



PPRD East 3 Full scale exercise TbiEx2023

14 - 16 June 2023

Tbilisi, Georgia

FULL SCALE EXERCISE - Briefing Note 1. 29/03/2023

Background

The EU funded regional civil protection programme PPRD East 3 ("Prevention, Preparedness and Response to natural and man-made disasters in Eastern Partnership countries – phase 3") has the overall objective to increase the resilience to natural and man-made disasters in the Eastern Partnership Countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine¹.

The third phase of the Programme includes this Full scale exercise (FSX) on forest fires and will capitalise on earlier work, building upon recommendations from past phases and addressing previously encountered challenges.

Cross Cutting Issues (CCIs)

The FSX has integrated CCIs throughout with a systematic approach to the application of gender, Human Rights, and environmental perspectives to all phases of the exercise including, planning, implementation, and the planned lessons learned conference. Everyone involved in the programme has an important role to play in realising the CCI objectives. Our key questions have been;

1) How can we approach the integration of the gender and Human Rights perspectives?

- How can we promote a broad representation of stakeholders, and gender balance and diversity among participants?
- How do we ensure all participants² are safe and can make use of the training opportunity on equal terms, eg. when it comes to logistics arrangements.
- How can we include relevant gender and Human Rights aspects in the scenario and events of the exercise?

¹ Due to Belarus' involvement in the unprovoked and unjustified military aggression of Russia on Ukraine, the participation of Belarus in PPRD East 3 was suspended.

² Regardless of sex, age, (dis)ability, social background etc.





2) How can we approach the integration of the environmental perspective?

- Firstly, environmental issues are integrated in the scenario and events of the exercise, e.g., the impact of environmental drivers on risk assessments.
- Secondly, the environmental footprint is being considered when planning the exercise activities.
- A compiled carbon dioxide footprint will be calculated from the exercise, this serves as an important tool to be transparent and accountable, but also to learn more about how early actions could function to minimize additional carbon dioxide emissions from wildfires.

This kind of dual mind-set is at the core of the conceptual framework for integration of environmental issues and an ecosystem-based approach, as well as the concept of do no harm and principles for inclusiveness, non-discrimination and accountability. For more information, please view the [PPRD East 3 Practical Guidelines for integrating gender, human rights and environmental issues in Disaster Risk Management](#).

Scenario of the FSX – Forest Fires

The scenario starts with the winter and spring having much less rainfall than in other years and this is followed by a particularly hot spring and summer. Georgia and its neighbouring countries have worked extensively on early warning systems that provides the opportunity for early action in relation to forest fires. Despite their excellent work in this area there is a growing forest fire that they will be unable to contain without additional resources. In a different location in the country there will be a virtual, simultaneous but unrelated, CBRN event. This requires in addition to local and national response, international assistance in the field as well as field assessments and advice from international experts. International assistance has been asked both bilaterally and through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM).

This exercise is being conducted using Host Nation Support Principles and is taking a developmental approach through all stages of the exercise. The host nation is a leading partner and participating teams may need a degree of flexibility to fit into the local processes and procedures.

As an example the team trainers main role is as a coach/ mentor and they may take periodic timeouts for developmental discussions as needed. Detailed discussions have taken place with all partner countries, DG ECHO and other in country stakeholders to clearly explain that



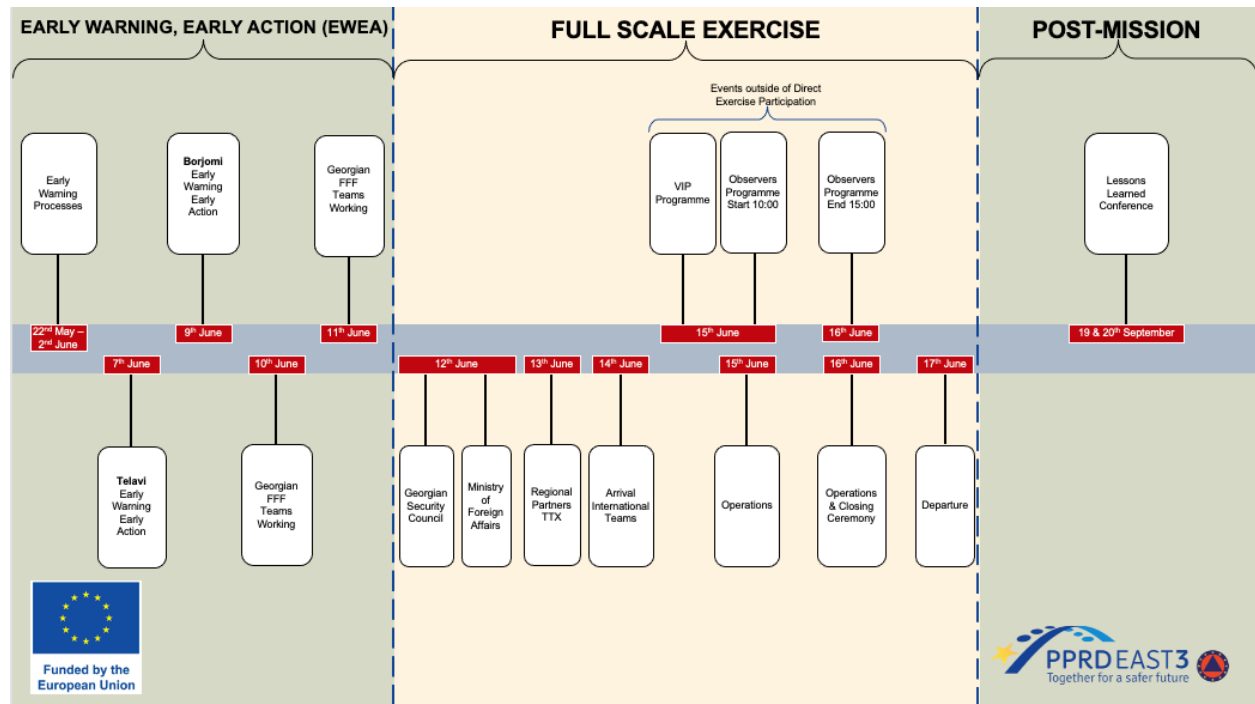


this exercise provides a developmental opportunity for personnel in their team/s and that the selection process should take this into account.

This exercise is NOT A TEST.

The full exercise consists of a series of TTX internally in Georgia followed by a partners TTX which then leads into the regional FSX.

The Full-Scale Exercise will be organised on 14 - 16 June 2023 in Tbilisi, Georgia in order to practice the emergency management system receiving international assistance and working together towards an effective, time-sensitive and efficient response to a large-scale forest fire with a CBRN element and working towards the mitigation of its consequences.





Objectives of this exercise:

1. Build sustainable capabilities of Partner Countries' respective civil protection institutions for preparedness and response to natural and man-made disasters:
 - ✓ To link the forest fires fighting Early Warning Early Actions (EWEA) to the TTX and FSX;
 - ✓ To further improve the preparedness and response capabilities from all participating teams to respond to a disaster;
 - ✓ Further improving the capacity of the national staff of the Emergency Management Service of Georgia to provide an effective Host Nation Support plan for the incoming international assistance (Teams/Modules and Resources);
 - ✓ Further improving other regional partner countries' (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Moldova and Ukraine) Host Nation Support capabilities to provide international assistance; and
 - ✓ Specific targeted testing new standard operating procedures for internal Georgia FFF response teams.

2. Strengthen interlinkages between all relevant governmental actors and civil society stakeholders as well as the scientific community, promoting a national inclusive approach to prevention, preparedness and response to natural and man-made disasters:
 - ✓ Enhancing the common capacity for effectively mobilising the necessary resources, coordinating operations and thereby ensuring a timelier and efficient response capability; and
 - ✓ Reinforcing networks among Civil Protection experts for a coordinated response to natural and other disasters.

3. Enhance inter-institutional and regional coordination, and operational cooperation between the UCPM and the Eastern neighbourhood countries and among Eastern neighbourhood countries. Provide a realistic test environment to practice:
 - ✓ Inter institutional capacity for internal Georgian coordination and response planning;
 - ✓ The regional coordination mechanisms among Eastern neighbourhood countries; and
 - ✓ Activation of the UCPM and deployment of a UCPM Team





- ✓ Coordination with other relevant international actors such as the UN Country Team

The teams

Teams from Armenia, Azerbaijan, European Union Civil Protection, Georgia, Italy, Moldova, Ukraine and Sweden. The UN Country Team, The EU Delegation, the CBRN Centre of Excellence, Italian Red Cross and ASB (EMT 1- Fixed - in development) are taking part.

Within the request for assistance the European Union Civil Protection Team, the UN Country team and the CBRN Centre of Excellence will be requested by the Georgian Emergency Management service to perform a mainly advisory role.

We are looking forward to welcoming all teams in Georgia.

PPRD East 3

The PPRD East 3 programme has the purpose to strengthen disaster risk reduction and crises management in the Eastern Partnership countries and to promote regional cooperation with the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. The programme is implemented over the years 2020-2024 through the following consortium:

Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) – Lead | Emergency Services Academy Finland (ESAF) | Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic – Section of Crisis Management (SKR MV SR) | Centro Internazionale In Monitoraggio Ambientale (CIMA) | Italian Red Cross (CRI)

Please learn more at:

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