NEWSLETTER LIFE PRIMES
n.4 June 2018

LIFE14CCA/IT/001280
With the contribution of the LIFE financial instrument of the EuropeanCommunity

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EDITORIAL

LIFE PRIMES: AN OPPORTUNITY FOR COLLABORATION BETWEEN INSTITUTIONS IN COORDINATING CIVIL PROTECTION MEASURES

Life PRIMES stands for "Preventing flooding risk by making resilient communities". This project aims at reducing land and population damages caused by events like floods, inundations and sea storms which depend on intense meteorological phenomena that are becoming more and more frequent every day and are probably intensifying in the future.

After three years, we can say we managed to successfully fulfil the objectives of this project, such as the enhancement of alert systems in our three partner regions, the development of homogeneous and integrated procedures and information systems at an interregional level, the definition of risk scenarios and the creation of a shared web platform with the local communities.
The collaboration of the institutions was undoubtedly the keystone of the project.
This collaboration between institutions has resulted in a common purpose, shared by the three Regions, aiming at finding a strategy to homogenize the alert procedures, as well as experimenting a shared and unitary web display of the alert messages that could set the basis for a common methodology of integration of risk information addressed to the citizens.
This also implied a collaboration with the municipal administrations of Senigallia and San Benedetto del Tronto who believed in this project. Both administrations have modified their municipal plan for civil protection, promoted the spreading of the CAAPs, encouraged information among the population and participated in the exercise activities.
School has had a primary role: the school leaders of both pilot cities believed in our project and encouraged the training and information of teaching staff, school collaborators and parents.
A good job was also done with the school's prevention and protection service managers (RSPPs) aiming at re-reading and testing the school's emergency plans and reviewing the surveying forms.
The experiences exchange between schools has been extremely interesting: the "Isc" Institutes of Senigallia and San Benedetto del Tronto have already exchanged information on evacuation procedures in case of hydrogeological risk and they are going to meet in order to discuss how to effectively communicate with parents, class delegates and institute representatives.
The idea is to schedule a meeting of school leaders in order to formalize this kind of procedures.
As far as the specific experience of the Region of Marche, we can certainly say that it was a useful initiative to enhance dialogue and collaboration with the Civil Protection system, which are necessary in order to give an adequate response to the request for safety of the citizens in case of disasters, as well as to make the community resilient and aware, by avoiding instinctive and non-functional behaviour in case of emergencies.

David Piccinini, Head of the Civil Protection Service of the Region of Marche

“Life PRIMES goes to school”

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When Life Primes was presented to us as a project to be submitted to the European Commission, we sensed its potential, but its fulfilment has definitely exceeded our expectations.
The joint work between Institutions is and has been, without a doubt, our strength.
The Municipalities, the Region of Marche and the various schools have teamed up in order to carry out concrete actions and help the citizens in terms of flood risk prevention.
With specific reference to schools, the work carried out with Life PRIMES has involved all kinds of stakeholders that gravitate around the education world: pupils, teachers, school security managers, auxiliary staff, parents and other relatives in general.
First of all, we identified all the Comprehensive Institutes and school complexes which have been affected by flood events in the past. In this sense, the help of the Municipality in collecting the historical data and comparing them with those of the Municipal Civil Protection Plan was crucial.
Once the Institutes had been chosen, the teaching staff received a specific training: together with the Municipality’s technicians, we discussed the Civil Protection system, the possible risks and how to deal with them, focusing in particular on flood risk.
We then moved on to the classes: we worked on flood risk with the kids of the last two grades of primary school (aged approx. 9-10).
The significance of this project was clear: in Senigallia, for example, the kids of the last grade of primary school (aged approx.10) had personally experienced the flood of 2014 while at school.
The stories, drawings and essays they had prepared for us were touching.

Their parents were invited by the school to use the educational tools of the flood risk tutorials, as well as to fill in the Life PRIMES questionnaires.

From a training point of view, “La margherita di Adele” (“Adele’s daisy”), a theatrical play on climate change, proved to be really effective for middle school kids (aged approx. 11-13). In this case, too, the involved institutes informed the parents about the Life PRIMES training project and the possibility to actively participate in it by completing the adaptation questionnaires.

It was also interesting to see a collaboration between the Comprehensive Institutes, that exchanged their ideas and experiences on issues that are difficult to deal with, such as how to warn parents, how to evacuate in case of mobility difficulties of some students, the creation of customized procedures, agreed with families, in case of serious disability.

For high school students, the training sessions focused on the issues related to the Civil Protection system, prediction and prevention, climate change, and civil protection voluntary work, and they were asked to use the Life PRIMES project tutorials and fill in the adaptation questionnaires.
The results were significant both for the importance of the issues discussed and for the modalities they were dealt with: there is no doubt that there are dangerous situations, and flood is one of them, but the measures adopted can change the level of risk.
Making a community resilient and aware is the right way to reduce the risk level.

Silvia Rossi, Region of Marche

"La margherita di Adele 2.0"
climate change becomes a theatrical show

Climate change is a scientific, international and transversal theme, which is increasingly faced among experts, round tables and conferences and tries to find a space in the policies of all the countries of the world, in its forms of mitigation and adaptation.
But what is known about climate change outside of scientific circles? What is the perception of the people of the transformations of the climate in progress and of those that are expected for the entire planet and in a peculiar way for our territory?
For this purpose of leading a large audience to an awareness equidistant from catastrophe and indifference, the theatrical project "La margherita di Adele 2.0" has developed, a show that tells a story set in a probable but avoidable future.
The show was staged at the Concordia theater on Monday 16 April, in the morning for schools and at 6.00 pm for all with free admission.
In this exciting journey in the future, the imagination and literary invention that accompany the public are anchored to the scientific information of climatologists, without ever trespassing in science fiction.
And "the resilient daisy" is entrusted with the difficult task of bringing a positive message of construction and hope.
The initiative was promoted by the Life PRIMES project to raise awareness among students and citizens on the theme of flood risk and on the topic of climate change through an artistic language that, based on scientific bases, relies on emotions.
At the end of both performances, climatologists Sergio Castellari and Carlo Cacciamani, creators of the reading on the theme of climate change, answered the questions and the curiosities of a very interested and participant public.

The simulation on flood risk in the Region of Marche

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"We have to imagine to being stuck in the school, but you don't have to be scared, your parents have been warned and a whole system is working for your safety".

These are the words that the civil protection officers of the Marche Region, the municipal representatives and the civil protection volunteers repeated to the children of the San Benedetto del Tronto schools during the exercise that took place on Friday 18 and Saturday 19 May 2018.
There were two rivers floods exercises carried out simultaneously in the Senigallia and San Benedetto del Tronto schools, and began after the alert from the Multirisk Civil Protection Center of the Marche Region.
It started with an hydrogeological criticality simulation with an orange alert sent by the Functional Multirisk Center for Civil Protection of the Marche Region. The Municipalities opened the Operational Coordination Centers – testing the Regional Civil Protection Operative Room warning systems – tried the activation procedures of the municipal functions assigned to emergencies, interested the local volunteers who controlled the rivers banks.
The exercise continued with an aggravation of the weather conditions and a red alert that required the activation of the emergency flood risk plan: the boys of both Senigallia and San Benedetto del Tronto schools were safely brought to the upper floors of each plexus.
The exercises allowed to test the school emergency plan, the Municipal Operative Center activation, the Regional Civil Protection Operations Room warning systems and the local volunteers' activation, with the aim of creating resilient communities and informed about the possible risks. The exercises also needed to highlight the instinctive and dangerous behaviors that citizens can put in place during an emergency. Also emergency communications between the Municipality and the School and between the School and the parents were tested and a reporting on the state of implementation of the emergency plan was published.
On Saturday 19 May, when the alert was received, the schools emergency plans were put in place and the boys were sent to the upper floors of the institutes, testing all the correct procedures provided

by the plans themselves. In the meantime, the territory was monitored by the COC functions of both Municipalities. While waiting, it was explained to the children what could happen in case of floods, how the system will intervene to restore the territory safety and how parents will be promptly notified to avoiding them to rush to school putting their lives at risk. When the alarm returned, a communication was sent by the COCs to the Soup and to the school principals who brought the children back to their classrooms with the resumption of ordinary activities.

Edited by Cervelli In Azione

Exercising on the flooding risk of the Misa river at the “Leopardi” school complex of Senigallia

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Faced with the problems created by climate change, it becomes every day more important to promote information activities and, above all, to experiment with ways of active participation by citizens in the reduction of risks caused by meteorological phenomena, and in the construction of "civic plans" integrated with the municipal emergency plans.

Therefore, on Saturday, 19th May, we organized an event dedicated to knowledge and prevention, in order to discover the importance of the active participation of citizens in the preparation of security plans that can reduce the risks caused by meteorological phenomena; the students and the teachers of the "Leopardi" school complex in Senigallia were the protagonists of an exercise within the "Life PRIMES" project, in which a risk situation due to the flooding of the Misa was simulated.
On this occasion, the Civil Protection of the Municipality of Senigallia equipped a mobile operating room in the yard of the "Leopardi" school in order to explain the activities carried out during the emergency management phase. The Regional Civil Protection department, which simulated the yellow, orange and red alert phases, and the Italian Red Cross, which gave an emergency demonstration, also participated in the exercise.
The choice of "Leopardi" school depends on the fact that the Region of Marche and the University of Ancona had already submitted the pupils of classes IV and V (aged approx. 9-10) of the primary schools "Pascoli", "Vallone" and "Leopardi" to training activities concerning flood risk, but only the latter is located within the R4 risk area. In any case, starting from September, this kind of training events will also involve other schools of the town.
"I want to thank Life PRIMES - says Mayor Maurizio Mangialardi - and all those who took part in this exercise. I think it was very important to show how the Civil Protection system works 'on the field' in a situation of extreme emergency. In doing so, we can discredit common places that, in case of really critical situations, can turn out to be very dangerous for the safety of our citizens. For example, we have shown that, in case of flooding, it is absolutely wrong and illogical to evacuate a school by letting the students out. Last Saturday, the school applied its emergency plan and showed the kids and their teachers the correct procedure to adopt, that is to say moving to the upper floors of the building.
For these reasons, in the next months we will keep on scheduling training sessions that will involve other schools of the town."

Municipality of Senigallia

The results of the CAAPs in the Region of Marche

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One of the training-information activities within the Life PRIMES project was carried out through the application of the CAAP, the Civic Adapt-Action Plan.
This plan is a customized tool for this European project aiming at increasing the ability of its users to adapt to flood and sea storm risks. To make this tool versatile and engaging, the CAAP has been structured as an on-line game that aims at:

- Assessing the user's knowledge on the topic related to flood and sea storms risk through a quiz that, in the end, results in the user's Resilience Profile.
- Training the user with short friendly tutorials in order to increase his/her awareness.
- Involve him/her in the definition of relevant adaptation actions.

This tool has been used to train adults, high school students and young people collaborating with the civil services within the "Io non 3mo" project.
Classroom training on certain issues, such as the Civil Protection system, natural and man-made risks, and how to behave in case of risk, suits very well the CAAP tool, which offers a more analytical view of flood risk as well as an incentive to suggest more adaptation actions.
The outcomes of using CAAPs are undoubtedly positive and they will probably be re-used for other training activities. In the Region of Marche a total of 1774 CAAPs were compiled (data updated to June, 20th, 2018).
Below are the data on the use of CAAPs in the various provinces of the Region of Marche. When evaluating them, it must be considered that:

- the reference Municipalities of the project are San Benedetto del Tronto (referring to the province of Ascoli Piceno) and Senigallia (referring to the province of Ancona);
- both Municipalities are tourist resorts and, therefore, the spreading of the CAAP tool, in the whole province of reference and in the neighbouring areas, is undoubtedly significant, since the whole population moves to both towns during the summer season, even for a daily commute.

Another element to be taken into account when evaluating these data is that both Municipalities, especially San Benedetto, are giving shelter to displaced people after the earthquake events that began in August 2014. In light of this consideration, we can better understand how important it is to have reached the maximum possible population that could find itself facing risky situations which differ from those affecting the territory in which it usually live.

Compiled CAAP

- **Province of Ancona:**
  260 women and 187 men
- **Province of Macerata:**
  213 women and 124 men
- **Province of Fermo:**
  114 women and 65 men
- **Province of Ascoli Piceno:**
  408 women and 297 men
- **Province of Pesaro Urbino:**
  61 women and 45 men

Silvia Rossi, Region of Marche

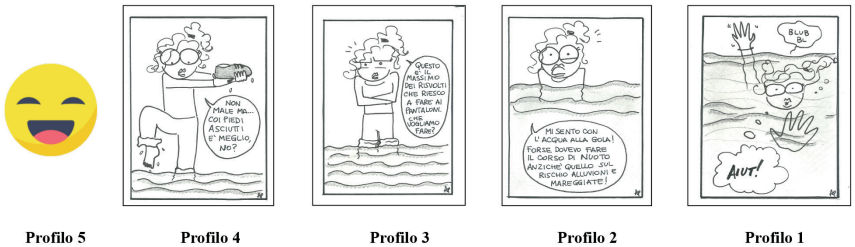

Figure 1 Graphical representation of the CAAP resilience profiles

The opinion of the administrators of the tested areas in the Region of Marche

Interviews performed by Cervelli In Azione - Eurocube, during the workshops

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Valerio Pignotti, municipal councillor of San Benedetto del Tronto

The citizens of San Benedetto del Tronto are aware of the flood and storm risks affecting our territory because years ago our town was hit by severe floods; we still have open wounds for the overflowing of the Tronto river. Surely, we must work under this point of view, because at that time we were caught unaware; today we must make people understand that this is a problem that could still affect our territory.
We expect the Life PRIMES project to help people understand how to behave in an emergency, especially during a flood emergency; it is necessary, however, to work on the territory during the prevention phase, involving everyone, from children to adults.
In particular, the civic adaptation plans of the project may be integrated as an annex to the municipal emergency plan, and must certainly become a crucial part of it. Today the problem is that the municipal emergency plan is just some paper inside the town hall; on the contrary, with this project we must make the people know it, understand it and apply it, and not just during the emergency phase.

Rosaria Falco, municipal councillor of San Benedetto del Tronto

It is difficult to establish whether the citizens of San Benedetto del Tronto are aware of the flood and storm risk, as there is no way to measure their preparation for certain events. Moreover, there is the emotional issue, as during an emergency panic often takes over. I think that the Life PRIMES project should also be useful to determine the degree of preparation of citizens, in order to try and minimize danger for their own life and their family members' lives; it is easier to react correctly when you are informed. I think this project is very interesting, useful and valuable, from a social point of view, for our territory that is affected by flood events or heavy rainfalls that often cause obstructions and blockage of the piers. We are on the coast and we are not the only town to be affected by these problems, but it would be useful for our citizens to know how to behave, in case of prolonged heavy rain falls.

I believe that the Civic Adapt-Action Plan can be very useful, but first we need to determine all the variables that change according to the territory, the Municipality and the hydrogeological situation of the area of reference. Once the Civic Adapt-Action Plans have been defined, they must be integrated into the civil protection plan in order to be able to face any sort of hydrogeological emergency.

Maurizio Memè, Deputy Mayor of Senigallia, Assessor in charge of urban and environmental planning, coastal management and maintenance, and port areas

The citizens of Senigallia are aware of the flood and storm risk because they experienced it, but also because of information campaigns. Our town is crossed by an important river, which has unfortunately a torrential nature, and sometimes provokes a crisis when heavy rainfalls threaten the safety of citizens. We are a seaside town and, when the sea level is high and winds from the North or the East generates waves, some parts of the town can be damaged. The citizens living in these areas are more aware of the problem than other people who live in areas with a lower risk.
From the Life PRIMES project we expect an integration of the various alert systems and an active involvement of the population, by acquiring full awareness of the climate change on a global scale that generates a higher risk in our territories. This full awareness must be widespread in schools too, so that when kids grow up they will be able to prevent and manage risks. When the risk level increases we must all be aware that our behaviour can be crucial for our safety.
Participation is an essential element for all emergency plans; if a plan has been studied in detail but is not shared with the population, then things get complicated. Civic plans can be a part of an emergency plan concerning not only floods or atmospheric events, but also other kind of disasters such as earthquakes. The emergency plan integrates different risk situations, but its real strength is that during an emergency all citizens know what they have to do and therefore can adopt appropriate behaviour.

The results of the risk perception analysis

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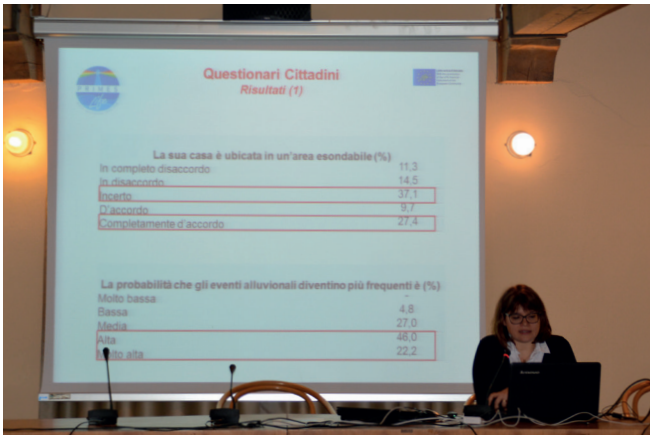

Last February, at the two meetings for the presentation of the Civic Adaptation Plans (CAAP) of the Life PRIMES project, the Università Politecnica delle Marche presented the results of the flood risk perception analysis to the citizens of the pilot areas of the Marche Region, i.e. Senigallia (AN) and San Benedetto del Tronto (AP).

The analysis was carried out by administering specific questionnaires to the adult population and to the students of some primary and lower secondary schools exposed to flood.

The results showed that both in Senigallia and in San Benedetto, the sample is not fully aware of living in an area at risk of flooding, but most citizens also believe that this risk is destined to grow over time.

In all areas, most respondents believe they are able to effectively manage an emergency procedure, but they do not show the same kind of trust towards their fellow citizens.

The emergency plan is unknown to most people, in all municipalities, while in terms of familiarity with other documentation there are territorial differences: in Senigallia the majority knows other documents, such as evacuation plans or other information leaflets; in San Benedetto, on the other hand, the majority do not know any kind of other documentation.

In both municipalities, however, citizens are willing to attend flood preparation courses, declaring themselves convinced that a good information campaign is at the basis of prevention.

With regard to schools, were presented the results concerning the variation with the age of two antagonistic behaviours in the event of flood: running outdoor (dangerous behaviour par excellence) and reaching a higher place (self-protective behaviour par excellence for this type of phenomenon).

To get effective answers, the fairy-tale tool was used, by writing a story without an ending, in which the protagonist is a child who is facing an emergency flood situation. The young people interviewed have imagined living the situation in the first person, completing the story with their own considerations in terms of actions and feelings.

The results show that children grow aware with age of the actions to be taken in an emergency: in fact, the percentage of children who would choose to run outside is significantly reduced with age, while the percentage of those who would choose to reach the higher places increases with age, especially in Senigallia.

The results show, overall, how crucial it is to intervene in terms of raising awareness, at all ages and especially for children, thus highlighting the importance of the Life PRIMES project objectives.

Eleonora Gioia, Università politecnica delle Marche

Life PRIMES meets the Franca project

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The first Conference for the Life FRANCA project (www.lifefranca.eu) was held in Trento on April, 18th-20th, 2018; the event brought together the scientific community, institutional operators and professional categories in order to discuss the use of anticipation methods and the best practices and experiences in communicating natural risks. Anticipation allows a two-way communication: it gives voice to all the stakeholders and allows them to actively participate in the decision-making procedures related to planning choices. By acknowledging that zero risk does not exist and cannot be guaranteed, improving the awareness and preparation of all the actors involved in any possible events of hydrogeological instability is part of the main planning actions.
On April, 18th, Life PRIMES participated in the plenary session with a speech about "New tools supporting citizens in the prevention of flood risks." In the afternoon, together with all the participants, PRIMES tested a tutorial on the CAAP tool (Civic Adapt-Action Plan), during which the participants were able to compile the on-line questionnaire directly from their PCs, tablets or simply their Smartphones, and set up their own Civic Adapt-Action Plan. This experience was very interesting and stimulating, and proved the potential and versatility of this new tool. Ada's video training tutorials are particularly effective, and are displayed after compiling the CAAPs in order to help users to understand some key concepts related to flood risk management, as well as to be more aware and informed about this kind of issues.

Patrizia Ercoli, Paolo Luciani - Region of Emilia-Romagna

The Life PRIMES project at Resilient Cities 2018

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The ninth World Forum on Resilience and adaptation in the urban area (Resilient Cities 2018) was held in Bonn from 26th to 28th of April 2018; experts from local administrations and organizations involved in urban resilience and adaptation to climate change participated in the event.
The congress was attended by approximately 400 people from more than 50 countries, and structured in 37 plenary and thematic sessions and an exhibition space.
The Department for Territorial Safety and Civil Protection, as the coordinator of the European Life PRIMES project, and Arpae, as a partner, participated with a stand dedicated to the project within the exhibition space.
Life PRIMES aims at building resilient communities that can actively participate in hazard prevention policies. The main objective is to reduce damages to the territory and the population caused by events such as river and sea floods generated by intense meteorological phenomena.
The occasion proved to be an exceptional platform for learning, sharing ideas and creating solutions related to urban resilience, by exchanging information and experiences among realities that are very different from each other but also have many aspects in common, especially as far as the involvement of the population and the participatory models applied for the territorial and urban planning.
During the networking sessions with the SMR-Smart Mature Resilience project and the Open European Day, "peer to peer" activities were carried out and the Life PRIMES project was considered a good practice which should be exported. Great interest was given to the presentation of the innovative CAAP tool (Civic Adapt-Action Plan) widespread through a web platform, as well as to the idea of the theatrical play on climate change combined with the project aiming at promoting resilience through art.

Astrid Franceschetti, Valeria Pancioli - Department for Territorial Safety and Civil Protection of Emilia-Romagna

National networking meeting: "Innovation in flood risk management: best practices, participation and communication"

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Innovation in flood risk management: best practices, participation and communication is the title of the conference held on June, 18th, in Bologna and organized by the Region of Emilia-Romagna within the Life PRIMES project Preventing flooding risk by making resilient communities (Action F.2 Networking): a moment of debate on innovation in flood risk management where it was possible to compare different European projects, regional and national Civil Protection systems, universities and European bodies.
The event was structured in two sessions: a plenary meeting in the morning and two separate sessions in the afternoon.

The morning session was opened by the Regional Assessor for Civil Protection of Emilia-Romagna, Paola Gazzolo: "The Life PRIMES project – said the Assessor – is important for our Region, because it promotes resilience and we will start from the proposals of this project to ensure that knowledge becomes a real culture of civil protection and community resilience.
Attention, awareness and responsibility – continued Gazzolo – are the three key words of the choices we have undertaken as a regional administration."

The second intervention was delivered by Cinzia Merli, head of the technical division for the Natural Risks Management Department of the River Po District Authority, who outlined the scope and responsibilities of her institution and the flood risk management lines (planning, governance, prevention and scheduling, coordination, participation and monitoring), by underlining the fundamental importance of collaboration between institutions, as well as of a good planning ability that "must be implemented at a local level, on our territory."

"It is difficult to predict how and when a flood will occur – said Carlo Cacciamani, director of the Main Functional Center for the Management of Meteo-Hydrogeological Risk of the Civil Protection Department – so it is necessary to assess the risk, understand that knowing the territory is crucial to understand its vulnerability and that it is necessary to know how to manage residual risk." Cacciamani illustrated how the National Civil Protection System works, as well as its strengths (adequate knowledge of the territory from the hydraulic and hydrogeological point of view, proper development of meteorological, hydrological and hydraulic models and standardized issuing of civil protection warnings) and its weaknesses (long periods of time between the processing of the forecasts and the preparation of the alert warnings, as well as their reception by Mayors, occasional failing of timely and appropriate official communication to the media, lack of homogeneity in the alert procedures and in the language used by the Regions).
Cacciamani then focused on the three optimization actions for the alert system:

- a scientific-technological action with improvement of monitoring and hydro-meteorological forecasting;
- a technological-communicative action with creation of tools which allow to share alerts with citizens (dedicated web pages or apps);
- a training action with promotion of the culture of risk, through participatory programmes and civic adaptation plans.

"Three key actions – concluded Cacciamani – that have all been taken into account in Emilia-Romagna, thanks to the new structure of the Regional Civil Protection Department, the new Weather Alert Portal of Emilia-Romagna (www.allertameteo.regione.emilia-romagna.it) and the Life PRIMES project."

Barbro Naslund-Landenmark of the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency - MSB (the Swedish Civil Protection) intervened via Skype call from Sweden, to explain that the task of the MBS is to manage disasters and to draw up the relevant maps. She said that Sweden too has been affected by climate change: snowfalls are less frequent, but severe snowstorms occur, and it rains more. Moreover, other phenomena, as forest fires, land exploitation and territorial instability, are leading to increasingly frequent landslides and floods. As for the implementation of the Directive on Floods in Sweden, Naslund-Landenmark explained the two steps of the programme carried out by the MSB working group as far as floods are concerned. The first step is identifying risks, understanding their causes, and elaborating the maps of the floods and the areas at risk (in a first moment, they were 25, then they were brought to 33 after including coastal areas, historic centres and urban areas); the second step, which will be completed in 2019, is the final drafting of the maps. As far as the flood risk management plans are concerned, since 2016, 20 have already been drawn up in Sweden (over 33 areas of risk), but the deadline is 2021.

Moving on to less technical but certainly equally interesting issues, Mr. Costantino Marmo, professor at the University of Bologna, intervened to speak about risk semantics: referring to American linguist Charles J. Fillmore's studies, Marmo started from the meaning of the term *risk* (possible damage or negative consequence, which can be predictable or unpredictable, following a wanted or unwanted event) in order to explain the cognitive patterns that we activate when we talk about risk and the oscillation between the risk as a harmful consequence of an event and the event itself that produces the damage.

It was then Nikéh Booister's turn to speak; Booister's company, Floodcom, is a Dutch company that designs and manufactures *serious parlour games* (even on demand), which can be useful to learn how to face the various risks in a playful context. "Players must practice in making decisions in stressful situations: by collaborating and making the right choices, they can minimize the ongoing disaster. These games reproduce realistic scenarios and allow the players to achieve a learning rate of 70%."

Finally, Clarissa Dondi, from the Regional Department for Territorial Safety and Civil Protection of the Region of Emilia-Romagna and project manager of the Life PRIMES project closed the morning session. "The main objective of the Life PRIMES project, which involves 6 partners, 10 municipalities and 3 pilot areas in 3 different Regions – she explained – is to generate a participatory process, to team up and to pursue the relevant actions (main actions, preparatory actions, implementation, monitoring, communication and circulation of results, networking)."
Focusing on implementation, Dondi illustrated the three basic elements: homogenization of alert systems, by drafting a specific manual (action C1), implementation of a shared web platform (action C2) and development of a process of awakening measures for the community through the implementation of local civic plans (action C3).
The core of this activity is the compiling, through a questionnaire, of the Civic Adapt-Action Plans (CAAP), which will integrate the municipal emergency plans. It is a simple questionnaire with three purposes: assessing the citizens' knowledge on flood and sea storm risk, training them by means of a short final tutorial and involving them in defining adaptation actions. The questionnaire aims at increasing the ability of the communities to adapt to flood and sea storm risks. As part of the Life PRIMES project, several seminars and a civil protection exercise were held in each partner Region.
"At six months from the end of the project – concluded Dondi – we have had positive results and an excellent response to all the implemented activities."

In the afternoon, the conference continued with two more sessions, which were real working tables and participatory debates: session 1: "Information tools to support risk management: how to systemize different projects experiences" – networking between different European projects; session 2: final discussion and drafting of the *Manual for the homogenization and the implementation of prevention and alert systems*.

Patrizia Calzolari - Cervelli In Azione

EVENTS

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13TH-14TH SEPTEMBER 2018, LISBON (PORTUGAL)

URBACT city festival 2018

Hundreds of professionals, representatives and urban planning experts from all over Europe will gather in Lisbon to work together and discuss the results of the 20 actions of the planning network. The City Festival will also celebrate the 15th anniversary of the URBACT program, as well as the growing influence of cities as actors for change.

8TH-11TH OCTOBER 2018, BRUSSELS (BELGIUM)

European week of Regions and cities

The 16th European Week of Regions and Cities will be an important platform for gathering and presenting the opinions of European regions and cities on both the budget and the legislative proposals on Cohesion and Rural Development Policy, as well as discussing the future of Europe according to a regional and local perspective.
Considering the upcoming reforms, the challenges to the governance of cohesion policy should also be discussed.