

Summary report on the activities developed by the CERU in 2015, and on the activities foreseen for 2016

Framework

The main objectives of the *EUR-OPA Agreement Guidelines for the 2014-2015 Programme of Activities* were:

- Using information to save lives and help victims
- Using knowledge to reduce vulnerability
- Placing people at the heart of disaster risk reduction

The project INsPIREd (“Inform and Involve the population on seismic and tsunami risk prevention – Contribution for minimizing damage and increasing resilience. Application to Cascais and Lagos (Portugal), Tanger and M’Diq (Morocco)”), developed in partnership with the CEPRIS (Euro-Mediterranean Centre for Evaluation and Prevention of Seismic Risk, Rabat, Morocco) and CUEBC (European University for the Cultural Heritage, Ravello, Italy), was established according to these principles, aiming at reducing earthquake and tsunami risk and increasing resilience, developing warning systems, increasing exchange of information and knowledge between scientific and operational risk management actors, promoting risk awareness and measures to reduce it, developing exercises and simulations, and proposing solutions to particular vulnerable people.

2015 Activities

In the context of the INsPIREd project the CERU developed the following activities in 2015:

- Collaboration with the Civil Protection Municipal authorities (from Lisbon and Cascais) in information and awareness sessions on earthquake and tsunami risks, devoted to the general public. For instance, during the Civil Protection Week of Cascais Municipality, the CERU participated explaining the subjacent physical phenomena of these natural events (earthquakes and tsunami). These actions took place in public facilities and the target audience ranged from adults to children. Information on self-protection measures was also addressed.
- Two leaflets on seismic and tsunami risk were published, addressing specifically the Cascais Municipality.
- Edition of a short movie to be presented during the awareness sessions, in Cascais.
- Study on the evacuation routes, in case of tsunami, for the Cascais County. The Cascais Civil Protection Department is analysing the document for defining the measures to be developed in the next future.
- Organisation of a travelling exhibition, in Lagos, to inform the public on safety measures and procedures to follow in case of earthquake and/or tsunami occurrence. The exhibition was inaugurated on September 4th, in the City Hall, and was presented in different associations of Lagos County, in order to support the awareness and information sessions developed by the Municipal Civil Protection Department. Up to now the exhibition has been displayed in

schools, in a Sport Centre, in a Social Centre, in a Community Centre, in a Cultural Centre, in a Youth Centre, in sports associations, and in local meeting and training halls.

- During information sessions, performed by the Civil Protection technicians, the leaflets published for Lagos, on seismic and tsunami risk (including safety measures and post-event measures), both in Portuguese and English, were distributed.
- Preparation of informative materials, concerning tsunami risk and evacuation routes to be placed in beaches. Installation of tsunami signalling, evacuation routes and meeting point at a beach, in Lagos Municipality.
- Studies concerning the development of a pilot questionnaire devoted to the hotels on tsunami awareness. This questionnaire has been discussed during the INSPIREd seminars in order to include the contributions of all partners. A first proposal was already drafted.
- Completion of the study on the social vulnerability of Lagos Municipality. The Municipality of Lagos is analysing the results in order to consider its applicability from various perspectives and to subsequently decide the measures to undertake to reduce the social vulnerability on the most critical areas.
- Updating and improvement of the CERU webpage in order to promote the visibility of the Center activities and to publish information on measures to minimize urban risks.
- Organization of a Seminar in Lisbon (28-30 May) to present the progress of the Project and to discuss the results achieved. The seminar was attended by members of CEPRIS and CUEBC, as well as by representatives of several municipalities in Portugal (Amadora, Torres Vedras, Setúbal, Lisboa, Cascais and Lagos). An expert from the Italian Civil Protection Department (Mr. Fabio Sabetta) also attended the seminar, presenting several cases related to population information and awareness on risks. The Seminar concluded with a lively debate among the participants. Further discussion on the project results and further work took place among the project partners.
- Supporting the participation of 3 Portuguese technicians (from Lagos, Cascais and Lisbon Municipalities) and of 4 researchers (from FCUL & IDL, University of Lisbon, and IPMA) in the final seminar of the INSPIREd project, held in Rabat on the 9th and 10th September, 2015.
- Preparation of two communications by CERU members, to be presented at a national and at an international scientific meeting, concerning the evacuation routes in Cascais, in case of tsunami occurrence, addressing some of the results obtained during the INSPIREd project.
- Preparation of a project to be submitted to the Council of Europe, for the biennium 2016-17, on the application of an inquiry to the hoteliers. The project aims to raise the awareness on risk and dangers of tsunami and to investigate hotels availability to implement measures / signage for prevention, warning and evacuation in case of a tsunami. Also foreseen is the implementation of awareness measures along the beaches (public and restoration agents, e.g) and a proposal for a training course devoted to lifeguards.

- Participation of the CERU's Director in the annual meeting of the directors of specialised centres of the EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement, that took place in the Council of Europe office, in Paris, France, 26 – 27 November, 2015.

In addition to the activities carried out under the project INsPIREd, the CERU developed the following activities:

- Participation in several activities developed to honour Professor Mendes Victor, former CERU President, organized by the *Sociedade de Geografia de Lisboa* (Geographical Society of Lisbon).
- Participation in the Lisbon Municipal activities to evoke the 260th anniversary of the 1755 Lisbon earthquake (Program "Lisbon + city + resilient + safe - 260 years of the 1755 earthquake"): awareness sessions in schools (for children), at the university (for students and workers) and in the D. Estefânia Hospital (for staff); participation in two international conferences (on May 7th and November 2nd); collaboration in the realization of the exhibition "When Lisbon Shakes" exposed at the Museum of Lisbon, Palace Pimenta, from November 1st, 2015 to March 1st, 2016.
- Promoted the participation of four elements of Sapper Fire Regiment of Lisbon in the Course "Soft skills in disaster preparedness and relief", held in Rome, on 8 and 9 June, at the CEMEC - European Centre for Disaster Medicine ("*Centre Européen pour la Médecine de Catastrophes, in San Marino*"), sponsored by the Council of Europe.
- Participation on the national exercise "A Terra Treme" (Shake Out) that took place on November 6th, 2015. Dissemination of the exercise and participation at the Faculty of Sciences of Lisbon University. The exercise was promoted and organized by the Portuguese National Authority for Civil Protection (ANPC).
- Organization of an International Conference on Urban Risks (ICUR2016) to be held in Lisbon between June 30 and July 2, 2016.

Activities foreseen for 2016

The main activities to be developed by CERU, during 2016, are:

- Organization of the International Conference Urban Risk (ICUR2016), to be held in Lisbon, between 30 June and 2 July 2016;
- The development of the project on information and dissemination of tsunami warning signs, performance of a survey to hotels in coastal areas and production of a module for lifeguards training/formation (on what to do in case of a tsunami warning), submitted to the Council of Europe;
- Participation in the project to be developed by the CUEBC (European University for the Cultural Heritage, in Ravello, Italy) on the preservation and implementation of non-invasive techniques to increase the seismic resistance of vernacular buildings;

- Participation in the project to be developed by the CERG (European Centre for Seismic and Geomorphological Hazards, in Strasbourg, France), contributing for the elaboration of European landslides hazards maps;
- Improvement of the CERU webpage and its promotion, in order to contribute to more resilient communities;
- Translation of a book on radiological hazards produced by TESEC (European Centre of Technological Safety, in Kiev, Ukraine). Study of dissemination measures in Portugal and, for example, also in Brazil (Portuguese-speaking countries);
- Revision of the Portuguese version of a book on the European Emergency Number 112, published by CEMEC (European Centre for Disaster Medicine, in San Marino);
- Collaboration on information and awareness actions on risks (seismic and tsunami, in particular) undertaken by the Municipal Civil Protection authorities or by local associations, mainly in Lisbon, Cascais and Lagos. The CERU is available to extend these actions to other municipalities;
- Collaboration with the National Authority for Civil Protection (ANPC) aiming at developing joint projects and mitigation actions.

The activities undertaken by CERU, or on which CERU participated, can be seen on CERU webpage (in Portuguese and in English):

<http://www.ceru-europa.pt/pt/>

<http://www.ceru-europa.pt/en/index.php>

Some of the results achieved during the INSPIREd project can be downloaded from the CERU webpage (in Portuguese and in English) – *(still being charged)*

<http://www.ceru-europa.pt/pt/projectos.php>

<http://www.ceru-europa.pt/en/projectos.php>

Progress on the organisation of the International Conference on Urban Risks (ICUR2016) can be checked on the webpage:

<http://www.ceru-europa.pt/icur2016/>

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