



RACCE project: Newsletter #2



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NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF
CRETE – UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

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Cover photo: Presentation of INGV Emergency plan in the Volcano monitoring center.

Progress so far

The first phase of the project has already been accomplished. After nine months of activity it is ready to “give birth” to the first results, always in accordance to the working plan, overcoming minor obstacles or difficulties. Having conducted the Needs Analysis in each participating country, project’s necessity and importance became apparent. The need to deal with the serious effects that a natural phenomenon, like earthquakes or volcanic eruptions, can cause on children’s emotions and behavior is now more obvious than ever. Using tools like questionnaires, expert’s interviews and research on its country’s current situation, a general Needs Analysis study was extracted giving the relevant data and information to start elaborating the most suitable deliverables concerning the project. From the main deliverables of the project which are, (1) Four **Management meetings**; (2) A **Needs Analysis** study; (3) **Guidelines**; (4) Innovative and mobile **Educational packages**; (5) **Travelling Exhibition**; (6) **Training activities**; and (7) Various **dissemination actions**, we have so far completed the *needs analysis study*, *two management meetings* and several *dissemination activities*.

Management Meetings

The **first**, Kick off, management meeting took place in the Natural History Museum of Lesvos Petrified Forest, in Greece. It was held in the meeting room of the *Geography department of the University of the Aegean in Mytilini and the Natural History Museum of Lesvos Petrified Forest*, on the 10th and 11th of March 2010. The kick off meeting aimed to bring together project partners, to briefly present project’s objectives and activities, to present implementation methodology, administrative and financial issues and to organise the future activities.

The meeting fully achieved its aim and the main conclusions were:

- The first live communication of the partners took place at a wonderful environment in Lesvos Island. All enjoyed hospitality, the museum of Lesvos Petrified Forest and the educational activities developed in respect to earthquakes. Partners presented their experience, activities and former products that can be used for the aims of RACCE. Certain communication pathways were established that are necessary for the successful implementation of the project.
- All partners became aware on the management and financial needs of the project and understood fully their obligations and duties.



- The implementation of future actions related with: meetings and reporting, Needs Analysis, Evaluation process and Dissemination, were discussed and agreed.

The **second** project meeting of R.A.C.C.E. project was held at the Osservatorio Vesuviano, Surveillance Centre in Naples, Italy on the 1st of July, 2011, and at the Osservatorio Vesuviano Museum in Vesuvius area, on the 2nd of July, 2011. The meeting was targeting to present the progress made so far, to discuss the activities, results and problems in the implementation of the Needs Analysis study, to present and organise future actions, to discuss the implementation of Elaboration phase and the Evaluation Strategy.



According to the evaluation, meeting achieved all its goals and its main results can be summarized as follows:

- Partners enjoyed the fascinating landscape of the Vesuvius area, were informed on the awareness policies of the institution, as well as the educational activities developed to educate both on the volcanic and earthquake risk.
- The contribution of each partner in the development of the Needs Analysis study was presented and the main problems and difficulties were discussed and over passed.
- Various issues concerning the development of the educational activities were discussed and the main structure and themes were approved. Furthermore, it was decided that a Guidelines booklet should be produced and a market survey should be contacted by each partner on the various activities, games and publications existing in the market, and can be used for project's needs.
- The Evaluation Strategy that was developed in collaboration with Villa Montesca was presented and accepted. It will be based in two phases: an *In itinere evaluation* and an *Ex-post evaluation*. Certain quality and performance indicators will be used to result at any time into the *Project Progress Indicator (PPI)* and *Project Success and Impact Indicator (PSII)*. Logframes will be used in various periods (after finalisation of each Task) to monitor activities implemented.

In conclusion the objectives were fully covered in both meetings. The next meeting project will be realized in Bulgaria on the 24th and 25th of January 2012.

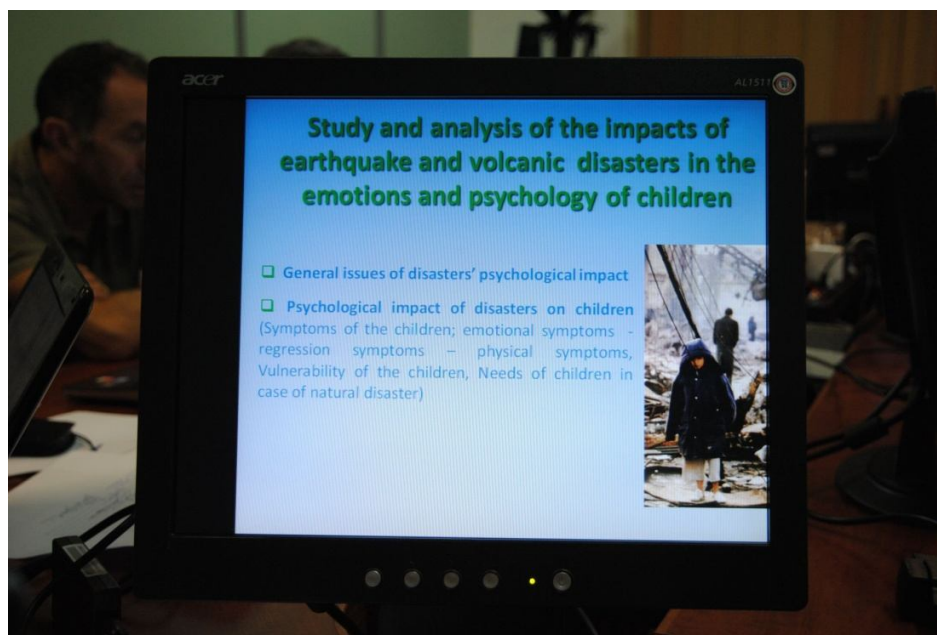
Needs Analysis

The first technical result during these first months of project implementation is related with the Draft Needs Analysis document based on literature, existing knowledge and experiences, video interviews, as well as questionnaire elaboration. This study appears to be very crucial and prerequisite for the production of the guidelines and the educational activities.

In order to prepare and well organize the products and the outcomes of the project it was essential to study existing knowledge, local policies and situations, as well as to identify the needs of each partner in the topics of prevention and awareness raising, and in coping children's emotions.

The objectives of the Needs Analysis are:

- To bring together the project officers and individual specialists or experts in the considered topics in order to share knowledge and develop studies
- To identify, share and implement best practices and methodologies gained from previous EU projects and partners' activities and
- To present the weaknesses and needs in each participating country in respect to project's aims.



In the Needs Analysis study the situation existing in the partners' countries concerning the identification of earthquake and volcanic risk and the initiatives taken so far on handling children's emotion in case of a major event, are presented. The main conclusion of the study refers to the weakness of the Natural Disasters Defense to involve children's palliation in the local and national civil protection policies. The lack of specific procedures of prevention and preparedness is witnessed by the difficulty to combine information about the practices related to the awareness and mostly the psychological support after a strong impact of earthquake or a volcanic eruption. The draft document is now under evaluation and assessment and soon will be posted on project's webpage.

Partner's Activities

All project partners have worked hard to accomplish their duties under the implementation of the first phase of the project. Some of their activities were very important for the development of the various deliverables, whereas others can be regarded as good examples and practices for similar activity' elaboration. Therefore, in the next pages the major activities in each partner territory are summarized.

Natural History Museum of Crete, University of Crete, Greece:

NHMC as coordinator of the project is responsible for over viewing project's activities, elaboration of actions according to the working plan, maintaining and updating website and organizing the implementation of the various activities. The main activities related to the first phase of the project were related with the management of project activities and elaboration of the Needs Analysis Study. The museum contributed in the development of the various questionnaires, sharing, use and evaluation of the questionnaires data and the organization other related activities. Furthermore, it contributed in the organization and implementation of the two management meetings that were both fruitful and productive. Evaluation of the meetings took place assessing project implementation and organization of the meetings, identifying only some minor weaknesses.

As a partner the museum implemented the following actions:

- Needs analysis report: a report over the existing situation in Crete regarding earthquakes was composed and was included in the final Needs Analysis Study.
- Questionnaires: in total there were 226 questionnaires implemented, 45 from adults and 181 from children including two children with movement disorders.
- Video Interview: An interview was contacted with Mrs Kaspiri, director of the 1st Special Primary School of Rethimnon regarding the education of disabled children in the earthquakes. Follow up will be a visit of school to the NHMC earthquake simulator to test the educational procedure implemented so far.
- Meetings with the partners: participation in

both meetings that have already realized.

- Meetings with experts: two meetings with experts were realized. One with a social worker in order to elaborate the questionnaires for the earthquake phenomenon and the volcanic eruptions, and to find the best approaches regarding the questionnaires for the younger children and. The second meeting was with three educational experts collaborating over the educational approaches and how the exported data will help to create educational products.
- Following the experts meeting, a draft structure for the educational activities was produced and was discussed in Naples meeting, helping to build the future educational products.



In addition various dissemination activities were realized such as interviews, presentation in conferences and speeches that promoted project's outcomes and the project itself. (www.nhmc.uoc.gr)

Natural History Museum of Lesvos Petrified Forest, Greece:

The Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest was responsible during the implementation of the first phase to compile the needs analysis taking into account the data provided by the partners. We have sent to the partners an easy to use file for their convenience in extracting results from the questionnaires. Each partner participated in investigating the current situation in its country, distributed and analysed questionnaires and sent its contribution to the NHMLPF for the final compilation.



Earthquake Planning and Protection Organisation (EPPO), Greece:

During the first phase of the «RACCE» project, EPPO implemented the following actions:

a. Needs Analysis Report. The methods for the implementation of the Needs Analysis Report were: searching in international literature, collaboration with the EPPO's experts and integration of their input, and gathering information from specified questionnaire for

The actions taken so far were:

- Needs analysis report: After having gathered the elaborated data from the partners we have proceeded to the compilation of the Needs analysis.
- Questionnaires: in total there were 186 questionnaires implemented, 18 from adults and 168 from children
- Interview: Zoi Livaditou, head of the Hellenic Rescue Team, Division of Lesvos was co-interviewed with the Director of the NHMLPF Assoc Prof Nickolas Zouros on children's emotions in the case of an earthquake
- Meetings with the partners: The NHMLPF organized the kick off meeting and participated in the 2nd project meeting in Naples.
- Interviews with schoolchildren: In the frames of receiving school classes in the NHMLPF we asked schoolchildren and their teachers on their feelings concerning earthquakes and what they felt during the simulation of earthquakes at the museum's seismic table. The feedback we got was included in the Needs analysis report.

(www.petrifiedforest.gr)

adults. The Needs Analysis Report consists of the following topics:

- Identification of earthquake and volcanic risk in Greece
- Recognition of Earthquake and Volcanic disasters' impact on children
- Experiences from past disasters - Case Studies
- Presentation of good and bad practices on coping with children's emotions
- National Policy concerning earthquake risk management with emphasis on socio-psychological effects

- Identification of needs for children with movement disorders
- Evaluation of results of questionnaires.
- a. Questionnaires. EPPO in collaboration with the other partners of the project developed two questionnaires concerning earthquake risk. One questionnaire addressed to adults and the other to children of ages 8-13. The final questionnaire for adults has been given to volunteers in the frame of the "Protect Myself and Others" project. 142 questionnaires have been filled by volunteers from three different places in Greece (Andros Island, Korinthos and Messologi). The elaboration is completed according to Lesvos's Petrified Forest Museum proposed working sheet, and then EPPO evaluated the relevant results.
- b. Video Interview. E.P.P.O. asked the contribution of Prof. E. Lekkas, who is one of the most experienced scientists in Greece, in disastrous earthquakes worldwide. He is Professor at Dynamic Tectonic and Applied Geology Department - Faculty of Geology of the University of Athens and Vice-President of EPPO. The thematology of video interview is: "Experiences of Earthquake Disasters" in Greece, Japan, China, New Zealand, Haiti etc. The video interview is in Greek, and English subtitles have been added.
- c. Meetings. EPPO participated to the 1st project's meeting in Lesvos (Greece) and to the 2nd meeting in Naples (Italy). (www.oasp.gr)



Centro Studi e Formazione Villa Montesca, Italy:

The activity related to the RACCE project first phase has been developed taking into account the opportunity to disseminate the expected results at

two basic levels:

- involving primary schools in the phase of the elaboration and realization of the tools, organizing two seminars open to teachers and schools masters (with San Filippo Schools and Pieve delle Rose)

- Interesting local and regional Civil Protection Authorities in order to have a direct connection with all the different projects addressed to the primary school

In September, the North Field Adelaide School form Australia visited Villa Montesca. The Racce staff took the opportunity to present the project and the two institutions agreed about future cooperation in order to disseminate the project outcomes in Australia.

The Racce project has been also presented during a meeting about prosociality in Primary School in Malta, either in September. The Italian need analysis, realized in cooperation with Istituto Vulcanologico, other Italian project partners, and the expert's reports, realized in form of video interviews, have been completed and are available in the web site. (www.montesca.it)



Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia (INGV) – Osservatorio Vesuviano, Italy:

The first phase of the project has involved mainly the implementation of Need Analysis Task, carried out also in collaboration with National Experts Group that involved the following actions:

- Compilation of a Needs Analysis Report concerning the following topics:
 - Report on seismic and volcanic risk in Italy;
 - Analyze practices on awareness procedures and

approaches for children;

- Recognize current situation by using a special questionnaire;
- Validate the existing knowledge and approaches;
- Define needs respect to raising awareness and coping children
- Analyze practices on awareness procedures and, approaches for children motions;

Furthermore INGV-Osservatorio Vesuviano have collaborated with the other Italian RACCE partner Villa Montesca, in order to prepare the National Need Analysis report

b. Questionnaires.

We have worked on a draft questionnaire proposed by EPPO, also integrating it with the questions related to volcanoes and volcanic risk. Two different questionnaires have been produced for adults and children of ages 8-13, respectively. Questionnaires distribution strategy was defined in collaboration with one of the National Expert, referent for Città della Scienza Science Centre in Naples. 172 questionnaires has been recollected, partially filled by students and adults from Vesuvio area, Naples, and L'Aquila where residents were hit by a disastrous earthquake recently. The elaboration has been done according to Lesvos's Petrified Forest Museum proposed working sheet.

c. Video Interview.dossier.

In order to have the most accurate and complete framework on what is the state of the art, what the strong points and what the weak or missing points are, we have chosen to involved in our Need Analysis Study three of the our National Expert Group components, through video interviews performed respectively with: Dr. Romano Camassi, seismologist researcher of Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia, strongly involved in education projects on seismic and natural risk, in training course for technicians and volunteers and

responsible for the EDURISK Project; Dr. Titti Postiglione, official of National Civil Protection Department and Responsible for communication and Formation activities and for Volunteers Office, component of the commissions appointed to prepare and update emergency plane for volcanic emergency; Dr. Cinzia Russo, psychologist of emergency which have experienced earthquake emergencies and participated to projects related to how to face with the emotional aspects of an emergency.



d. RACCE Project meetings:

INGV Osservatorio Vesuviano participated to the 1st project's meeting in Lesvos (Greece), and organized the 2nd Held in Naples at the Osservatorio Vesuviano. (www.ov.ingv.it)

Centre for Educational Initiatives (CEI), Bulgaria:

The CEI' staff, involved in the project elaborate Needs analysis, which identify the current situation, the risks, the practices and methodologies existing so far in Bulgaria related with the objectives of the project. CEI establish, maintain and deepen contacts through the interviews and conversations held with experts on Needs Analysis Report.

The Needs analysis was based on methodology – identification, research, structural and

comparative analyses, gathering and generalization of data, etc. – in relation to the following main sources (resp. fulfilled objectives):

- Meetings with national experts - 3 meetings realized with external experts, discussing:
 - good practices and methods, politics and product-related, aimed at the prevention of negative consequences of natural disasters;
 - the important aspects that should be included in the Needs Analysis;
 - the previously collected information about the seismic status of Bulgaria-the seismic zones,

centers etc., sources and the available literature on the topic.

- Identification of EQ risk for Bulgaria.
- National policy of education related to earthquakes.
- Questionnaires for pupils and for adults - The survey was done among 86 pupils and 50 adults giving conclusions on the basis of the structural analyses of the questionnaires
- Interviews with national experts - 2 interviews - with Ms. Deyana Zarkova and Alexandar Dimitrov MD, PhD - were held, presenting two

different points of view – the standpoints of experts from various fields that have an opinion about the problems of the project – gives an opportunity of a good comparative perspective, which is indisputably useful for detecting the needs and issues in this area.

- Good & Bad Practices

Finally there were made contacts with museum institutions - National Polytechnic Museum and Earth and Man National Museum - launching the future joint activities in the experimental phase of the project. (www.cei-bg.org)



Association pour la gestion de la Réserve Naturelle Géologique de Haute Provence, France:

For this first phase the Réserve Géologique de Haute-Provence, like his partners, have to worked more precisely on the following topics :

- Identification of earthquake and Volcanic risk on National territory
- Experiences from past disasters (case studies)

- National Policies on coping children emotions
- Identification of needs at country's scale

The method we used was to define, in collaboration with all the partners, different kinds of tools and actions like:

- To elaborate adults and children specific questionnaires to create national and European data on seismic risk's knowledge level. One questionnaire was addressed to adults and the other one to children (8-13

years old). In France, 239 children and 207 adults have participated filling those specific questionnaires. We have scrutinized the results.

- To make contact with national expert: Scientists, teachers, Civil Protection Operators...
- To search data in international literature
- To realise expert's video interviews: About 10 minutes amateur video interviews with experiences from experts.

Réserve Géologique de Haute-Provence has asked the contribution of:

1. Olivier Bellier: Director of the environmental department of Paul Cezanne university, teacher - researcher, geologist specialized in tectonic and seismic hazard. Olivier Bellier's main activity for seismic hazard prevention is:
 - to advise different kind of public about scientific knowledge on seismic hazard: for councilors, developer contractors, civil security
 - to refine national regulation to increase efficiency of security plan,
 - to elaborate elements which help to take decision for spatial planning in order to prevent seismic risk which could affect infrastructures and networks
2. Claire Arnal: In charge of major hazard prevention department for French government. Claire Arnal's main activity is to disseminate seismic hazard prevention

measures of French government policy.



All those actions gave us essential information to build the needs analysis report.

In the first newsletter we have announced a large event planned for this autumn in Digne les Bains as part of the RACCE project. This project focused on a national exhibit called "Sismo-Tour" with conferences, activities and games for children and adults about seismic risks will happened from 2 to 9 November 2011. This manifestation will allow increasing awareness of the population on this topic. To keep informed, please have a look on our website. (www.resgeol04.org)

International day for Disaster Reduction

RACCE partners participated actively in the celebration of the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction of the UN. The day is celebrated annually on the October 13th and this year was dedicated to children. Various activities took place in most partners' areas, especially in museums and educational centers. The full program of activities was listed in project's webpage and also as an outcome of RACCE in the official page of the International day (<http://www.unisdr.org/2011/iddr/#ajax2.htm>).

During this year's Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva, a five-point Children's Charter for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) was launched by children themselves. The 5 priorities in the Children's Charter for DRR are:

- Schools must be safe - education must be uninterrupted.
- Child protection must be a priority, before, during and after a disaster.
- Children and young people have the right to participate and to access the information they need.
- Community infrastructure must be safe, and relief and reconstruction must help reduce future disaster risk.
- Disaster risk reduction must reach the most vulnerable.



What's Next

- Needs Analysis study is under evaluation both from partners and external experts and the final document will be hosted at project's web page soon.
- Project Elaboration phase regarding the Educational Projects and deliverables has already started. Till the next meeting the basic guidelines for the educational program development will have been extracted.
- Next project meeting will take place in the Center of Educational Initiatives in Bulgaria from 24th to 25th of January 2012, to discuss future activities and organize the educational projects and deliverables.
- Visit project's webpage (<http://racce.nhmc.uoc.gr>) to keep informed on deliverables, planned activities and news