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Advancing Wildfire Civil Protection Scenarios into
Risk Planning and Governance

2nd Exchange and Training Meeting (ETM2)

12 – 14 May 2026, Athens

DEFINITIVE AGENDA





FIRE-SCENE project

The project FIRE-SCENE (Advancing Wildfire Civil Protection Scenarios into Risk Planning and Governance) aims to contribute to developing further existing competencies, skills and knowledge in **Wildfire Risk Management** (WFRM) by means of novel methodologies and tools for an **integrated risk assessment, planning and governance approach** to address **emerging Civil Protection Challenges** (CPCs) in a growing climate risk context in the Mediterranean.

The project considers three CPCs across four pilot sites in three countries as follow:

- i) Wildland-urban interface wildfires in peri-urban areas (Catalonia, Spain).
- ii) Wildfires impacting on tourist resorts and villages (Calabria, Italy, East Attica and Rhodes, Greece).
- iii) Wildfires affecting protected areas and recreational sites (Catalonia, Spain).

Along the pilots and with the participation of local stakeholders, six pre-defined end-users targeted WFRM tools are developed, while risk governance dimensions on policy coherence, participatory approaches, and institutional coordination and funding are considered.

FIRE-SCENE is a two-years project (2/25-1/27) funded under the Knowledge for Action in Prevention and Preparedness (KAPP) call from the European Commission's Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations department (DG ECHO).

Exchange and Training Meetings

The project has foreseen the organisation of two Exchange and Training Meetings (ETMs) aimed to promote cross-sectoral learning and collaboration across the project's pilot areas by showcasing challenges and solutions. Through the exchange of experiences across the four pilots in the Mediterranean, site visits, expert-led discussions, and the vision of local stakeholders and invited experts, participants will explore case studies in the pilot sites, share best practices and engage in a cross-sectoral knowledge exchange.

ETMs are designed to strengthen synergies among practitioners, researchers, emergency managers, and local authorities, enhancing the capacity to address growing wildfire CPCs. Another goal of the ETMs is to identify transferable practices that can motivate action and adaptation in other pilot sites and EU regions to enhance effective wildfire risk reduction strategies in complex emergency management scenarios. The first ETM took place in Catalonia and was dedicated to WFRM in the wildland-urban interface (Pilot 1) and recreational sites (Pilot 4).

The ETM2 will take place in Athens, Greece, and will focus on WFRM in the coastal wildland-urban interface and in island touristic areas (tourist villages and resorts, Pilot 2).



Agenda

Tuesday, 12 May 2026	
Online connection available here	
8:30 - 9:00 (EET)	Entrance Registration and Welcome Coffee Location: Institute of Forest Research – Hellenic Agricultural Organisation ELGO “DIMITRA” Address: End of Alkmanos Street , Athens. Note: Please bring your ID card
9:00 - 09:45 (EET)	Welcome Session -Setting the Scene • Welcome & Agenda Overview - Prof. Ioannis Gitas, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH) (5') • Opening remarks from the ECHO project officer – Cristina Colaço, DG ECHO (8') • FIRE-SCENE Overview and ETM2 Objectives - Dr. Eduard Plana Bach, Forest Science and Technology Centre of Catalonia (CTFC) and FIRE-SCENE Project Coordinator (8') • National Forestry Strategy Priorities. Mr. Efstathios Stathopoulos, Secretary General of Forests, Ministry of Environment and Energy (8') • National Wildfires Risk Management priorities. Mr. Evangelos Gountoufas, Director General of Forests & Forest Environment-(8') • Forest Resilience Research Priorities. Dr. Evangelia N. Daskalidou, Director, Forest Research Institute, Hellenic Agricultural Organisation – ELGO DIMITRA (8')
09:45 – 10:30 (EET)	Session 1: Wildfire Peer Review Assessment Framework (WF-PRAF) Findings: Peer-Review Insights for Greece and Italy Moderator: Dr. Eduard Plana, CTFC • A strategy for integrated WFRM in Europe. Challenges and a call for action. Cristina Brailescu, DG-ECHO (15') - <i>online participation.</i> • WF-PRAF findings: Raffaele Mangiardi, Civil Protection from Regione Calabria, Italy (10') João Verde, Integrated Rural Fire Management Agency (AGIF), Portugal (10') Panel Q&A with Local Authorities, Community and End-Users
10:30 – 11:00 (EET)	Coffee-break



11:00- 12:30
(EET)

Session 2: Novel wildfire prevention and Civil Protection Challenges (CPC) in a growing risk context in the Mediterranean

Chair: Marta Serra, CTFC

CPC on wildland-urban interface wildfires

- **Classifying self-protection capacity in peri-urban areas of Catalonia as a support tool for CP systems** (Pilot 1) - Núria Gasulla, Directorate General of Civil Protection of Catalonia (DISP) (10')

CPC on WUI wildfires on tourist resorts and villages (I)

- **Categorizing urban, peri-urban, and WUI areas based on their wildfire risk assessment in East Attica and Rhodes, Greece** (Pilot 2) - Vassiliki Varela, AUTH (10')
- **Key findings from stakeholder feedback on the development of Risk Assessment & Risk Governance Module Frameworks in East Attica & Rhodes** (Pilot 2) - Dr. Evangelia Tsartsou, AUTH (10')

CPC on WUI wildfires on tourist resorts and villages (II)

- **Wildfire risk scenarios in tourist areas and implementation of tactical plans in Region of Calabria** (Pilot 3) Raffaele Mangiardi and Marco Angilletti, Regione di Calabria (10')

CPC on wildfires affecting protected areas and recreational sites

- **Challenges on managing wildfire risk in natural areas and recreational sites in Catalonia** (Pilot 4). Marta Serra Davos, CTFC (10')

Panel Q&A with Local Authorities, Community and End-Users

12:30 - 13:45
(EET)

Session 3: Practice Exchange: Lessons learnt from WFRM in East Attica, Rhodes, Catalonia & Italy (Stakeholder-led Roundtable)

Moderator: Dr. Evangelia Tsartsou, AUTH

- Anastasios Pappas Deputy Chief of the Fire Department Lieutenant General -General Secretariat of Civil Protection – Ministry of Climate Crisis & Civil Protection (6')
- Aretí Pléssa, Planning Department-Independent Directorate of Civil Protection - Region of Attica (6')
- Sofia Kollarou, General Directorate of Forests and Forest Environment –Forest Protection -Ministry of Environment & Energy (6')
- Elias Tziritis, Wildfires Coordinator at WWF Greece (6')
- Pantelis Kostaridis, President of hoteliers in Rhodes (6')
- Paola Barbuto – Department of Tourism, Culture and Territorial Identity – Calabria Region - online connection (6')
- Tsaliagkos Manos, Civil Protection of Rafina Municipality (6')
- Tinginagas Spyridon, President of Marathon Volunteer Fire Department (6')



	• Francesco Fornito – Civil Protection Association in Trebisacce (CS), Calabria Region - online connection (6') • Maria Pipió, Girona Provincial Council (6') • Ramon Noguer, Alt Empordà County (6') Interactive Q&A and Dialogue: Transfer Good Practices/Tools to other EU Territories (15') Tentative: An online questionnaire will be shared with stakeholders during the session.
13:45 – 15:15(EET)	Lunch at ELGO 'DIMITRA'
15:15 - 16:45 (EET)	Deep dive: FIRE-SCENE risk assessment and planning tools (optional for stakeholders) – It includes Q&A after each presentation • Pilot 1: Concept, methodology and stress tests. Ainara Casajús, DISP (8') • Pilot 1: Indicators for sheltering and evacuation. CERTEC and CTFC (8') • Pilot 1: GIS analysis and solutions. Marc Serra, DISP (8') • Pilot 2: Urbanization Classification Scheme: methodology and implementation – Georgios Eftychidis, AUTH (15') • Pilot 3: Testing advanced fire danger modelling tools: RISICO and PROPAGATOR - Dr. Paolo Fiorucci, CIMA and Marco Angilletti, Regione Calabria (15')
16:45 - 17:00 (EET)	Closing Key takeaways, Next steps and Agenda for Day 2, Ioannis Gitas, AUTH
20:00 (EET)	Dinner at Restaurant “Rakáki” (Small plates restaurant) - optional but highly recommended (own expenses)

Wednesday 13 May, 2026

9:00 (EET)	FIELDTRIP. Departure from the Institute of Mediterranean Forest Ecosystems
10:00 - 10:30 (EET)	Meeting with the Mayor of Rafina (or representative) Welcome remarks and 2018 wildfire incident overview. Drop off cars at Rafina Community Centre
10:30 - 11:30 (EET)	Visit to the Port of Rafina and Civil Protection/Fire Operations Centre Location: Rafina Fire Department



12:00 - 13:00 (EET)	Field walk and briefing on Mati 2018 WUI fire Starting point of the fire: Ignition Point
13:00 - 13:30 (EET)	Drive through Kallittechnoupoli and Marathonos Avenue Discussion on wildfire risk, evacuation facts, and the path of the Mati 2018 WUI fire (https://tinyurl.com/29ojbzsm)
13:30 - 14:30 (EET)	<i>Lunch in Fish tavern Nea Galini</i> (https://maps.app.goo.gl/EJT89U9ibRY3DcMq6)
14:30 - 15:30 (EET)	Drive through Mati area Familiarisation with the WUI area, urban character, evacuation routes, and access to the shore (where possible) https://tinyurl.com/29ojbzsm
15:30 - 16:30 (EET)	Briefing on Neos Voutzas wildfire risk WUI types, Fuel management and Evacuation aspects. Location: Fire Lookout Station Neos Voutzas "Giannis Damianoglou"
17:00 (EET)	Bus drive back to hotels in Athens

Thursday 14 May, 2026

9:00 - 09:30 (EET)	Welcome Coffee
9:30 - 11:00 (EET)	Session1: Round table - Challenges and opportunities in managing wildfire risk: Listening to experts (it includes 10' presentations from experts) Moderator: Marta Serra, CTFC • Experts from Spain: José Ángel Terés, DG Forest and Environmental management; Agnès Centellas, DG Civil Protection. • Experts from Italy: Raffaele Mangiardi, Regione Calabria. • Experts from Portugal: João Verde, AGIF • Experts from Greece: Dr. Miltiadis Athanasiou, Associate Researcher –Institute of Mediterranean Forest Ecosystems –ELGO 'DIMITRA'. • Other related projects: FIREPRIME and FIRELINKS (5' each) Q&A
11:00-11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>



11:15 - 12:20 (EET)	Session 2: Cross-cutting components for a pan-European approach • Insights towards enhanced risk governance framework: policy coherence, participation, coordination/funding - Eduard Plana, Henry Deschrevel, CTFC (40') • Data/ interoperability platform: hazard mapping and modelling - Paolo Fiorucci, CIMA (15')
12:20 - 12:30 (EET)	Session 3: Wrap-up and closing remarks Co-Chair: Prof. Ioannis Gitas, AUTH and Eduard Plana, CTFC Wrap-up and closing remarks - Prof. Ioannis Gitas, AUTH (5')
12:30 - 13:30 (EET)	<i>Lunch at ELGO 'DIMITRA'</i>
14:00 (EET)	Departure to Athens International Airport

Practical information

Venue details

Address: End of Alkmanos Street, Athens 11528, Greece. 📍 [Open in Google Maps](#)

Registration

Please complete the [registration](#) to facilitate the organising team sorting out the logistics for the ETM2.

Field visit: what to wear

Footwear: Shoes that allow you to walk comfortably into forest and shrubland areas. Walking distance will not exceed 500 meters.

Essential items: Don't forget to bring sunblock and an umbrella.

Contact details

Vasiliki Kounou, FIRES-CENE AUTH Team, kounnou@auth.gr

Eva Tsartsou, FIRES-CENE AUTH Team, tsartsou@gmail.com (mobile: +306977304675)

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