

**4PLUS**  
civil protection for all



**INTERREG IPA II CROSS-BORDER  
COOPERATION PROGRAMME  
"GREECE – ALBANIA 2014 – 2020"**

**Public awareness, Preparedness,  
Participation and Coordination  
for Civil Protection for All**

An introduction to the Project

Project co-funded by the European Union and by National Funds of the countries participating in the Interreg IPA II Cross-Border Cooperation Programme "Greece-Albania 2014-2020"



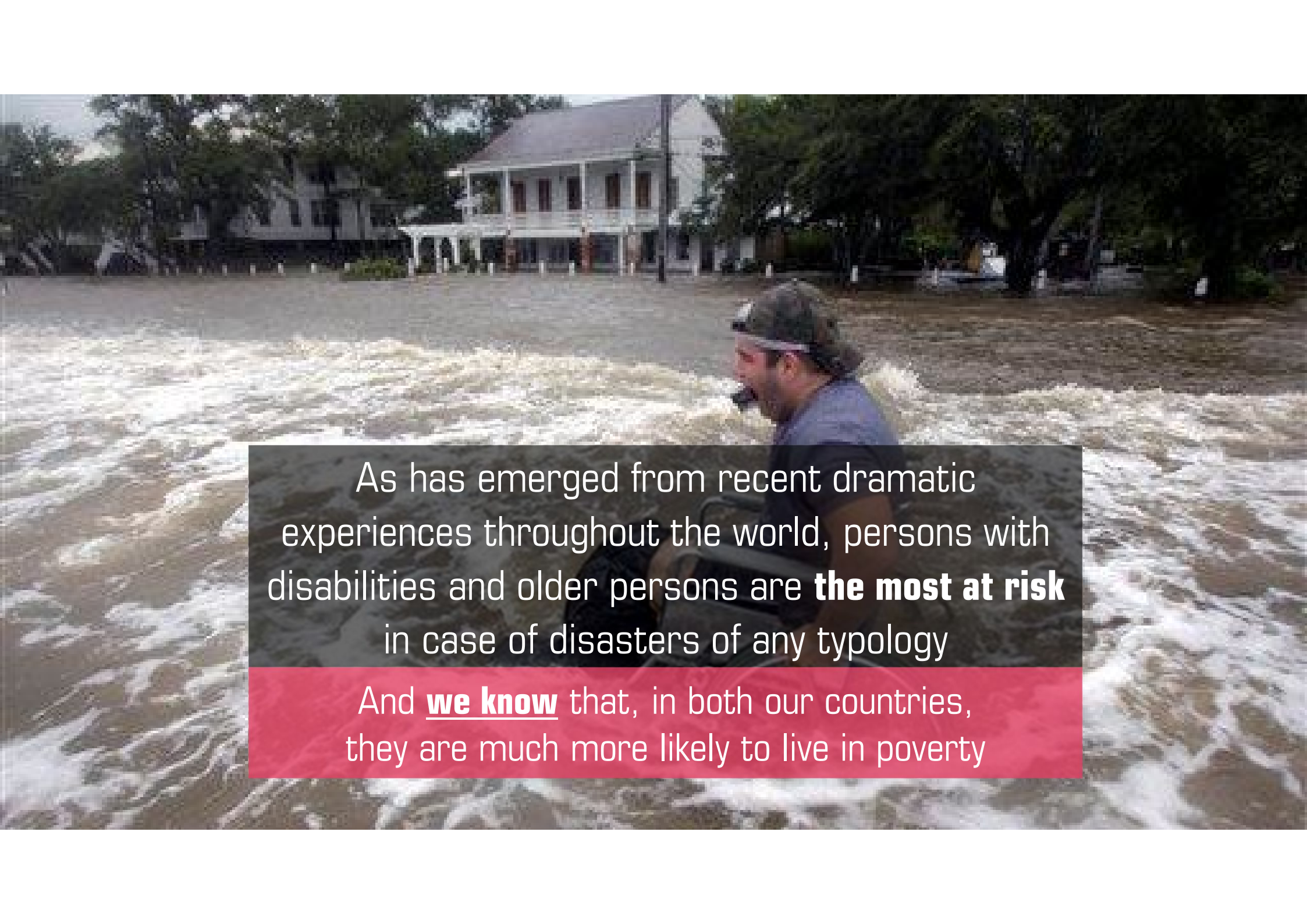
**4PLUS**

a common issue, a shared vision



Why are disaster preparedness and emergency response systems typically designed for **“average people”**?

What if someone cannot walk, run, drive, see, hear or/and quickly responding to instructions?

A photograph showing a man in a wheelchair navigating a flooded street. The water is turbulent and brown. In the background, there are houses and trees. The man is wearing a dark shirt and a cap, and is looking forward. The text is overlaid on the image.

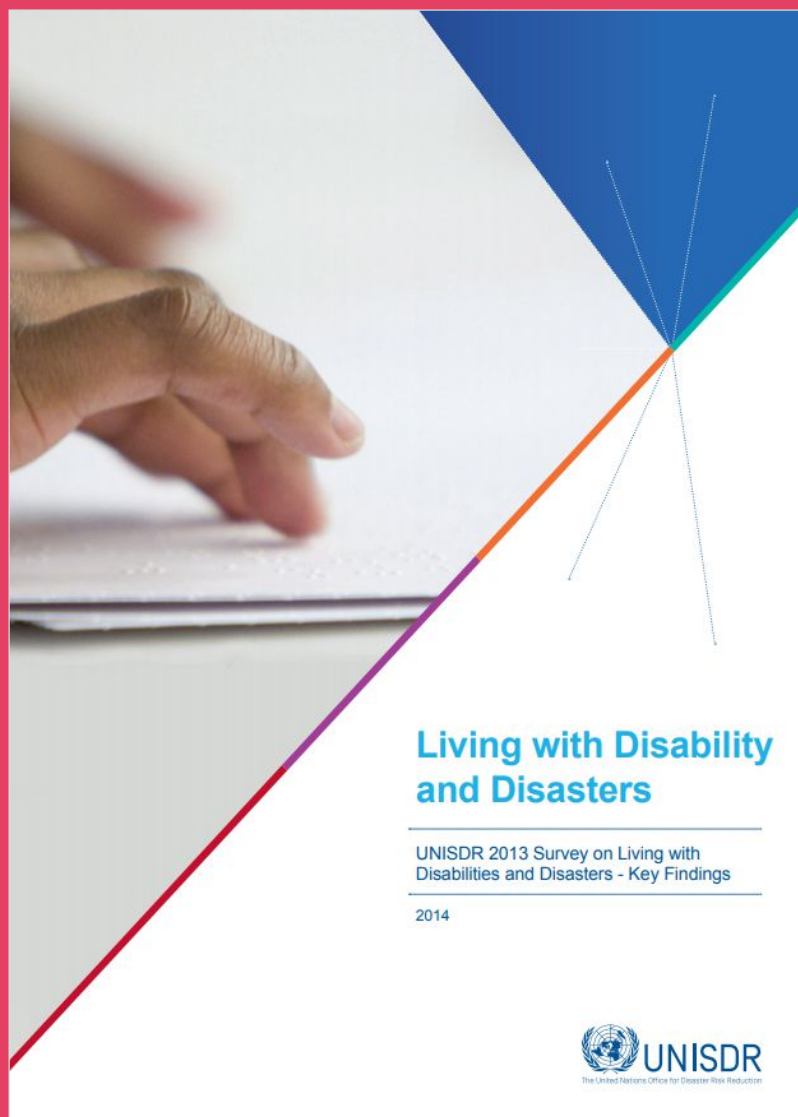
As has emerged from recent dramatic experiences throughout the world, persons with disabilities and older persons are **the most at risk** in case of disasters of any typology

And **we know** that, in both our countries, they are much more likely to live in poverty



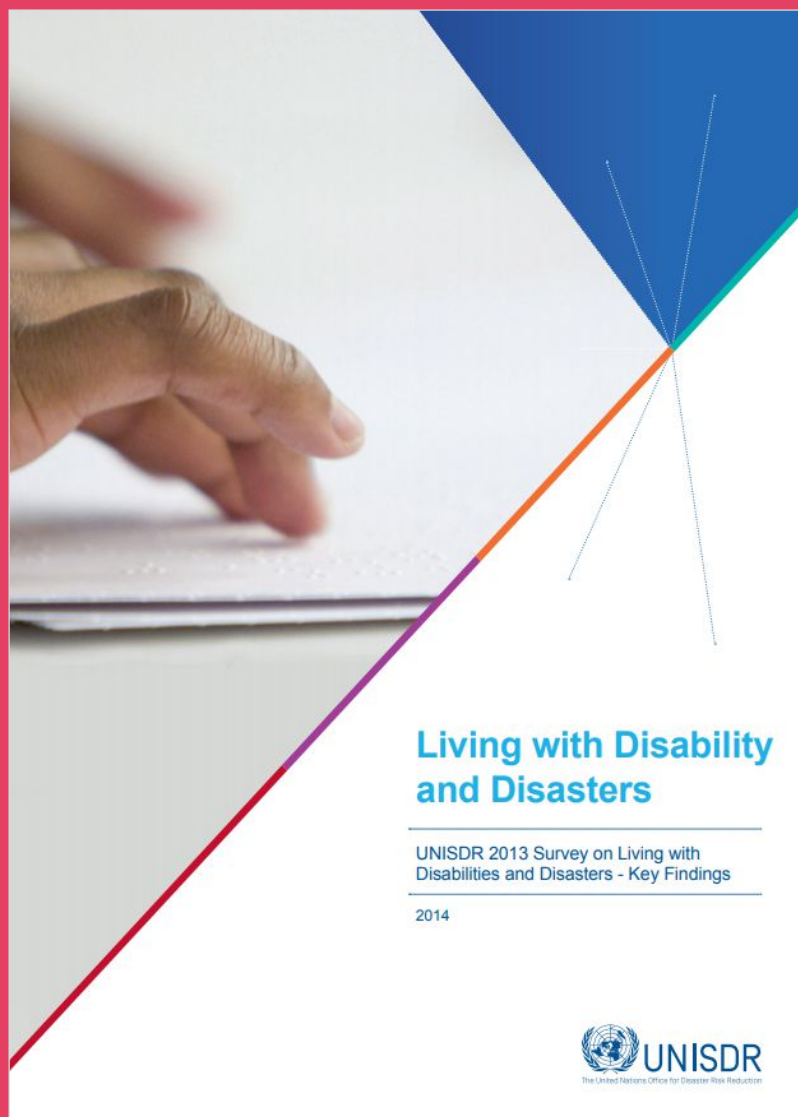
Until today, the needs for information and support of such groups **are not** recorded, studied nor addressed by civil protection plans

Therefore, these citizens and such visitors are left completely **exposed to multiple hazards**



The results of the first-ever **UN global survey of persons living with disabilities** on how they cope with disasters (UNISDR 2013, Survey on Living with Disabilities and Disasters), illustrates why they die, or are injured, in disproportionate numbers in disasters.

Perhaps the most significant finding in the survey is that **85.57%** of the respondents from 137 countries state that they have not participated in community disaster management and risk reduction processes currently in place in their communities. In effect, they have been excluded from the decision making and planning of such processes.



**72.20%** of respondents say that they do not have a personal preparedness plan in the event of a disaster. Of the 29.29% of PWDs who do have a personal disaster preparedness plan, the most important stated element of that plan is support from family.

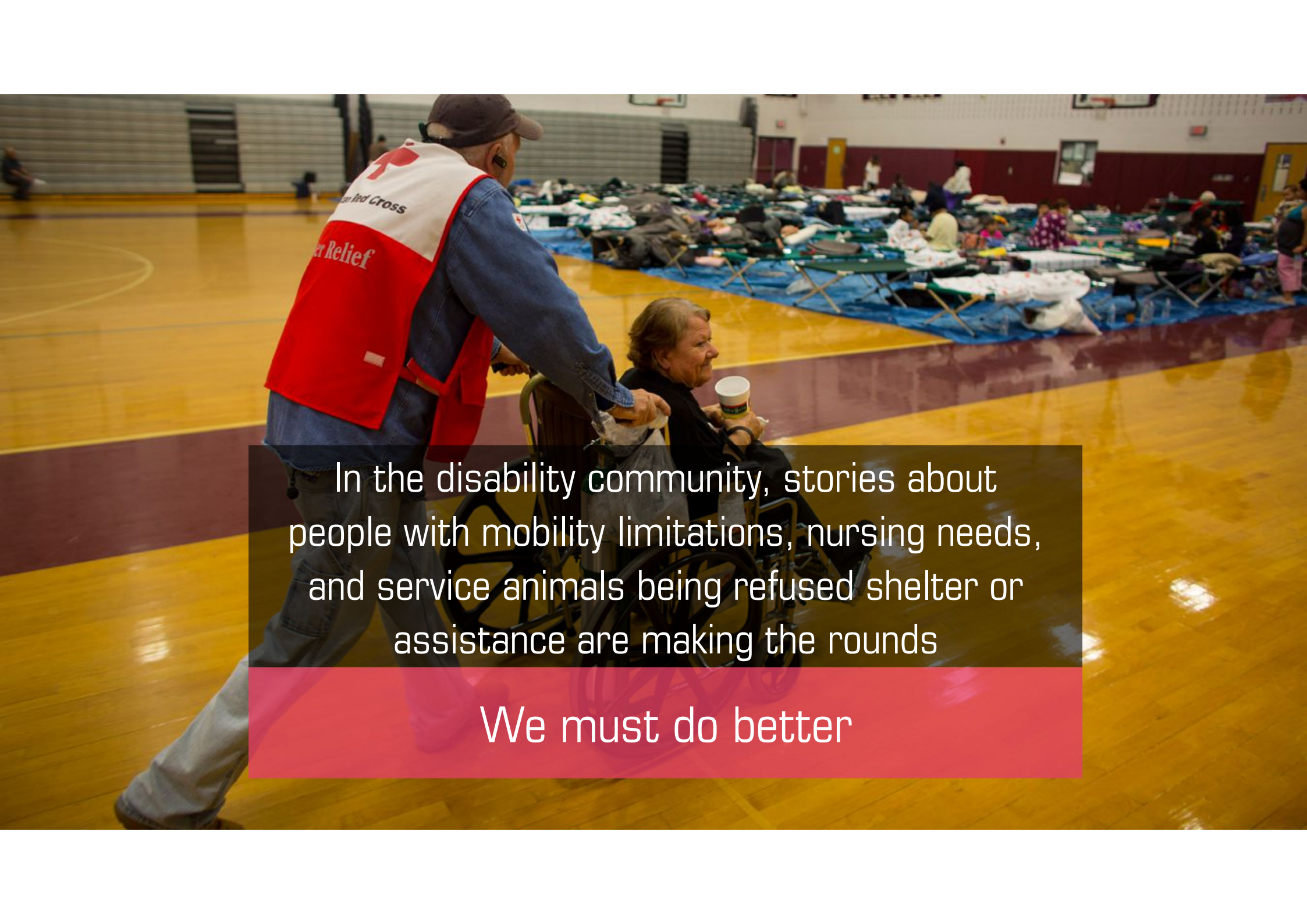
Respondents also cite the creation of a national/community register of those who may need assistance in an emergency and with other key data on PWDs which shall be updated each year so that authorities are aware of persons with acute vulnerabilities. In concert with this, respondents stress training for all emergency workers in augmentative and alternative communication skills.



In the wake of a crisis or disaster, the notion of rights appear to **vanish** behind the reality of the immediate needs of all survivors

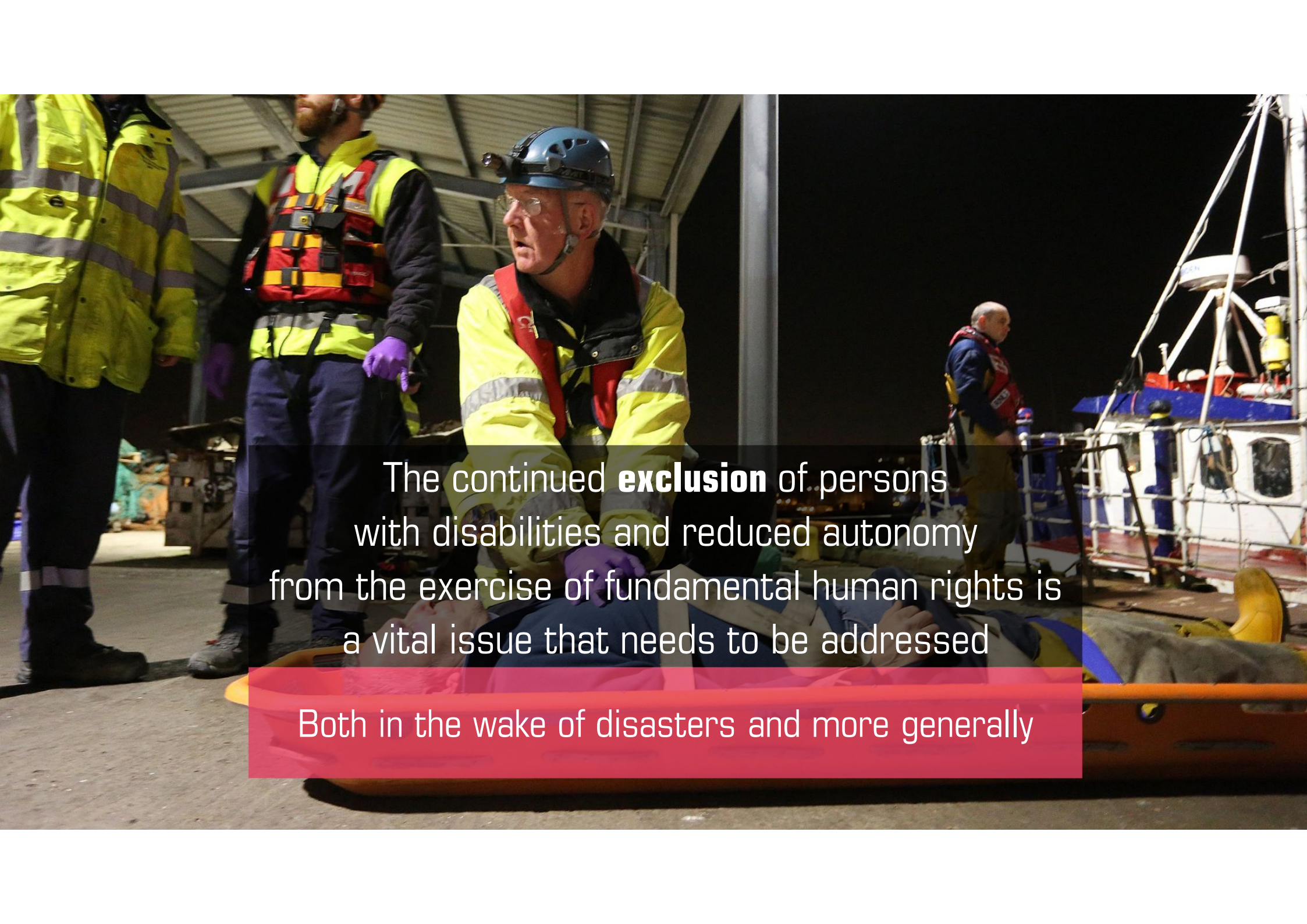
However, the issue of rights lies at the root of humanitarian emergency efforts, rights that should be **equally available to all**





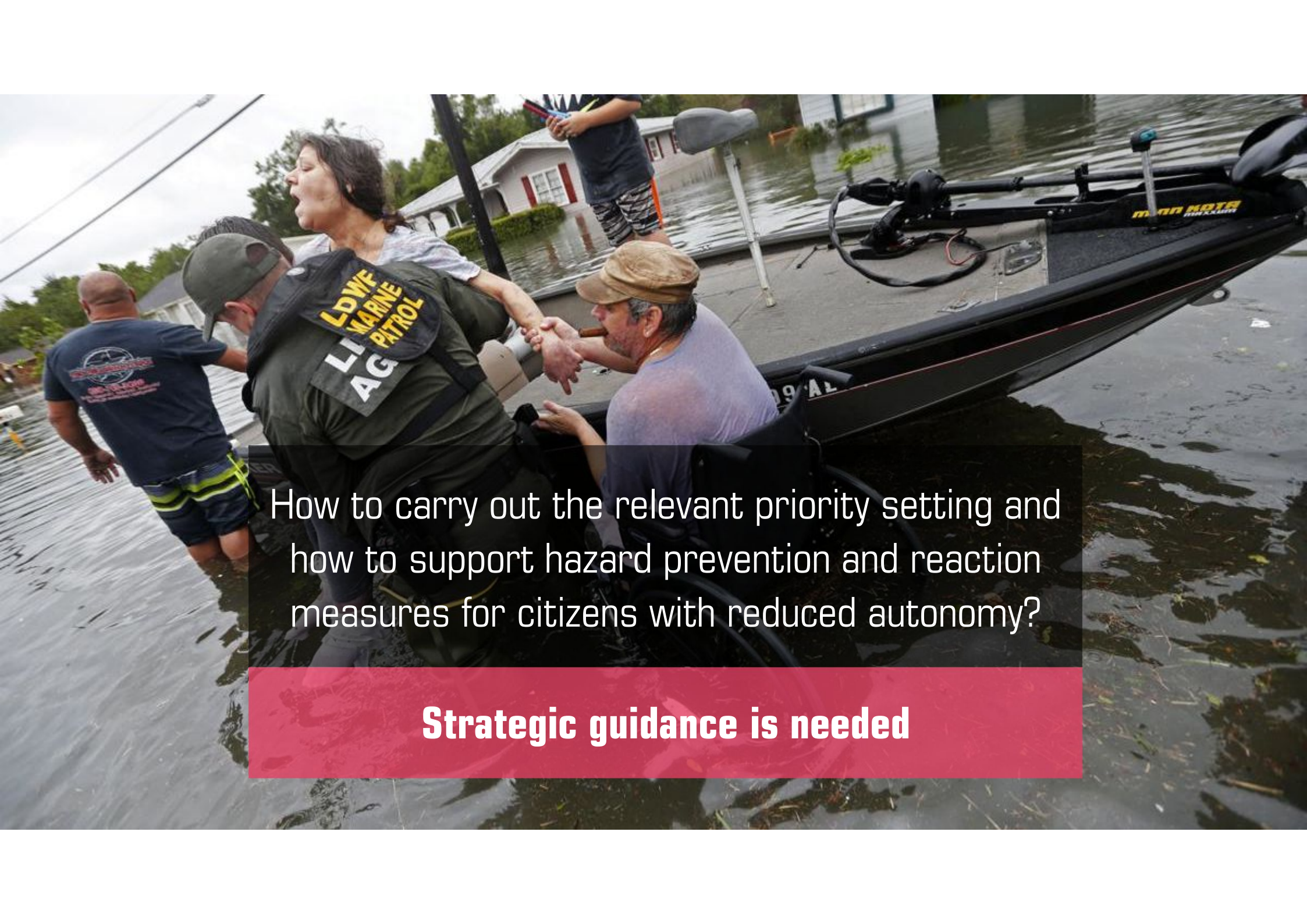
In the disability community, stories about people with mobility limitations, nursing needs, and service animals being refused shelter or assistance are making the rounds

We must do better



The continued **exclusion** of persons with disabilities and reduced autonomy from the exercise of fundamental human rights is a vital issue that needs to be addressed

Both in the wake of disasters and more generally



How to carry out the relevant priority setting and how to support hazard prevention and reaction measures for citizens with reduced autonomy?

**Strategic guidance is needed**



Let's (re-) design together  
disaster preparedness and recovery efforts  
so that they are **inclusive for all**

a common vision, a joint project

## PROJECT TITLE

Public awareness, Preparedness, Participation and Coordination for Civil Protection for All

## PROGRAMME

INTERREG IPA II Cross-Border Cooperation Programme  
Greece - Albania 2014-2020

## PRIORITY AXIS

Promotion of the environment & sustainable transport and public infrastructure

1

## THEMATIC PRIORITY

Protecting the environment & promoting climate change adaptation & mitigation, risk prevention & management

1b

## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

Improve the effectiveness of risk prevention and disaster management with a focus on forest fires

1.4

# Interreg - IPA CBC Greece - Albania 4PLUS



## Partners from Greece

National Confederation of  
Disabled People - Greece  
[www.esamea.gr](http://www.esamea.gr)



Regional Union of Municipalities of  
Ionian Islands  
[www.ped-in.gr](http://www.ped-in.gr)



Regional Association of Local Governments of  
Western Macedonia  
[www.peddm.gov.gr](http://www.peddm.gov.gr)



## Partners from Albania

Albanian Association of Municipalities  
[www.aam.org.al](http://www.aam.org.al)



Municipality of Kolonje  
[www.kolonja.gov.al](http://www.kolonja.gov.al)

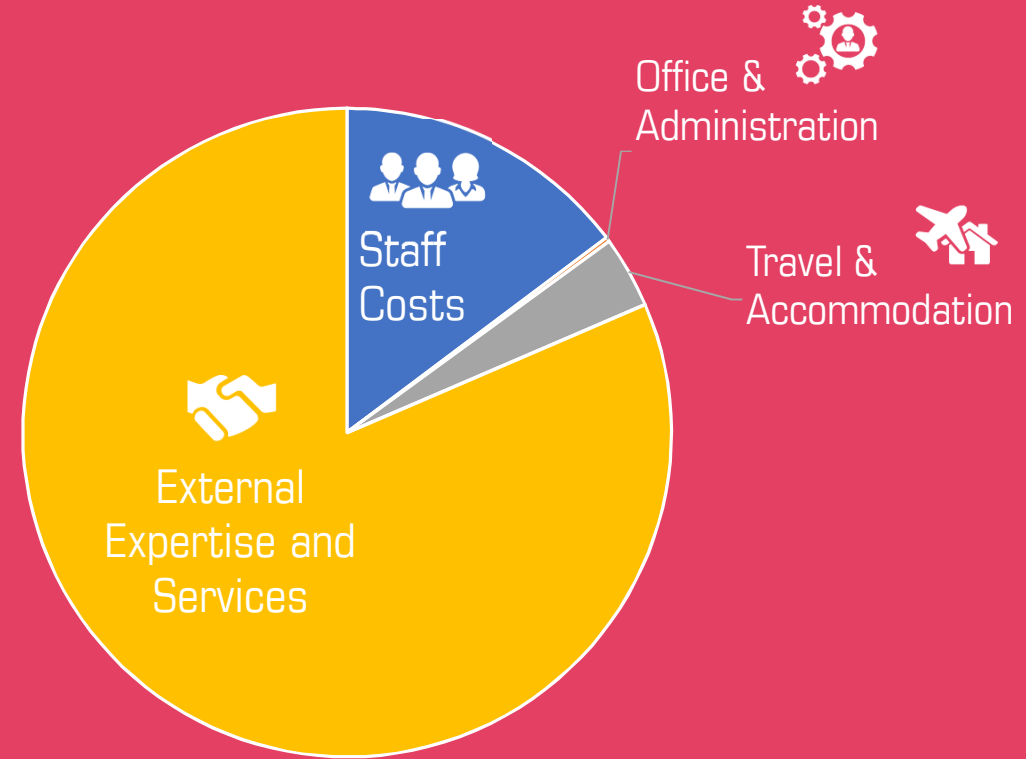


Urban Research Institute  
[www.uri.org.al](http://www.uri.org.al)





442.164,61



24 months



## Project Funding: Per partner

Project Beneficiary	Country	(1) Union support	%	(2) National Co-financing =(a) + (b)	%	National Counterpart Type		(3) Total =(1)+(2)
						(a) National Public Funding	(b) National Private Funding	
<b>LB / NCDP</b>	Greece	152.146,60 €	85	26.849,40 €	15	26.849,40 €	0,00 €	178.996,00 €
<b>PB2 / PED-IN</b>	Greece	71.971,63 €	85	12.700,88 €	15	12.700,88 €	0,00 €	84.672,50 €
<b>PB3 / PED DM</b>	Greece	44.188,95 €	85	7.798,05 €	15	7.798,05 €	0,00 €	51.987,00 €
<b>PB4 / AAM</b>	Albania	31.295,47 €	85	5.522,73 €	15	0,00 €	5.522,73 €	36.818,20 €
<b>PB5 / KOLONJE</b>	Albania	39.987,49 €	85	7.056,62 €	15	0,00 €	7.056,62 €	47.044,11 €
<b>PB6 / URI</b>	Albania	36.249,78 €	85	6.397,02 €	15	0,00 €	6.397,02 €	42.646,80 €
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>375.839,92 €</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>66.324,69 €</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>47.348,33 €</b>	<b>18.976,37 €</b>	<b>442.164,61 €</b>

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				(a) National Public Funding	(b) National Private Funding	
Albania	IPA II	107.532,74 €	18.976,37 €	0,00 €	18.976,37 €	126.509,11 €
Greece	IPA II	268.307,18 €	47.348,33 €	47.348,33 €	0,00 €	315.655,50 €
<b>Total</b>		<b>375.839,92 €</b>	<b>66.324,69 €</b>	<b>47.348,33 €</b>	<b>18.976,37 €</b>	<b>442.164,61 €</b>



## Project Funding: Per WP and budget line

	Staff Costs	Office and Administration	Travel and Accommodation	External Expertise and Services	Equipment
<b>Project Management &amp; Coordination (WP 1)</b>	17.795,11 €	589,50 €	6.208,40 €	23.277,00 €	47.870,01 €
<b>Communication &amp; Dissemination (WP 2)</b>	13.706,00 €	225,00 €	2.759,00 €	33.980,00 €	50.670,00 €
<b>Common Approach &amp; Capacity Building (WP 3)</b>	24.342,50 €	125,00 €	136,00 €	150.325,00 €	174.928,50 €
<b>Cross-Border Technology &amp; Tools (WP 4)</b>				83.500,00 €	83.500,00 €
<b>Pilot Local Interventions (WP 5)</b>	8.714,00 €			41.210,00 €	49.924,00 €
<b>Pilot Capitalization &amp; Outreach (WP 6)</b>	620,00 €	47,50 €	6.714,60 €	27.890,00 €	35.272,10 €
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>65.177,61 €</b>	<b>987,00 €</b>	<b>15.818,00 €</b>	<b>360.182,00 €</b>	<b>442.164,61 €</b>

## A few words about the Programme

### Interreg - IPA CBC Greece - Albania

- ▶ Approved by the European Commission on 30/07/2015 by Decision C (2015) 5482
- ▶ The latest modification was approved on 14/02/2018 by Decision C (2018) 559
- ▶ Total budget over €54M (85% ERDF funding and 15% national contribution)

### Overall Strategy

To find the balance between sustainable regional development and enhancement of cross-border cooperation among local population and regional institutions, in accordance with EU and national policies, in order to address common challenges through joint interventions.

## A few words about the Programme

### Interreg - IPA CBC Greece - Albania



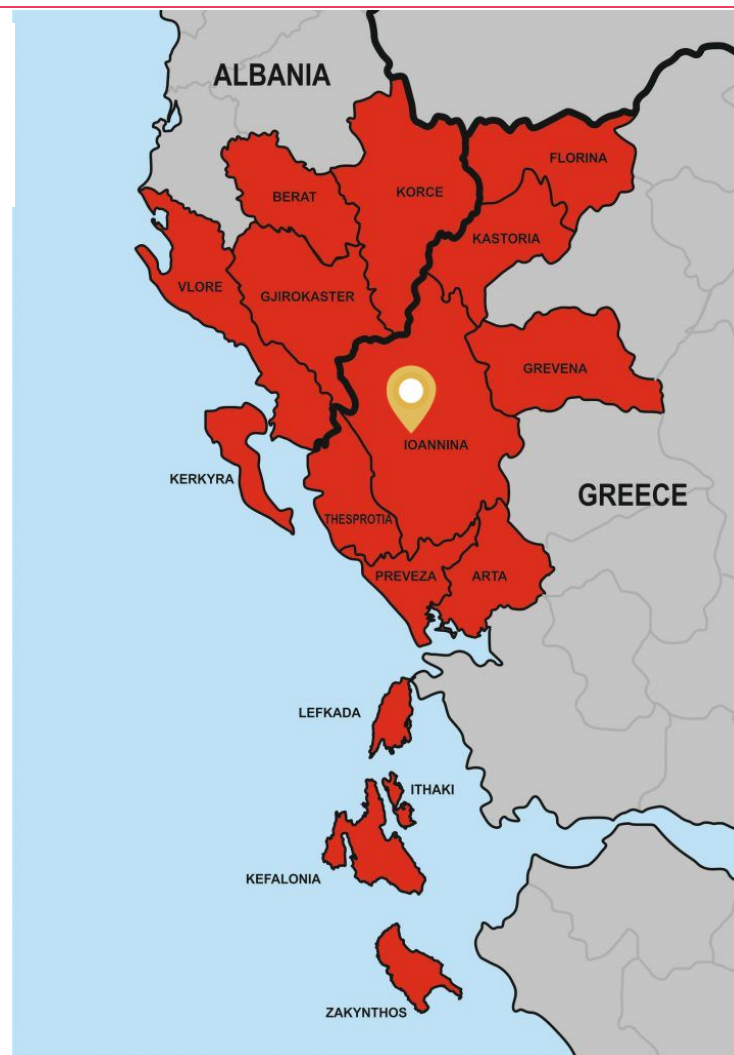
The eligible cross-border area spreads from the Ionian Sea to the Prespa Lakes



The Regional Units of Grevena, Kastoria, Florina, Arta, Thesprotia, Ioannina, Preveza, Zakynthos, Corfu, Kefallinia and Lefkada



The Regions of Vlorë, Gjirokastër, Korçë and Berat



## Location of 4PLUS Beneficiaries

### Interreg - IPA CBC Greece - Albania 4PLUS



#### Full geographic coverage, high policy influence

- 1 national civil society organisation (NCDP)
- 3 regional associations of local authorities (PED-IN, PED DM, AAM)
- 1 Municipality (KOLONJE)
- 1 R&D institute (URI)



## A few words about the Programme

**Interreg - IPA CBC**   
Greece - Albania

### PRIORITY AXES

1. Promotion of the environment, sustainable transport and public infrastructure
2. Boosting the local economy
3. Technical Assistance

### Thematic Priority

(b) Protecting the environment and promoting climate change adaptation and mitigation, risk prevention and management

### Specific Objective

1.4 Improve the effectiveness of risk prevention and disaster management with a focus on forest fires

Budget allocated in the 2nd Call  
741.176,00 €

## A few words about the Programme

**Interreg - IPA CBC**   
Greece - Albania

### Aims of S01.4

- ▶ To improve cross border preparedness for effective management of natural disasters
- ▶ To coordinate decision making tools and early warning systems [More efficient tools and systems]
- ▶ To reduce of damages from forest fires [flooding, and other risks]
- ▶ To improve Civil Protection – Better Informed Public

**Two types of actions are promoted to contribute to the Specific Objective:**

- hard investments in equipment, systems, etc., and**
- soft interventions**

# A few words about the Programme

**Interreg - IPA CBC**   
Greece - Albania

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## Indicative actions

Investments for increasing disaster resilience/institutional capacity (equipment, vehicles, small infrastructure, etc.)

Joint early warning and disaster management systems (including interventions for risk preventions in natural and cultural heritage sites)

Small scale construction works for risk prevention and response to natural hazards and the consequences of climate change

# A few words about the Programme

**Interreg - IPA CBC**   
Greece - Albania

## Aims of S01.4

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- ▶ To improve Civil Protection – Better Informed Public

## Indicative actions

Joint public awareness initiatives related to natural and man-made disaster management (civil protection) covering all public groups (including vulnerable groups, such as Persons with Disabilities)

Joint activities for improving the planning, cooperation and response capacity for disaster management (e.g. common civil protection plans, climate adaptation plans, etc) covering all public groups (including vulnerable groups such as Persons with Disabilities, and/or ethnic or other types of minorities)



Following the provisions of Article 11 of the **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** (UNCRPD), and relevant European Regulations

And, as both countries and especially communities at risk cannot afford to develop separate plans, resources and systems for **promoting an all-hazard, all-inclusive approach**

### **4Plus aims at**

improving cross border preparedness for effective prevention and management of disasters for persons with reduced autonomy

including for seniors and persons with disabilities, irrespectively of sex and nature and origin of their disabilities or chronic conditions

## Understanding “Risk”

“Risk is a function of the hazards to which a community is exposed and the vulnerabilities of that community. However, that risk is modified by the level of the local preparedness of the community at risk”

(WHO, 2007)

In other words, risk is proportional to:

$$\frac{\textit{Hazard} \times \textit{Vulnerability}}{\textit{Level of Preparedness}}$$

In these terms, risk reduction involves measures designed:

- ▶ **to prevent hazards**  
(e.g., man-made hazards)
- ▶ **to reduce vulnerability**  
(e.g., mitigation works, pre-impact relocation of vulnerable populations)
- ▶ **to improve emergency preparedness**  
(e.g., development of emergency plans, training of personnel at all levels and in all sectors, education of communities at risk)

## Focus

4PLUS will focus mainly on natural and technological disasters in the crosscutting area of environment and civil protection

Such as (forest) fires, floods, heat or cold waves, earthquakes, strong winds (e.g., swimmers safety), transport of African dust and other allergens, specific pollution incidents, etc.

Public health emergencies or acts of terrorism will not be addressed

# WHY “4” PLUS?

## Planning level

The goal is to identify and localize the needs and challenges in the area. To record necessary infrastructure and services needed to assist in the best way the above groups during each event of natural or technological crisis and disaster. To promote the development of inclusive operational plans based on real and updated data.

## Prevention and preparedness level

The goal is to organize residents' campaigns in accessible formats for civil protection actions. To improve the capacity of all parties potentially involved in crisis and disaster prevention and management. To develop a relationship of trust between citizens and the authorities.

## Response level

The goal is to organize and implement -as pilot actions- emergency preparedness and relief exercises concerning persons with disabilities/older persons, in order to response successfully in operations and functions that implemented in each phase of the Civil Protection mobilization system.

## Rehabilitation level

The goal is to coordinate exercises of the intervention teams, in order to record and repair the damage and to record long-term needs and assistance to those affected.

Because action is foreseen in all **four levels of civil protection**

# Main objectives derived

To advocate, throughout the CB area, the importance of inclusive risk reduction, i.e., of reducing vulnerability and increasing preparedness for emergency management for all, especially for persons with reduced autonomy and mobility

Obj.1

To improve, through sound technical assistance, the knowledge and skills of the local authorities and local communities in preparing for and responding to hazards, without excluding persons with reduced autonomy and mobility

Obj.2

To improve the communication, cooperation and coordination among all contributing sectors and stakeholders, including target group members and volunteers, towards achieving more inclusive risk reduction results

Obj.3

To develop baseline data, norms, standards, training resources, information and ICT applications that will foster the development of effective and sustainable inclusive risk reduction and to test these in various settings

Obj.4

To establish mechanisms for continuous monitoring progress in strengthening emergency preparedness programmes for persons with disability, older persons and persons with reduced autonomy at large across the CB area

Obj.5

## Operational objectives

- ▶ Review, exchange and promote 'best practices' in inclusive civil protection and risk reduction (**know-how enhancement**)
- ▶ Identify and communicate existing gaps and limitations in today's civil protection plans and mechanism throughout the whole CB area (15 NUTS level III regions), especially when it comes to protecting individuals with disabilities and older persons against natural and manmade disasters (**issues & needs specification**)
- ▶ Elaborate and promote a coordinated, long term integrated approach to inclusive prevention and management in the CB area (**joint roadmap**)
- ▶ Integrate a strong prevention and disaster management dimension for individuals with reduced autonomy into the existing civil protection plans and mechanisms across the CB area (**new plans & mechanisms**)

## Operational objectives

- ▶ Improve and elaborate relevant knowledge, tools and systems for prevention and civil protection for all, in a cross-border context, based on best practices within the EU (**guidelines & toolkits**)
- ▶ Improve the capacity of all involved stakeholders (municipalities and communities, local authorities, service providers, volunteers, etc.) involved in disaster prevention, response and recovery (**training people**)
- ▶ Improve the interaction and linkages between the areas of prevention, preparedness, response and recovery specialized (e.g., through the project) on individuals with reduced mobility (**coordination & networking**)

## Operational objectives

- ▶ Design effective awareness raising campaigns and provide information and support both for stakeholders (More Skillful Authorities) and citizens with reduced mobility (Better Informed Public) (**awareness raising, information and systems**)
- ▶ Encourage and promote effective volunteerism development (**NGOs activation**)
- ▶ Monitor capacities progress vs. growing needs in the CB area (**risk reduction observatory**)
- ▶ Design table-top simulations and pilot field exercises, with focus on operational issues and on pilot development of personalised plans, and record the experience gained through them (**pilot demonstration projects & lessons learned**)
- ▶ Prepare plans for ensuring the sustainability and transferability beyond the CB area of the project outcomes and lessons learned (**sustainability & transferability**)



## Main outcomes

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- ▶ 1 media campaign (radio/TV spots) – M01
- ▶ 4 one-day public awareness conferences, with SL interpretation, live broadcasting and invited media – M01
- ▶ over 50 visits to schools, universities, care centers, etc. – M01&2
- ▶ 1 joint study on CB's risk reduction and emergency preparedness levels for persons with reduced mobility (1 citizens survey and 1 service providers survey) – M01&2
- ▶ 1 joint roadmap towards inclusive CP across the CB area – M02

## Main outcomes

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- ▶ 1 institutional multi-sectorial CB network (online registry) – M03&5
- ▶ multiple publications (general information leaflets, one guidebook for CP planners, one manual for professional helpers, one guide for target citizens/tourists, one guide for employers & education/hospitality providers, one guide for local media), made accessible – M01-4
- ▶ multiple training activities in 15 municipalities (2 general public info-days, 15 two-days courses for CP planners, 6 five-days workshops for helpers, 15 one-day workshops for target citizens/families, 2 info-days for employers/education institutes/hospitality providers, 2 multi-sectorial table-top exercises), with accessible material, SL interpretation, live broadcasting and media participation where appropriate – M01-4

## Main outcomes

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- ▶ joint ICT systems (1 registry for target citizens, 1 decision-making and monitoring platform, 1 public information/notification Web portal, 1 free mobile application for citizens/visitors) – M01-5
- ▶ 1 holistic community-based case study in Kolonje (1 local master plan, 1 consultation workshop, 1 preparedness assessment report, 1 door-to-door identification in houses & care structures, pilot migration works in major in natural/cultural assets, over 10 pilot personal plans, 1 local help line for the public, 3 public info-kiosks, 1 multi-sectorial exercise in the field, 1 video and 1 report on lessons-learned) – M02-4
- ▶ 2 three-days study visits abroad for the project partners – M02
- ▶ 1 transferability plan & 2 multiplying one-day events for over 400 people in Tirana and Athens – M02
- ▶ 1 sustainability plan – M01-5

Meeting the above objectives shall act catalytically towards meeting the aims of SO1.4 of the Programme

(a) to improve cross border preparedness for effective management of disasters

(b) to coordinate decision making tools and early warning systems

(c) to improve CP through Better Informed Public

**Interreg - IPA CBC**  
**Greece - Albania**  
**4PLUS**



**A**

holistic approach – a joint strategy  
common action plan, both short-term and long-term  
series of pilot measures, tools and initiatives

**FOR** the study and  
the improvement

**OF** risk prevention and  
management results

**ITC**

persons with disabilities  
senior people  
individuals with reduced autonomy and mobility in general

no matter our origins,  
no matter our size,  
no matter our disability,  
no matter the circumstances,  
We all deserve to be treated right



# Interreg - IPA CBC Greece - Albania 4PLUS



**Public awareness, Preparedness, Participation  
and Coordination for Civil Protection for All**

Project Budget: 442.164,61 €

IPA Contribution: 375.839,92 €

National Confederation of Disabled People  
Greece

[www.4plus-project.eu](http://www.4plus-project.eu)

Project co-funded by the European Union and  
national funds of the participating countries