



ANYWHERE successfully develops tools and services to face climate emergency

On October 29th and 30th, it will be held the Final Conference of the European project ANYWHERE, coordinated by the Centre of Applied Research in Hydrometeorology (CRAHI) of the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya · Barcelona Tech (UPC). It will be showcased the outcomes of the tools and services to prevent, anticipate and better manage extreme weather-induced risks developed within the framework of the project, which have been operationally validated in seven Pilot Sites around Europe.

Three years and a half from its beginning in 2016, the ANYWHERE (*EnhANCing emergencY management and response to extreme WeatHER and climate Events*) project has achieved the scientific and technical objectives set, which will be shown in detail at the Final Conference.

The Conference will gather more than 200 representatives from operational emergency management authorities, Research and Development organisations and technological enterprises at SQUARE Brussels Convention Centre. During the event an exhibition area with demonstrations in real time of the ANYWHERE innovations and technology solutions will be enabled, as well as a poster area to show details of the developments and research related to the project. The Conference will be opened on Wednesday 30th October, at 8.30 am, by **Álvaro de la Peña**, Deputy-Director of Civil Protection and Emergencies (DGPCE) of Spain; **Angelo Marino**, Head of Safeguarding Secure Society Unit at Research Executive Agency (REA); **Peter Billing**, Head Security and Situational Awareness Unit at Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG-ECHO); **Philippe Quevauviller** of the European Commission DG-HOME, and **Daniel Sempere-Torres**, director of the CRAHI-UPC. The event will also include a hands-on demonstration that will allow participants explore the operational tools available.

Pilot Sites demonstrations in real time

Within the framework of the project it has been developed a **pan-European multi-hazard early warning platform for faster analysis and anticipation of weather-induced risks prior the event occurrence**. This tool is able to simulate more than one risk simultaneously (such as floods, storms surges, heatwaves, forest fires, droughts, severe winds, snowfall, among others) and translate meteorological forecasts into quantitative and measurable impacts, specially attending to affected people (focusing on inhabited areas) and critical infrastructures (roads, hospitals, schools, certain industries).

The platform has been locally customized to the specific needs and requirements of the Public Protection and Disaster Relief (PPDR) control centres of 7 Pilot Sites representing different climatic scenarios around Europe: Catalonia (Spain), Liguria (Italy), South Savo (Finland), Bern Canton (Swiss Alps), Rogaland (Norway) and Corsica (France). Furthermore, it has been developed **a new prototype to cover for the first time a whole country, Spain**.

The prototypes have been improved following the suggestions expressed by the civil protection services in every Pilot Sites, and **have been validated** showing their capacity to become an efficient technological tool to support decision-making processes during emergencies.

During the **Conference success stories on the use of the platforms will be shown, for example the heavy rain and storms episode that hits Valencia and Murcia (Spain) on September 2019**.



Towards a more resilient society

Through this project it has been also developed some **tools to enhance self-protection and resilience of citizens** to face extreme weather-induced risks that could affect specific situations or economic activities.

Specifically, a flood oriented early warning system for campsites located in prone areas implemented in 14 enterprises located in the delta of the Tordera River Basin in Catalonia; a service based on Telegram to improve the communications protocols between emergency managers, families and schools located in flood prone areas in Genoa; a decision support tool to predict road affectations during severe snowfall, allowing managerial decisions while handling the fleets of logistic platforms in Catalonia; a tool to anticipate the impact of thunderstorms that can damage electricity transmission grids and cause supply cuts in South Savo (Finland).

These self-protection tools are being used on a daily basis in test mode all over the mentioned sites, and the conclusions gathered by the end-users after a 1-year demonstration period will be shared during the event.

It is expected that the Final Conference becomes a crucial innovation action able to demonstrate the ANYWHERE capacity to uptake to the market tools and services that **make possible a shift paradigm (from reactive to proactive) in the high-impact weather emergency management.**

More information:

ANYWHERE project website: <http://anywhere-h2020.eu/>

Final Conference Agenda: <http://anywhere-h2020.eu/final-conference/agenda/>

Workshop Live Stream at YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3NiiDW_4IU&feature=youtu.be