



## Integrated Operations Centre for Providing Humanitarian Assistance-HELP



Historically, the cross-border area Greece - R. Macedonia has been threatened by natural disasters, risks and hazards (NDRH). Two large-scale catastrophic earthquakes (Skopje 1963, Thessaloniki 1978), several floods (e.g. Vardar/Axios), and many more forest fires are some examples of the humanitarian aid challenges to be addressed, highlighting the need for effective relief operations, where citizens are actively engaged. Recently, a man-made refugee crisis (Syrian war 2015) came to render this need imperative. HELP aims to increase humanitarian relief capacity and preparedness at the cross border area towards the effective and efficient prevention, mitigation and management of NDRH.



## Short description of the project:



The project includes a design of a container-cluster for performing the crucial disaster relief operations. Two interconnected “Command Center - C4I” containers (one for Macedonia and one for Greece) will be delivered as prototypes within HELP, together with a medical treatment container- “MED” (only for Greece).

Command

Control

Communications

C4I



Computers

Intelligence Centers

## Main objective of the project:

The overall objective of the project is to improve the strategic and operational efficiency of public administration and public services in managing natural disasters within the wider cross-border area by providing an integrated solution for technical support and management of post disaster relief operations and logistic on site.

## Specific objectives:

- To broaden the overall regional and national capacity of providing humanitarian relief, on the basis of the common challenges that have to be tackled;
- To establish networks and structures for co-operation in the CBA in order to enhance the cross-border transfer of knowledge, experience and expertise on planning, organizing, and executing emergency relief operations;
- To demonstrate the container’s functionality to the involved stakeholders and their training on how to use it;
- To implement public campaigns to train citizens in case of emergency, and social media recruitment promotion in order to engage citizens into volunteerism.

## Results:

- Developed 2 C4I containers and 1 MED container;
- Increased capacity of public authorities in tackling natural disasters;
- Increased emergency response preparedness in the cross-border area;
- Reinforced strategic/operational cooperation on humanitarian relief operations issues between the two countries;
- Raised natural disaster awareness of populations;
- Promoted and cultivated humanitarian volunteerism.

**Duration: 18 months.**

### Financed:

- This project is co-funded by the European Union and National Funds of the participating countries.

### Value:

**Total - 905.553,30 €**

**CDSEPR - 249.266,00 €**

### Lead partner:

- International Hellenic University

### Partners:

- Ministry of Interior (Sector Macedonia – Thrace);
- Centre for Development of the South-East Planning Region Strumica;
- Hellenic Rescue Team - Greece;
- Crisis Management Centre R.Macedonia.

### Contact:

Danche Pop-Ivanova Ilieva

St. Boro Dzoni, Nr. 10

2400 Strumica

Mob: 071/364-934

Tel/Fax: 034/ 340-139

E-mail:

dance.popivanova@rdc.mk



ВЛАДА НА РЕПУБЛИКА МАКЕДОНИЈА  
ЦЕНТАР ЗА УПРАВУВАЊЕ СО КРИЗИ