

Kick Off * Project's Progress: Milestones * Prof. Gasparini

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Editorial

We are happy to present you the first ever newsletter of the ESPREssO project. The project and its team members have experienced some stirring first six months. First of all, the [ESPEssO Kick Off Meeting](#) took place in Naples in June

1. To propose ways to create more coherent national and European approaches to Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change Adaptation and resilience strengthening;
2. To enhance risk management capabilities by bridging the gap between science and legal/policy issues at local and national levels in six European countries;
3. To address the issue of efficient management of trans-boundary crises.

Later the same month, on June 22nd, ESPRESSO team member Sina Marx joined the General Assembly of the PLAtform for Climate Adaptation and Risk reduction (PLACARD; www.placard-network.eu). Its mission as a Horizon2020 Coordination and Support Action is to be the recognized platform for dialogue, knowledge exchange and collaboration between the Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) communities. In the large and complex landscape of stakeholder networks, research, policy initiatives and information sources, PLACARD has the aim of enhancing the coherence of and give direction to CCA and DRR research, policy and practices, strengthening cooperation and countering fragmentation between the domains. The program intends to establish a comprehensive coordination and knowledge exchange platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue and consultation to address gaps and fragmentation challenges, and support the development and implementation of an evidence based approach for research and innovation policies.

Project Flyer

The Consortium

A consortium agreement in the ESPResSE region requires a strong, well-defined group. The ESPResSE consortium is broadly open to any partner from the ESPResSE region to design and implement the best and most suitable approaches for the EU and its citizens.

The group includes:

- AT** Austria – Montanuniversität Leoben (Austria) (MUNI)
- BE** Belgium – Ghent University (Ghent)
- CZ** Czech Republic – Masaryk University (Masaryk)
- DE** Germany – Technische Universität München (TUM)
- FR** France – Université de Strasbourg (Strasbourg)
- GR** Greece – National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)
- IT** Italy – Politecnico di Milano (Milan)
- PL** Poland – University of Wrocław (Wrocław)
- PT** Portugal – Universidade Nova de Lisboa (Lisbon)
- RO** Romania – University of Medicine and Pharmacy (Bucarest)
- SE** Sweden – Chalmers University of Technology (Göteborg)
- SI** Slovenia – University of Ljubljana (Ljubljana)
- SK** Slovakia – Technical University of Košice (Košice)
- UK** United Kingdom – University of Southampton (Southampton)

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Get involved

Are you interested in getting involved? To see what's going on for a working, a candidate meeting or to attend the event?

Send an email to info@espressoproject.eu

Invited:
 Deutsche Bundes-Katastrophenschutz (BfK) (Bonn)
 German Commission for Disaster Relief (GCDR)
 EU-DRG
 The German Red Cross (DRK)
 Red Cross of Austria (ÖRK)
 Red Cross of Belgium (CROB)
 Red Cross of Bulgaria (BRCB)
 Red Cross of Czech Republic (CZRCB)
 Red Cross of Denmark (DRD)
 Red Cross of Finland (FRCB)
 Red Cross of France (FRCB)
 Red Cross of Germany (GRCB)
 Red Cross of Greece (GRCB)
 Red Cross of Hungary (HRCB)
 Red Cross of Italy (IRC)
 Red Cross of Latvia (LRCB)
 Red Cross of Lithuania (LRCB)
 Red Cross of Luxembourg (LRCB)
 Red Cross of Malta (MRCB)
 Red Cross of Netherlands (NRCB)
 Red Cross of Norway (NRCB)
 Red Cross of Poland (PRCB)
 Red Cross of Portugal (PRCB)
 Red Cross of Romania (RCRB)
 Red Cross of Slovakia (SRCB)
 Red Cross of Slovenia (SRCB)
 Red Cross of Spain (SRCB)
 Red Cross of Sweden (SRCB)
 Red Cross of Switzerland (SRCB)
 Red Cross of the Czech Republic (CZRCB)
 Red Cross of the Netherlands (NRCB)
 Red Cross of the United Kingdom (UKRCB)
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Enhancing Synergies for Disaster Prevention in the European Union: the ESPResSE Project

www.espressoproject.eu

Download the ESPRESSO flyer

Emergency and Disaster Studies (NEEDS) in Copenhagen.

And if you are you interested in getting involved or if you want to join us for a workshop, a stakeholder meeting or you want to be part of the network, just send an email to: info@dkkv.org

We are looking forward to your inputs!

The ESPREssO Project Consortium

Post Scriptum:

Shockingly, in July 2016 Prof. Gasparini, coordinator of the ESPREssO project, passed away and left the whole project consortium shaken - especially AMRA, ESPREssO's coordinating institute, whose Scientific Coordinator Prof. Gasparini had been for many years. Following the sad passing of Prof. Gasparini, AMRA has appointed Prof. Giulio Zuccaro as new ESPREssO Project Coordinator. Read more on Prof. Zuccaro's background [here](#).

Obituary | Prof. Gasparini



Prof. Paolo Gasparini, Professor Emeritus at the Department of Physical Sciences, University of Napoli Federico II and coordinator of the ESPREssO project, passed away in the night of July 28, 2016.

We have lost a great scientist who devoted himself to the Earth Science community at large. The University of Naples "Federico II" organized a day in his memory. The event was held at the University of Naples - Monte Sant'Angelo premises – Aula Azzurra on November 25th. More information on Prof. Gasparini's life and work can be found here: www.paologasparini.unina.it

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News

New ESPREssO Coordinator



We welcome Prof. Giulio Zuccaro as the new ESPREssO Project Coordinator

Following the sad passing of Prof. Gasparini, AMRA has appointed Prof. Giulio Zuccaro as new ESPREssO Project Coordinator. He has cooperated with AMRA for more than ten years. Prof. Zuccaro is an architect, Permanent Professor of Structural Mechanics and Theory of Structures at University of Napoli Federico II and Director of the *Study Centre “PLINIVS”* for Hydrologic, Seismic and Volcanic Engineering. He is founder of the Regional School of Civil Protection in Campania (2001), where he has been Director of Studies from 2001 to 2015. He has been member of the Major Risks National Committee of the Italian Civil Protection Department (DPC) since 2012. As Consultant of the Regional and National Civil Protection, he is member of the working group for the upgrading of Vesuvius and Campi Flegrei Civil Protection Plans. In the last 30 years, he has been engaged in several national and international research projects in the context of seismic, volcanic and hydrogeological risk assessment, emergency planning and decision making support, impact damage scenarios and hazard modelling, with particular reference to system vulnerability and time dependent dynamic scenarios. He is author of more than 150 papers and books on these topics.

Stakeholder Survey



Your chance to contribute to the ESPREssO stakeholder forum

Dear partners and stakeholders,

Please find on the ESPREssO homepage, a link to a sign-up survey for the ESPREssO project stakeholder database:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X7DJ5RX>

This is intended to assist creation of our Stakeholder Forum, selection of which will be critical to completing our work packages, so we would invite you to spend a few minutes completing an entry of any stakeholder that wishes to be involved with the project. You will see that there are only a few required sections. It should take no more than 5 minutes to complete (one for each stakeholder please).

All suggestions at this stage are very welcome, we will then coordinate, analyse and select final groupings and will be in touch in due course.

ENHANCE Project Results Published



ENHANCE results on Multi-Sector Partnerships in DRM

ENHANCE, an EU-funded research project which started in 2012, has been working with 24 partners in 11 European countries to develop novel ways to enhance society's resilience to natural disasters. The project has studied 10 case studies on risk reduction of catastrophic events, related to everything from alpine hazards to railway transport to volcanic eruptions impacting air transport.

The ENHANCE project partners have just published a book '**Novel Multi-Sector Partnerships in Disaster Risk Management – Results of the ENHANCE project**', which sets out the outcomes of the 4-year project. Here ENHANCE highlights that managing risks by means of stakeholder partnerships and widening the risk information basis are critical for effective risk reduction.

For more information and to download the book, please visit the ENHANCE website: <http://www.enhanceproject.eu/news/articles/154>

Recent Events

ESPRESSO Kick Off Meeting in Naples



The ESPRESSO Kick-Off Meeting took place in Naples, 23th to 24th June, 2016.

The project's initial meeting brought together a diverse interdisciplinary group of consortium representatives, members of the scientific coordination committee as well as the advisory board. Two days of fruitful discussions and constructive criticism by the advisory board members who were present at the meeting (Jochen Zschau, retired Professor of Seismology at the Potsdam University, Jerry Velasquez, Chief of Section and Head of the Making Cities Resilient Campaign of the UN, Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) as well as Daniela Di Bucci, Representative of the Department of Civil Protection, Italy) helped to shape the way ahead. For more information and to download the agenda as well as the presentations, please go to our website:

<http://www.espressoproject.eu/2016-06-17-10-22-40/kick-off-meeting.html>



ESPRESSO project activities disseminated to the General Public of Huddersfield and Yorkshire, UK

On Friday, 30th September 2016, the University of Huddersfield hosted the European Researchers' Night– a Europe wide free event giving the general public a unique opportunity to experience the real face of researchers. *Full STEAM ahead* was the theme for the event and it celebrated the exciting and varied research taking place at the University. Accordingly, the Global Disaster Resilience Centre of the University of Huddersfield, ESPRESSO partner in the UK, informed the general public about the ESPRESSO project activities: A poster was presented, particularly focusing on the challenge to create more coherent national and European approaches to Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation. In addition, a video documentary was hosted on the project activities carried out by the GDRC. As a part of the video document, aims and objectives of the ESPRESSO project was disseminated to the general public.

Upcoming Events



2nd Northern European Conference on Emergency and Disaster Studies

We're thrilled to announce another North European Emergency and Disaster Studies (NEEDS) conference to be held in 2017. The organizers, ESPREssO consortium partners from the University of Copenhagen in Denmark, are presently working out the format, the keynotes, and what has been learned from last year. But you can expect at least an exciting cooperation with Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, who will host NEEDS3; a track dedicated to practitioners and a series of experiments with the traditional conference formats.

The NEEDS conference aims to explore the status quo of disaster research and management. The conference wishes to harness its broad, interdisciplinary expertise by gathering disaster researchers from academic institutions and practitioners from the disaster management community (European and beyond) to build networks and to discuss the most pressing issues in disaster research across the academic and practical disciplines. The conference can both serve as support to the stakeholder mapping process and is an excellent opportunity to present the ESPREssO research to the public.

So: Please block 17-19 May 2017 in your calendar – it will be fun!

A preliminary website is available at

<http://changingdisasters.ku.dk/calender/needs2>. We will keep you updated about deadlines for submission of abstracts, registration, accommodation etc.

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