

Skills Development

Training

- Seminars and on field/indoor training “Disaster & Crisis Management”
- E-training with Study Visit in En “Natural disasters-Prevention, management, recovery-Use of new technologies”
- Seminars “Basic Principles of Geographic Information Systems (GIS)”

Workshops

- Implementation of EU & National Contingency Emergency & Crisis Management Plans
- FireFly Project-Community Engagement & Public Awareness
- Air First Aid-Basic Life Support



Joint Pilot

- Action on field “Aerial Surveillance & Coordination forest fire simulation”
- Workshop on field “Innovation & Technology Showcase”
- EU Training certificate expertise for implementing “Pilot training certificate” for Gyroplane

Training and workshops will certify more than 120 participants, while public campaigns, studies, project website and community events will reach at least 2.000 citizens.

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union, the participating countries and the Managing Authority.

Partnership

The project brings together diverse partners with strong EU project experience and broad geographic reach, ensuring high-quality deliverables, wide impact and sustainability.

Lead Beneficiary

Lifelong Learning Center
of Region of Central Macedonia SA

Project Beneficiaries

Region of Central Macedonia

Serres Airclub

Center for Development
of Pelagonija Planning Region

Protection and Rescue Directorate
of the Republic of North Macedonia



Κέντρο Διά Βίου Μάθησης
Περιφέρειας
Κεντρικής Μακεδονίας



ΠΕΡΙΦΕΡΕΙΑ
ΚΕΝΤΡΙΚΗΣ
ΜΑΚΕΔΟΝΙΑΣ



Влада на Република
Северна Македонија
Government of the
Republic of North Macedonia
ДИРЕКЦИЈА ЗА ЗАШТИТА И СПАСУВАЊЕ
PROTECTION AND RESCUE DIRECTORATE

Budget

Total 1.343.490,00€

EU Funds 1.074.792,00€

National Funds 268.698,00€

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Learn more or Participate

fireflyproject.eu

Interreg



Co-funded by
the European Union

FIREFLY

IPA Greece – North Macedonia



Joint Cross Border innovative
forest fires
protection and prevention

FireFly project aims to prevent and manage cross-border forest fires by strengthening **early detection and rapid response** across over 250,000 hectares of high-risk forest and NATURA areas in in Central Macedonia and Pelagonija.

By reducing the frequency, duration and impact of forest fires, **the project contributes to the protection of ecosystems, infrastructure, property and human lives.**

The project's activities are concentrated in Central Macedonia in Greece (Thessaloniki and Serres) and the regions of Pelagonija, Vardarski, Jugozapaden and Jugoistocen in North Macedonia.



Mission & Objectives

FireFly is a two-year initiative dedicated to preventing and managing the growing threat of forest fires in the region, through:

1. Establishment of a **cross-border cooperation protocol** for prevention and response
2. Acquisition and utilization of **specialized firefighting equipment** and **innovative detection**
3. Coordinated **surveillance** and **joint intervention strategies**
4. **Capacity building** through training courses, workshops and pilot actions
5. **Public awareness** and community engagement initiatives

Actions & Outputs

The project combines advanced technologies, knowledge transfer and institutional cooperation to build a safer, more resilient cross-border region, while promoting environmental protection.

Innovative Equipment

- **Cyroplane aircraft** capable of operating in extreme conditions without a runway and supporting emergency missions.
- **AI Fire Detection System** using smart cameras and machine-learning algorithms for early automated detection of smoke and fire.
- **Specialized Firefighting SUV** designed for hard-to-reach emergency zones, enhancing mobility and response speed.
- **Water Tank Vehicle** high-capacity water delivery for frontline teams battling forest fires.
- **Portable Emergency Equipment** field-ready tents, beds and blankets for crisis response.
- **GIS educational PC stations and drone** for educational purposes and aerial monitoring, mapping.



Networking actions

- International **Air – Rally Competition** (Speed Target detection)
- **Study visit** to EU Protection and Rescue Centers
- **European symposium** on “Forest Fire Management and Civil Protection”
- Specialized **studies** on:
 - EU Emergency Response Plan & Protection Mechanism, Consequences of environmental disasters, National Response Plans
 - Improving ecosystem resilience – Modern forest management
 - Inventory of forest wealth and vulnerable areas