

GFMC Tool 6 – Establishment and services of Regional Fire Management Resource Centers

Brief description of the tool: In many countries the awareness of the magnitude of the role of vegetation fires (e.g., fire occurrence / impacts, fire management options, importance of the role of civil society in the management of fire, sound / benign fire application; avoidance of unnecessary or detrimental burning practices; prevention of wildfires; self-defence / local management including suppression at local level) is only marginally developed, or not at all. Consequently these countries may have difficulties to meet international obligations or commitments (e.g., legally binding conventions like UNFCCC or voluntary frameworks like the Sendai Framework) with regards to sustainable / integrated fire management and wildfire disaster risk reduction. The lack of human, technical and financial resources in many countries calls for sharing expertise across borders especially where similar eco-zones, climate or socio-cultural conditions exist. Regional networking, involving cross-boundary dialogue, informal cooperation, voluntary non-binding agreements and legally binding bilateral agreements, create synergies, trust, confidence and effectiveness and efficiency of sharing expertise. Regional centers of excellence are designed to support the countries in the region at the science-policy interface, capacity building and advisory support. The centers are serving as secretariats of the Regional Wildland Fire Networks and actively support the regional cooperation in fire management.

Target audience: National agencies, NGOs, secretariats of regional agreements

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: Inter-agency coordination and civil society inclusion

Link/website: Example of three centers: **(1) SE Europe/Caucasus:** <http://www.rfmc.mk/>

(2) Eastern Europe: <http://nubip.edu.ua/en/reefmc>

(3) Central Asia (provisional):

<http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/GlobalNetworks/CentralAsia/rcafmc.html>

At which scale can this tool be applied?

- Global
- National
- Regional
- Local/Community level
- Other: The centers are focusing on research specific to the region (climate, ecozones, socio-cultural conditions, political conditions)

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, but costs for training courses etc.

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