



# ODET

## Extreme Wildfire Events training series

### Concept note

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## Table of contents

Context.....	3
Objectives .....	3
Participants .....	3
Format and agenda .....	4
1) Preparatory webinar .....	4
2) In-person training event .....	4
3) Post-training forum.....	5
Additional information.....	5
How to apply.....	5
Contact details .....	5



## Context

Extreme Wildfire Events (EWEs) are becoming an increasing challenge across Europe, posing risks to society, ecosystems and firefighter safety. Their complexity, uncertainty and strong interaction with atmospheric conditions make preparedness and capacity building especially difficult.

**ODET** builds on the results and legacy of **EWED** to further develop the [Wildfire Data Portal](#) and strengthen the use of empirical data, virtual fire scenarios, fire-atmosphere knowledge and user-centred tools. The project aims to make this knowledge more accessible and operational for emergency response organisations, supporting them in interpreting information and adapting it to their own operational contexts.

The ODET Training Event is conceived as part of a broader sequence of capacity-building activities on EWEs, initiated under EWED and further developed through ODET. Participants will be supported through a progressive learning pathway composed of training resources and events designed to strengthen their capacities over time and facilitate the application of knowledge across different phases and contexts. This pathway reinforces core and fundamental concepts while deepening their operational interpretation and supporting the transfer of learning into practice.

A key component of this framework is the in-person training organised within ODET. The event will place strong emphasis on applied learning through real wildfire cases, guided exercises, concise support materials and the practical use of EWED/ODET tools. By translating fire-atmosphere knowledge into operational understanding, the training will help practitioners recognise pyroconvection processes, interpret their expression in fire behaviour and apply this perspective to wildfire analysis, preparedness and decision-making. Building on the EWED training experience and opening the pathway to new experienced operational profiles, the event will create a shared learning environment focused on practical application across different organisational contexts.

## Objectives

The training event aims to strengthen participants' understanding of the meteorological processes that influence wildfire behaviour and contribute to the occurrence of EWEs. Specifically, the training aim to:

- Understand key meteorological parameters and their relevance for wildfire analysis.
- Explore the vertical structure of the atmosphere and the role of the atmospheric boundary layer.
- Understand the interaction between wildfires, plume dynamics and pyroconvection.
- Analyse past wildfire cases and practise the interpretation of atmospheric and fire behaviour data.
- Become familiar with the Wildfire Data Portal as a practical support tool for analysis and knowledge sharing.
- Apply the knowledge acquired through practical exercises and a realistic scenario.
- Improve shared terminology, analytical capacity and knowledge exchange among participants.

## Participants

Suggested backgrounds of the participants are:

- Wildfire analysts and tactical advisors
- Forest engineers operationally involved in wildfires
- Incident commanders and support teams involved in fire analysis
- (Fire) meteorologists
- Other personnel to whom knowledge about EWEs is relevant

Participants with some operational experience will be prioritized, as well as participants that hold some basic knowledge of meteorology and fire behaviour before starting the training. Priority will be given to participants



who have previously attended training events on the same topic, such as the EWED training event, although this is not a mandatory requirement.

As places are limited, participants will be selected based on the profiles received, with the aim of ensuring a relevant and balanced group.

## Format and agenda

The training event consists of three distinct phases that contribute to the learning process:

### 1) Preparatory webinar

Prior to the main event, a short online preparatory session will be organised to introduce the key concepts. Also, other materials such as videos and reference publications will be shared.

During the webinar, logistical arrangements for the in-person event will be discussed.

The date for this webinar will be set by a vote among the participants.

### 2) In-person training event

The main training event will take place in person over two and a half days at the WUR campus in the Impulse building (NcountR classroom) (PD, Stippeneng 2, Wageningen, Netherlands or [here](#)).

The training event will mainly be in a classroom setting and contains various exercises. The sessions will be facilitated by personnel from WUR's Meteorology and Air Quality Group, The Netherlands Institute for Public Safety and the Catalan Fire and Rescue Service.

Below is the preliminary agenda:

The detailed agenda will be sent to participants by email prior to the training event.

Day 1 – Monday 19 October		
Morning	Applied meteorology – Theory 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The vertical structure of the atmosphere</li> <li>The atmospheric boundary layer</li> <li>Analysis of the atmospheric vertical structure using conserved variables</li> </ul>
Afternoon	Applied meteorology – Exercises 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analysis of atmospheric vertical structure of past cases</li> <li>Analysis of wildfire plume rise using non-entraining plumes</li> </ul>
Day 2 – Tuesday 20 October		
Morning	Applied meteorology – Theory 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rising plumes and entrainment</li> <li>From wildfire to plume properties</li> </ul>
Afternoon	Applied meteorology – Exercises 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analysing plume rise and pyroconvection types of past cases</li> </ul>
Day 3 – Wednesday 21 October		
Morning	Realistic scenario exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Application of acquired knowledge to a real case</li> </ul>



### 3) Post-training forum

Following the main training event, an online forum will be set up where participants will have the opportunity to ask and discuss any concerns that may arise from applying the knowledge they have acquired.

This forum will be set up through the [UCPKN Communities](#) and will remain active over time to facilitate the exchange of data, information, concerns, networking and any other relevant aspects of the EWEs topic.

Participants will also have the opportunity to stay connected through the forum and engage with future ODET activities and results, including additional training opportunities planned for 2027.

## Additional information

- Participation in the Training event is free of charge.
- Coffee breaks and lunches during the event are included. Participants are responsible for covering all other costs, including travel, flights, accommodation, dinners and personal expenses.
- ODET recommends participants to arrive on Sunday 18 and depart on the afternoon of Wednesday 21 October.
- Participants are required to bring a laptop.
- A certificate of attendance can be provided upon request.

## How to apply

To **express your interest**, please complete [this form](#) by **31 July** at the latest.

Please note that places are limited and submitting this form does not guarantee participation. Participants will be selected based on the information provided in the Expression of interest form. Selected participants will be contacted by email and asked to complete a short Registration form.

## Contact details

For questions or more information about the registration, the Training event or other (e.g. logistical matters), please contact the project team at:



[ODETproject@gmail.com](mailto:ODETproject@gmail.com)

