

**PLAN OF ACTION  
OF THE BSEC AD HOC WORKING GROUP  
ON FLOODS AND TORRENTS  
1 July 2018 – 30 June 2020  
Country-Coordinator: Republic of Turkey**

**1. GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

The present Action Plan in the field of cooperation on Floods and Torrents sets the main guidelines for enhancing mutually beneficial co-operation in the respective field between the BSEC Member States for the period 2018-2020.

In its activities the Ad Hoc Working Group will be guided by the provisions of the Agreement among the Governments of the Participating States of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) on collaboration in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to natural and man-made Disasters, BSEC Economic Agenda: Towards an Enhanced BSEC Partnership, Resolutions, Decisions and Recommendations of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, decisions of the Ministers in charge of Emergency Assistance of the BSEC Member States, the BSEC Public Communication Strategy and the Terms of Reference of the Working Group.

During the period 2018-2020, the Ad Hoc Working Group will be focused on the following main priorities:

- Enhancing coordination among the BSEC Member States in preventing and eliminating the consequences of floods/torrents and on providing necessary assistance in case of emergency situations in the BSEC Member States.
- Strengthening cooperation among the BSEC Member States on developing and use of modern technologies to prevent floods and torrents including through means of space monitoring.
- Promoting regional trainings, seminars and scientific conferences aimed at the achievement of better application of joint efforts in case of emergency and increase of awareness about the best practices, used in emergency situations, with a special focus on the activities of the Liaison Officers of the relevant BSEC Network.

The Ad Hoc Working Group will continue to encourage and support the training seminars and conferences aimed at exchanging experiences and best practices in the Emergency Assistance among experts of the BSEC Member States, other countries and international organizations.

To achieve these objectives, we provide the following recommendations to member countries;

1. Determining the effect of climate change on flood prone areas according to long term climate change projections and scenarios, and the cooperation of member countries in this regard.
2. Improving collaboration between members states for transboundary flood and torrent risk management in transboundary river basins.
3. Sharing of technologies used for the prevention and reduction of floods and torrents between member countries and institutions.
4. Implementation of a joint Project on flood risk management at the pilot basin with the aim of sharing knowledge and experiences regarding assessment of flood hazard and risk maps.
5. Sharing of best management practices to reduce urban flash flooding risk.
6. Encouraging development of Flood Insurance implementation in BSEC Member States.

## **2. PROMOTING JOINT PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES**

Encouraging the Member States to elaborate joint projects and undertake joint activities, in particular in implementing the following recommendations:

- Sharing of best management practices to reduce urban flash flooding risk;
- Elaboration of a joint Project on flood risk management at the pilot basin with the aim of sharing knowledge and experiences regarding assessment of flood hazard and risk maps.

## **3. MEETINGS OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP**

1<sup>st</sup> Meeting: 2018 October, İstanbul (presentation of draft action plan)

2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting: 2019 September, Antalya (sharing of experience)

3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting: 2020 October, İstanbul (evaluation report)

## **4. RELEVANT EVENTS**

1. Flood Expo, 12-13 September 2018 Bermingham, England
2. 21st International Conference on Flood Resilience, 11-12 February 2019, Barcelona Spain
3. International Conference on Flood Risk Management and Water Pollution, 08 - 09 March, 2019 Taipei, Taiwan
4. 21st International Conference on Flood Risk Assessment and Recovery, 29-30 April 2019, San Francisco, USA
5. River Basin Management 2019, 8-10 May 2019, Alicante, Spain

## **5. COOPERATION WITH BSEC OBSERVERS AND PARTNERS:**

The Ad Hoc Working Group on Floods and Torrents will cooperate with BSEC Observer countries and Sectoral Dialogue Partners for the organization of joint events, including seminars and workshops.