



# NEWSLETTER



## About the project

The project DRM-FRAME "Disaster Risk Management and Civil Resilience" is an ERASMUS+ co-funded EU project of action type KA220-VET "Cooperation partnerships in vocational education and training" and spans 2 years. Its scope is to enhance capacity, skills building, and preparedness in Disaster Risk Management (DRM), including prevention, effective response, and recovery, while promoting local development opportunities. This will be achieved through an interactive learning and training tool integrating a DRM training curriculum.

In this framework, an interactive multilingual platform will be developed with the following features: (i) an e-learning space, including the topics of the training curriculum, supported by a web-GIS platform which will allow the illustration of the evolution of scenarios at the areas of interest; (ii) a double assessment tool, which will enable the customization of the training path and the evaluation of the acquired skills; (iii) communication and networking capabilities among users. The project's outcome will be validated by external experts and during the multiplier events in all partner countries.

## Our Target Group

The DRM- FRAME project aims to reach a diverse group of stakeholders, including:

- First responders without specialized training in DRM
- Civil protection professionals at the local level
- VET trainers and educators
- Human resources managers
- Volunteers, including teachers professors, researchers, and students
- NGOs and public institutions
- Universities and other academic institutions
- Local and regional authorities and stakeholders



The DRM- FRAME project is structured into various phases, each represented by a Work Package (WP) focused on different aspects of research, development, and implementation to ensure a holistic approach to DRM education and training.

## WP2 - Primary research and situation analysis on DRM, emerging needs and civil resilience resources

The partners of the DRM- FRAME project are pleased to announce the successful completion of Work Package 2 (WP2) activities. This phase focused on conducting primary research and situation analysis to assess the current landscape of Disaster Risk Management (DRM) education and training across Europe.

This phase encompassed comprehensive surveys, interviews, and focus groups with stakeholders such as practitioners, educators, researchers, and civil protection professionals. The data collected provided insights into critical intervention strategies post-disaster, strategic planning methodologies, and HR management practices. Additionally, an extensive review mapped existing DRM educational programs across the EU partner countries, categorizing them by skills imparted and methodologies used to identify areas for improvement.

As part of this effort, around 200 experts from Greece, Italy, Cyprus, Slovakia, and Belgium as well as other EU countries were engaged either in the form of responding to the developed questionnaire or in targeted discussions about current challenges and future directions for DRM education and practice.



## Here are the consolidated outcomes

**Common Challenges** across all countries, experts identified several common challenges:

- **Coordination:** There is a pressing need for improved coordination among agencies.
- **Training:** Enhanced training for both volunteers and professionals is essential.
- **Technology Integration:** There is a need to integrate new technologies into DRM practices.

**Recommendations** Experts provided several key recommendations:

- **Comprehensive Training Programs:** Developing holistic training programs that integrate practical skills, emotional resilience, and cross-cultural competencies.
- **Interdisciplinary Collaboration:** Fostering collaboration across different disciplines to strengthen DRM strategies.
- **Public Awareness:** Promoting public awareness and community engagement.
- **DRM Education:** Integrating DRM education into both formal and informal learning settings from an early age.





Completing the WP2 helped the consortium understand the dynamics of DRM, which is of primary importance, as in this way we will identify new tools and approaches that can be useful for developing training skills and tools in the sector of civil protection and resilience. More specifically, the activities completed in WP2, aim at the following objectives:

- To explore the critical aspects of intervention after several types of disaster in terms of strategic planning, HR management, required skills in key positions and synergies with VET education.
- To explore the existing dynamics in the national, regional and local level in the Disaster risk management
- To discover the latest technologies currently in use for Disaster Risk management
- To outline the various educational opportunities - academic programs provided by universities and practical training initiatives offered by first responder academies and other organizations in the consortium countries
- These objectives offer a clear direction for the following WP, as we have already understood the gaps in the field and the need for change.

## WP3- Proposal for a Disaster Risk Management framework

Work Package 3 - Proposal for a Disaster Risk Management framework will design guidance and training activities, define the objectives and competences to be developed and improved, according to the modern approaches of disaster risk management and the emerging needs analysis, outline the learning outcomes and provide training material. In addition, the useful skills for the improvement of disaster risk management will be mapped, and concrete actions of cross-fertilization will be promoted to increase cooperation and the creation of an ever more integrated, efficient and sustainable set of competences and training pathways areas in accordance with European standards.

The result of WP3 will be the curriculum for the development of Disaster Risk Management competences in the target group of beneficiaries, a training programme that will be part of the cooperation between vocational education and training and regional authorities for the resilience of their territory. The curriculum will be evaluated by relevant stakeholders, associated partners and groups identified as experts in the field.

*Read More on our website*



***Our partnership includes a consortium of higher education institutions, certified VET providers, NGOs, and public service providers.***



◆ Center for Security Studies (KEMEA) – coordinator: a public think tank on homeland security policies and an established research center since 2005 within the Hellenic Ministry of Citizen Protection, aiming to support security policy implementations in Greece, at a strategic level. KEMEA is the certification body for security personnel in Greece and active in more than 75 European and national research projects with eight dedicated sectors (emergency management and civil protection, protection of critical entities, policy against crime and terrorism, cybersecurity, security and border control, international cooperation and communication, administrative management, training of security personnel) for promoting safety and security.



◆ University of Thessaly (UTH): University of Thessaly provides undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and extracurricular modules in specific research and business fields, for over 43 000 students. The main mission of the University of Thessaly is the promotion of scientific knowledge through research and the contribution to the cultural and economic development of the local community and wider society.



◆ University of Camerino (UNICAM): a 'city campus university' chartered in 1336, with about 600 staff, about 8,000 undergraduate students, and 180 PhD candidates, of which about 40% are international students. UNICAM has 5 Schools which conduct research and training activities in specific scientific fields: Architecture and Design; Science and Technology; Biosciences & Veterinary; Law; Pharmacy. Each School manages its activities in an international integrated cultural oriented environment.



◆ ISEM: a professional platform of former or active police and national security officers, military, civil protection and crisis management experts from around the world with necessary security clearance and relevant long-term experience in crime prevention, counter-terrorism and CBRNe threats, in the fight against organised crime, environmental crime, trafficking in human beings, cyber-crime, drugs and weapons smuggling.



◆ SYNTHESIS Center for Research and Education: a pioneering organisation which initiates and implements projects of social impact, with a focus on social inclusion as well as a fully accredited Vocational Education & Training Center. It was founded and is managing HUB NICOSIA, an educational center and a community of organisations with cultural, environmental and social aims.



◆ Connect Brussels: a Belgian non-profit founded in 2019. Connect Brussels specializes in European projects, event management, and enhancing employability among vulnerable groups through non-formal education. The organization offers free educational programs to support young individuals in developing their professional competencies. It also mobilizes volunteers, including psychologists and social workers, to organize activities that support vulnerable social groups, raise public awareness, and advocate for individuals facing social exclusion.

