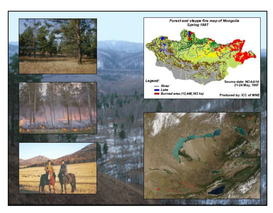
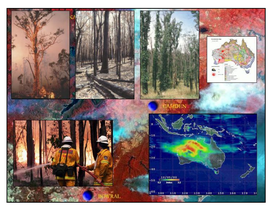
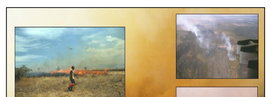
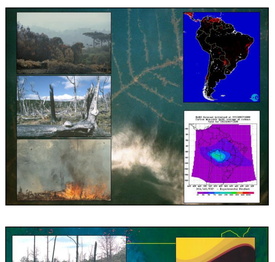
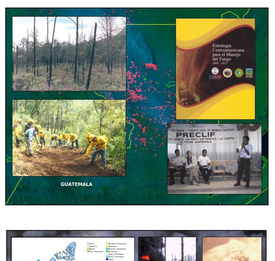
The Global Wildland Fire Network

United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)







North America – Mesoamerica – South America – Caribbean – Mediterranean – Southeast Europe / Caucasus – Euro-Alpine – Near East – Southeast Asia – Subsahara Africa – South Asia – Northeast Asia – Central Asia - Eurasia

Regional Wildland Fire Networks:

UNISDR Regional Eurasia Wildland Fire Network

Major Wildland Fire Issues in Eurasia

In general, the fire services are not adequately trained and equipped for wildland fire situations – however, increasing recognition for the need of adequate training and equipment

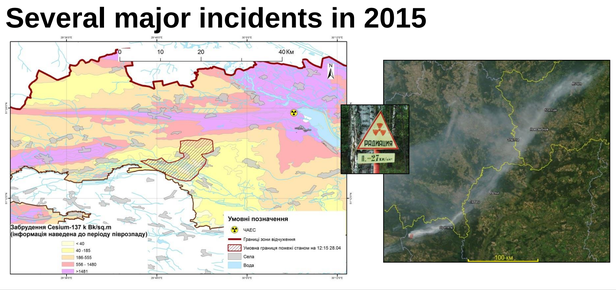
Increasing recognition of fire as a natural and cultural factor contributing to high biodiversity

Increasing recognition and acceptance of the use of prescribed fire in nature conservation and landscape management

Domestic and transboundary air pollution by agricultural burning: Ukraine and Russia 2015

Fire management on conservation areas contaminated by unexploded ordnance stemming from armed conflicts

Wildfires in radioactively contaminated terrain in Belarus, Ukraine and Russia: Several major incidents in 2015



The Eurasian Regional Network (former "Baltic Network") – Coordinator of the Euro-Siberian Network Cluster – emerged as the Core Region of the work of the UNECE / FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Fire (1993-2014)

The UNECE Team was coordinated by the Fire Ecology Research Group / Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC) since 1993 until the termination of its mandate and work in 2014. The networks closely associated in the Euro-Siberian Cluster: Regional SE Europe / Caucasus and Central Asia Wildland Fire Networks, and the Sub-Regional Euro-Alpine Wildland Fire Network

Network activities in the ECE region activated in 1981. One of the networking efforts: Documentation of national fire analyses in UNECE/FAO International Forest Fire News (IFFN) (1988-2014)

Establishment of the Global Fire Monitoring Center in 1998: Initiated in the Baltic Region

Recent Regional Activities

Selected Examples

First International Fire Management Week (Krasnoyarsk Region, Russia, 2012)

Second International Fire Management Week (Krasnoyarsk Region, Russia, 2013)

International Congress and Trade Fair on Forest Fire and Climate Change: Challenges for Fire Management in Natural and Cultural Landscapes of Eurasia. Hosted by the Russian Federation in partnership with the GFMC (Novosibirsk, Russia, 2013)

Climate Change Forest Fire Protection Siberia 2013

UNECE/FAO Regional Forum on Cross-Boundary Fire Management United Nations, Geneva (2013)

Facilitation of cross-boundary cooperation in fire management:

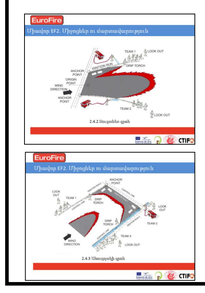
Publication of the updated Multilingual Wildland Fire Terminology (English-Russian-Mongolian) in 2014

Major Networking achievements and ongoing Projects:

Cooperation between the wildland fire science community, practitioners and policy makers

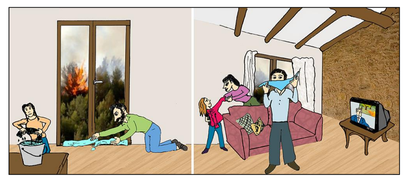
Introduction of advanced standards and competence-based wildland fire management training systems for European fire services since 2006:

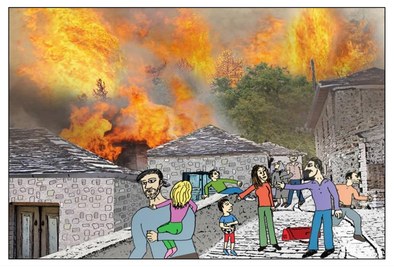
By 2015 the EuroFire Competency Standards are available in 14 languages for the use in Eurasia and Latin America



Defence of Villages, Farms and Other Rural Assets against Wildfires

Guidelines for Rural Populations, Local Communities and Municipality Leaders in the Balkan Region





Technology transfer: Introduction of the use of prescribed fire in agriculture, forestry and conservation in Georgia, Ukraine and Poland (2014/2015)

Network Website and Link to the Global Wildland Fire Network: http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/GlobalNetworks/BalticRegion/BalticRegion.html
Website of the Eurasian Fire in Nature Conservation Network (EFNCN): http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/programmes/natcon/natcon.htm

MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT