



The education on landslides through the "BE-SAFE-NET" web-portal on Disaster Awareness.

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The website on Disaster Awareness with the use of the internet “BE-SAFE-NET” is developed within the framework of the FORM-OSE programme (European Training Programme for South, East and West) of the EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement, hosted by the European Centre for Disaster Awareness with the use of the internet (BE-SAFE-NET, Nicosia, Cyprus).

The website is dedicated for school actors (school-level children, teachers, administrative and technical staff, families and local authorities) in order to:

- Inform on regulations, on tools for raising awareness for natural and man-made risks and on preventative measures;
- Train children, teachers, administrative and technical staff and local authorities;
- Produce interactive figures, photographs, videos and games;
- Interact with newsgroups and electronic conferences.

Together with the EUR-OPA Centre of Nicosia, the project associates several centres of the Major Hazards Agreement network: the European University for the Cultural Heritage (CUEBC) of Ravello (Italy) the European Centre for Risk Prevention (ECRP) of Sofia (Bulgaria), and the European Centre on Geomorphological Hazards (CERG) of Strasbourg (France). “BE-SAFE-NET” is defined as a network among European countries in order to provide e-learning material on natural hazards and risks primarily for schools (secondary school teachers), but also for the public in general. On the webpage, teachers, pupils and the interested public should find information on disaster prevention, preparation, immediate reaction and rehabilitation.

The aim of the paper is to present the structure and the organisation of the web-portal following the pilot project focused on landslides and managed by CERG. Some examples of landslides pedagogical material are also presented.

The website is structured in five main sections: 1. About the initiative; 2. Definition of common concepts (e.g. hazard (natural and man made), vulnerability, risk, disaster); 3. Pedagogical material (e.g. case studies, photos, learning exercises); 4. Protect yourself; 5. Discussion forum.

Based on the experience gained in preparing the landslide pedagogical documents, a clear guidelines for preparing material related to other risks (seismic, floods, snow avalanches, etc, ...) will be helpful for the ultimate goal of the website that is to provide information and material for secondary school teachers in order to prepare associated curricula (and consequently avoiding University grade documents). The proposed scheme for the X specific risk (X is an example of threat) is:

1. What is X?
2. What are the types of X?
3. Why do X occur?
4. Where do X occur, and what were the largest X in the World and in Europe?
5. What could be the consequences of X in terms of human, socio-economic and environmental loss?
6. Can the causes of X be influenced by human behaviour?

8. Can X be predicted?
9. Is there any option to prevent X?
10. Is there any option to mitigate the consequences of X?
11. What to do in case of X?
12. What type of maps on X exists? What is their use? Does the public have access to these maps and from where?

For the 12 questions, the contributors were requested to propose a maximum of 20 lines on the main page (so called “first level”) and links to specific page (so called “second level”) with additional and more detailed information. They were also required to provide for every question additional available material, such as the description of pedagogic case studies, examples of lessons learnt, learning exercises, relevant images, videos and web links).

The website is still in progress for further natural and man-made hazards. The landslide pilot section is now nearly complete.