



Program

International conference

“The future of risk management in Europe”

Wednesday March 12th 2014
Stara Zagora, Bulgaria

09h00 – 09h30 Walk-in with coffee

09h30 – 09h40 **Official opening**
Welcome by
Zhivka Aladzhova,
Governor of the Region of Stara Zagora

Ognian Zlatev, Head of the Representation of the
European Commission in Bulgaria

09h40 – 10h15 **“Risk management in the European Union”**
Current and future policies of the EU

Local, regional and national governments within the EU bear responsibility for optimal protection of European citizens against physical safety and security risks. To support this EU has implemented several guidelines, such as the recent SEVESO-III directive on external safety risks of industries and the guideline on flood risks. The European Commission considers risk prevention one of the main policy priorities. In the near future new directives can be expected, for example on risk mapping and risk assessment. The head of the representative of the European Commission will present the current state of affairs in the European Union.

10h15 – 10h45 **“MiSRaR and PRISMA”**
European cooperation on risk mitigation

Many local governments throughout the EU are confronted with increasing safety risks. EU and national guidelines help to develop risk management strategies. However, structural risk mitigation, in direct connection with spatial development policy, is not that easy.

Five local governments within the EU have joined forces to test practical strategies for local risk assessment and risk management. To share and discuss our practical experiences and lessons learnt with other local, regional and also national governments we organize 3 international conferences. Together we can work on a better future for risk management!



*Zhivka Aladzhova
Governor*



*Ognian Zlatev
Head of the
Representation of the
European Commission*



*Nico van Os
Safety Region
South-Holland South
The Netherlands*





10h45 – 11h00 Coffee break

11h00 – 12h00 **“Risk management in the real world”**
Practical lessons of local governments

The MiSRaR and PRISMA projects were focused on local experiences and good practices. Rather than general and theoretical notions, the knowledge exchange resulted in very concrete lessons from practical experience, as described in the MiSRaR handbook. Several topics will be presented:

- Principles of mitigation processes
- Risk assessment
- Capability assessment: defining mitigation policies
- Financing mitigation
- Implementation strategies
- Lobby and advocacy for mitigation

The lessons will be illustrated with practical examples from cases of forest fire, urban fire, SEVESO industries and transport of dangerous substances, floods, landslides and extreme weather in Bulgaria, Estonia, Greece, Italy, The Netherlands and Portugal.



Rita Seabra
Municipality of Aveiro
Portugal



Ruud Houdijk
Safety Region
South-Holland South
The Netherlands

12h00 – 13h00 Lunch

13h00 – 13h30 **“Beyond the EU horizon”**
Risk management in developing countries

Risk management is a ‘hot topic’ for countries across the globe. Leen Revallier will share lessons from Congo, Bosnia and Moldavia, where local governments encounter the same challenges as in the EU. He used lessons and approaches on risk assessment from the MiSRaR handbook, for example in the city and district of Tuzla in Bosnia. Because Tuzla has to cope with a variety of natural disasters and also industrial risks, the “all hazard” approach of MiSRaR, which combines EU and UN aspects, was well received. The idea to use “scenario analysis” was also appreciated. The way of dealing with issues of risk prevention and spatial planning in these other countries helps to reflect on the approach in the EU.



Leen Revallier
The Netherlands





13h30 – 14h15 **“Dealing with the emerging risk of forest fires”**
The case of Stara Zagora, Bulgaria

Up to recent in Bulgaria the risk of forest fires has in no way been comparable to that in countries like Portugal and Greece. However, because of increase draughts attributed to climate change and social and demographic changes it has become an emerging risk. This case presentation tells the story of how Stara Zagora is dealing with this increasing problem by implementing the MiSRaR approach and lessons. The Stara Zagora Regional Economic Development Agency (SZREDA) will present the outcome and all lessons of their case.



*Aleksandar Miykov
SZREDA, Bulgaria*



*Nikolaj Nikolov
Municipality of Stara
Zagora, Bulgaria*

14h15 – 14h30 Coffee break

14h30 – 15h15 **“Rail transport of dangerous substances”**
The case of South-Holland South, The Netherlands

The region South-Holland South is a logistic and transport hub of national importance. Through the region pass most of the transport routes by water, road and rail from the international harbour of Rotterdam to the rest of Europe. The shunting yard of Kijfhoek is the turning table for rail transport in the whole of Western Europe. The result in the municipalities of Dordrecht and Zwijndrecht is a level of risk of rail transport of dangerous substances which is considered the highest for the whole country (and maybe even Europe). For the year 2020 it is expected that the rail transport will increase tenfold. Logically risk reduction has a high priority. Up to now the focus has been on probability reduction on the railway itself and improved emergency response. In the PRISMA project strategies have been designed for decreasing the vulnerability of the surrounding areas, for example by means of a connection between risk management and spatial planning. The practical lessons from this case will be presented and discussed.



*Ruud Houdijk
Safety Region
South-Holland South
The Netherlands*





15h15 – 16h15 **“Lessons for the future”**

Forum discussion

The conference will be concluded with an interactive forum discussion. The audience will be invited to discuss with a forum panel about the main lessons and issues that were shared during the day.

16h15

Closing reception

Your moderators:



*Rumyana Grozeva
SZREDA, Bulgaria*



*Pavlina Gospodinova
SZREDA, Bulgaria*

www.prismaproject.eu



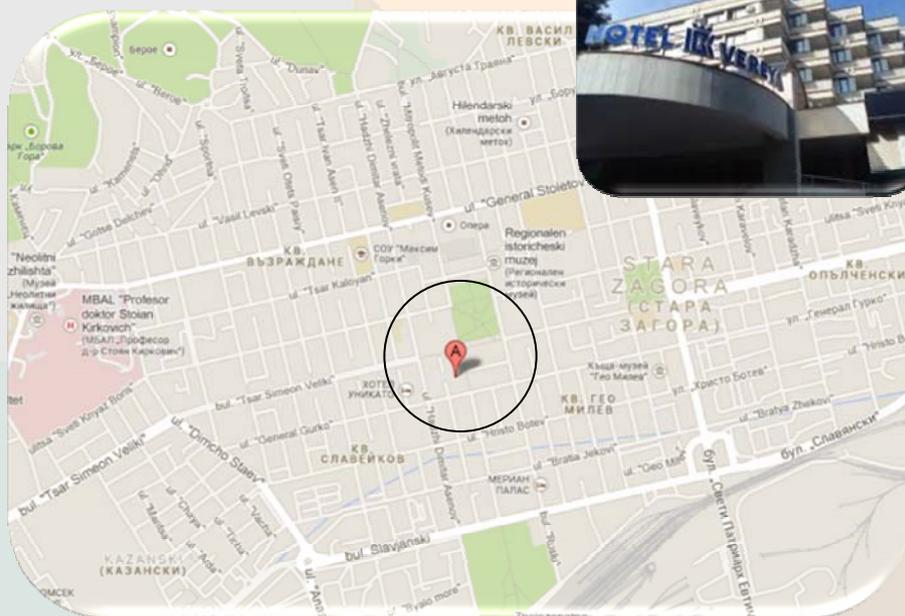


Location

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Tourist information

Visit tour.starazagora.bg/en/





The partners of PRISMA



Municipality of Aveiro
Portugal



Municipality of Mirandela
Portugal



Northern Tallinn Administration
Estonia



Safety Region South-Holland South
The Netherlands



Stara Zagora Regional Economic Development Agency
Bulgaria

