

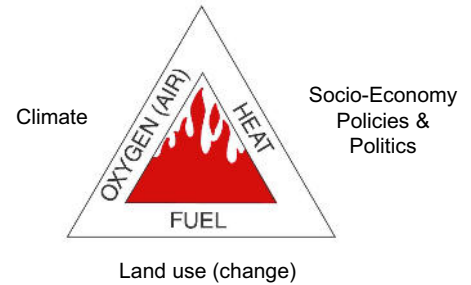
Regional Consultative Workshop on Cross-Boundary Cooperation
in Fire Management in South Asia
2-4 October 2016, Lalitpur, Nepal

Establishment of a Fire Management Resource Center for the South Asia Region

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The Fire Triangle a different approach



The problem: Lack of application of science and existing fire management knowledge for the

- development of informed fire management policies
- application in practice

A priority: Nurturing the interfaces between science, practice, policy and governance

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030: General Challenges

- **Call for the enhanced use of scientific findings**, improved research, and improved risk-reduction technologies through the coordination of **existing networks and scientific research institutions**
- Identify research and technology gaps and set recommendations for research priority areas in disaster risk reduction; **support the availability and application of science and technology to decision-making**
- Prioritising new research, **building capacities in under-resourced countries and regions**

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030: General Challenges

- **The approach for addressing wildland fire in the spirit of the Sendai Framework and under the auspices of the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction**
- **Building of regional centers of excellence – the Regional Fire Management Resource Centers**



Realization through “Regional Fire Management Resource Centers” (RFMRC) with main functions (I)

- **A RFMRC is serving as a regional open fire information repository / hub:**
Public provision (online and on request) of all information relevant to vegetation fires, e.g.,
 - Conventional databases, statistics
 - Scientific and technical literature, narratives, reports (often / mainly grey literature, which is normally hardly accessible)
- **Science-technology interface**
 Provision of an instrument in the region that will serve the **need bring wildland fire and related sciences into a readable format to policy makers and practitioners**

Main functions of “Regional Fire Management Resource Centers” (II)

- **Monitoring and information dissemination**
 In the ideal case an RFMRC would have own capabilities **or a partner institution** delivering information / monitoring
 - Fire precursors (fire early warning, fire danger rating)
 - Active fires (ongoing fires, current situation)
 - Fire impacts (area burned, fire damage, **human health & security**)
- **Capacity building: Training and outreach**
 Following the philosophy and the economic needs for sharing resources in the region:
 - Conducting national and regional training courses, continuous education, seminars, workshops, conferences on

Main functions of “Regional Fire Management Resource Centers” (III)

- **Advisory support to nations and to the regional organizations:**
 - Development and implementation of fire management policies
 - Support of participating countries of the region to develop informal or formal agreements / protocols for cross-boundary cooperation in fire management
- **International nexus: Regional and global networking**
 RFMRCs support Regional Wildland Fire Networks and ensure inputs of regional interests in the Global Wildland Fire Network

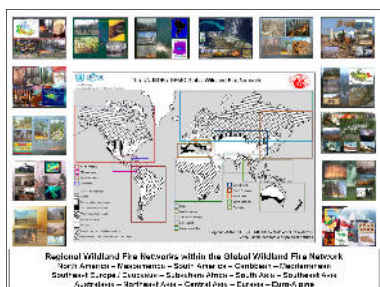
The Global Wildland Fire Network – History (I)

- 2001: Following the proposal of the World Conservation Union (IUCN) and GFMC: The United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) creates the “Working Group Wildland Fire” (Coordinator: GFMC)



The Global Wildland Fire Network – History (II)

- 2001-2003: Establishment of the UNISDR Global Wildland Fire Network with 14 Regional Wildland Fire Networks (Secretariat: GMFC)



The Global Wildland Fire Network – History (III)

- 2003: The WG transits into the “UNISDR Wildland Fire Advisory Group” – in which key / relevant UN agencies and international organizations are participating
- 2010: Establishment of the first Regional Fire Monitoring Center (RFMC) – for the Southeast Europe / Caucasus Region (Skopje, FYR Macedonia)

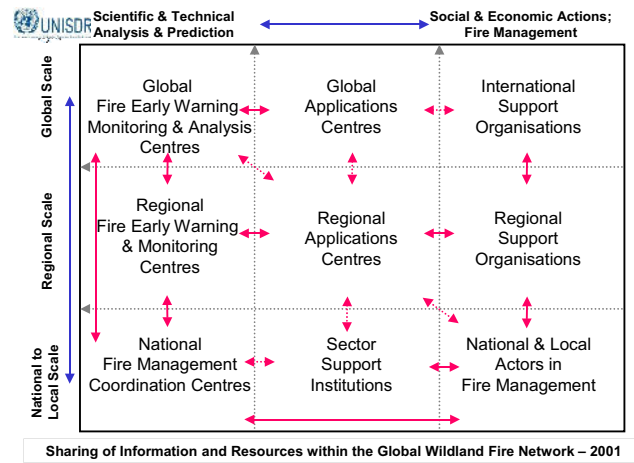


The Global Wildland Fire Network – History (III)

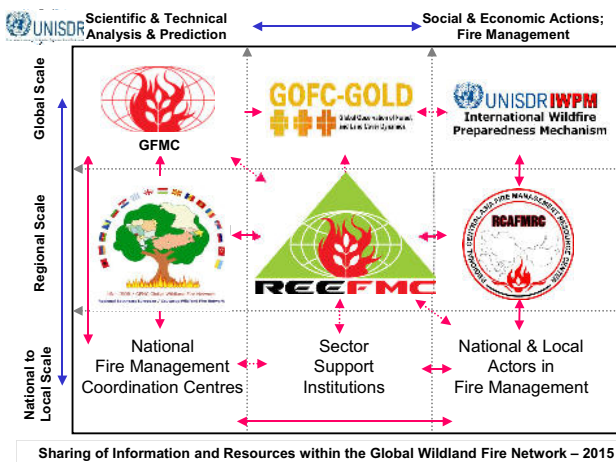
▪ 2013: Establishment of the second center of excellence – the Regional Eastern European Fire Monitoring Center (REEFMC) (Kyiv, Ukraine)



▪ 2015: Establishment of the third center (with a new designation): Fire Management Resource Center – Central Asia Region (RFMC-CAR / RCAFMR) (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia)



Sharing of Information and Resources within the Global Wildland Fire Network – 2001



Sharing of Information and Resources within the Global Wildland Fire Network – 2015

The Global Wildland Fire Network – Next steps

▪ 2016+: Plan for the establishment of 4 new Fire Management Resource Centers for

- South Asia (Nepal)
- SE Asia (Indonesia)
- West Africa (Ghana)
- Latin America (Brazil)
- Eurasia (Russia)

Experiences: The first steps are domestic

Example Mongolia:

- Setting up a first National Round Table on Fire Management
- Establishment of an inter-agency fire management committee (“National Coordination Committee on Forest and Steppe Fire Protection”) with representation of civil society
- Development of a proposal National Fire Management Policy, directed to the government



Next step: International Cross-boundary Cooperation in Fire Management in Central Asia

- **Establishment of an international agreement on cross-border cooperation on forest and steppe fires**

Mongolia-Russia agreement:

Signed on 14 June 2014)



Example of cross-boundary dialogue and Cooperation: International Conference on Cross-boundary Fire Management (Irkutsk, Russia, 16-18 June 2010)



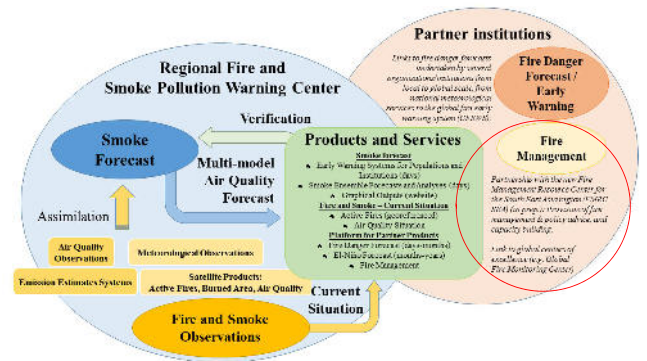
Emphasis:

Enhancing effectiveness, efficiency and inter-operability of regional cooperation in fire management



Joint Mongolian-Russian Fire Exercise 2014





Cooperation between thematic Regional Centers: Smoke Forecasting & Early Warning Center and the Regional Fire Management Resource Center – The vision for SE Asia

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Thanks for Your Attention

