

PRESS RELEASE

Successful Organization of the 2-Days Pilot Event of the HELP project, by the Hellenic Ministry of Interior (Sector Macedonia-Thrace) in Kastanoussa, Municipality of Sintiki, Serres

The 2-days Pilot Event, held in the framework of the HELP project, was successfully concluded in the area of Kastanoussa, Serres, on Saturday, 4th September 2021.

The HELP project is co-funded by the European Union and by National Funds of the countries participating in the Interreg IPA CBC Programme “Greece –Republic of North Macedonia 2014-2020” and is implemented by the International Hellenic University, The Hellenic Ministry of Interior (Sector Macedonia-Thrace), the Center for Development of the South - East Region, the Hellenic Rescue Team and the Crisis Management Center-CMC. In general, the HELP project aims to improve the operational efficiency of public administration and public services in natural disaster management.

According to the scenario of the 2-days cross-border field exercise (pilot event), a forest fire broken out in Strumnitsa, has spread to Greece. At the same time the Greek side, apart from the possible expansion of the fire, receives information about three missing hikers. The Hellenic Rescue Team immediately sends a team to assess the situation, inform about the fire expansion and discover the three missing hikers.

During the pilot event, the 2 containers of the HELP project, that is the Command Center Container-C4i (used to support telecommunications and rescuers management in the field) **and** the Medical Treatment Container-MED (used to provide pre-hospital care to the injured), were tested in real life situation for the first time.

Apart from the 2 containers which are fully equipped with the necessary means for the provision of humanitarian assistance and for crisis management & response, there are also 2 inflatable tents for the sorting and treatment of injured people, one of which was used, during the pilot event for the treatment of the three missing hikers.

The Pilot Event was successfully conducted by the Greek Partners of the HELP project in the area of Kastanoussa, Serres, on Friday, 3rd September and on Saturday, 4th September, 2021.

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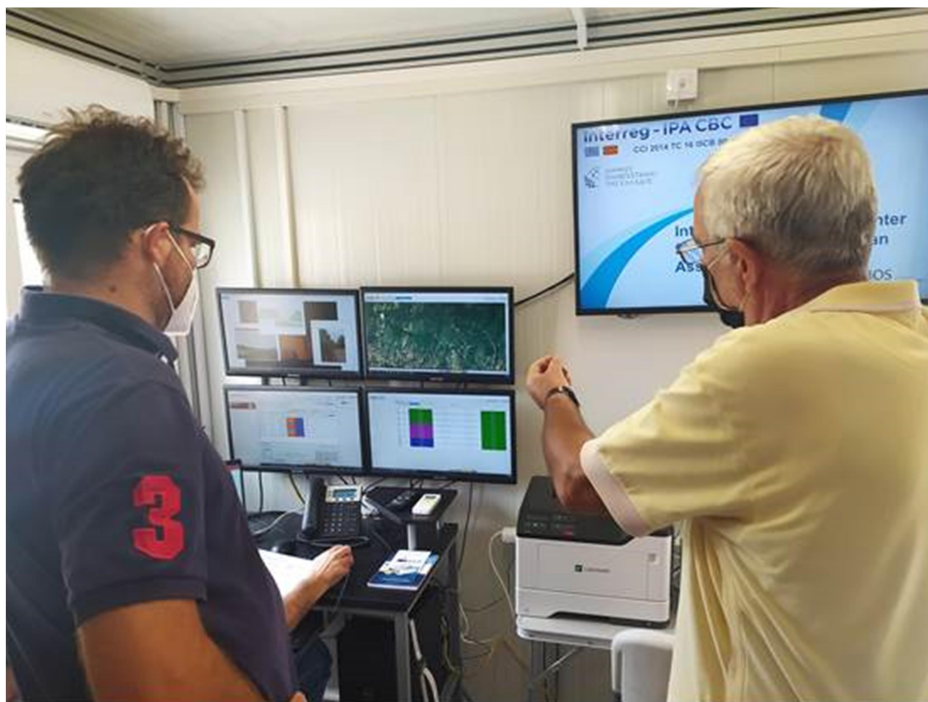
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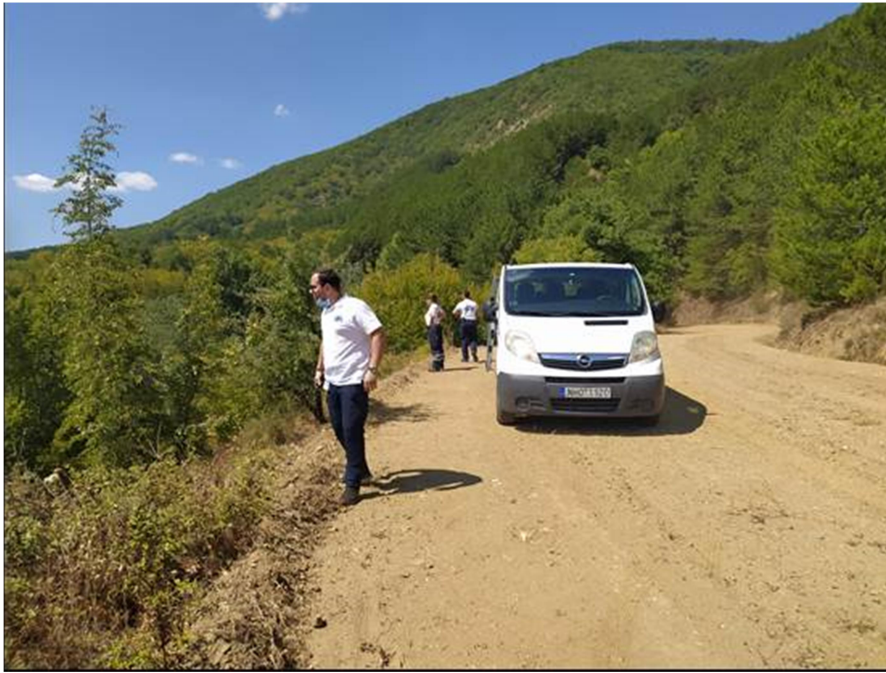
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