DIALOGUE & ACTION AGAINST WILDFIRES

TRIKORFO

CASE STUDY

Dialogue, participatory planning and collective action to reduce the risk of disasters from wildfires within the framework of the project Dialogue and Action Against Wildfires: Empowering Communities for Resilience to Natural Disasters

NOVEMBER 2024

TRIKORFO OF MESSINIA

CASE STUDY

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NOVEMBER 2024

This is part of the "Toolkit for Reducing Disaster Risk from Wildfires". It was created by the implementation team of the pilot project "Dialogue and Action Against Wildfires: Empowering Communities for Resilience to Natural Disasters" with the support of the research program ACCTING (AdvanCing behavioural Change Through an INclusive Green deal): European Union's Horizon 2020, No 101036504. For more information about the toolkit, go to the website https://dock-sse.org/tool/disaster-risk-reduction/

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Message from the Project Team

As small mountain villages increasingly face the threat of wildfires, exacerbated by climate change, the role of communities as a first line of defense becomes more important than ever.

As part of the Dialogue and Action Against Wildfires: Empowering Communities for Resilience to Natural Disasters program, we collaborated with four communities in Messinia – Ancient Messini, Manganiako, Trikorfo and Koromilia – to reduce the risk of natural disasters and strengthen their readiness. Through participatory planning and collective action processes, we highlighted the specificities of each region, combining the experience of residents with innovative approaches.

These four communities are examples of small rural settlements that share challenges, such as an aging population and limited resources, but also have unique characteristics and potential. Based on these, we developed separate case studies that analyze the strengths and weaknesses, challenges and opportunities of each area.

This case study aspires to be a source of inspiration and a tool for action for similar communities, strengthening their capacity to respond to the challenges of the future.

To access the remaining studies, the tools we developed and a practical action guide for organizing communities, visit the website: https://dock-sse.org/tool/disaster-risk-reduction.

The project team,

Elena Tzamuranou, Dock - Social Solidarity Economy Zone
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Costas Vlachonikolos, Messinia Disaster Response Team

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The Trikorfo case study is organized in a way that highlights the process, findings, and recommendations that emerged from the community engagement. The goal is to provide a comprehensive picture of the experience and lessons learned.

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Initially, the timeline of the actions as implemented in Trikorfo is presented, as well as the profile of the community. The social and environmental conditions, as well as the challenges facing the village, are described.

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The following is an analysis of the attitudes and perceptions of residents, as derived from content analysis and questionnaire research. Their perspectives on prevention, resilience, collective action and cooperation with the Authorities are examined.

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The collective analysis focuses on recording the current situation (Scenario 0), identifying vulnerabilities, available resources and capabilities. The process followed to assess the current situation and plan improvements is described.

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The participatory planning process presents the proposals developed by the community for prevention and readiness. It examines how actions were shaped through dialogue, collective knowledge and participatory decision-making.

LEARNING FROM TRIKORFO 24

The final section summarizes the key conclusions from the process and makes suggestions for next steps. The Trikorfo experience is highlighted as an example of strengthening resilience through collective action and continuous improvement.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

2. COLLECTIVE ANALYSIS

MAR. ‘24

DEC. ‘23

1. ACQUAINTANCE AND UNDERSTANDING

Connecting and getting to know the community, collecting stories and data, initial understanding of attitudes and needs

On-site inspection, identification of strengths and weaknesses, recording of local opportunities and problems

JUNE ‘24

4. EVALUATION AND FEEDBACK

APR. ‘24

3. PARTICIPATORY PLANNING

Development of proposals and a prevention and response plan through collective processes and dialogue

Review of actions, discussion of results and formulation of proposals for next steps

PROFILE OF TRIKORFO

Trikorfo is a village in Messinia, built on the southern edge of the "Kalligas" mountain range and in front of it stretches the Trikorfo plain with arable land. The settlement belongs to the Community of Trikorfo, which is administratively under the Municipal Unit of Trikorfo, of the Municipality of Messini. It is located approximately 34 kilometers northwest of Kalamata and at an altitude of 395 meters, and based on the 2021 census, the population is 274 residents.

KEY FEATURES

- Altitude: 395 meters
- Administrative Subordination: Municipality of Messini
- Population (2021 Census): 274 residents

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

- Agriculture: Olive and fig cultivation
- Standardization: Two olive mills and a company that standardizes and exports local products
- Tavern, Cafe and Pharmacy

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- Area: At the foot of "Kalligas", with rich natural vegetation
- Trees: Oak, holly trees

HISTORICAL FIRE

- Trikorfo has not directly experienced any major fires in its area, but when a fire breaks out in the surrounding villages, a number of people with tractors rush to help.

THE DYNAMICS OF TRIKORFO: A COMBINATION OF KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND COLLABORATION

Trikorfo stands out for its ability to combine traditional knowledge, volunteerism and experience in organizing for the prevention and response to crises. Although they themselves have not experienced major fires in their village, the residents have repeatedly demonstrated their readiness to contribute to times of emergency in the wider area, utilizing their tractors and tanks, a fact that has been recognized by both the other communities and the Fire Department.

Utilizing Local Knowledge and Experience

Residents have in-depth knowledge of critical water intake points and the specificities of their area, while they have the ability to utilize the coexistence of experienced firefighters and local actors to enhance prevention and crisis response.

Strong Will to Act

Despite the organizational challenges, the community has demonstrated significant readiness in critical moments for the wider region, responding immediately with available resources and improvised equipment.

Organization and Collaboration

The need for better coordinated action with local authorities and the creation of organized volunteer groups is highlighted, in order to maximize the effectiveness of critical interventions.

Analyzing the content of the dialogue in the community of Trikorfo, it emerges that the residents realize that they have strong points that can form the basis for the development of a more effective strategy for preventing and dealing with forest fires.

STRENGTHS

- **Collective Spirit:** The community showed a strong willingness to act collectively in crisis situations, with residents rushing immediately to deal with fires
- **Local Knowledge and Expertise:** There is knowledge of critical water intake points that can be utilized in emergency situations. Furthermore, the presence of the Forester of Kalamata and two firefighters in Trikorfo enhances the expertise and preparedness of the community
- **Previous Organizing Experience:** The community previously had an informal but functional volunteer group with clear roles, which is a good basis for future organizing.
- **Willingness for Improvement and Organization:** The need for better organization and upgrading of prevention and readiness actions was emphasized, with the president supporting the creation of a coordination team

WEAK POINTS

- **Lack of Legal Coverage and Incentives for Volunteers:** The absence of a legal framework for compensation in case of damage creates hesitation among residents to participate voluntarily
- **Unwillingness to Participate and Organize:** Low participation in dialogue and organizing processes was observed, which demonstrates a lack of familiarity with collective actions.
- **Limited Access and Road Clearance:** There have been many reports of fire truck access problems due to branches, fences and inadequate road clearing.
- **Limited Cooperation with Local Authorities:** The need for better coordination was highlighted and complaints were expressed about delays and insufficient support from the Authorities

The conclusions emerging from the dialogue with the Trikorfo community highlight both the potential and the challenges that the area faces. The community has strong local knowledge and expertise, while the existence of informal volunteer structures and critical water points is a significant advantage. The willingness to take action and the willingness to improve the organization, with the community president playing a central role, provide the basis for a more effective response to fire risks.

However, the problems remain significant. The lack of legal coverage and incentives for volunteers, as well as access problems due to dense vegetation and insufficient cleaning, make it difficult for the community to be prepared. At the same time, limited cooperation with local authorities burdens prevention and suppression efforts. **Therefore, the community of Trikorfo has the opportunity to develop a more organized and coordinated strategy, strengthening prevention and utilizing the knowledge and existing capabilities, in cooperation with the competent authorities and bodies.**


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Community Engagement: An Ongoing Process

The community of Trikorfo actively participated in all stages of the process, through a total of 11 actions that included online and in-person meetings, community events, the formation of a steering committee and the use of tools such as information boards, GIS maps and participatory planning canvases. In addition, interviews, on-site inspections, educational meetings and participatory planning sessions were carried out, while the submitted proposals were prioritized and validated by the residents themselves.

ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS

The analysis of perceptions was based primarily on the content that emerged from discussions, interviews and open meetings with the community. The focus was on recording the opinions, needs and priorities of the residents. The data was organized and analyzed with the aim of highlighting the issues that concern the community, as well as the ethical dilemmas and attitudes related to forest fires.

ISSUES RAISED BY THE COMMUNITY IN THE DIALOGUE

- ☐ Prevention/Readiness Issues
- ☐ Collective Action and Responsibility
- ☐ Traditional Practices and Knowledge
- ☐ Infrastructure and Equipment
- ☐ Legal Framework
- ☐ Relations with Local Authorities

> *Fire and death unite us all, even if we are enemies. When there is a fire, everyone runs... like at a funeral.*

ETHICAL DILEMMAS

The management of the Trikorfo wildfires has raised ethical dilemmas without clear answers. Recognizing them is the first step towards more balanced policies that respond to the needs of communities. The following examples illuminate the complexity of these issues and the search for solutions by residents:

- ☐ **Balancing "individual responsibility" and "collective action":** Residents are called upon to manage their own responsibility for fire prevention, such as cleaning roads and plots. However, the lack of organized planning and state intervention creates a dilemma: Should they take action individually or expect support and coordination from the community and authorities?
- ☐ **Balancing "life protection" and "property protection":** In cases of fire, residents face the dilemma of putting their lives at risk to protect their property or waiting for the authorities to intervene. The fact that official agencies may be slow to arrive at the area intensifies the need for immediate but dangerous action.
- ☐ **Balancing "volunteering" and "financial security":** Voluntary actions by residents, such as the use of private means (e.g. tractors or tanks), are valuable. However, the absence of compensation in case of damage poses a dilemma: Should residents continue to volunteer without support or limit their action to protect their financial security?

The residents of the Trikorfo community focus on prevention, collective action, the need for equipment and coverage for volunteers, and improving cooperation with the Authorities. The residents are willing to act and protect their area, but feel they need more support to do so effectively.

THE FOCUS IN TRIKORFO WAS MORE ON PREVENTION, WITH AN EMPHASIS ON INFRASTRUCTURE, CLEAN-UP AND DISASTER READINESS. READINESS WAS SEEN AS COMPLEMENTARY, IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE REACTION TIME IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY.

Community Mobilization and Responsibility
The participation of everyone, especially young and old, was deemed essential

Traditional Practices
Traditional practices such as livestock farming were mentioned to prevent fires

Need for Infrastructure and Equipment
The need for maintenance and improvement of infrastructure such as reservoirs and roads was highlighted

Legal Framework
The need for clear legal coverage for volunteers was emphasized

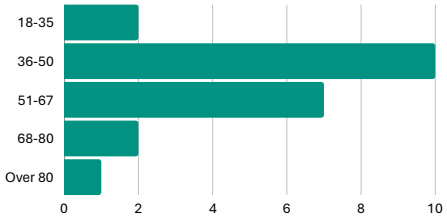
Relations with Authorities
Reference was made to improving cooperation with local authorities for a faster response

A survey was then conducted based on a questionnaire completed by permanent residents of Trikorfo, with an emphasis on individuals who did not have the opportunity to participate in the meetings. The study focuses on their perceptions of fire risk, readiness, collective action and education. The results provide valuable information on the needs and priorities of the community.

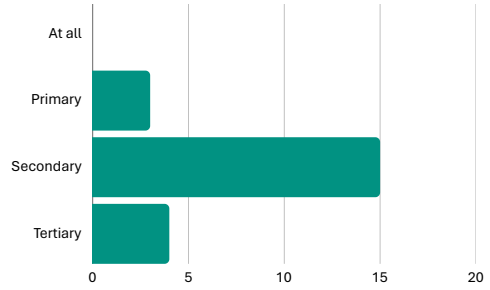
100%

The total sample consists of 22 people

In relation to gender, out of the 22 individuals, 11 were identified as female, 11 as male.



Regarding the ages of the respondents, 2 people belong to the age group of 18-35, 10 to the age group of 36-50, 7 to the age group of 51-67, 2 to the age group of 68-79, while 1 person is over 80 years old.



Of the 22 people, 3 people completed primary education, 15 secondary education and 4 university education.

Convergence of Views and Complementarity of Methods

The results of the questionnaire confirm and enrich the conclusions drawn from the content analysis. The community of Trikorfo presents differences in the opinions of the residents, which are however not strong. This indicates that there is a basic agreement and common understanding of the challenges, maintaining a sufficient level of collectivity and cooperation to address the issues that arise.

Despite the lack of consensus, the responses highlight a basic agreement on perceptions regarding fire prevention and management. This convergence highlights the potential of the community to work in a coordinated manner, providing a basis for the further development of collaborative and participatory policies.

The research highlights the need for enhanced education, improved infrastructure and better cooperation with the authorities, while underlining the importance of having a fire prevention and response plan. At the same time, the strong willingness of the residents of Trikorfo for collective action constitutes a solid basis for sustainable and participatory solutions.

RISK PERCEPTION

The majority is very concerned about the risk of fires (100%)

77% consider a fire prevention and response plan important for the village

INDIVIDUAL & COLLECTIVE ROLE

Relative confidence in individual abilities (average value: 3.86 out of 5)

Relative trust in collective action (average value: 3.73 out of 5)

A balance is observed between individual responsibility and collective action, highlighting the combination of personal initiative and community cooperation.

86% **believe in the importance of equal participation of all**

41% **believe that community knowledge can contribute to fire management**

EDUCATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

Insufficient education and information (average value: 2.55 out of 5)

Recognition of the importance of education (average value: 4.27 out of 5)

27.27% **refer to the need for investment in infrastructure and equipment in the community**

RELATIONS WITH AUTHORITIES

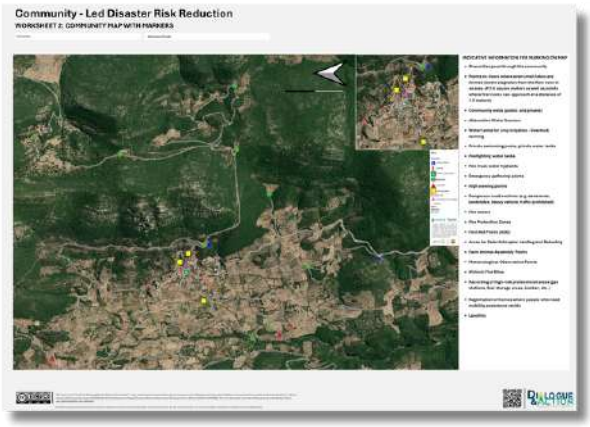
Low trust in the authorities (only 11.5% positive opinion)

18.18% consider cooperation with the Authorities a significant obstacle in managing fires

COLLECTIVE ANALYSIS

The collective analysis describes the existing situation of the community for the period 2023-2024 and constitutes the basis for understanding the current situation (Scenario 0) of the community of Trikorfo. Its aim is to identify the key priorities and gaps that need to be filled to strengthen the resilience of the community against wildfires. The analysis focuses on identifying vulnerabilities and available resources, taking into account the experience of residents who actively participated in the process, the local geography and infrastructure. The process is based on the risk management cycle (prevention, readiness, response & recovery) and focuses mainly on the stages of prevention and readiness, which are crucial for reducing the likelihood of fire and better preparing the community.

Data collection was carried out by analyzing the content of statements from the community event, conducting a focus group with women in the community, marking critical points and resources on a detailed map using Geographic Information Systems (GIS), as well as an on-site inspection to assess existing infrastructure, which was carried out in collaboration with the Messinia Disaster Response Team. It is noted that the resident information table was not completed in Trikorfo.



The main prevention and treatment issues that emerged through the collective analysis are the following:

Prevention (preventive measures and practices aimed at minimizing the likelihood of a fire occurring)

- ☐ Vegetation Management (Roads, Private Properties, Forests)
- ☐ Management of Flammable Materials (Bulk Waste)
- ☐ Awareness (Information, Relevant Legislation)

Readiness (preparation for potential fire outbreaks to ensure quick and effective response)

- ☐ Infrastructure and Equipment Assessment (Repairs / Supplies)
- ☐ Fire Detection (Human Resources)
- ☐ Emergency Plan (Community Notification, Assembly Point)

On pages 18 and 19, a tool is presented that illustrates the prevention and response points, with critical points in orange and potential points in green. This categorization facilitates understanding and future action.

The on-site inspection in Trikorfo highlighted the significant existence of water infrastructure, with two firefighting complexes and several tanks, including a large tank of over 300 cubic meters.

However, the need for maintenance of equipment, such as the hoses and motors of the units, was identified, as well as improving the compatibility of the nozzles with fire trucks.

In addition, water intake points with deficiencies, such as low pressure, were recorded, while private tanks and springs, such as Kefalovryso, can be used for pumping water in cases of emergency.

Reducing the Risk of Disasters from Forest Fires

WORKSHEET 3: PREVENTION AND READINESS MEASURES

Community: Trikorfo **Reporting Period:** 2023 - 2024 (Scenario 0)

PREVENTION

Preventive measures and practices aimed at minimizing the possibility of fire

1. VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Roads

- Fire Zone - advances from the Municipality
- Fire truck access due to branches

Cleaning of roads, rural roads and paths

Private Properties

- Gross Plots

Mandatory vegetation management for property owners

Buildings

Removal of trees located near houses and buildings

Forests

Use of sustainable forest management practices & protection of biodiversity

2. MANAGEMENT OF FLAMMABLE MATERIALS

Bulky Waste

- Garbage dump in the thyme, in the eucalyptus

Handling items that do not fit into standard waste collection systems

Construction waste

Waste from construction, demolition, renovation and remodeling

Waste Minimization

Changing social patterns of consumption and production

Junk

Cleaning and maintenance of public spaces, neighborhoods and natural areas

3. AUTONOMY IN BASIC SERVICES

Water Resources

Ensuring continuous access and effective management

Energy

Ensuring and maintaining an independent, reliable, local energy supply

Communication Systems

Installation of alternative networks for redundancy and consistency

Infrastructure

Increasing the strength and resilience of infrastructure

4. AWARENESS

Information

Informing & motivating behavior change towards prevention strategies

Fireproof Houses

Presentation of the concept of fire-resistant homes and buildings

Fire-Resistant Fields

Presentation of the concept of fire-resistant fields and crops

Relevant Legislation

Information & advice on relevant legislation issues

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This is part of the "Toolkit for Reducing Disaster Risk from Forest Fires". It was created by the implementation team of the pilot project "Dialogue and Action on Fires: Empowering Communities for Resilience to Natural Disasters" with support of the research program ACCTING (AdvanCingbehavioural Change Through anINclusiveGreen deal): European Union's Horizon 2020, No 101036504. For more information about the toolkit, go to the website https://docksse.org/tool/disaster-risk-reduction/

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READINESS

Preparation for potential fire outbreaks to ensure quick and effective response

1. INFRASTRUCTURE & EQUIPMENT EVALUATION

Documentation

Mapping of data and allocation of relevant resources

Infrastructure Inspection

- There is readiness with tractors and tankers during the summer months

On-site thorough inspections of infrastructure and equipment

Repairs / Supplies

- 2 Fire Departments
- Several Tanks
- Maintenance is needed: the pipes and engines of the units, as well as the compatibility of the nozzles with the fire trucks

Depending on the results of the audit and the specific needs of the community

Use of Technology

Leveraging technology to identify further vulnerabilities

2. FIRE DETECTION

Human Resources

- There is an informal volunteer group that operates when there is a need.

Ensuring volunteer commitment and availability

Viewpoints

Identification of suitable viewing points and possible patrol routes

High Risk Days

Determination of days for performing actions for fire detection

Monitoring

- Most people are mindful, especially when it's very windy.

Monitoring & performing patrols during high-risk days

3. EMERGENCY PLAN

Community Notification

Procedures for quick and effective updating

Gathering Points

Identification of assembly points for people and equipment

Moving Assistance

Identifying people who need assistance during evacuation

Roles & Responsibilities

Assignment of coordination, equipment management and population relocation

4. INFORMATION AND TRAINING

Fire Protection Period

Notification of the start/end of the fire season and useful instructions

Urge

Disseminating the Community Action Plan and encouraging active participation

Educational Activities

Training seminars for basic skills and knowledge

Readiness Exercises

Organizing preparedness exercises aimed at improving response capabilities

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DIALOGUE & ACTION AGAINST WILDFIRES

PARTICIPATORY DESIGN

Participatory planning is the next critical step in strengthening the resilience of the Trikorfo community to wildfires. The goal of the participatory planning was to capture the views of residents on the actions proposed for prevention and readiness, and to ensure that the resulting plan is the result of collective thinking and action, responding to the needs and capabilities of the community.

Based on the findings of the collective analysis, a framework of prevention and preparedness actions (Scenario B) was developed, which focused on improvements and actions to address vulnerabilities, while being based on the real needs of the community and the active participation of residents. Through this process, it was sought to strengthen cooperation, leverage local knowledge and ensure that the proposed solutions respond to the specific conditions of the area.

Participatory planning included the following key steps:

INFORMATION SESSION	GROUP SEPARATION	RECORDING SUGGESTIONS
Before the start of the process, participants were familiarized with the risk management cycle (prevention, readiness, response, recovery), in order to facilitate understanding of the topics and focus on the areas that concern their community.	The participants were divided into two working groups, where through an open discussion they proposed specific actions to strengthen prevention and readiness. Although the areas of response and recovery were discussed to a lesser extent, specific instructions were given for the preparation of future actions.	The proposals submitted were recorded and graphically captured in the tool presented during the collective analysis, in order to provide a clear picture of the proposed actions and facilitate discussion and decision-making.

The key prevention and response issues that emerged through the collective analysis are listed below, while pages 22 and 23 present all the proposals that emerged from the planning in more detail.

Prevention (preventive measures and practices aimed at minimizing the likelihood of a fire occurring)

- ☐ Vegetation Management (Roads, Private Properties)
- ☐ Management of Flammable Materials (Bulk Waste)
- ☐ Autonomy in Basic Services (Water Resources)
- ☐ Awareness (Information, Relevant Legislation)

Readiness (preparation for potential fire outbreaks to ensure quick and effective response)

- ☐ Infrastructure and Equipment Assessment (Documentation, Repairs/Supplies, Use of Technology)
- ☐ Fire Detection (Human Resources, Observation Points, High Risk Days, Monitoring)
- ☐ Emergency Plan (Community Notification, Assembly Point, Assistance for Relocation)
- ☐ Information/Training (Fire Season)

Through participatory planning that leveraged collective knowledge and local experience, the community of Trikorfo developed a forest fire prevention and response plan. The plan responds to the specific conditions of the area and incorporates the voice and priorities of the residents, strengthening its resilience to future risks.

Reducing the Risk of Disasters from Forest Fires

WORKSHEET 3: PREVENTION AND READINESS MEASURES

Community: Trikorfo **Reporting Period:** 2024 - 2025 (Scenario B)

PREVENTION

Preventive measures and practices aimed at minimizing the possibility of fire

1. VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Roads

- Fire Zone - advances from the Municipality
- Fire truck access due to branches

Cleaning of roads, rural roads and paths

Private Properties

- Personal communication with owners
- Help for those in financial difficulty

Mandatory vegetation management for property owners

Buildings

Removal of trees located near houses and buildings

Forests

Use of sustainable forest management practices & protection of biodiversity

2. MANAGEMENT OF FLAMMABLE MATERIALS

Bulky Waste

- Request open bins for bulky items in 1-2 locations and inform the community about what to do

Handling items that do not fit into standard waste collection systems

Construction waste

Waste from construction, demolition, renovation and remodeling

Waste Minimization

Changing social patterns of consumption and production

Junk

Cleaning and maintenance of public spaces, neighborhoods and natural areas

3. AUTONOMY IN BASIC SERVICES

Water Resources

- Several points were identified and are known to the community where water could be pumped in case of emergency.

Ensuring continuous access and effective management

Energy

Ensuring and maintaining an independent, reliable, local energy supply

Communication Systems

Installation of alternative networks for redundancy and consistency

Infrastructure

Increasing the strength and resilience of infrastructure

4. AWARENESS

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ιγιές

ΕΤΟΙΜΟΤΗΤΑ

Προετοιμασία για πιθανές εστίες πυρκαγιάς ώστε να διασφαλίζεται η γρήγορη και αποτελεσματική αντιμετώπιση

1. ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΥΠΟΔΟΜΩΝ & ΕΞΟΠΛΙΣΜΟΥ

Τεκμηρίωση

- Ενημερωμένος χάρτης

Χαρτογράφηση στοιχείων και κατανομή των σχετικών πόρων

Επιθεώρηση Υποδομών

- Υπάρχει ετοιμότητα με τρακτερ και βυτία τους καλοκαιρινούς μήνες

Επιτόπιοι ενδελεχείς έλεγχοι των υποδομών και του εξοπλισμού

Επισκευές / Προμήθειες

- 2 Πυροσβεστικά Συγκροτήματα
- Αρκετές Δεξαμενές
- Πρόταση για μία ακόμη με φυσική ροή κάτω από την πλατεία
- Χρειάζονται συντήρηση: οι σωλήνες και οι κινητήρες των συγκροτημάτων, καθώς και η συμβατότητας των στομίων με τα πυροσβεστικά οχήματα

Ανάλογα με τα αποτελέσματα του ελέγχου και της συντήρησης των πυροσβεστικών συγκροτημάτων

Χρήση της Τεχνολογίας

Αξιοποίηση της τεχνολογίας για εντοπισμό περαιτέρω τρωτών σημείων

2. ΑΝΙΧΝΕΥΣΗ ΠΥΡΚΑΓΙΑΣ

Ανθρώπινοι Πόροι

- Υπάρχει άτυπη εθελοντική ομάδα που λειτουργεί όταν υπάρχει ανάγκη

Εξασφάλιση της δέσμευσης και της διαθεσιμότητας εθελοντών

Σημεία Θέασης

Προσδιορισμός κατάλληλων σημείων θέασης και πιθανές διαδρομές για περιπολίες

Ημέρες Υψηλού Κινδύνου

Προσδιορισμός ημερών εκτέλεσης ενεργειών για ανίχνευση πυρκαγιάς

Παρακολούθηση

- Οι περισσότεροι έχουν τον νου τους, ιδιαίτερα όταν φυσάει πολύ

Παρακολούθηση & εκτέλεση περιπολιών κατά τη διάρκεια ημερών υψηλού κινδύνου

3. ΣΧΕΔΙΟ ΕΚΤΑΤΗΣ ΑΝΑΓΚΗΣ

Ειδοποίηση της Κοινότητας

- Κρίθηκε ότι περισσότερη οργάνωση θα απαιτούσε περισσότερη δέσμευση και χρόνο, τα εμπλεκόμενα άτομα έκριναν ότι στην παρούσα φάση αυτό δεν είναι απαραίτητο

Διαδικασίες για τη γρήγορη και αποτελεσματική ενημέρωση

Σημεία Συγκέντρωσης

Προσδιορισμός σημείων συγκέντρωσης ανθρώπων και εξοπλισμού

Βοήθεια για Μετακίνηση

Προσδιορισμός των ανθρώπων που χρειάζονται βοήθεια κατά την εκκένωση

Ρόλοι & Υπευθυνότητες

Ανάθεση συντονισμού, διαχείρισης εξοπλισμού και μετεγκατάστασης πληθυσμού

4. ΕΝΗΜΕΡΩΣΗ ΚΑΙ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΣΗ

Αντιπυρική Περίοδος

Γνωστοποίηση έναρξης/λήξης της αντιπυρικής περιόδου και χρήσιμες οδηγίες

Παρακίνηση

Διάδοση του κοινοτικού σχεδίου δράσης και ενθάρρυνση της ενεργού συμμετοχής

Εκπαιδευτικές Δράσεις

Σεμινάρια κατάρτισης για βασικές δεξιότητες και γνώσεις

Ασκήσεις Ετοιμότητας

Διοργάνωση ασκήσεων ετοιμότητας με στόχο τη βελτίωση των δυνατοτήτων απόκρισης

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Learning from Trikorfo

The risk management process in Trikorfo highlighted the importance of leveraging the existing knowledge, experience and skills of the community, as well as the power of voluntary action. Despite the fact that Trikorfo has not experienced a fire incident in the settlement itself, the community has demonstrated that it understands its responsibility, thereby increasing the resilience of the wider area.

THE IMPORTANCE OF LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

Local knowledge is a valuable resource for the community. Based on the experience and knowledge of the residents, Trikorfo was able to map critical points and highlight its opportunities and vulnerabilities. This process showed that even small communities have the necessary knowledge to address complex challenges, as long as they are given the right guidance.

THE IMPORTANCE OF LOCAL EXPERIENCE

The Trikorfo community has significant experience and knowledge in crisis prevention and response. Specific individuals have taken on distinct roles in times of emergency, which enhances immediate response. The coordinated use of this experience can be a strong foundation for future organization. In addition, the presence of professionals, such as the forester and firefighters, enhances readiness and coordination for fire response.

THE DYNAMICS OF VOLUNTARY ACTION

The informal volunteer group and the activation of the residents demonstrate the willingness to take action in times of crisis. By using private means, such as tractors and tankers, the residents contribute substantially to dealing with incidents before the arrival of the competent services, something that has been recognized by both the neighboring communities and the Fire Department.

THE PERCEPTION OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

The community of Trikorfo understands that a fire in the wider area is not a distant event but an immediate threat to their village. Their timely mobilization in neighboring areas functions not only as an act of solidarity but also as a protection strategy, preventing the spread of the fire towards their village.

Trikorfo is a role model, showing that communities can play a decisive role in preventing and responding to crises. The experience, local knowledge and organization of the community are combined with a commitment to protecting both the settlement and the wider area. Their timely response to fires in neighboring settlements highlights the recognition of the interdependence of local communities and the shared responsibility for the preservation of the entire ecosystem.

As resilience is a dynamic process of continuous improvement, it requires systematic adaptation to new challenges and the utilization of available resources and knowledge. By implementing the following suggestions, Trikorfo can further strengthen its ability to manage risks and shape a more resilient future.

Continuous Improvement of Information and Infrastructure

- ☐ Creation of the information board with the residents' information
- ☐ Annual on-site inspection to assess the condition of water tanks, fire hydrants and rural roads and update the map

Systematic monitoring of the progress of implementation of measures

- ☐ Immediate maintenance of fire stations in the square to ensure functionality and improve compatibility with fire trucks
- ☐ Improving pressure at water intake points and integrating private tanks and springs into an integrated management plan
- ☐ Raising community awareness about the value of prevention

Promoting Collective Action and Cooperation with Neighboring Villages

- ☐ Creation of a permanent inter-municipal group that will operate as a prevention and immediate response network in cases of fire.
- ☐ Once a group is created, investigate the possibility of certification by the Civil Protection, in order to increase the effectiveness of actions and strengthen cooperation with the competent Authorities.

Permanent Communication Channels with the Authorities

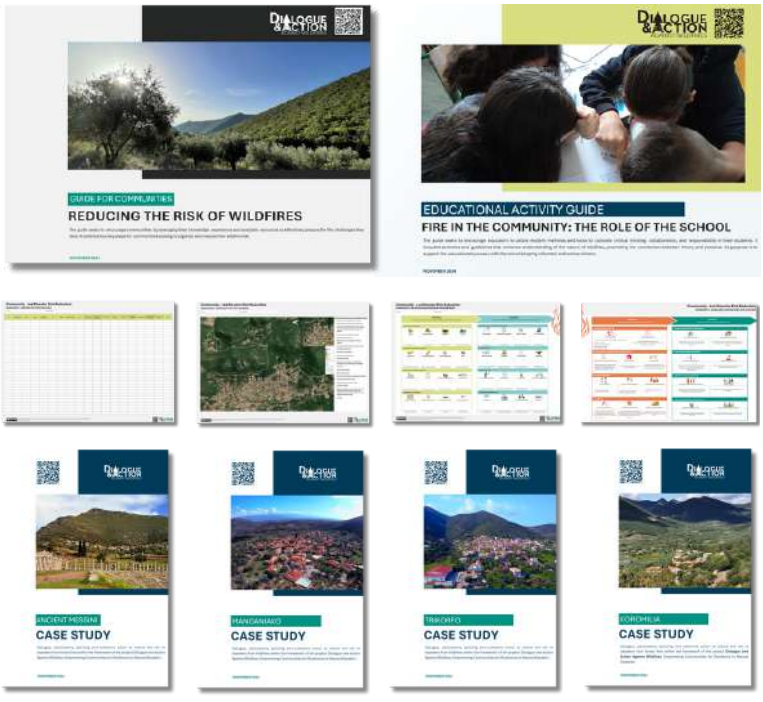
- ☐ Creating regular communication channels with the Municipality, the Fire Department and the Forestry Department, for better cooperation and faster response in cases of danger.
- ☐ Designating coordinators within the community who will ensure immediate and effective communication.

The completion of this study would not have been possible without the warm support and active participation of the Trikorfo community. We thank all the residents who shared their experiences, knowledge and concerns, contributing decisively to the formation of the findings and proposals. Special thanks are addressed to the president of the Trikorfo community, Mr. Panagiotis Apostolopoulos, to the municipal councilor, Mr. Nikolaos Poulopoulos, to the president of the Trikorfo Messinia Association, Mr. Andreas Georgakopoulos, to Ms. Dionysia Karoutzou for their assistance in conducting the research and to all the individuals who participated in the actions, dedicating their time and energy to the protection and strengthening of their community. Their commitment is an example of collective action and cooperation in addressing critical challenges.

The study is part of a wildfire risk reduction toolkit that includes a guide for communities, a guide for trainers to implement a relevant workshop, worksheets and four case studies, so that communities can design and implement solutions that meet their own needs and capabilities.

The Wildfire Risk Reduction Toolkit is aimed at communities who wish to take action to reduce the risk they face from wildfires.

It focuses on self-activity and the taking of initiatives by the communities themselves while taking into account the knowledge capital, experience, available resources, as well as the structure and composition of the communities.



The toolkit is available online at:
dock-sse.org/tool/disaster-risk-reduction

The 12-month Dialogue and Action Against Wildfires project was implemented between 01/12/2023 - 01/12/2024 and is a pilot project of ACCTING (AdvanCing behavioural Change Through an INclusive Green deal), which is an EU-funded project (European Union's Horizon 2020, No 101036504) that analyzes the impact of Green Deal policies on vulnerable groups and generates knowledge and innovations to promote behavioural change at an individual and collective level. Partners of the Dialogue and Action Against Wildfires Project are: