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EU Support to Flood Prevention
and Forest Fires Risk Management
in the Western Balkans and Turkey



European Civil Protection

PRESS RELEASE

EU FUNDED “IPA FLOODS AND FOREST RISK MANAGEMENT IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY” LAUNCH EVENT IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Within the “IPA Floods and Fires (IPA FF) programme”, funded by the European Union, on 9 March the third national event was launched, this time in Bosnia and Herzegovina. IPA FF is a new EU-funded 3-year initiative for floods and forest fires risk management in the Western Balkans and Turkey and this was an opportunity to gather representatives from the national authorities in charge of civil protection in Bosnia and Herzegovina, representatives from the European Commission Directorate-General for Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), the Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the IPA FF Consortium partners and the embassies of the IPA FF consortium partners in the country.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this event, as well as the first phase of the programme, was organised in a virtual mode, turning emergency into opportunity and guaranteeing the implementation of activities for a better risk prevention and response in the region.

It is good to see that in these challenging times we are collectively aware of the importance of civil protection and of the prevention and risks reduction of natural disaster and emergencies”, said Mr. Gianluca Vannini, Head of Operations Section for Social Development, Civil Society and Cross Border Cooperation of the Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

“The IPA FF program represents an important follow-up to previous EU-funded initiatives, aimed at strengthening capacities for disaster risk prevention and preparedness in the region” said Mr. Idriz Brković, Head of Department for strategic planning and rescue and protection measure, from the BiH Ministry of Security.

The IPA Floods and Fires programme Consortium is established by the Italian Civil Protection Department as coordinator, jointly with the civil protection agencies of Sweden, Slovenia, Romania, the Fire and Rescue Brigade of the Moravian-Silesian Region of the Czech Republic, the Romanian National Centre for Disaster Management Foundation and the Italian CIMA Foundation. Implementation will take 3 years, from November 2020 to November 2023 and the total programme value is approx. 5 million EUR (more details in the attached IPA-FF fact sheet).

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