

Summary of the outcomes – Information Day for youth/students

On May 25th 2026, Varaždin County in cooperation with the Directorate for Civil Protection of the Republic of Croatia (Varaždin Regional Civil Protection Office) and First Gymnasium Varaždin organized an information day about the project “GRECALE” for school students/youth. This activity was organized as a part of Work package 1 “Establishment of ADRION Innovation Platform on Civil Protection (AIPCP)”, “Activity 1.7 Awareness Raising Activities“, Deliverable „D1.7.1. Info days.“

The information day was attended by students of the 1.F grade of First Gymnasium Varaždin, together with professors and professional associates (24 students, 2 professors from First Gymnasium Varaždin). The program began with introductory presentations by the project manager, Mr. Sc. Tomislav Jarmić, and the technical assistant on the project, Patrick Galeski. After the introductory presentations, Tomislav Jarmić presented the early warning system for floods and earthquakes and the way in which the population is warned about emergencies and disasters in the Republic of Croatia.

To end the information day, Nedeljko Kučej (Head of the Varaždin Regional Civil Protection Office, the Directorate for Civil Protection of the Republic of Croatia) presented on how citizens should act/ behave during emergency situations, with emphasis on floods and earthquakes. Since Varaždin County plans to develop new communication methods and tools aimed at improving response and recovery in the civil protection system, the content of the presentations was tailored to these key threats.

As a result of the Information Day, Varaždin County, as one of the project partners, presented the GRECALE project to the general public, providing access to information and guidelines that contribute to a more effective response to disaster risks in the community.

In total, there were 30 participants at the event

The supporting materials include:

- Photos and presentations from the event
- The participant list (only adults were included on the list as it is forbidden to collect the personal data of students)
- Press releases (in Croatian and English)

Photos from the activity



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The GRECALE project ("emerGency communication enhancement for RESilienCe to nAtural risks and recovery from disastErs") is co-financed by the European Union through the Interreg VI-B - Interreg IPA Adriatic-Ionian Programme. The purpose of the Information Day was to present to young people the advantages of the GRECALE project, the way the civil protection system in Croatia functions, as well as the correct behavior in emergency situations and natural disasters.

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The GRECALE project started on July 1st 2024 and will run until June 30th 2027 (36 months). The total project budget is EUR 1,489,987.10, of which 85% (EUR 1,266,489.03) is financed by the EU INTERREG programme. The project focuses on two key natural disaster risks – floods and earthquakes – that have potential cross-border and multinational consequences.

The project aims to strengthen territorial resilience and recovery capacities from major accidents and disasters in the Adriatic-Ionian region, with a particular focus on these risks. GRECALE aims to improve the security and resilience of the region through transnational cooperation, contributing to a coordinated and more efficient civil protection system during all phases, in particular during disaster response and recovery. To achieve this, business process models of the civil protection systems of the partner countries will be developed in order to compare their activities during the response and recovery phases. Also, a web platform for partner networking will be established, which will enable communication and exchange of data on the activities undertaken and the stakeholders involved in the civil protection system.

The lead partner of the project is the Region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace (REMTH) from Greece. Varaždin County is one of eight project partners coming from six European countries: Greece, Italy, Croatia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina and North Macedonia.

For more information on GRECALE, please visit the project webpage: <https://grecale.interreg-ipa-adrion.eu/> (“IPA ADRION” website)

Disclaimer: “*This has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The content of the press release is the sole responsibility of PP5 – Varaždinska županija and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union and/or IPA ADRION programme authorities.*”