



NEWSLETTER LIFE PRIMES
n.5 october 2018



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

INDEX

Working together to create informed and aware population The experience in the Region of Abruzzo with young people	1
The participatory process In the Region of Abruzzo	3
Life PRIMES at the fair of Ferrara Remtech 2018	5
Life PRIMES at the European Researchers' Night of Ancona	6
Arpae in Brussels to spread the results of the Life PRIMES project	7
L'opinione degli amministratori delle aree test dell'Abruzzo	8
Events	10

EDITORIAL

WORKING TOGETHER TO CREATE INFORMED AND AWARE POPULATION

The experience in the Region of Abruzzo with young people

The Region of Abruzzo has enthusiastically joined the Life PRIMES Project, as it has always dedicated its interest and attention to the promotion and creation of a civil protection awareness. The Municipalities of Pineto and Torino di Sangro, which are the



pilot areas of the project for this regional territory, have worked actively, involving citizenship and in particular the students of the local schools. We believe that the greatest part of the resources and the efforts must be destined especially to young people. Being aware of the risks and of the correct

behaviours to follow, they will be "positive" protagonists in case of emergency. As a matter of fact, young people certainly are a group of privileged users, because they will become aware citizens not only of dangerous situations but also of prevention tools; therefore, in the future they will be the new informers on good civil protection practices inside their own families.

All of us are constantly bombarded with information and news, coming from the mass media and the network, which often are not even correct, and therefore being able to interpret and understand them is definitely an essential goal to be achieved among the new generations.

With this project, the Region has combined different activities that were already part of its personal DNA: attention to the citizen and the territory, and the reduction of risks, particularly the hydrogeological and hydraulic ones. Risk reduction can be achieved by limiting the exposed population, spreading knowledge on civil protection practices and risks, and carrying out timely monitoring actions around the territory.

Abruzzo has recently been equipped with 2 new mini radars located in Tororeto and Cepagatti, funded by European projects, together with the already existing two radars, which we could define as "historic" ones, located in Monte Tuffillo and Monte Midia, aiming at a real-time monitoring of rainfall in progress. Innovative warning systems for the protection of underpasses, equipped with traffic light systems, have been installed in 5 municipalities on the coast; moreover, there has been plenty of investments in upgrading the ground hydro-thermo-pluviometric network, with amounts exceeding one million Euros in the last three years.

This project has also achieved another important result, which is establishing relationships with the other partners who have immediately shown dedication, participation, efficiency and professionalism, becoming points of reference for sharing good practices.

Finally, we want to thank especially the school children who have joined the project with great participation, interest and commitment during the final days of the activities; moreover, we hope that this experience can help them understand how the behaviour of the individual affects on the whole community also in case of emergency and form the consciousness of self as an entity that must protect itself in case of natural disasters.

Antonio Iovino, Director of the Regional Functional Centre of Abruzzo

The participatory process in the Region of Abruzzo

[BACK TO INDEX](#)



With the event held in Torino di Sangro on October, 24th, the activities of the participatory process of the Life PRIMES project in Abruzzo were concluded. The project aims at enhancing the C.3 action dedicated to the development of a process of dialogue and awakening measures for the community through the implementation of local civic plans. The first activity carried out in the Region of Abruzzo was the involvement of the stakeholders of the Pineto and Torino di Sangro communities in a workshop on "Building dialogue through the implementation of local civic plans - CAAPs", in which the instrument of the CAAP, the Civic Adapt-Action Plan, was officially presented. The administrators and representatives of the local communities selected by them attended the workshops held in Pineto on March, 15th, and in Torino di Sangro on March, 17th. Their task was to spread the knowledge on the project and the CAAPs. During the meeting the participants compiled their Civic Adapt-Action Plans.

On June, 16th, the simulation of an alert situation

was carried out in Pineto, aiming at testing the responsiveness of the Civil Protection system and providing the participants with a training opportunity in order to improve their responsiveness in case of emergency. An orange alert for hydraulic risk was simulated and issued by the Functional Centre of the Region of Abruzzo, against which the Municipality activated the COC (Centro operativo comunale - Municipal Operative Centre) and implemented the actions established by its own emergency plan; then, they communicated an exceeding of the pre-alarm and alarm hydrometric thresholds of the River Vomano. Finally, two typical flooding situations were simulated in the fraction of Scerne di Pineto, such as the flooding of an area inside a tourist facility and an underpass, and the operations of securing the people involved. In this exercise the entire Civil Protection system was involved both on a regional and a local level, with the participation of about 30 operators from the voluntary associations who made available means and equipment. The Municipality

of Pineto actively collaborated to the success of the exercise in which the citizens and guests of the resort took part, in addition to the volunteers. "La margherita di Adele 2.0" ("Adele's daisy 2.0"), a theatrical play on climate change staged in Pineto on October, 4th, at the Teatro Polifunzionale (multifunctional theatre), proved to be really effective. The show, especially created for third-year students of the secondary schools in Pineto, was followed by a debate on civil protection issues with the students and the representatives of the Department of Civil Protection and the Functional Centre of the Region of Abruzzo. Many questions were asked by the students to the experts of the Department of Civil Protection; moreover, the students shared the stories of their own experiences and knowledge in this field, for example, from participation in school camps.

During the final workshop held in Torino di Sangro, the results of the project and the completion of the CAAPs by the communities of the territory of Abruzzo were illustrated; moreover, we also put into practice some of the most voted actions contained in the CAAPs relating to the need for information on

risk issues and the opportunity to create a sort of organization on a family-level for emergency management. All the participants, more than 130 citizens and students, were asked to fill in a questionnaire in order to test their knowledge on the risks affecting their territory, the safe areas to be reached, the useful numbers to be contacted for reports, the methods of information and the things to take with them during an emergency situation. Starting from the questions in the questionnaire, we generated a lively debate that brought to light the need to carry out initiatives aimed at spreading the knowledge of the municipal emergency plan, as well as the behaviours to be followed in case of emergencies on the territory. At the end of the event, all the participants were given a handbook on the territory of Torino di Sangro containing all the information included in the proposed questionnaire with the dual purpose of providing a useful tool to the citizen in order to deal with emergency situations and to stimulate the interest in civil protection issues.

Francesca Molinari, Regional Functional Centre of Abruzzo

Life PRIMES at the fair of Ferrara Remtech 2018

[BACK TO INDEX](#)

Also for 2018, the Regional Agency for Territorial Security and Civil Protection of Emilia-Romagna has chosen the spaces of the Remtech Fair of Ferrara (from the 19th to the 21st of September), to disseminate and share the best practices of Life-Primes, in collaboration with project partners. Remtech Expo is a trade fair specialized in the field of reclamation, environmental and natural risks, safety, maintenance, upgrading, land regeneration, climate change and circular chemistry; and has hosted, during the last editions, other moments of diffusion of the Life Primes project.

Inside the regional stand, in addition to the material and dissemination documentation produced on Life Primes, a panel was placed on the activities carried out in the three regions involved: Emilia-Romagna, Marche and Abruzzo; with the most significant images of exercises, meetings in schools, training workshops with citizens, stakeholders and local administrators.

In addition, two computer-equipped stations were made available in the same space, where visitors were invited to fill in the CAAP (Local adaptation civic plan) online and to navigate within the project website sections.

Life PRIMES was the focus of a conference organized within the Coast section, on the final day where Patrizia Ercoli, of the Regional Defense of the Land and Coast Service, presented a report entitled "Life Primes, more resilient and informed communities - Tools for the analysis of coastal vulnerability, also in the context of climatic variations".

*Agency for Territorial Safety and Civil Protection
of Emilia-Romagna Region*



Life PRIMES at the European Researchers' Night of Ancona

[BACK TO INDEX](#)



Simultaneously on the national territory, 12 Italian cities (Ancona, Cagliari, Caserta, Catania, L'Aquila, Macerata, Naples, Nuoro, Palermo, Pavia, Perugia, Trieste) have dived into science and technology, during a long night of activities that combined the world of research to the general public. All this happened on September, 28th, on the occasion of the European Researchers' Night or, in other words, the SHARPER (SHARing Researchers' Passions for Evidences and Resilience).

In Ancona, the Life PRIMES Project was brought to the streets of the city centre by researchers from the Marche Polytechnic University, who involved citizens in spreading the knowledge of flooding risk and participating in proposals for adaptation actions, including the compiling of CAAPs. The great interest and the lively curiosity aroused show

how this issue is relevant nowadays and how the approach of the Life PRIMES project can be easily adapted to different contexts.

Eleonora Gioia – Marche Polytechnic University

Arpae in Brussels to spread the results of the Life PRIMES project

[BACK TO INDEX](#)



“Preventing Flooding Risks by Making Resilient Communities” is the title of the conference that was held on Monday, October 15th, at the premises of the Delegations of the European Union in Brussels, dedicated to the spreading of the results of the Life PRIMES project to the European partner territories of the Region of Emilia-Romagna, as well as to the associations represented at the Commission.

We had the opportunity to illustrate in detail the actions taken in order to grow resilient communities, which should be able to actively participate in risk prevention policies and develop harmonized procedures also at an interregional level, within a better coordinated and organized civil protection system.

The conference also presented the latest EU development on the environment and prevention policies and related resources.

Laura Giappichelli, from EASME (Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises), played the role of chairwoman of the conference and introduced the event together with Lorenza Badiello from the Region of Emilia-Romagna.

The scheduled interventions were:

- [The Life PRIMES project for climate and adaptation](#)
Angelo Salsi, EASME
- [EU adaptation policies](#)
Elena Višnar Malinovská, European Commission
- [The Life PRIMES project](#)
Sandro Nanni, Arpae
- [CAAP: Civic Adapt-Action Plans](#)
Marco Cardinaletti, Eurocube
- [Italian risk prevention policy](#)
Carlo Cacciamani, National Department for Civil Protection
- [EU prevention policies](#)
Karolina Kalinowska, European Commission

At the end of the debate the musical reading on climate change entitled "La Margherita di Adele" ("Adele's daisy") was presented in English, welcomed by the public and judged as an innovative formula to raise awareness on the scientific issues connected to climate change.

Arpae Emilia-Romagna, HydroMeteoClimate Service

THE INTERVIEWS

The opinion of the administrators of the test areas in the Region of Abruzzo

[BACK TO INDEX](#)

Robert Verrocchio - Mayor of Pineto

In our municipality the perception of risk is high among the citizens. Living in an area crossed by watercourses, it is clear that the greatest risk for us is hydrogeological. In the northern area of Pineto – the one mainly interested by the Life PRIMES project – there is the River Vomano, one of the most important watercourses in Abruzzo; this river has overflowed many times and obviously the citizens of this area know the risk very well and they are so aware of it that they are also equipped with small barriers in their own homes and there is great level of attention on this topic. Our municipality is also crossed by the Calvano stream which, although it is dormant for most of the year since it has very little water, during rainy days or heavy rains it collects a lot of water from the hinterland, especially from the neighbouring municipalities, and it ends up overflowing almost every two years. Therefore, the awareness of the risk is high also on the part of those citizens who live close to this torrent, particularly in the areas of the town centre and Borgo Santa Maria. There are also attention and awareness on the part of the citizens living south of Pineto, in the Foggetta area, where there are no major floods from the point of view of human danger, but there are several problems from the point of view of damage; in this case mud is the problem: there is a torrent that collects a lot of slime from the hill and brings it to the road and inside the enclosures of the houses, so the perception of risk is obviously high throughout our territory.

The Life PRIMES project has proved to be really relevant: questionnaires were given to our citizens, specific exercises and meetings were carried out, and some of them were designed specifically for school children and implied the use of significant performances. Our aim was to increase citizens' awareness of risk more and more and, above all, to increase the awareness that, in times of maximum risk and alert, you cannot entrust the safety of the territory to a third party. Everyone must be a protagonist and know how to act in terms of prevention and emergency management. This was one of the expectations we had as an Administration and I think our goal was widely achieved.

I believe that the results of the participatory process should be integrated into the Municipal Civil Protection Plan and we are already moving in this direction. Soon we will meet with the city council to make an important update to the Plan; to do so, we have done auditions with all our stakeholders, including many who took part in the Life PRIMES project. Therefore, the improvement



of this Plan takes into account their contribution, the experience gained within the project, as well as the experience of the municipal operators who took part in the exercises and whose valuable considerations have been included in our Civil protection plan.

Nino Di Fonso - new Mayor of Torino di Sangro (from June 2018)

Because of its geographical configuration, our town, Torino di Sangro, is surely subject to various risks, such as floods and sea storms; in fact, with the passing of time and especially with human intervention, the rainfalls are always more and more violent compared to the past, therefore creating inconvenience to the daily life of our population. However, I think our community has a very low perception of risk, especially as far as older people are concerned.

As it has already been shown in other countries that have joined this experimentation, I believe that through the implementation of the Life PRIMES Project, started a few years ago, we are able to raise awareness and educate communities to resilience. I believe that the various organizational forces should work together for the greater good of the community.



Silvana Priori - former Mayor of Torino di Sangro, who participated in the project until June 2018

The citizens of Torino di Sangro who live on the coast are aware of the risk of floods and sea storms, as they are continually exposed to the storms that are increasingly intense. Those who live a few kilometres from the coast have a lower perception of risk, and above all they do not have a correct perception of the risks related to sea storms. In case of intense and violent rains, I always advise not to travel unless it is strictly necessary.

From the Life PRIMES project, that we have joined with great enthusiasm from the very beginning, we expect an increase in awareness, an ability to inform and spread information to the citizens and to make them aware that they are the first ones in charge of civil protection, of their own security and that of the people close to them. I am very pleased to know that a sensitization action has been carried out starting from the schools, because it is important to educate the new generations to the prevention and knowledge of some concepts that are fundamental for the defence and safety of human lives.

The Civic Adapt-Action Plans developed within the project will necessarily have to be integrated to the already existing municipal emergency plans, which must always be updated and constantly shared with the citizens, so that everyone knows what the most appropriate techniques and measures are to be performed in relation to the risk that is occurring.



20-21 NOVEMBER 2018, WIEN (AUSTRIA)

The 11th annual SET-Plan conference 2018

The European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) aims to accelerate the development and deployment of low-carbon technologies that will deliver affordable and sustainable clean energy to consumers.

Annual SET-plan conferences have been organised in, and together with, EU Council Presidency countries since 2008, offering a chance for decision-makers, stakeholders and researchers to meet and assess the SET-Plan's progress.

3-14 DICEMBRE 2018, KATOWICE (POLAND)

Katowice climate change conference (COP 24)

The 2018 UN climate change conference (COP24) will be held from 2 to 14 December in Katowice, Poland. The EU and its Member States will take part as parties to the UN climate change convention.