as its general architecture and logical structure (main entities), is provided in Sections 2.1 and 2.2. The essential database template, mapped to the EMERGE Rapid Needs Assessment (RNA) methodology and integrated into the EMERGE Web-Based Platform (WBP), is presented in Section 2.3 and in the Annex of Deliverable D3.4.

The inventory of contemporary CBR resources is based on data collected under Tasks 3.1 and 3.3 (Deliverables D3.1 and D3.3), as well as publicly available data, and encompasses the attributes presented in the data collection form included in the Annex of Deliverable D3.4.

Based on the collected data, the inventory of contemporary resources in Albania includes 666 schools and 31 hospitals, while in Greece it includes 63 schools and 9 hospitals. In North Macedonia, the inventory comprises 58 schools, 16 hospitals, and 6 shelters, with a total of 1,888 hospital beds, 551 medical doctors, 36 first-aid vehicles, and a temporary sheltering capacity for 65,852 persons.

References

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