

# EFDRR Roadmap Action-oriented Dialogue

## Inclusive and Collaborative Systems for Heat and Wildfire Risks Governance

This year again, several Mediterranean countries including Greece have witnessed a summer season with prolonged periods of extremely high temperatures and heatwaves resulting in devastating wildfires where according to the European Forest Fire Information System (Effis) burnt areas in Europe are four times larger than the average. The latest IPCC report states that the Mediterranean region is a climate change “hotspot” and that warming across the region will be about 20 percent higher than the global average in the decades to come. The report warns that the region will be hit by ever fiercer heatwaves, droughts and wildfires.

The transboundary cooperation in the region is underpinned by the European Union’s Civil Protection Mechanism, supporting Member States with specific capacities. The climate emergency calls however for enhanced collaboration and common strategies to tackle extreme temperatures, and heatwaves, whilst preventing wildfires and building on existing national plans or measures in an effort to move beyond the traditional focus on disaster response. More targeted cooperation is also needed among the Eastern Mediterranean countries in order to tackle the risks and challenges which are specific to the region.

The Government of Greece with the support of the EFDRR Secretariat (UNDRR Office for Europe and Central Asia, European Commission, Council of Europe) and UNDRR Office for Arab States organizes this dialogue to address these key questions Eastern Mediterranean countries. Representatives from political and expert levels will share knowledge and experiences for establishing partnerships and developing concrete actions to be implemented at sub regional, national and local level. The dialogue will conclude with a Ministerial Roundtable aiming to agree on concrete risk informed next steps.

Supported by specific focuses on climate change projections, urban resilience and inclusive approach for disaster risk reduction, the outcomes of the dialogue will contribute to the regional efforts for climate change adaptation and will support the implementation of the [EFDRR Roadmap 2021-2030](#) as well as the [Arab Region’s Prioritized Plan of Action 2021-2024](#).

### Agenda

8.00-9.30 (CEST)

#### Climate change scenario and projections in the Mediterranean basin

9.00-10.30 (EEST)

Despite increasing interest, the potential of climate change scenarios has not been fully valued, mainly due to a lack of awareness of available projections. Similarly, the evolving nature of wildfire risk is not yet fully analyzed and embedded in national plans for DRR. This interactive session will provide space for peer-to-peer learning and exchange about how to better consider and address medium and long-term climate projections in the region, as well as to share scientific knowledge and good practices on adaptation. The session will further explore the role of technology in tackling climate issues. This session aims to make climate scenarios more accessible to a wider group of actors and decision-makers in the region.



### Speakers



**Ioannis Boukis**  
Sendai Framework National Focal Point  
Ministry for Climate Crisis and Civil  
Protection of Greece



**Dominique Morvan**  
Professor  
Aix-Marseille Université



**Wadid Erian**  
Senior SDG and DRR  
Expert



**Theodora Antonakaki**  
Director of  
Climate Change and  
Sustainability Centre  
Bank of Greece



**Jessie Thomson**  
Head  
IFRC Country Delegation  
Greece



**Constantinos Cartalis**  
Professor  
University of Athens

10.00-11.30 (CEST)

11.00-12.30 (EEST)



### Bridging the gap between national and local resilience policies

This session aims to better connect local and national governments, ensuring that local resilience strategies and resilience-building plans are not developed and implemented in isolation to regional and/or national DRR and resilience strategies. City rules and regulations around building resilience should be coherent with the regional and/or the national ones. This session will aim to answer how the national government can best support and incentivize local governments to address climate change, adapt to extreme temperatures and heat waves, and how to put in place local resilience plans and policies. MCR2030 champion cities and hubs will be invited to share their innovative approaches to building urban resilience. The session will also address the necessary actions to empower local authorities and local partnerships.

### Speakers



**Octavian Bivol**  
 Chief  
 UNDRR ROECA



**Eleni Myrivili**  
 Chief Heat Officer  
 City of Athens



**Boran Ivanovski**  
 Programme Officer  
 Network of Associations of Local  
 Authorities of SEE



**Zenada Causevic**  
 Head of the Civil Protection  
 Central Bosnian Canton



**Andreas Antonakos**  
 Expert  
 Ministry for Climate Crisis and Civil  
 Protection of Greece



**Jalal Dabeek**  
 Professor  
 An-Najah University

10.00-11.30 (CEST)

11.00-12.30 (EEST)



### Addressing heat vulnerability – Leaving no one behind

The persons and groups most at risk must be key stakeholders in building resilience – they are at the frontline of disaster risk and have a tremendous potential to influence societal issues. This session aims to bring together resilience officers, experienced representatives from civil society, and DRR actors to discuss the current status of resilience building in the region and options for better engagement of groups at risk in disaster risk reduction processes including disaster risk assessment, planning, and preparedness. Ensuring the whole of society approach will help Member States in delivering the promises they make.

### Speakers



**Krzysztof Zyman**  
 Executive Secretary, EUR-OPA Agreement  
 Council of Europe



**Cláudia Estevão Dos Reis**  
 Researcher  
 University of Lisbon



**Stella Psarropoulou**  
 Resilience Officer  
 City of Thessaloniki



**Ioannis Vardakastanis**  
 President  
 European Disability Forum



**Mercedes Augerre**  
 Programme Officer  
 French Red Cross



**Jean D'Cunha**  
 Senior Advisor  
 UNWomen



**Sofia Karma**  
 Researcher  
 European Center  
 for Forest Fires