Third International Conference on Early Warning  
27-29 March 2006, Bonn, Germany  
Side Event on Wildland Fire – Report of the Meeting and Discussions  
Tuesday, 28 March 2006, 13:00-15:00, Bundeshaus (Conference Site), Bonn

After the formal presentations were made in the early warning and wildland fire side event (see: [http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/fw/EWS.htm](http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/fw/EWS.htm)), discussions were held on how to pursue the development of a global early warning system for wildland fire. The following is a summary of those discussions:

System Operations

- Regional networks can provide data for validating the system, and they can provide the scientific support, quality control and distribution networks
- Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) is an example of an agency that could support or promote a regional network in this capacity
- To operate such a system, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) can provide a model to follow

System Funding

- In order to be funded, the system must incorporate capacity building
- Once the systems (global, regional, local) are in place, there will be a need for on-going support. Is it possible that the regional networks could provide this support?
- There will also be a need to provide support for innovative development after the system is established (as an on-going commitment). This point should be made more strongly in the proposal.
- For the system to be funded, there must be a demand by end-users. Focusing on operational products will foster demand.
- We need to demonstrate to end-users the value of the system products and show how it affects decision-making. We need an alliance/team to actively do this.
- The wildland fire community is on board with this proposal. The ISDR toured countries looking for donors to support project proposals, but commitments by governments was not clear.
- The early warning secretariat will coordinate financing of projects. There is a ½ day workshop for stakeholders after the EWC III conference that may provide guidance to the secretariat.

Proposal Follow-up

- We may need to lobby for funding of this proposal. Approaching national funding agencies (e.g., Canadian International Development Agency, AusAid, German Federal Ministry for Education and Research) and making them aware of the proposal and potential project impacts may assist in finding a future funding arrangement.
- To promote the project in the context of the EWC III conference, we should emphasize:
  - Wildland fire disaster is not a solitary entity as consequences are closely linked to other disasters (e.g., mudslides, landslides, rock falls) and has multiple negative impacts (regional economies, social costs, environmental degradation)
  - The wildland fire proposal is ‘people-centered’ and focused on local awareness
  - The global EWS for wildland fire will link many regional systems
  - This project will significantly move ahead the ‘state of the science’ and immediately
implement the scientific benefits in early warning

- For early warning funding, we should promote the ability of the system to fit within a multi-hazard system
- Linking the benefits of early warning of wildland fire to other important issues (air quality, insurance, health industry) provides further support for the system
- Another potential funding source is the European Commission. A call for proposal is out to study infrastructure protection (airports, telecom) from natural disaster events. The wildland fire proposal would fit very well in this context.

Rapporteur: William De Groot
Side Event Coordinator: Johann G. Goldammer

Annex: Side Event Agenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Title of Presentation</th>
<th>Name of Presenter or Moderator</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13:00 – 13:05</td>
<td>Welcome and Introduction</td>
<td>J. Goldammer</td>
<td>Coordinator of Side Event and global project proposal</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:20 – 13:35</td>
<td>Early Alert, Monitoring and Impact Assessment Mexico / Central America</td>
<td>R. Ressl</td>
<td>Coordinator of project proposal</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:35 – 13:50</td>
<td>Development of the sentinel hotspots fire location system</td>
<td>A. Held</td>
<td>Invited paper</td>
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<td>13:55 – 14:00</td>
<td>Global Early Warning System for Wildland Fire: The links to multi-hazard approaches in EW</td>
<td>T. Keenan</td>
<td>Introduction of invited poster</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00 – 14:05</td>
<td>The use of remote sensing products for early wildland fire warning and detection</td>
<td>T. Lynham</td>
<td>Introduction of invited poster</td>
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<td>14:05 – 14:10</td>
<td>Presentation of the new monograph “Wildland Fire Danger” (by M. Sofronov, J.G. Goldammer, A. Volokitina and T. Sofronova) for the CIS countries (in Russian)</td>
<td>J. Goldammer</td>
<td>A Wildland Fire Early Warning Project sponsored by the German Foreign Office in 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:10 – 14:15</td>
<td>Technical remarks</td>
<td>J. Goldammer</td>
<td>Coordinator of Side Event</td>
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