

**PLAN OF ACTION  
OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP  
ON COOPERATION IN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE  
1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021  
Country-Coordinator: Romania**

**I. GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

The present Action Plan in the field of Cooperation on Emergency Assistance sets the main guidelines for enhancing mutually beneficial co-operation in the respective field between the BSEC Member States for the period 2017-2019.

In its work the Working Group will be guided by the provisions of the *BSEC Economic Agenda: Towards an Enhanced BSEC Partnership*, Resolutions, Decisions and Recommendations of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, decisions of the Ministers in charge for Emergency Assistance of the BSEC Member States, the BSEC Public Communication Strategy and the Terms of Reference of the Working Group.

Proper attention will be given to the implementation of Goal 17 of the BSEC Economic Agenda “*Cooperation in Emergency Assistance*”, using additional financial instruments, improvement of the modalities of work of the BSEC Network of Liaison Officers and other instruments of cooperation provided in the provisions of the *Agreement among the Governments of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) Participating States on Collaboration in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters* and the *Additional Protocol* to it.

During the period 2020 - 2021, the Working Group will be focused on the following main priorities:

1. *Strengthening cooperation in implementing the Agreement among the Governments of the BSEC Member States on Collaboration in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters and its Additional Protocol;*
2. *Enhancing coordination among the BSEC Member States in preventing and eliminating the consequences of natural and man-made disasters and on providing international assistance and help on protection of environment in case of emergency situations or imminent threat thereof;*
3. *Promoting organization of regional trainings, seminars and scientific conferences aimed at the achievement of better application of joint efforts in case of emergency and increase of awareness about the best practices used in emergency situations with a special attention to the Liaison Officers of the relevant BSEC Network.*
4. *Increasing the BSEC Member States efforts by adopting a common approach for coping with the COVID-19 pandemic challenges that we are facing, not only during the current situation but also for the post pandemic consequences (by sharing lessons learned and best practices, exchange of experience, etc.).*

A special attention will be paid to the reintegration of the topics discussed in the three Ad Hoc Working Groups on seismic risks, floods and torrents and massive forest fires into the agenda of the Working Group on cooperation in emergency situation.

## **II. LIST OF ACTIVITIES AND JOINT PROJECTS**

### **1. MINISTERIAL MEETINGS:**

-

### **2. MEETINGS OF THE**

**WORKING GROUP:** Once a year.

### **3. MEETINGS OF THE SUBORDINATED BODIES, I.E. BSEC NETWORK OF LIAISON OFFICERS ON EMERGENCY SITUATIONS:**

Once/ Twice a year, before or back to back to the Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Situation.

### **4. RELEVANT EVENTS:**

Meetings at the expert's level on specific items, according to the provisions of the BSEC Agreement on cooperation in Emergency Situation and its Additional Protocol.

The BSEC Member States are invited to make additional proposals on the events in their respective countries.

### **5. JOINT PROJECTS:**

Ensuring the effectiveness of BSEC Liaison Officers Network as an instrument for information exchange and emergency response on a multiple basis.

Strengthen the **Unified Database** on the means and forces that can be engaged in the event of an emergency in the Black Sea region and ensure a technical solution for its consultation by Member States.

The BSEC Member States are invited to make additional proposals.

### **6. PRIORITIES FOR PDF FUNDING:**

The issues of building institutional capacity of BSEC on emergencies and preparedness of population to different emergencies could be considered among priorities for the projects to be realized within the BSEC Project Development Fund.

### **7. COOPERATION WITH OTHER BSEC BODIES:**

The Working Group of Cooperation on Emergency Assistance will cooperate with the other BSEC Working Groups on relevant issues, in principal with the Working Group on Science and Technology and the Working Group on Environmental Issues.

### **8. COOPERATION WITH BSEC OBSERVERS AND PARTNERS**

The Working Group will cooperate with the BSEC Observer countries and Sectorial Dialogue Partners for the organization of joint events.

### **9. COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

The Working Group on Cooperation on Emergency will collaborate with international organizations, such as specialized UN agencies, European Commission, Black Sea Commission and other international organizations and institutions.