FP6 Research on NATURAL DISASTERS in the context of Global Change

Key word: Sustainability - Integrated environmental and socio-economic systems

Objective:

Promote European research towards:

• **Assessment of natural disasters** (Floods, *Forest Fires*, Earthquakes, Landslides, Volcanic Eruptions, Storms);

• Their **prevention and mitigation**, through improved technologies, intervention methods, pre-disaster planning and preparedness.
The European Research Area

- A blueprint for the future of research in Europe
- Broad support at the highest political, scientific and industrial levels
Research Tasks (IP/NoE as well as Trad.):

- Natural hazard assessment and forecasting;
- Consideration of climate variability and climate change impacts;
- Methods and technologies for vulnerability, risk and damage assessments;
- Risk management and mitigation.
FP5 Projects on Forest Fire research

• Development of new & improved methodologies to forecast, mitigate and prevent forest fires

• FP5 projects: SPREAD, ERAS, WARM, FIRESTAR, AUTOHAZARD-PRO, EU-FIRELAB, FOFIRECO, SHAEP, FIMEX, MOFTRUN

⇒ Improvements in fuel mapping;
⇒ Fire behaviour and propagation modelling;
⇒ Fire risk management and decision-support
⇒ Fire suppression and retardant application
⇒ Damage assessment
FP6 Integrated Project on Forest Fires “Call for Proposals”

Call publication expected in mid-June 2004

IP on “Integrated forest fire risk management”:

- Integrating hazard, vulnerability and risk assessment, including the wildland-urban interface.
- Improvement of:
  - fire suppression, risk mapping & monitoring.
  - public awareness; evaluation of non-structural (eg: landuse planning) and technology-oriented mitigation strategies.
  - Post-fire damage assessment considering the social, environmental, ecological and economic consequences.
  - Exchange and dissemination of to user communities risk awareness for the formulation of mitigation policies.
- Interaction with Developing Countries is especially encouraged.
Forest Fire Research Workshop
« the burning issue of forest fires – how can research make a difference? 
16 April 2004, Brussels

Aim was to give the floor to end-users and industry, to help the RTD community identify future research requirements

Agenda

• First session on EU activities in this field
• One session on ongoing research
• Two sessions dedicated to National and local level end-users
• One session dedicated to industry
• Final Plenary with the aim to draft a « shopping list » of issues to be addressed in future EU research proposals.
Remote Sensing and in-situ Data
EU-MEDIN

“Euro-Mediterranean Disaster Information Network”

- **Initiative** of EC-DG Research

- **Disaster themes:** forest fires, floods, earthquakes, volcanoes, landslides, avalanches & technological hazards

- **Aim:** to foster co-ordination among the research & user communities for improved disaster preparedness and early warning, communication, and rapid exchange of data and knowledge, in order to better mitigate and manage disasters.
More Info on EU Research

Current EU research projects: www.cordis.lu

Info on FP6: europa.eu.int/comm/research/fp6

EU-MEDIN: www.eu-medin.org

GMES: www.gmes.info
Expert Evaluators

To help us evaluate project proposals:

http://www.cordis.lu/experts/fp6_candidature.htm
Thank You!