

GFMC Tool 4 – Global Wildland Fire Early Warning System and global portal for national and regional wildland fire early warning

Brief description of the tool: Wildland fires have serious negative impacts on human safety, health, regional economies and global climate change. To mitigate these fire-related problems, forest and land management agencies, as well as land owners and communities, require an early warning system to identify critical time periods of extreme fire danger in advance of their occurrence. Early warning of these conditions with high spatial and temporal resolution incorporating measures of uncertainty and the likelihood of extreme conditions allow fire managers to implement fire prevention, detection and pre-suppression plans before fire problems begin. It is crucial that international wildland fire early warning systems are provided and used to complement relevant national fire danger warning systems or to provide early warning where national systems do not exist, and to enhance warnings applied or generated at the local (community) level. The fire danger indicators currently presented on the Global Wildland Fire Early Warning System (Global Fire EWS) are components of the Canadian Forest Fire Weather Index (FWI) System. The Global EWS provides 1-10 day forecasted FWI System data. The global early warning system is accessible through the web portal of the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC). Access to a range of national and regional fire danger rating systems are also provided.

Target audience: Decision makers in all countries and international organizations.

Which category does the tool falls in? (can choose more than one):

- Collection and use of information on climate change
- Risk and vulnerability assessment
- Research, models and mapping
- Socio-economic and livelihood assessment
- Project planning
- Project monitoring and evaluation
- Economic evaluations
- Capacity building and Education
- Policy and decision-making
- Participatory approach
- Gender inclusiveness
- Other: Wildfire emergency preparedness and response

Links/websites: Global Wildland Fire Early Warning System:

<http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/gwfews/index.html>

GFMC Wildland Fire Early Warning Portal: <http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/fwf/fwf.htm>

At which scale can this tool be applied?

- Global
- National
- Regional
- Local/Community level
- Other: --

Level of effort from 1-5 needed to use the tool (1=least demanding and 5=very demanding)

1 2 3 4 5

Is the tool open-source or do fee apply? Open source, no fees

Key contact: GFMC operations fire@fire.uni-freiburg.de