



Newsletter

3

January 2014

The PRISMA project

The PRISMA project started January 1st 2013. The project is a follow up on the MiSRaR project. This project was implemented from January 1st 2010 till December 31st 2012.

PRISMA (Promoting and Implementing Strategies for risk Management and Assessment) will test the handbook and disseminate the results; it will also promote the use of risk assessment and risk management strategies by local and regional entities.

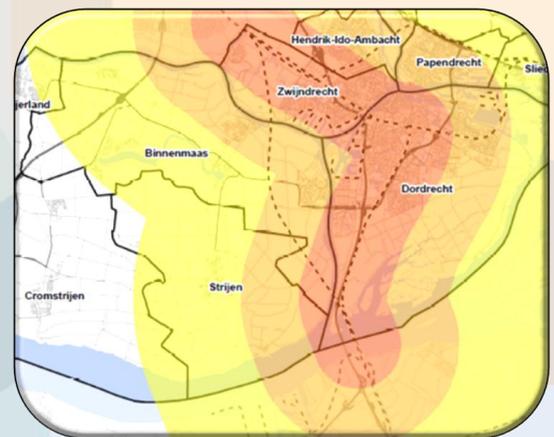
Partners in the project are: the Safety Region-South Holland South in the Netherlands, Stara Zagora Regional Economic Development Agency in Bulgaria, the municipalities of Aveiro and Mirandela in Portugal and City Government of Tallinn in Estonia.

Risk assessment

All partners started in the summer of 2013 with the development of a risk assessment. In cooperation with the local network, partners made a more detailed risk analysis from the chosen risk.

The Methods as described in the MiSRaR handbook were leading, however every partner did it in his own unique way, related to the local circumstances and the type of risk.

A phenomenon like (forest) fire appeared to be perfect for an analysis based on historical data, while the transport of dangerous goods requires much more an approach based on more technical / scientific probability and impact calculation



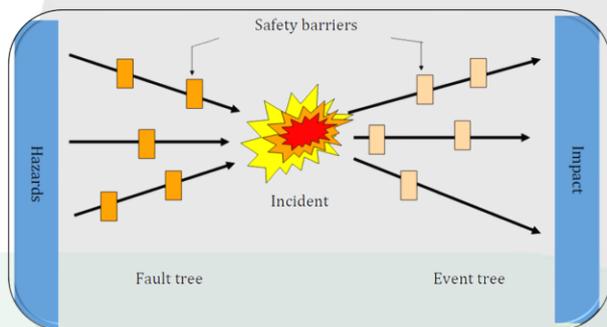
The analyses showed not only the probability that a particular scenario will occur, but also the impact of such a scenario on the area. In accordance with the method it involves not only victims, but also economic and ecological damage, loss of cultural heritage and infrastructure and political / administrative disruption.

Using this data it was possible to determine for which scenarios or potential effects it is most appropriate to take measures.

Capability assessment

With the results of the risk assessments, the local groups could start with the capability assessment. During this phase first we analysed which direct consequences of an incident could lead to which impacts. For example, a BLEVE scenario lead to overpressure, resulting in collapsing buildings which leads to casualties, damage, economic disruption and possibly loss of infrastructure and cultural heritage. For this purpose the so-called "bow-tie" method was used. The method can also be used to analyse the possible causes of an incident.





Subsequently local groups brainstormed on possible measures to reduce the likelihood of an incident or to limit the consequences.

On the basis of a number of questions we analysed what measures seemed most promising. Decisive here are the absolute contributions to the reduction of the probability of the main effect, the cost of such

a measure, the other social benefits of such a measure and the cost-effectiveness over time.

Partner meetings in Stara Zagora and Tallinn

In recent months, two partner meetings were organized. In September, the Prisma team was a guest in Stara Zagora. This meeting was also the 2nd Steering Committee meeting of the project. On January 7th & 8th of this year the meeting took place in Tallinn.

Both meetings were very useful for the project but also for the local working groups because the meeting was held partly in the presence of the local partners. In particular, the parts during which we reported the work carried out in the previous period. There was ample room for questions and there was also extensive use of it. This led to interesting discussions between members of the Prisma team and the local group members who were present.

During the various presentation the team elaborated on the lessons learned. The most eye-catching lessons were as follows:

- In case of some types of risk not enough historical data are available to make realistic analysis of the probability of the risk. In addition, there is no consistency in the assumptions used to estimate incident probabilities and impacts
- Although it is difficult to plot on one map the probability of different (size) scenarios and their effects as well, it is necessary to do so. If not, this will automatically lead to focussing on maximum scenarios, while smaller scenarios are often more interesting to tackle.





- Geographical orientation by means of cards is an important tool in the dialogue with partners . Particularly with partners from the world of spatial planning. There is a need for a more standardized method to indicate impacts and vulnerabilities on maps .
- Risk analysis and capacity analysis are not entirely separate process steps . The entire risk management process requires every time further refinement of the risk assessment.



The meetings were also used to prepare for the work in the next period and to decide about the approach , in which the methods of the MiSRaR manual were again discussed.

Both meetings were also used to visit the area's related to the particular case in that region . In Stara Zagora it was a visit to an area where shortly before a fire had raged. In Tallinn, a visit was organised to the district of Tallinn North . In both cases, both commanders of the local fire department presented a detailed explanation of the problem.



PRISMA dissemination

At the start of the meeting in Stara Zagora, the project team gave a press conference in which many written press was present and also the regional television channel.

The newsitem that was broadcasted can be seen on the website of the Prisma project : www.prismaproject.eu

The Prisma / MiSRaR approach was also disseminated during some presentations and in an article on Earthzine (<http://www.earthzine.org/2013/11/05/mitigation-of-forest-fires-at-the-municipal-level-the-case-of-mirandela-portugal>)

The presentations were held during the closing conference of the European project EMRIC, November 29th 2013 in Maastricht and during a working visit of the Secretary-General from the Home Office in Estonia to the Netherlands, October 31th.

The Prisma conferences that will be organized in the spring of 2014 have been announced in September 2013.





Conferences

Recently the project team started full swing with the preparation on the conferences. The first announcement has been disseminated and the first people registered for a conference. The program is similar in all three conferences but with local accents. It is both attention to the MiSRaR ideas and the importance of a structured risk management approach in general, and on the other hand to the specific experience gained during the Prisma project.

The conferences are intended for local and regional partners, national governments and interested parties from other countries working in the field of risk management or spatial development. There still can be registered for the conference through the Prisma website. Participation in the conference is free, but travel expenses are for your own account.

The conferences take a day and will be held in:

Stara Zagora	Bulgarije	12 maart 2014
Tallinn	Estland	15 april 2014
Aveiro	Portugal	15 mei 2014



New project manager

The May 2013 appointed project manager in Tallinn Jüri Landberg is end of 2013 nominated for a new job, mayor in the town Kunda in the East part of Estonian. The new project manager is:



Helmut Hallemaa

Email: , helmut.hallemaa@gmail.com

Tel: + 372 513 1241

Helmut has a lot of experience as a project manager in European projects and is an expert in the field of spatial development.

More information

Website PRISMA: www.prismaproject.eu

Website MiSRaR: www.misrar.eu

Email: prismaprojecteu@gmail.com

