

APRIL 2023 | ISSUE I

# We have some exciting news!

## OVERWATCH IS UP AND RUNNING!

Kick-off meeting at EUSPA HQ in Prague



This EU-funded project started in November 2022 at EUSPA - EU Agency for the Space Programme HQ in Prague. The aim of the project is to develop an integrated holographic system that will support a crisis and emergency management system for wildfires and floods.

Visit our website

# What it is all about



OVERWATCH aims to implement a crisis management system for wildfires and floods supported by Copernicus and EGNSS-based solutions and complemented with innovative Augmented Reality user interface, with enhanced data visualization and decision support tools for end-users operating in the civil protection sector and in the emergency management domains such as practitioners (first responders, public authorities).



#### The Goal

Provide updated and detailed information to those responsible for decision-making in fighting and mitigating natural disasters

Find out more

## **Latest News**

### WORKSHOPS WITH END-USERS

Portugal Poland

GATHERED
INFORMATION
AND
INSIGHTS
WILL BE A
SOLID BASE
FOR FURTHER
OVERWATCH
ACTIVITIES



The OVERWATCH project successfully conducted several workshops with Polish and Portuguese stakeholders in emergency and civil protection over the past three months. These workshops presented the main OVERWATCH system assumptions and gathered user requirements for additional geoinformation and decision support within the project's areas of interest.

In Poland, the OVERWATCH team organised four workshops with Regional Water Management Boards, operational officers from regional State Fire Service departments, regional Government Crisis Management, and Polish Space Research Centre scientists. These workshops were held in two regions, typically affected by floods, and aimed to capture user requirements in these scenarios.

In Portugal, the OVERWATCH workshops focused on wildfires. They included stakeholders such as ANEPC – the Portuguese National Authority for Emergency and Civil Protection, SIRESP – the Manager of the Portuguese Emergency Communication System, regional emergency managers and firefighters, and military authorities.

The workshops were highly productive, with diverse experts providing valuable feedback on thematic areas relevant to the OVERWATCH project. This feedback covered operational drone utilisation, deriving information from earth observation, command and control, emergency decision support, low-altitude photogrammetry and remote sensing, analytic section requirements of on-site incident command, regional-level response coordination, and modelling and forecasting of natural hazards. All this feedback will form a solid basis for further project activities.

In addition to gathering user requirements, these workshops aimed to promote the technologies and systems being developed in the OVERWATCH project. By building a community of interest and raising awareness of emergency and civil protection, the OVERWATCH team hopes to contribute to a safer and more resilient society.

#### SIRESP BOOTCAMP

Madeira 29 - 31 March 2023

SIRESP SA, responsible for managing Portugal's Integrated Emergency Communications System, recently held its second Bootcamp in Funchal, collaborating with various public and private entities. The SIRESP network is a critical resource for the Portuguese State as it interconnects institutions and services, serving as the emergency communications provider across the country.

The President of SIRESP, Brigadier-General Paulo Viegas Nunes, conveyed "confidence in the network's performance, stressing the network needs to be resilient and modernised to meet the challenges of first responders in communicating in contexts of crisis and disruptive emergencies. Emergency communication systems' major challenges are ensuring voice and data transmission capabilities. Various problems, including climate change, rural fires, seismic events, cyber threats and attacks, pandemics, and terrorism, are continually testing the network's resilience."



The OVERWATCH Project's participation in the Bootcamp is a testament to the importance of collaboration between the public and private sectors in addressing the challenges of modern emergency safety and resilient environments. Integrating the **OVERWATCH** solutions with the SIRESP network can enhance the network's capabilities for providing resilient communications, contributing to the protection, security and defense of the EU citizens.

VOICE AND DATA
TRANSMISSION
CAPABILITIES ARE
MAIN CHALLENGES
OF EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATION
SYSTEMS'

José Borges (CINAMIL) and Nelson Matos (ISQ) representing OVERWATCH at the SIRESP Bootcamp

# **Upcoming events**



**GEOdaysIT 2023** 11°AIT Conference OSMit - FOSS4G-IT

2023.geodaysit.it

12-17 JUN BARI

6 giorni di presentazioni, workshop e chiacchiere all'insegna di dati, software geografici liberi e dell'Earth Observation



We are happy to announce that the paper presenting the OVERWATCH and its potential impact on the Copernicus Rapid Mapping service has been accepted by the Italian Society of Remote Sensing Conference.

Find out more

## The Team

OVERWATCH consortium is composed of 10 partners across 5 different countries: Poland, Germany, Italy, Portugal and Denmark.























Meet the partners

Follow us on the social media and stay up with the latest updates!











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