

**ACCORD EUROPÉEN ET MÉDITERRANÉEN SUR LES RISQUES MAJEURS
(EUR-OPA)**

CERU – EUROPEAN CENTER ON URBAN RISKS

Project Report



LoKSAND: Local Knowledge and Schools Against Natural Disasters

COORDINATOR CENTRE: CUEBC (Italy)

CERU (Portugal): Partner 3

CERU – 2021

Introduction

During 2021 CERU was involved the project sponsored by the EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement:

LoKSAND: Local Knowledge and Schools Against Natural Disasters

This project was coordinated by the Specialized Centre Centro Universitario Europeo per I Beni Culturali (CUEBC) and CERU, as Partner 3, developed it between the end of March until the end of October 2021.

The main activities developed y CERU were :

- Definition of a territory to implement a PYT page;
- Construction of the PYT page, devoted to urban risks, for the Portuguese Municipality of Odivelas;
- Presentation of this platform to a a junior high school (*Escola Secundária da Ramada*) and to the Municipal Civil Protection authorities;
- Participation in the meetings promoted by the project coordinator.

In the CERU webpage will be made available a file (pdf) with the presentation of the PYT page, as well as a user manual. However, for now, both documents will be in Portuguese.

Following is the report according to the template sent.

1. Reporting

[The report should be sent to the Secretariat at the end of the project and no later than 15 November]

1.1. Give a global overview of the project's implementation (max 200 words)

Between April and October 2021 CERU, developed the project LoKSAND under the coordination of the specialized centre of Ravello (Italy), CUEBC. The main task of CERU was the development and implementation of a PYT (Protect Your Territory) webpage concerning urban risks.

This webpage was created and implemented for a plot Portuguese municipality, Odivelas. The webpage was put online and presented to a school and to civil protection authorities. The webpage was developed in Portuguese, but it includes an automatic translator for English, French, Italian, Russian and Spanish, <https://riscosurbanos.pt/>

The main objective of this page is to allow any citizen to report urban risk situations. For an easier understanding (not only in what to report but also in what consists each risk), a small explanation of the different risks and some examples are also included. Other asset of this page is that it can be accessed through a mobile phone, working, in this case, similarly to a mobile application.

CERU also participated in two online general meetings of the LoKSAND project under the coordination of the CUEBC.

1.2. Describe the most significant achievements as a result of the grant during the time reporting period (max 200 words)

1 – Creation and implementation of a PYT concerning urban risks for the municipality of Odivelas where it is possible to report a risk situation identified by any citizen. The report, anonymous or not, consists of the observed situation description, its localization and, whenever possible, a photo to illustrate it. The report must be validated before being published in the platform.

Some characteristics and assets of the webpage are:

- it can be accessed by computer, laptop, tablet and mobile phone (it looks like an app)
- it includes information on the characteristics of the region and of the potential urban risks
- four classes of risks are identified but it allows to present any other risk
- it includes an automatic translator. The page was prepared in Portuguese but it is possible to see it in English, French, Russian, Italian and Spanish

2 – Preparation of the webpage contents:

- geotectonics and geomorphological, characteristics of the region
- the region's heritage, public gardens and parks
- presentation and description of the potential risks/damage that may occur, namely, (i) flood hazards, (ii) slope instability (falling blocks and landslide hazards), (iii) damage in the heritage (vandalism and lack of maintenance), (iv) risks in pedestrian and road circulation. For each class of risk, some examples on what to report, are also presented

3 – An awareness session performed in a school, concerning urban risks. The webpage was presented, encouraging the students to report the risks they observe in their municipality

4 – Presentation of the webpage to the municipal civil authorities.

1.3. Provide a story which best illustrates the successes and/or challenges of your work to date (max 200 words)

After completing the page, I called to the responsible of the Odivelas Municipal Civil Protection, to present the project and request a meeting and I heard this response:

"You called to the correct department. We are very interested in the project as it meets our objectives and will complement the work that we are doing here."

This was very rewarding, and I felt it was worth all the work we had.

1.4. What has worked well and less well during the reporting period in terms of the strategies you have used to reach your key target groups (max 200 words)

The activities planned to be developed by CERU in 2021 were successfully carried out.

However, only one awareness session in a school was performed. The constraints were mainly due to the current situation of Covid-19 and not to an error in strategy. In addition, one of the teachers who was receptive to the presentation of this project in her class had an accident and was unable to teach during this semester.

What has worked well was the presentation of the project to the Municipal Civil Protection. They were very enthusiastic. They have a department interested to test the PYT page, to present it to other schools and to check its effectiveness.

1.5. Mention any modifications which occurred in the project work plan and explain briefly why. (max 200 words)

There were no relevant changes in relation to the work initially planned. There was only a small delay in carrying out the different tasks, that is, the planned activities took longer than expected due to constraints (of space and time) caused by the Covid-19 pandemic situation. This was reflected mainly in the small number of awareness-raising sessions (only 1...) held in schools. However, we have already booked 2 other sessions until the end of the year.

2. Sustainability

2.1. What steps have been taken to ensure that the results of the project are sustained? (max 200 words)

CERU is preparing a protocol between the Odivelas Municipality to ensure the continuation and future development of the project.

As already mentioned, the responsible of the Odivelas Municipal Civil Protection, as well as the respective Alderman were very enthusiastic.

In accordance with the protocol (to be briefly signed), they undertake to ensure the maintenance, management, and development of the page, and to divulgate and present it in awareness sessions carried out in schools in the Municipality. In addition, they will be responsible for sending the reports to the respective competent authorities. The protocol also ensures the maintenance of the reference that the project was developed by CERU as part of a project financed by the Council of Europe (maintenance of the respective logos on the webpage)