

## Be Safe Net. Protect Yourself by Hazard

**DURATION :** 2012 – 2013

**TARGET COUNTRIES:** Global

**PARTNERS INVOLVED:**

COORDINATING CENTRE : BE-SAFE-NET Nicosia, Cyprus

OTHER CENTRES: CERG Strasbourg, France, ICoD La Valletta, Malta

OTHER PARTNERS: The TESEC - European Centre of Technological Safety (Kiev, Ukraine) is member of the Be Safe Net Editorial Board but it is not listed in the "OTHER CENTRES". The following Centres contributed to the implementation of sections of Be Safe Net: AFEM - European Natural Disasters Training Centre (Ankara, Turkey), CUEBC - European University for the Cultural Heritage (Ravello, Italy), CRSTRA - Scientific and Technical Research Centre on Arid Regions (Biskra, Algeria), ECRP - European Centre for Risk Prevention (Sofia, Bulgaria), GHHD - European Centre on Geodynamical Risks of High Dams (Tbilisi, Georgia)

### OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

**Global objective for 2012-2013 :**

Be Safe Net project was created under the umbrella of Europa Major Hazard Agreement of Council of Europe (27 mainly Euro-Mediterranean Countries).

The Be Safe Net initiative wishes to achieve three main goals:

1. Promote a culture of safety among a new generation of people
  - Raising awareness on implications of their actions and their way of thinking on emergency
  - Replacing fear with a culture of preparedness
2. Disseminate knowledge to multilingual societies
  - Create a common knowledge base of best experience
  - Disseminate it in several languages to benefit a wider society
3. Become a interactive tool
  - Open our website to other users and organisations for their benefit and comments
  - Enrich its content by contributions based on external experiences

The target is general public especially for the school teachers and students.

The global objectives for 2012-13 are:

1) The website launch during EUR-OPA 25th Anniversary (April, May 2012).

2) To Promote the web-site through the following activities:

-2a) in the "short term" (for the launching), Editorial board will design a leaflet;

-2b) in the "medium term", the editorial board + secretariat will design set of Posters for distribution to Ministries of Education/Civil Protection departments for subsequent circulation in secondary schools (e.g. travelling exhibits);

-2c) in the "long-term", the Editorial Board suggests the setting up of an 'on-line based Olympiad' which will test the knowledge gained from the BeSafeNet website. This will reflect the effectiveness of the website in terms of awareness raising, promoting a culture of safety, disseminating knowledge to a multi lingual society, and acting as an interactive tool.

**Specific objectives :**

**2012 :**

1) The website launch during EUR-OPA 25th Anniversary (April - May 2012) will concern into the launch of the general section and of the first level of the twelve question answers of the several kind of hazards.

2) The implementation of a leaflet on BE Safe Net Project and web-site.

3) to start to design set of Posters for distribution to Ministries of Education/Civil Protection departments for subsequent circulation in secondary schools

4) to start the organisation of an 'on-line based Olympiad' among teachers from different countries. The teachers will be asked to answer a questionnaire based on the material of the website. To organize this Olympiad competition will be useful the experience gained by the Editorial Board in the participation to the International Earth Science Olympiad (IESO 2011) held in Modena (Italy) in September 2011.

**2013 :**

1) to finish to design set of Posters for distribution to Ministries of Education / Civil Protection departments for their circulation in secondary schools.

2) the setting up of the 'on-line based Olympiad' which will test the knowledge gained from the BeSafeNet website.

### EXPECTED RESULTS

**2012 :**

Completion of the web-site in a minimum of 5 main languages (English, Italian, French, Greek and Russian). To develop the knowledge of the Be Safe Net at least at an European Level.

**2013 :**

To reach the aim of the website which is to become an educational tool in the hands of teachers, focusing at risk prevention, preparedness, immediate reaction and rehabilitation.

## RESULTS OBTAINED PREVIOUSLY

The first Be Safe Net website (still available at <http://www.besafenet.org/main/default.aspx?tabid=9>) has been deeply modified in the contents as well as in the look. The changes have been carried out following decisions taken in occasion of meetings held in Strasbourg (2006), Cyprus (2007 and 2009), Ravello (2008), Lisbon (2008), Malta (2010), Modena (2010), Paris (2011) and Kiev (2011). The new website is available at [www.besafenet.net](http://www.besafenet.net). It has been presented at the International Conference Mountain Risks: Bringing Science to Society held in Firenze (Italy) from 24 to 26 November 2010 and at the 5th edition of the International Earth Science Olympiad (IESO 2011), for secondary school students, held in Modena (Italy) from 5 to 14 September 2011. To the IESO 2001 attended 115 students and 97 mentors/teachers/observers coming from 34 countries from all over the world.

## RESULTS OBTAINED IN 2012

### Work package 1 (prepared by Besafenet, ICoD, CERG, TESEC):

#### *Description:*

Website launching in as many languages during EUR-OPA 25th Anniversary with all the completed material. Web-site promotion through the implementation of a leaflet and of a set of Poster for distribution to Ministries of Education / Civil Protection departments for subsequent circulation in secondary schools.

#### *Associated deliverables:*

Availability of 5 languages (English, Italian, French, Greek and Russian) versions. Leaflet of information for diffusion among potentially interested entities.

The dissemination of the BE-SAFE-NET Project in 2012 consisted in the website launch, made by the Editorial Board members, during the EUR-OPA 25th Anniversary Major Hazards Agreement, which has been held on 26-27/04/2012 at the headquarters of Council of Europe in STRASBOURG.

The launch did concern into an oral presentation of the general section and of the first level of the twelve question and answers of the several kind of hazards and in the distribution of a 22 pages leaflet on BE-SAFE-NET Project (Alexandrou et al., 2012).



Front page of the leaflet on "BE-SAFE-NET" Project

The leaflet, written in the five languages of the website, contains a synthetic description of the "goals" and the "objectives", of the "Natural" and "Technological" hazards and of the authors of the Project.

In 2012 leaflet of website has been developed and presented for the meeting of EUR-OPA Permanent correspondents. The key information of website has been translated from English to Russian and published on website.

ALEXANDROU A., GEROSIMOU G., PAPADOPOULOS M., CASTALDINI D., MICALLEF A., POYARKOV V. & PLA F. (2012) - Be Safe Net. [www.Besafenet.net](http://www.Besafenet.net). EUR OPA Major Hazards Agreement. Council of Europe. European Centre for Disaster Awareness with the use of internet, Nicosia, Cyprus, 22 pp.

### Work package 2 (prepared by CERG, TESEC, ICoD):

#### *Description:*

Assessment and resetting of the existing Natural Hazards and Technological Hazards material and search contributors for the first level material on hazards not yet completed who had been just hidden from the site.

#### *Associated deliverables:*

Revised versions of the existing material and addition of new contributions.

According to the decision of the Editorial Board members, the BE-SAFE-NET website was modified and, after another recent relooking, nowadays the hazards are classified in two main categories: "Natural" and "Technological". In

particular, the Natural hazards are distinguished in Geological (Volcanic Eruptions, Earthquakes, Tsunamis, and Landslides) and Hydro-Meteorological hazards (Floods, Drought and Desertification, Avalanches, Hurricanes, Storm Surges and Sea Level Rise). The "Technological" hazards are subdivided into Chemical Emergency, Radiological Emergency and Dam Failure. Moreover the "introductory" page of each hazard has been translated in Italian, French and Russian; the Greek translation has to be done for some of the Natural hazards.

**Work package 3 (prepared by Besafenet, ICoD, CERG, TESEC):**

*Description:*

Define procedures for the setting up of an 'on-line based Olympiad' which will test the knowledge gained from theBeSafeNet website.

*Associated deliverables:*

Draft of the questions and of the organizational needs of the event.

A further way for the dissemination of the "BE-SAFE-NET" Project will be the organization of an 'on-line based Olympiad' among teachers from different countries. The teachers should be asked to answer a questionnaire based on the material of the BE-SAFE-NET website. At the Paris meeting in December, the general structure of the Olympiad and the preparatory work (in particular the technical requirements) were discussed and adopted.

**Work package 4 (prepared by Besafenet, ICoD):**

*Description:*

Two meetings (one in Cyprus and one in Malta) to discuss and manage the activities.

*Associated deliverables:*

Content of the brochure and edition of new material submitted.

The Editorial Board of the BE-SAFE-NET Project had a first meeting in Paphos (Cyprus) on 28-29/03/2012 in order to evaluate the existing material of the BE-SAFE-NET website and to prepare a printed leaflet for the launching of the Project in occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the EUR-OPA.

A second meeting of the Editorial Board members was held on 6-7/12/2012 in Paris during which the 2013 project activity was discussed and planned. The 2013 activity will concern some technical issues, the improvement of English texts of some natural hazards, the translation in each contributor language (Italian, French, Russian and Greek) of the first level of the 12 Questions and Answers, the introduction of new hazards and the definition of concrete procedures for the organisation of an 'on-line based Olympiad'. The 2013 on-going activity will be examined in occasion of two meetings which will be held in Strasbourg, or Kiev (first week of June 2013) and Paris (first week of December 2013)

**ACTIVITIES PLANNED IN 2013**

**Work package 1 (prepared by Besafenet, ICoD, CERG, TESEC):**

*Description:*

Finish the implementation of the set of Poster and their distribution to Ministries of Education/Civil Protection departments for subsequent circulation in secondary schools

*Associated deliverables:*

Posters.

**Work package 2 (prepared by Besafenet, ICoD, CERG, TESEC):**

*Description:*

The setting up of an 'on-line based Olympiad' which will test the knowledge gained from theBeSafeNet website. Addressed to teachers of secondary schools, it will give awards to the winners in occasion of a ceremony which will be held in Cyprus.

*Associated deliverables:*

Preparation plan of the Olympiad and the award ceremony.

**Work package 3 (prepared by Besafenet, ICoD, CERG, TESEC):**

*Description:*

Two meetings (one in Kiev and one in Paris) to discuss and manage the activities.

*Associated deliverables:*

Final version of Olympiad procedures.