Common template for risk assessment and management operational tools and best practices identification (Action B1)

Title: Operational Tools and Best Practices for Risk Assessment and Management

The identification of tools and best practices on risk assessment and management helps providing an idea of the state of the art in the field. By completing this form, the best practice will be included in the knowledge repository platforms and available for the practitioner community to use. We encourage the user to complete as many fields as possible from the template in order to provide the most relevant information needed to apply the best practice to other practitioners. Instructions:

- **Blue boxes are mandatory fields**
- **More than one item can be selected in multiple choice boxes**

Document classification

Title	Lessons on Fire
Description *[1 sentence]*	A platform to generate debates, share knowledge, experiences and directory of experts
Country, location	Online
Date	December 2015
Contact e-mail	info@paucostafoundation.org
Institution	Fireffient Project – DG ECHO EU Commission
Net Risk Work Partner	PCF
Document type	Website or portal
Language	☒Catalan ☒English ☒French ☒German ☒Italian ☒Spanish ☒Other
Source/origin	☐Partner's expertise ☒Expertise from the network ☐Other (internet)

Topic

Area	☒Risk assessment	☒Risk Planning	☒Risk Management

Risk			
	☒**Wildfires**	☒Fire behaviour patterns and typologies ☒Fire ignition and spread models ☒Wildland urban interface	☒Fuel management ☒Fire service needs ☒Prescribed burning ☐Other *[Introduce which ones]*
	☐**Storms**	☐First measures after storm ☐Work safety during salvage logging ☐Timber storage and cost containment ☐Forest protection and pest control	☐Regeneration and afforestation ☐Preventive sylvicultural measures ☐Other *[Introduce which ones]*
	☐**Avalanches**	☐Technical protective measures ☐Maintenance of protection forests	☐Other *[Introduce which ones]*
	☐**Floods**	☐Prevention through land use management ☐Technical protective measures	☐Other *[Introduce which ones]*
	☐**Other**		*[Introduce which ones]*
Cross-sectoral topics	☐Risk and vulnerability assessment and mitigation	☐Risk planning, governance and policy framework	

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	☐ Cost-effectiveness assessment ☐ Civil protection, emergency and post-disaster management		☒ Community involvement and risk communication ☐Other: [Introduce which ones]		
Level	☐Local	☐Regional	☐National	☐Cross-border ☐EU	☒Global
DRM cycle phase	☒Prevention	☒Preparedness		☒Response	☒Recovery
DRM domain	☒Policy making	☒Early warning system			☒Disaster response
Sendai priorities	☒Priority 1: Understanding disaster risk ☐Priority 2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk ☐Priority 3: Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience ☐Priority 4: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to "Build Back Better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction				
Contribution to Sendai Targets	☐Reduce global disaster mortality ☐Reduce the number of affected people ☐Reduce the direct disaster economic loss ☐Reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure ☐Increase the number of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies ☒Enhance international cooperation to developing countries ☐Increase availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessment				

Description and analysis

Summary: quick presentation of the Good Practice [*Objective: summarize in a few lines the key elements of the good practice*]
- LESSONS ON FIRE is a platform which allows generating debates,
- sharing quality information,
- finding documents in an organised way,
- finding expert people, and
- asking a professional opinion about the integration of forest fires risk in the European landscape.

Place in national/regional policy [*Mentioned in the law/regulation/guidelines? Mandatory? Recommended?*]

Goals and achievements [*Objectives, goals and the achievements of the Good Practice*]
- LESSONS ON FIRE promotes and facilitates experiences and knowledge exchange among professionals in a local, regional, national and international level.
- This platform allows creating expert communities to generate debates about specific subjects, upload documentation in an organised way to create a reference library and know, localise and contact other professionals through a directory.

Actors involved [*Explain who is involved in the development: practitioners, stakeholders, educators, …*]
- The community of wildland fires,
- other interested groups (teachers, journalists, politicians…) and
- the society in general.
- The functioning of the platform has been thought to be self-managing and invigorated by the users – always under conditions of use.

Implementation stage [*Is it operational? Since how long? Is it a pilot experiment?*]
- The 1st phase of the platform development has been implemented, so the platform is currently in use.
- During the 2nd phase, some functionalities will be improved to make the platform more user-friendly.

State of technical knowledge *[state of the art and technical background of the Best Practice]*
- As the users will be mostly professionals of the wildfire sector, it is expected that the contents of the documents and discussions will be of high-quality.

Context *[regulatory, socio-economic, political]*
- In the edge of information and social media, digital users need to have some sites of reference to find high quality and organised information.
- Lesson on Fire wants to capitalise documents and materials (videos, articles, publications) in order to be an online hub of wildland fire information.

Detailed Characteristics [*Objective: detail the implementation conditions of the Good Practice*]

Description of the implementation steps *[different stages in the implementation process, duration]*
1. Define Site Specifications to define: menus, content types, categories, users and roles, functionalities…
2. Site development and design
3. Upload Content
4. Site maintenance and foster participation

Governance *[responsible authority and roles of the different actors involved]*
- Each user is responsible of the content uploaded – there are some rules to use the platform.
- Pau Costa Foundation is the administrator of the platform with permission to upload, delete and edit contents and users.

Necessary means to implement the Good Practice in efficient conditions *[human resources, materials, financial...]*
- A project manager to define the site specifications and to administrate the site,
- A web developer and a designer to implement them.

Challenges encountered during implementation and solutions incurred
- Low engagement by the community to create discussions, upload documents and interact.
- The solution is to invest hours in creating attractive contents and promote the use of the platform through the community.

Priorities identified for successful implementation of the Good Practice
- There are 9 principles defined by Gimenez et al. (2015) in order to design an effective and successful virtual community of practice (VCoP):
    o Coordination
    o value development
    o definition of objectives
    o involvement of a multidisciplinary group of members
    o trust building
    o face to face meetings
    o supporting contribution
    o communication channels
    o receiving external advice
    o showing visible results

Impact of the Good Practice [*Objective: evaluate the impact of the Good Practice*].

[Added value on decision processes, on national policies or regulations, on relationship with stakeholders, etc.]
- Improve the exchange information between experts in a digital way, creating debates and fostering discussion useful for the community.

Future developments [*Objective: understand the follow-up perspectives*]

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> [*Continuation, future improvements,*]
> - Improve some functionalities to make it more user-friendly
> - Upload attracting contents
> - Foster participation
> - Create private groups on dedicated topics
> - Integrate a system to gather information from end-users (forms).

External resources [*Objective: provide further information*]	
Attached materials	*[include format (document, photo, video…) and name of the file]*
Web links	http://lessonsonfire.eu/
Contacts	

[Additional information - optional]

Lessons learnt [*Objective: compare the results obtained to the objectives set at the start of the Good Practice]*
Evaluation process, if exists (internal or external)   *[free text – 5 lines max]*
Assessment of results (quantitative and qualitative) and comparison with main goals   *[free text – 5 lines max]*
Negative aspects identified   *[free text – 5 lines max]*
Unexpected consequences (short / mid / long term) and corrective measures implemented   *[free text – 5 lines max]*

Durability and transferability [*Objective: evaluate the integration of the Good Practice and its sustainability, give recommendations for transferability]*			
Is this information:	**Replicable** ☒	**Measurable** ☐	
Regulatory Framework - The information uploaded shall be under an appropriated copy right protection. - The contents of the platform (e.g. private discussions) shall be properly protected.			
Stability of the human environment [*Stability of partnership, structures, population enabling successful implementation and positive impact in the long term]* *[free text – 5 lines max]*			
Financial requirements [*business model]*			
Success factors [*political, technical, human, financial...]* *[free text – 5 lines max]*			
Risk factors [*legal, financial, safety…]* *[free text – 5 lines max]*			

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Additional and non-formal experiences contributing to the implementation of Good Practice
[free text – 5 lines max]