



3rd FULL-SCALE EXERCISE (FSX) ISLAND of RHODES and ATHENS, GREECE TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE ACCIDENTS AND RELATED HAZARDS



INVITATION

Dear Sir/Madam,

The IN-PREP project partners are pleased to invite you to our **3rd full-scale exercise (FSX)** taking place virtually from the island of Rhodes and Athens, Greece on the **4th of February 2021**.

This is the final exercise of the 3-year **IN-PREP project**, funded by the European Commission's Horizon 2020 Programme. IN-PREP has built a system that can better prepare civil protection practitioners (*fire brigades, emergency medical services, police and civil protection agencies*) at all levels of command, in responding collaboratively to urgent natural and manmade Transboundary Crises. In doing so, IN-PREP's developed technologies will help civil protection actors to better **plan, train** and **collaborate** in a **transboundary crisis management** context.

An FSX is an integrated, collaborative exercise which involves stakeholders within disaster management responding to a simulated crisis under the guidance of experienced staff. The actors in the FSX, both tactical and strategic, respond to the complex, simulated crisis using the functionalities of the IN-PREP tools. The FSX is designed to put crisis managers into a situation to develop or test existing plans and procedures and to take decisions according to the scenario. A workshop will take place following the FSX to discuss and evaluate the exercise outcomes. IN-PREP have carried out three previous successful TTXs in Italy and the Netherlands and two previous FSX in Northern Ireland and Italy.

Due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, the 3rd FSX will be conducted as a uniquely remote exercise, combining both real and simulated actors responding to a crisis scenario in real-time. The scenario for the 3rd FSX is of a road traffic incident resulting in multiple casualties. This scenario is complicated by the competing needs of traffic management, to treat injured passengers and to rescue those trapped in vehicles and will require complex, multi-agency cooperation between the local police, fire service and ambulance. Participants will be tasked with responding to this scenario in order to collaborate an effective response.

During the FSX, **multi-agency collaborative response planning** at a **strategic and tactical level** in a national and transboundary context is sought between civil protection agencies. The scenario will require participants of the FSX to work collaboratively to respond to the evolving situation using IN-PREP's Mixed Reality Preparedness Platform (MRPP). The MRPP facilitates interagency and cross border communications to promote effective decision-making and efficient resource management in a crisis scenario where time is crucial to ensure minimal risk to life and property. The 3rd FSX is an opportunity for civil protection practitioners to test their response plans, collaborate with other agencies and train using the latest technologies in crisis management.

The present Covid-19 pandemic has shifted the focus of the exercise which will demonstrate that notwithstanding current difficulties, it is still possible to participating in preparedness activities and training exercises remotely, to prepare for future crises.

About IN-PREP

Guided on one side by feedback from practitioners and on the other side by tools brought by technology partners IN-PREP will create a **Mixed Reality Preparedness Platform**; a novel IT-based tool for response planning and scenario building to integrate Command and Control and Information systems, Situational Awareness modules, and a Decision Support mechanism. In addition, IN-PREP will create a Cross-organisational Handbook of Preparedness and Response Planning. The principal aim is improving preparedness with realistic training in representative disaster scenarios. This will upgrade coordination of response actions.

IN-PREP's success depends heavily on active engagement of the civil protection community! If you are interested in joining the FSX as an observer please register online: <https://www.in-prep.eu/rhodes-and-athens/>. If you have any questions you can contact us: Ilias Argyris civilprotection@rhodes.gr and Evangelos Sdongos, evangelos.sdongos@iccs.gr.

Kind regards,
Dr. Angelos Amditis, IN-PREP Project Coordinator



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