

**PLAN OF ACTION
OF THE BSEC WORKING GROUP
ON COOPERATION IN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE**

1 July 2017 – 30 June 2019

Country-Coordinator: Romania

1. GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The present Action Plan in the field of Cooperation on Emergency Assistance sets the main guidelines for enhancing mutually beneficial cooperation in the respective field between the BSEC Member States for the period 2017–2019.

In its work the Working Group will be guided by the provisions of the *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 for Emergency Assistance of the BSEC Member States, the BSEC Public Communication Strategy and the Terms of Reference of the Working Group.

Proper attention will be given to the implementation of Goal 17 of the BSEC Economic Agenda “*Cooperation in Emergency Assistance*”, using additional financial instruments, improvement of the modalities of work of the BSEC Network of Liaison Officers and other instruments of cooperation provided in the provisions of the Agreement among the Governments of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) Participating States on Collaboration in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters and the Additional Protocol to it.

During the period 2017–2019, the Working Group will be focused on the following main priorities:

1. Strengthening cooperation in implementing the Agreement among the Governments of the BSEC Member States on Collaboration in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-made Disasters and its Additional Protocol;

2. Enhancing coordination among the BSEC Member States in preventing and eliminating the consequences of natural and man-made disasters and on providing International assistance and help on protection of environment in case of emergency situations or imminent threat thereof;

3. Promoting organization of 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 attention to the Liaison Officers of the relevant BSEC Network.

II. LIST OF ACTIVITIES AND JOINT PROJECTS

1. MINISTERIAL MEETINGS:

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2. MEETINGS OF THE WORKING GROUP:

At least once a year.

3. MEETINGS OF THE SUBORDINATED BODIES, I.E. BSEC NETWORK OF LIAISON OFFICERS ON EMERGENCY SITUATIONS:

Once/Twice a year, before or back-to-back to the Meeting of the BSEC Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance.

4. MEETINGS OF AD HOC WORKING GROUPS:

Once/twice a year.

5. RELEVANT EVENTS:

Meetings at the expert's level on specific items, according to the provisions of the BSEC Agreement on cooperation in Emergency Situation and its Additional Protocol.

The BSEC Member States are invited to make additional proposals on the events in their respective countries.

6. JOINT PROJECTS:

Ensuring the effectiveness of BSEC Liaison Officers Network as an instrument for information exchange and emergency response on a multiple basis.

The BSEC Member States are invited to make additional proposals.

7. PRIORITIES FOR FUNDING:

The issues of building the institutional capacity of BSEC on emergencies and preparedness of population to different emergencies are considered among the priorities for funding of projects.

The BSEC Member States are invited to make concrete project proposals.

8. COOPERATION WITH OTHER BSEC BODIES:

The Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance will cooperate with the other BSEC Working Groups on relevant issues, in principal with the Working Group on Science and Technology and the Working Group on Environmental Protection.

9. COOPERATION WITH BSEC OBSERVERS AND PARTNERS

The Working Group will cooperate with the BSEC Observers and Sectoral Dialogue Partners for the organization of joint events.

10. COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

The Working Group on Cooperation in Emergency Assistance will collaborate with international organizations, such as specialized UN agencies, European Commission, Black Sea Commission and other international organizations and institutions.