



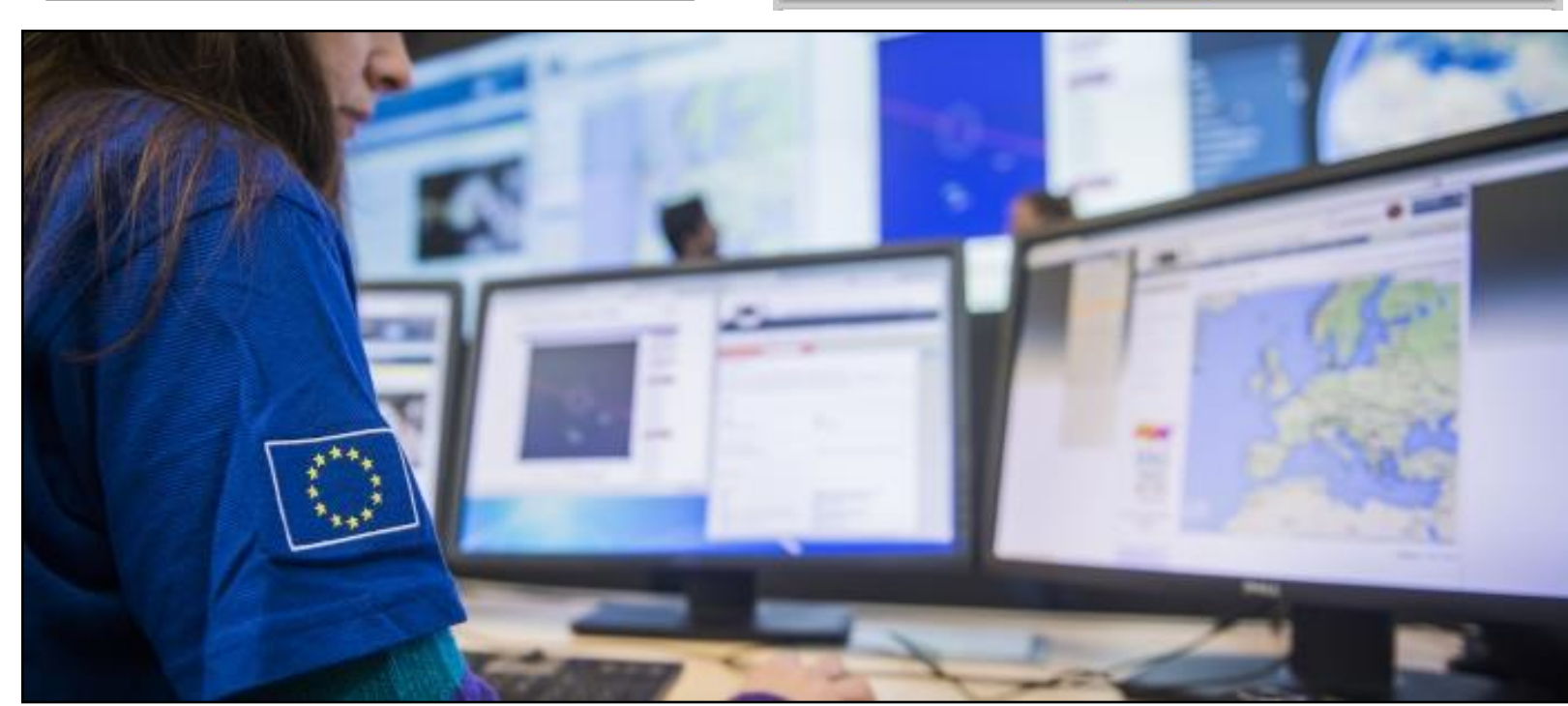
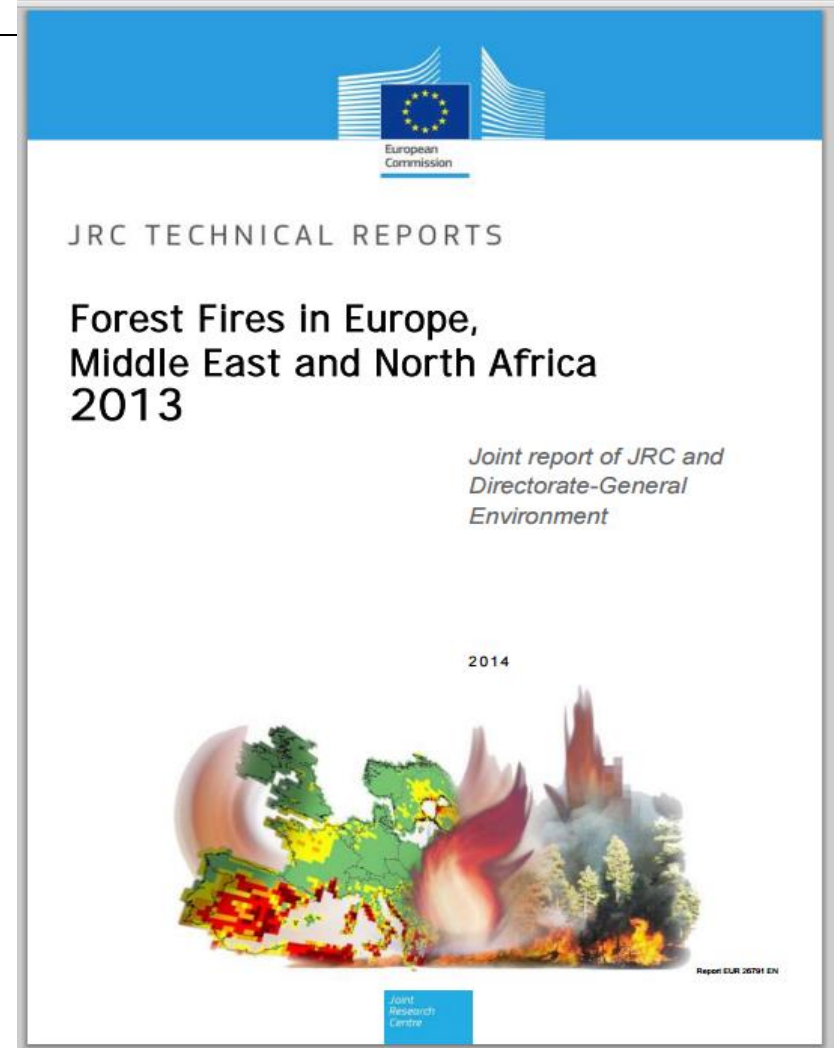
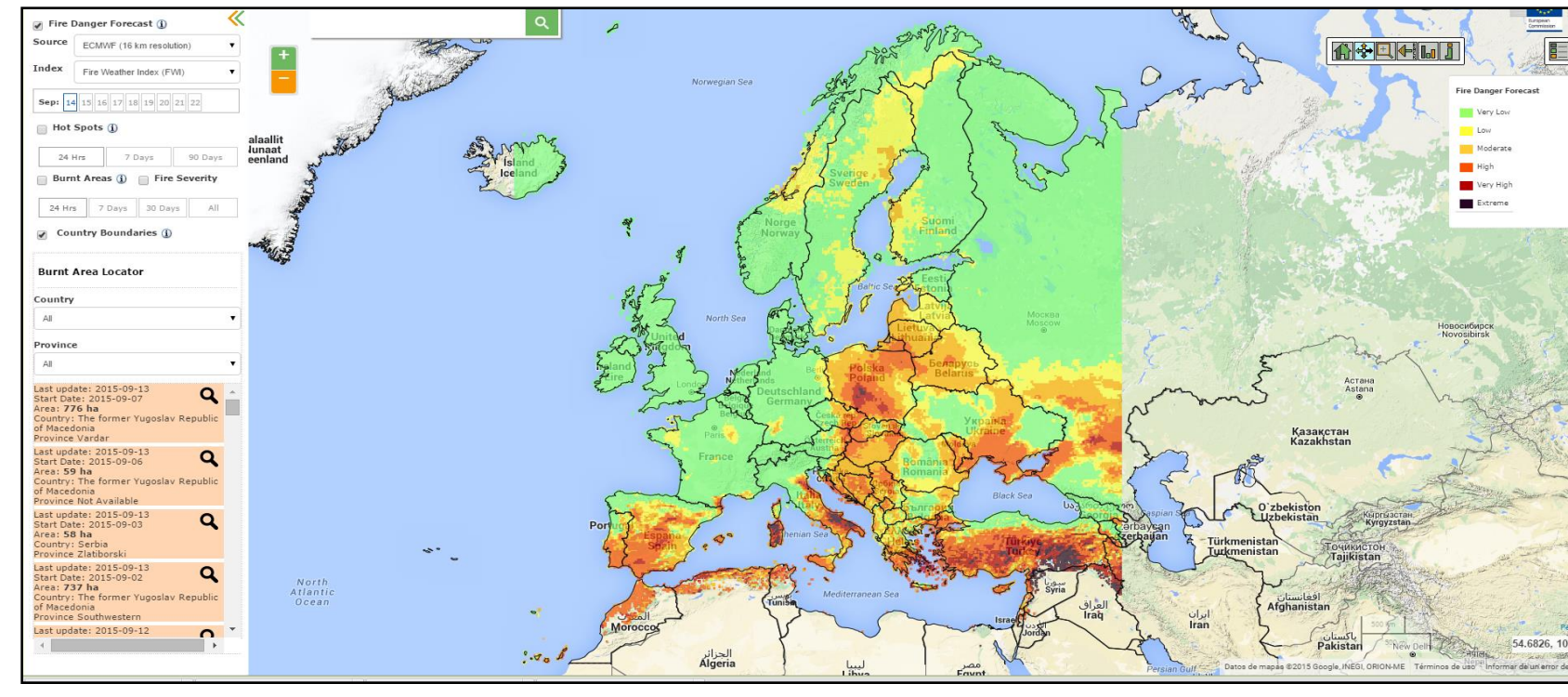
Regional Mediterranean Wildland Fire Network (Silva Mediterranea Network)

Between the 5th and the 6th International Wildland Fire Conferences the following initiatives have continued and taken place:

European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS)- European Commission

The extension of EFFIS to all Mediterranean countries, members and non members of the European Union has continued. Improvements in information sharing and standardization of data have been developed. This platform is an excellent tool for all countries in the Region in order to be aware of the wildfire situation in the past, present and possible future.

In the Mediterranean region wildfires are part of the ecosystems. They destroy both protective and productive roles of forests and forestry areas, affecting significant population linked to rural and forest areas. Wildfires in the region are an issue of main concern. Our communities are facing big challenges related to climate change and arising armed conflicts in the region, which need specific approaches. An increase of extended dry periods and intensified heat waves is likely to take place in the coming years. The severity of wildfires in the Mediterranean is expected to increase. In order to face these situations great efforts on collaborative approaches and exchange of expertise is needed within the region and at international level too. Main causes of wildfires in the Mediterranean are based on human related activities such as agricultural and livestock burnings. Preventive measures, awareness and education campaigns and training to the public, firefighters and politicians should be one of the main action lines. The development of common standards and protocols at operational level is another aspect in which Mediterranean countries should take a step forward.



European Union Civil Protection Mechanism – European Commission

With the objective of civil population protection this mechanism supports all countries facing disaster and emergency situations such as wildfires. In the Mediterranean Region supporting wildfire suppression is one of its main roles. Many field exercises, training and exchange of resources are channeled through the mechanism structure.



1st Euromediterranean Conferences on Wildfires (18-20 November 2013, Barcelona, Spain)

Born with the intention of establishing a meeting point between the operative wildfire community, the university researchers and the society, with the aim of trying to find a reply to our common needs. Based on the promotion of a continuous learning culture focusing on safety and effectiveness within our wildfire community.



VII International Conference on Forest Fire Research (17-20 November 2014, Coimbra, Portugal)

The Conference is organized every 4 years since 1990, bringing together scientists from all around the world to present and discuss advances on Forest Fires related research topics. A short course on fire safety and a short course on fire behaviour took place as side events.



Aerial Fire Fighting Europe (AFF) (29-30 April 2015, Zadar, Croatia)

Aerial Firefighting Conferences take place every year. On this particular event one of the objectives was to focus global attention on wildfire aerial response in Eastern Europe. Live demonstrations and Presentation of the Walt Darren Award to Colonel Bodino (France) for his merits in safe, effective and efficient aerial firefighting were part of the Conference.

International Fire Aviation Working Group



1st International Workshop on Large Forest Fires and Field Exercise (19-21 May, 2015, Olympia, Greece)

The workshop was organized with the aim to improve capacity building, based on exchange of experiences and expertise. Several field visits and simulations, including a settlement evacuation, took place.



II International Conference on Fire Behaviour and Risk (26-29 May 2015, Alghero, Sardinia, Italy)

The Conference involved scientists, researchers and policy makers whose activities were focused on different aspects of fires and their impacts such as Fire Behaviour and Risk, Modeling and Monitoring fuel characteristics and fires, Fire Management and Climate and Fires.

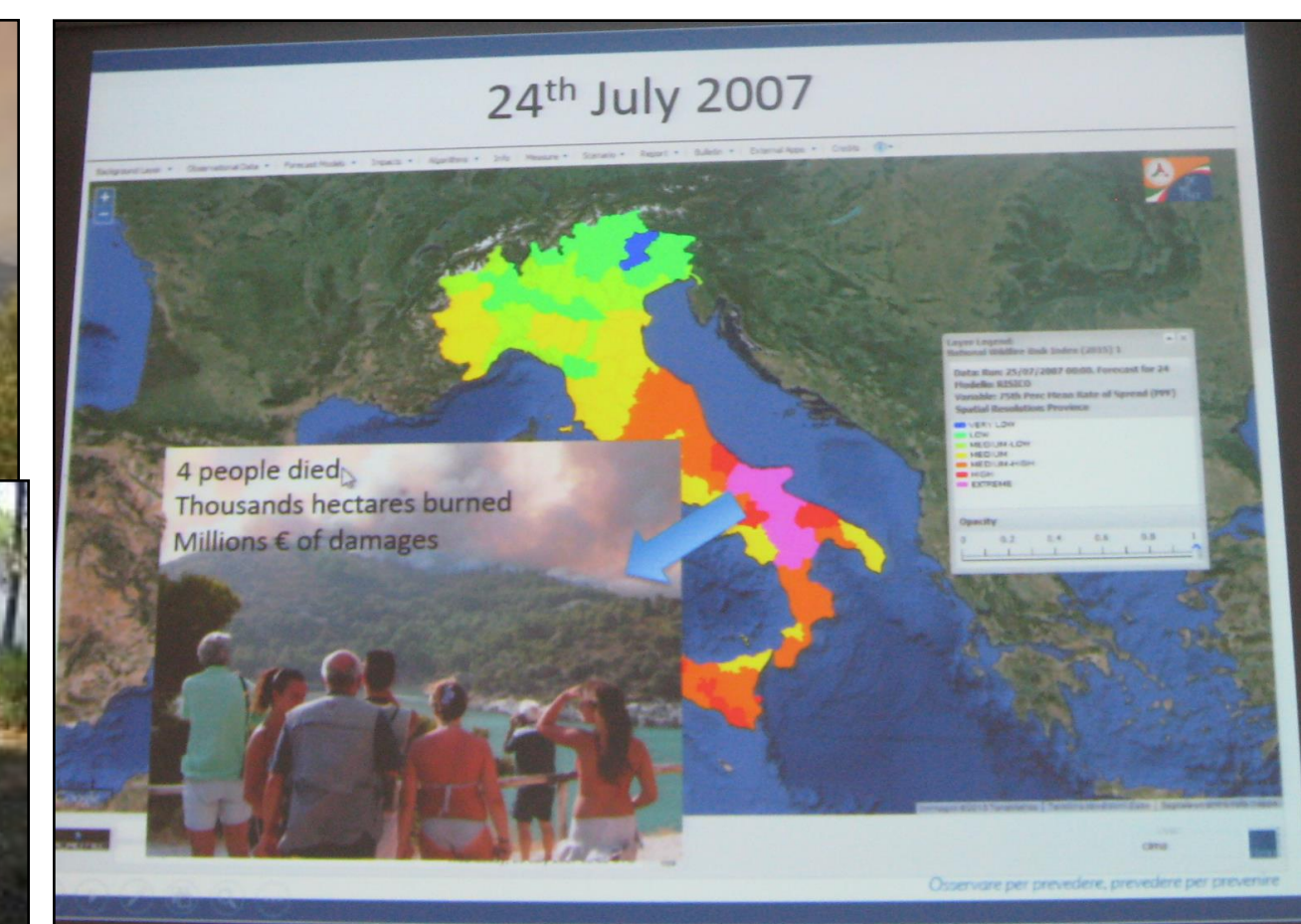


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Network Website and Link to the Global Wildland Fire Network: <http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/GlobalNetworks/globalNet.html>

Regional Wildland Fire Networks: Euro-Alpine – Near East – Sub-Sahara Africa – South Asia – Southeast Asia – Australasia – Northeast Asia – Central Asia – Eurasia
North America – Mesoamerica – South America – Caribbean – Mediterranean – Southeast Europe / Caucasus – Mediterranean – Southeast Europe / Caucasus – South Asia – Southeast Asia – Australasia – Northeast Asia – Central Asia – Eurasia

