


FIACTU / NTUA GFMC UNU ECFF

**Recent Developments and Needs for Wildfire
Fighting on the Ground:
Tactics and Technologies**

A Video Conference organized by

Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC) (Conference Chair)

Field Analytical Chemistry and Technology Unit/ National Technical University
of Athens (FIACTU / NTUA)

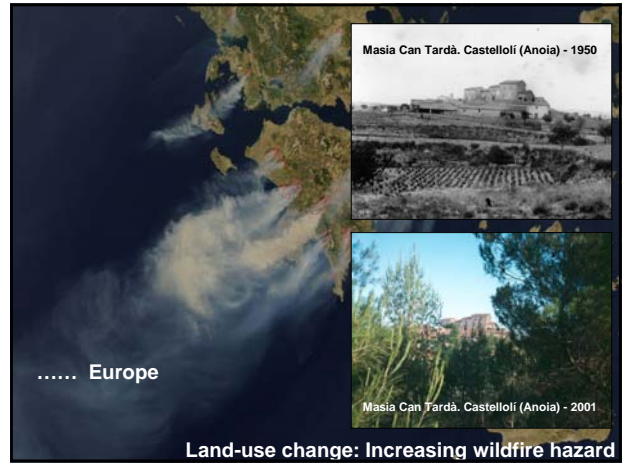
European Center for Forest Fires (ECFF)

10 June 2010


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Introduction









**The 2008 Global Wildland Fire Fatalities Report
 by the Global Fire Monitoring Center**

- † 350 fatalities worldwide
- † Asia: 119 (China 94)
- † Latin America: 12
- † North America: 43 (USA: 42)
- † Europe: 6
- † Africa: 151

**The 2009 Global Wildland Fire Fatalities Report
 by the Global Fire Monitoring Center**

- † 369 fatalities – 160 injuries worldwide
- † Asia: 91 – 35 injured
- † Australia: 176 – 14 injured
- † Latin America: 19 – 4 injured
- † North America: 30 – 80 injured
- † Europe: 11 – 20 injured
- † Africa: 42 – 7 injured




**Towards enhancing international cooperation in
 managing extreme wildfire situations**

- Eastern European, Near East and Central Asian States Exercise on Wildland Fire Information and Resources Exchange (EASTEX FIRE 2005)
- Fire-4
- European Union Forest Fire Tactical Reserve (EUFFTR)




EU Civil Protection Mechanism




31 countries:

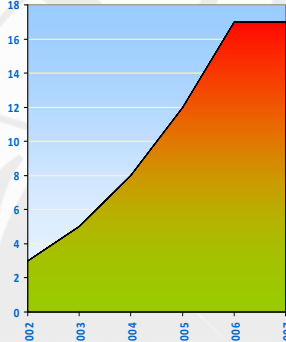
- 27 EU Member States
- Norway
- Iceland
- Lichtenstein
- Croatia



EU Civil Protection Mechanism



Activation increasing 2002-2009



Year	Activation
2002	3
2003	5
2004	8
2005	12
2006	17
2007	17

Towards enhancing international cooperation in managing extreme wildfire situations

New transatlantic relationships:

- Demonstration missions and offers to support Europe's firefighting capabilities (July 2009)



Towards enhancing international cooperation in managing extreme wildfire situations

New transatlantic relationships:

- Demonstrations in France, Spain and Germany



International Cooperation

**Voluntary Guidelines for Fire Management:
Support for policy and strategy development**



International Voluntary Guidelines

- **International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests (1997)**
- **WHO / UNEP / WMO Health Guidelines for Vegetation Fire Events (1999)**
- **FAO Guidelines on Fire Management in Temperate and Boreal Forests (2002)**
- **UN Fire Management Voluntary Guidelines (2006)**

International Cooperation

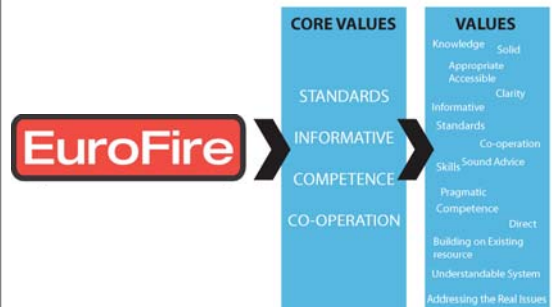
Capacity building in fire management:

First steps towards the development of internationally compatible standards and competency

A European approach towards enhancing inter-operability between nations and regions



EuroFire Values Results - Version 2 as 161107



Implementation: GFMC / CTIF – 2006-2009
<http://www.euro-fire.eu/>

**Deficits in efficiency of International Cooperation:
Deployment of firefighting aircraft to foreign countries – often not well coordinated with ground operations**



Need to expand the EuroFire approach to the fire aviation community

**International Cooperation:
Development of coordinated approaches by international actors:**


- coordination ground / air
- bilateral & multilateral
- protocols & agreements



First International Aerial Firefighting Conference, Athens, Greece, 2008:

Recommendation:

Creation of a "Fire Aviation Working Group" that would fit in the UNISDR framework as an advisory committee



First International Aerial Firefighting Conference, Athens, Greece, 2008:

Principal objectives of the "Fire Aviation Working Group" (I):

- **Sharing of information, especially safety related information**
- **Agreeing and setting of consistent operating practices and standards, where appropriate, that would assist with improving safety, and with sharing of resources**

**First International Aerial Firefighting Conference,
Athens, Greece, 2008:**

Principal objectives of the "Fire Aviation Working Group" (II):

- Providing a conduit or facilitation mechanism for the sharing of resources between jurisdictions
- Providing advice to nations and the United Nations regarding fire aviation through the UNISDR Wildland Fire Advisory Group / Global Wildland Fire Network and

Cooperation within the UNISDR Global Wildland Fire Network
North America – Mesoamerica – South America – Caribbean – Mediterranean
Southeast Europe / Caucasus – Sub-Sahara Africa – South Asia – Southeast Asia
Australasia – Northeast Asia – Central Asia – Baltic

WILDFIRE
The 5th International Wildland Fire Conference
2011

9-13 May 2011, Pilanesberg National Park – Sun City
South Africa

Thanks for Your Attention

On behalf of the Global Wildland Fire Network (GWFN)
Wildland Fire Advisory Group / Fire Aviation Working Group
United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN ISDR)