

FPCUP Copernicus transfer of knowledge and expertise activities on natural disasters (Floods and Fires)

08-09 July 2025 | 10:00-15:30

Sheraton Grand Tbilisi Metechi Palace, Georgia

Registrations



<https://forms.gle/qu1mXLDtrsRbz8f87>

The Copernicus Transfer of Knowledge and Expertise Activities on Natural Disasters are being organized by the Operational Unit "BEYOND Centre of Earth Observation Research and Satellite Remote Sensing" of the National Observatory of Athens (NOA), in collaboration with the PRAXI Network/FORTH. The two-day event will take place in Tbilisi, Georgia, on July 8–9, 2025, and is being held with the support of the Georgian National Environmental Agency. The aim of these activities is to address the significant challenges posed by natural disasters in the region, while introducing the Copernicus services that support monitoring and provide critical information on floods and wildfires.

The event in Georgia will build upon NOA's extensive experience in Earth Observation (EO) for monitoring natural disasters. The FloodHUB and FireHUB services, developed by the BEYOND Center, will be the main focus of the training sessions presented on the first day of the event. On the second day, participants will engage in hands-on sessions to gain practical experience with various Copernicus monitoring platforms. These sessions aim to enhance participants' understanding and capacity in using EO tools for disaster preparedness and response. The event is intended to engage public authorities, SMEs, and the academic sector.

'Copernicus' is the European Union's Earth observation programme, looking at our planet and its environment to benefit all European citizens. It offers information services that draw from satellite Earth Observation and in-situ (non-space) data. European citizens, ranging from policy makers, researchers, commercial to private users, as well as the global scientific community can benefit in many ways from the data and information provided by Copernicus. Indeed, Copernicus supports a variety of applications in several non-space domains, which potentially impact businesses and organisations in day-to-day activities and operations.

The event is being organized in the framework of the [FPCUP](#) (Caroline Herschel Framework Partnership Agreement on Copernicus User Uptake).

Agenda (1st Day)

10.00 - 10.15	Registrations
10.15 - 10.30	Opening Remarks <p>Elene Ghubianuri, Head of the Georgian National Environmental Agency</p>
10.30 - 10.45	BEYOND Centre of Excellence: research and innovative services for Civil Sector Resilience <p>Haris Kontoes, Research Director, Operational Unit BEYOND/IAASARS/NOA</p>
10.45 - 11.00	The FPCUP project: Objectives and Actions <p>Dimitra Tsoutsou, PRAXI Network / FORTH</p>
11.00 - 11.15	Emergency Management Systems in Georgia <p>Temur Melkadze, Georgian Emergency Management Service</p>
11.15 - 11.30	Copernicus European & Global Flood Awareness System (EFAS & GLOFAS) and European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS) and data access <p>Elena Nikolaeva, Geophysics expert</p>
11.30 - 12.00	Coffee Break
1st Thematic: Copernicus-based Tools for Flood services in Greece and Georgia	
12.00 - 12.15	The FloodHub services for floods: near-real-time monitoring, early warning, mapping and flood risk assessment in Greece <p>Alexia Tsouni, Research Associate, Operational Unit BEYOND/IAASARS/NOA</p>

12.15 - 12.30	The Development of Nationwide Flood Forecasting and Early Warning Systems in Georgia Soso Kinkladze, Georgian National Environmental Agency
12.30 - 12.45	Questions
2nd Thematic: Copernicus-based Tools for Forest Fires services in Greece and Georgia	
12.45 - 13.00	The FireHub services for forest fires: near-real-time monitoring, smoke dispersion, burnt scar mapping and daily fire risk forecast in Greece Martha Kokkalidou, Research Associate, Operational Unit BEYOND/IAASARS/NOA
13.00 - 13.15	Forest fires in Georgia Giorgi Tkhelidze, Georgian Forestry Agency
13.15 - 13.30	Questions
13.30 - 14.30	Lunch Break
14.30 - 15.30	Open table discussions: focusing mainly on questions that Public Agencies may request from the Copernicus experts

Agenda (2nd Day)

Hands-on sessions for participants to gain practical experience with various Copernicus monitoring platforms for floods and fire monitoring. The participants should bring their own laptops.