



Regional Wildland Fire Networks:
 North America – South America – Mesoamerica / Caribbean – Mediterranean – Southeast Europe / Caucasus – Euro-Alpine – Near East – Sub-Saharan Africa – South Asia – Southeast Asia – Australasia – Northeast Asia – Central Asia – Eurasia

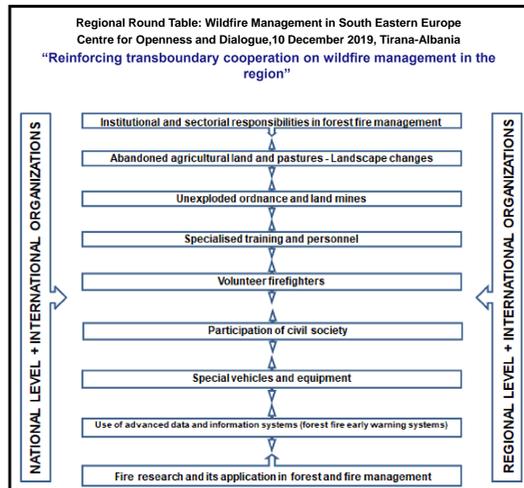


Regional Southeast Europe / Caucasus Wildland Fire Network

Regional Fire Monitoring Center (RFMC)



Major Landscape Fire Issues in Southeast Europe / Caucasus



The way how the major wildland fire issues in the Southeast Europe/Caucasus should be treated, on a national, regional and international level.



Regional Network Activities

The COVID-19 pandemic was the biggest challenge in the newest human history and affected not only the human health but also social, economic and political life including activities of the wildland fires regional networks. During the COVID-19 pandemic the Southeast Europe/Caucasus wildland fire network had to redesign the planned activities in that period. Many of them were done remotely and some of them canceled or postponed.

The main activities of the RSECFWN were:

- Organization of the Workshop: Climate change and landscape fire management in the Western Balkans (SDC/RFMC February 2020, Skopje)
- Participation on the Conference: Environmental Change and the Forest Fires (August 2021, Istanbul)
- Preparation of the Landscape Fire Management Programme in the Western Balkans (2020-2021 RFMC)
- Kick-off meeting (April 2022, Skopje)
- Basic fire safety course & training for children and vulnerable groups in Karbinici (Interreg-IPA CBC BG/MK CB006.2.12.085)
- Participation on the Workshop "Develop, adopt and transfer innovative solutions and actions to prevent and control wildfires" (October 2022, Antalya)
- Organization of the Cross-regional Workshop "Wildfire Management for Enhancing Climate Resilience and Security" (December 2022, Skopje)

Workshop: Climate change and landscape fire management in the Western Balkans February 2020, Skopje



Fire Resilient Protected Areas: Shar/Sara Mountains and Korab Massif Area

In 2023, a joint OSCE / RFMC project will strengthen co-operation and exchange of human resources, knowledge and information, and equipment for fire management between the protected areas. With climate change expected to create conditions that are more conducive to the spread and severity of fires, the project also addresses the growing security risks presented by fires on local communities and ecosystems.



Regional Southeast Europe / Caucasus Wildland Fire Network

The first proposal for the establishment of a regional network in SE Europe, particularly on the Balkan, was initially discussed by the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC) in June 2002 to promote cooperation in wildland fire research and management under a "South East European Fire Management Network" (SEEFIRE). After the OSCE-led Environmental Assessment Mission to Fire-Affected Areas in Nagorno-Karabakh, in September 2006, the network was designated "Regional Southeast Europe / Caucasus Wildland Fire Network". In 2010, with support of the GFMC and the Council of Europe (CoE / EUR-OPA), the Regional Fire Monitoring Center for the Southeast Europe / Caucasus Region was established in Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia.



Workshop "Develop, adopt and transfer innovative solutions and actions to prevent and control wildfires" 24-27 October 2022, Antalya, Türkiye

The workshop was hosted jointly by the General Directorate of Forestry Türkiye, FAO *Silva Mediterranea* and the Ministerial Conference for the Protection of Forests in Europe (FOREST EUROPE) aimed at support capacity building to prevent and control wildfires as well as to share the best practices while establishing cooperation and strong partnerships.



Basic fire safety course & training for children and vulnerable groups in Karbinici (Interreg-IPA CBC BG/MK, March 2021 Stip, N. Macedonia)



Cross-regional Workshop "Wildfire Management for Enhancing Climate Resilience and Security" 4-7 December 2022, Skopje, N. Macedonia

OSCE Project "Strengthening Responses to Security Risks from Climate Change in South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe, the South Caucasus and Central Asia"



Regional Cooperation

In the frame of the Regional Southeast Europe / Caucasus Wildland Fire Network in 2022 started the project **Landscape Fire Management in the Western Balkans (LFMWB)**. This project is financed by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation – SDC and coordinated by Farmahem from Skopje, North Macedonia with backstopping support from Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation from Switzerland. The **Regional Fire Monitoring Center (RFMC)** is Strategic Regional Partner and **Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC)** is International Partner in the project. The first phase is designed to be implemented in the period from 01.02.2022 until 31.08.2025.

The overall goal of this LFMWB is to increase resilience of Western Balkan forests and landscapes against fires benefit the people who depend on these landscapes for their livelihoods and socioeconomic development.



Activities 2023



National workshop, March 2023, Banja Luka



National workshop, March 2023, Podgorica



National workshop, March 2023, Skopje



National workshop, April 2023, Prishtina



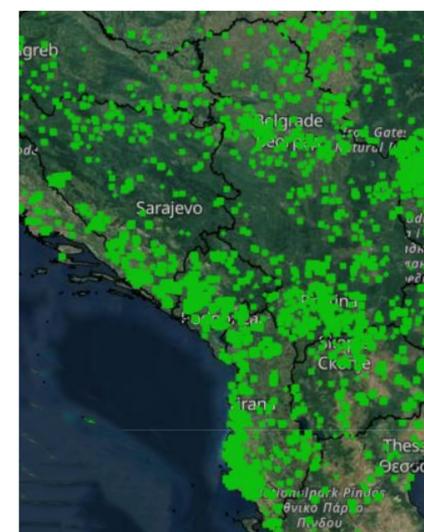
Severe fire season 2021



North Macedonia



Albania



Active fires in the Western Balkans
 1 August - 31 September 2021
 Source: EFFIS