

REPORT

During 26.09 – 02.10.2011, in Neptun, Constanta County, Romania held the first DRR course.

This activity was organized by General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations, DPPI SEE, CADRI and MSB.

This course represents the Romania contribution to the 2011 Disaster Management Training Program. The course was attended by trainees from Albania, Bulgaria, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Turkey.

This course was meant to assure to all participants a common understanding of risk reduction strategy and also the context in which this strategy can be applied, especially for South East Europe. The strategy underlines the importance of all disaster risk management phases (training, mitigation, prevention and reconstruction) not only response, all being very important for achieving the goal. Also, was underlined the importance of cooperation and exchange of information at regional level in order to achieve a common understanding of the strategy and the possibilities to work for achieving the strategy goals.

The training consisted in two distinct sections:

- Presentations by lecturers of theoretical training materials and their applications through practical exercises designed to strengthen the theoretical part of the course. This was achieved by daily conduction of two training modules, each module being dedicated to a particular topic.
- Developing a mini common project (the trainees were split in 4 working groups) consisting of schematic implementation of a strategy for disaster risk reduction for a country in the SEE region, commonly agreed.

Following a brief assessment of activities and the feed back offered by trainees, the course management group concluded that the activity was a success.

Also, the lectures/facilitators report revealed the following:

The course achieved its aims, some of the findings that should be taken into consideration for the next similar courses, being the following:

- during the course there was a good gender balance, in trainees' area but also in Facilitators team.
- A proper balance indoor and outdoor training should be conducted.
- all facilitators should arrive one day before the course and leave one day after, this *(a) report should be created in the last day there, after the trainees have left, when data is fresh and all facilitators are present.

- the original presentations in the printed materials have too much information on slides. It should be pointed to facilitators that not only they can, but they are strongly advised to minimize the extent of information, based on the original slides.
- the course material and also presentations should include more info concerning DRR connected events and activities from the region – All Blocks should have in plan an emphasize on the region, not only block 3 and 4.
- it should be an obligation to use the second *(support) facilitator in something, at least during the exercise.
- the facilitators managed well to handle the course given the fact that they faced the extraordinary situation – not having the leading trainer present, and even though the facilitators did not have regular briefings, most of them reached the aim of the training course through their blocks
- Countries should not send the same people over and over again, practically the same person do the same course for the second time.
- as it is hard to get 16 trainees at the DRR course, part of the project should include some kind of presentation created at the course by each trainee, designed to raise the interest of his home structure or country, in order for trainees to apply in time for the next course, and have more than few proposals, to choose from *(the organizer).
- it should be noted that the presence of at least one of the representatives of the UN CADRI, MSB, DPPI, host nation authority should be guaranteed; otherwise, it diminishes the credibility of the course