D1.1 Stakeholders dialog and workshop (1) report

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Disclaimer

EFLIP project is coordinated by the Fondazione Centro Euro-Mediterraneo sui Cambiamenti Climatici (CMCC) and involves Fondazione CIMA (CIMA), Istituto Universitario di Studi Superiori di Pavia (IUSS)

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Executive summary

The first Stakeholders meeting of the EFLIP project was held in Milan, at Base building, on February 10, 2020. The aim of this first meeting was to give an overview of the project and its objectives and to receive feedbacks from the invited stakeholders, starting a direct dialogue with them.

About 20 stakeholders coming from the Lombardy Region, the Municipality of Milan, Reclamation Consortia and the insurance sector were participated to the meeting. Moreover, the members of the External Advisory Board (Mauro Dolce - National Department of Civil Protection, Silvano Pecora - Po River District Authority, Martina Bussettini - ISPRA, Tiberiu Antofie and Gustav Eklud - JRC) also attended this first meeting.

The meeting, which began at 10:30 am, was structured into four main session:

- description of the overall project with a specific focus on the topic of disaster loss data (DLD);
- discussion with stakeholders on the importance of DLDs and their usefulness in all phases of the disaster risk management cycle;
- Word Cafè
- Panel with the External Advisory Board on the project framework

The meeting ended around 4 pm, with suggestions proposed by the External Advisory Board.

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1. Introduction

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2. First session: Overview of project with a specific focus on the topic of disaster loss data (DLD)

During this session, the three project partners (CMCC Foundation, IUSS and CIMA Foundation) showed the objectives of the EFLIP project, focusing on their role on it. In particular CMCC will contribute to the analysis of the economic impacts of past and future risks and to the study of DRR policies and new funding mechanisms.
IUSS and CIMA Foundation will contribute to analyze past events, in order to identify useful elements to support current and future policies for risk mitigation.
CIMA Foundation will be in charge of engaging institutional and private stakeholders for the development of public-private partnership.
All three partners will support each other in the implementation of the project.

Finally, the project leader (Jaroslav Mysiak, CMCC) focused on the project contribution on supporting the policies of DLDs collection, in a regional perspective as well as in a European perspective. The EFLIP project in fact aimed to reinforce and develop recommendations on data loss collection that may be useful also to other regions.
The project was also framed in the general context of the Sendai Framework priorities, with special attention on Priority 1: Understanding disaster risk, Priority 2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk, Priority 3: Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience, focusing on the urgency of a correct and coherent collection of data, as tool for achieving them.

At the end of this first session, it was stressed out that the project fits within the context of new European policies aimed increasingly at identifying the link between adaptation and social transformation and risk reduction policies, also through the involvement of stakeholders as key of these processes.

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3. Second session: The importance of DLDs and their usefulness in all the phases of the disaster risk management cycle

This session concerned the different uses of disaster losses data in all the phases of the disaster risk management cycle and consequently their possible usefulness at each "territorial" level of governance.
Veronica Casartelli (CMCC) has highlighted the main uses of DLDs in the different phases of the disaster risk management cycle and at the different "territorial" levels of risk governance, and beyond. In fact, these data can also be used to reinforce territorial and social resilience, in the context of sustainable development and of climate change adaptation. In addition, the use of disaster loss data helps to strengthen the awareness of territorial risk by those who collaborate in the data collection itself.
At the same time, it was underlined how the definition of precise information and "rules" are increasingly needed to ensure that such data can be correctly collected, systematized, shared and, consequently, used.
In fact, an expected result of the project is the development of an INTEGRATED APPROACH for data collection and the implementation of a PARTNERSHIP between stakeholders, who could collaborate for best collecting, sharing and using these data. All these will constitute a best practice.
Once implemented and tested, this good practice can also be spread to other regions, contributing to the strengthening of data collection processes and its consistency with the Sendai framework.

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After Casartelli speech, the moderator of the session, Roberto Rudari (CIMA), collected the different experiences on the topic among the stakeholders invited to participate to the meeting, including also the members of the EAB.

During this session, some unresolved issues related to the management and collection of the disaster data and therefore to its governance were raised, such as:
• data format;
• interoperability between loss data and tool used to collect the data itself;
• availability of the data (and its possible duplication);
• non-uniformity of the data collected;
• data accessibility;
• data dispersion (due to poor involvement of some important stakeholders such as the insurance sector);
• issues related to the responsibility of data management and privacy;
• little flexibility in the tools currently available for data collection.

At the end of the discussion, it raises the importance of:
• develop a model that is able to use or collect empirical data for different application areas and that also takes into consideration indirect damage (social, environmental);
• clearly identifying who collects the data (scale), how it is collected (scope) and for what purpose, for supporting a collecting infrastructure useful for the different area with an adequate space and time scales;
• recognizing the heterogeneity of the loss data;
• modulating the data in medium-term and long-term scale;
• encouraging the definition of protocols and data infrastructures that allow data sharing at national and international level;
• producing coherent collection mechanisms in terms of methodologies, metadata and procedures.

4. Third Session: Word Cafè

During the word café, stakeholders were divided into three groups consisting of a minimum of 5 stakeholders. Each group has been formed ensuring the presence of the representatives of the national, regional and local level.
Each group was asked to answer three questions/issues related to specific project topics (Using data for improving risk assessment, Data collection and Sendai Framework requests, Towards a public-private partnership).
Each discussion session, managed respectively by CMCC Foundation, IUSS and CIMA Foundation, lasted 20 minutes.

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The observations deriving from the discussion sessions for each topic or suggestion are set out below.

4.1 Using loss data for improving risk assessment

- It is necessary to improve the definition and to homogenize the metrics used in the Risk Assessment (RA), so that they will be the same in all the area. For example, relating to population at risk, there are those who consider the number of victims, those who consider the people displaced, those who consider the people affected, etc .;
- It is necessary to clarify the definition of the elements for the RA, especially the concept of 'vulnerability' and to define its scale;
- Data should be linked to the magnitude of an event and to the damage, in order to define minimum alert thresholds;
- Monitoring systems should also be updated according to past events, to improve data collection and accuracy;
- In the risk assessment, post-event mapping of changes in river morphologies should be provided to update the hydraulic models which generally have static sections as input;
- The uncertainty of the input parameters should be considered in the RA;
- The uncertainty of the input parameters should be considered in the model calibration phase;
- It would be necessary to standardize the data between public and private, also to favor their exchange;
- The data cannot be considered only as an 'observation', but they should be considered also for the definition of the 'scenarios';
- Is it possible to provide data that validate the warning thresholds for hydraulic risk?
- The data contained in the Rasda cards should be used to the best;
- The empirical data on the damage should be improved for recalibrating the models;
- The available data relating to areas where past events were occurred (i.e., Seveso) and in which the local monitoring network has intensified for flow rate measurements, or data relating to precipitation also outside the risk areas, in

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which risk mitigation measures have already been implemented, should be better exploit;

- A catalog of past events should be built for using them as input in hydraulic models;
- Data are needed to assess the impacts of different measures on RA e.g., awareness campaigns;
- Spread of knowledge of loss data and best practices should be reinforced;
- It would be important to implement a Loss Data model;
- Data related to cultural heritage damages are necessary;
- It would be necessary that the collected data will not represent only the potential damage (estimated damage equal to the value of the element itself);
- The assessment of the damage should be take into account other aspects and not only economic aspects;
- The dispersion of data at local level should be standardized and reduced.

4.2 Systematize data collection in line within the Sendai Framework requests

- The data that will be collected to respond to the Sendai Framework requests will not be useful and suitable for real-time monitoring. For example, it would be necessary to set up a data normalization process on the magnitude, since the sample of data over such a short period of time is not absolutely significant. It is necessary to consider the Sendai framework as an opportunity to set up a speech on the collection / organization / sharing / usability of data on losses and damages at various territorial levels;
- The bottom up approach is the only possible approach for collecting different data / indicators (the data collected from the local level pass to the regional level and then to the national level, for sharing with the global level);
- The most evident criticality lies in the governance of the process of collecting, organizing and sharing the indicators;
- It is necessary to explain and define as precisely as possible the data that is needed and, subsequently, to define a federated (and not centralized) architecture of collection and sharing;
- It is needed to change actual approach and mentality, switching them to open data. First of all, culture of open data must grow within institutions. Access to data is often too complicated and even the technology used for collection / sharing can play a limiting role;
- There are some problems with responsibility for providing and sharing give data / indicators. There is still no clear attribution of those who have the responsibility to collect and certify a specific data / indicator. It is essential to clarify roles and

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responsibilities. Often as it is not possible to identify the reliability of the data, the collection process stops;

- There are problems in providing and sharing data that are affected by uncertainty. It would be appropriate to make this uncertainty explicit and so share the data. Do not provide and do not share data can be extremely dangerous: in the absence of an official source of data, someone with not specific competence could fill the gap, spreading misleading data (see, for example, EM-DAT at the level international). Providing "provisional data" could be a solution, as ISTAT is doing for the SDGs;
- It is necessary to define the chain of the data collecting and sharing process, taking into account the feasibility of the process itself, in particular for the local level where the resources dedicated to this activity are often extremely limited.
- Often different bodies / institutions collect different data for their own purposes. These data, if not requested by others, are archived and not made available and so many data could remain unused, in practice.

4.3 Towards a public-private partnership

- It would be important to create a partnership between stakeholders, both public and private, to capitalize the expertise and competences of each institution or stakeholder;
- In the Lombardy Region, there are already some attempts to share the different regional competences, using IT platforms;
- Both scientific sectors and policy makers should be members of the future partnership;
- Politics should coordinate the partnership;
- Civil Protection of Lombardy Region has already signed agreements with private stakeholders (strategic lifelines managers, Confindustria, professional orders) for managing emergency situations;
- Professional orders could be involved in the partnership as they could collect the data. This could raise two main problems: the overall level of competence of the professionals (not all members of the different orders have the same training) and a possible conflict of interest - that could originate from the on-site activities and subsequent claims for damages and / or future reconstruction designs;
- A partnership, involving other entities besides the regional or municipal ones, could ensure a more widespread collection of data. This would allow an overall view of the data already present in the databases;
- The data collected should have meaning not only for the damages assessment and monitoring, but also for risk mitigation policies;

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- The partnership should not include only regional offices, in order to be useful for the exchange of information, and to be based on a bottom up and transversal approach;
- Lombardy Region has agreements and protocols of understanding between the different regional offices, such as for example the Sustainability Pact. They are important tools for developing an integrated knowledge of risk but do not have immediate concrete implications for shared data management;
- The actors of a public partnership could be:
    - Land Reclamation Consortia;
    - Research Entities and Universities (Politecnico di Milano);
    - Water services;
    - Local authority water board;
    - Health sector;
    - Agricultural sector;
    - Public Transport sector (communication routes);
    - National Association of Italian Municipalities;

- It is considered desirable to create/form a partnership that will also involve the private sector, in particular the insurance sector and professional orders, especially those of geologists and engineers;
- Insurances can present strengths and weaknesses for the partnership:
    - Strengths: Insurance companies are subjects capable of providing data for risk mitigation policies identification;
    - Weaknesses: Insurances can lead conflict of interest. The data, in fact, represent a source of financial gain for insurances and they could hardly be shared without an economic returns.
- It would be necessary to encourage a legislative reform in the field of insurance that would identify criteria shared by entities dealing with risk and insurance, to establish the premiums;
- It would be necessary to create a reporting standard that would allow an impartial collection of the damage;
- It is certainly important to involve the insurance sector in the discussion of risk mitigation policies. To do this, it is necessary that the "economic" value moves from the datum to the technical competence.

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5. Fourth Session: Panel with the External Advisory Board on the project framework

At the end of the word café, Mauro Dolce - National Department of Civil Protection, Silvano Pecora - District Basin Authority of the Po River and Martina Bussettini - ISPRA, were invited to take the floor, as formal members of the External Advisory Board, present at the meeting.

The objective of this final session was to discuss with the EAB members on the consistency of the project and to get some feedbacks on any fragility and / or critical elements and anything not in coherence with the objectives of the project, in order to realign and recompose these elements.
EAB members evaluated positively the objectives of the project, the methodology proposed during the meeting, which will characterize the project itself, and the timing of the project.

A further positive element underlined was the will of discussing - from the beginning of the project- with those who could become both the end users of the project results and the main architects of the sustainability of the project itself.

In particular, the role of the stakeholders and their involvement in the realization of some of the results of the project itself was investigated.

The possibility of extending some specific results and risk models (flood) deriving from the project implementation to other risks was also emphasized. It could fill some gaps that currently exist in the ex-ante evaluation of direct and indirect damages, which characterize risk modeling.
The economic and macro economic aspect of these models has been particularly stressed.

Finally, it was highlighted that the project sets itself the ambitious goal of responding to the standardization needs of the disaster loss data and collection procedures. It could respond to problems related to current collection structures and procedures and also to the lack of connection with other damage databases.
It was therefore concluded that in order to find an exhaustive solution to best meet the needs described above, the main critical issues on which to focus and direct the project must be analyzed.

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