



The European Commission's Knowledge Centre for Disaster Risk Management

Enhancing the Knowledge Base to support Disaster Risk Management

A new era of risks

New challenges, new opportunities

Under the current landscape scenario, where intensification of the effects of **natural** and **technological hazards** due to **climate change** is combined with **new ways of threatening** our societies, the establishment of strong alliances to reinforce our capacities to **better protect our future** has become a must.

Faced with the risk of progressively severe and frequent natural and man-made disasters (technological and malicious), policy-makers and risk managers increasingly rely on the wealth of **existing knowledge** at all stages of the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) cycle – **adaptation; mitigation; prevention; preparedness; response; recovery and reconstruction**.

A growing number of Commission Services are collaborating to reinforce the links between the different Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and DRM related policies to ensure the **maximised impact** of an optimised implementation of DRR and DRM policies.

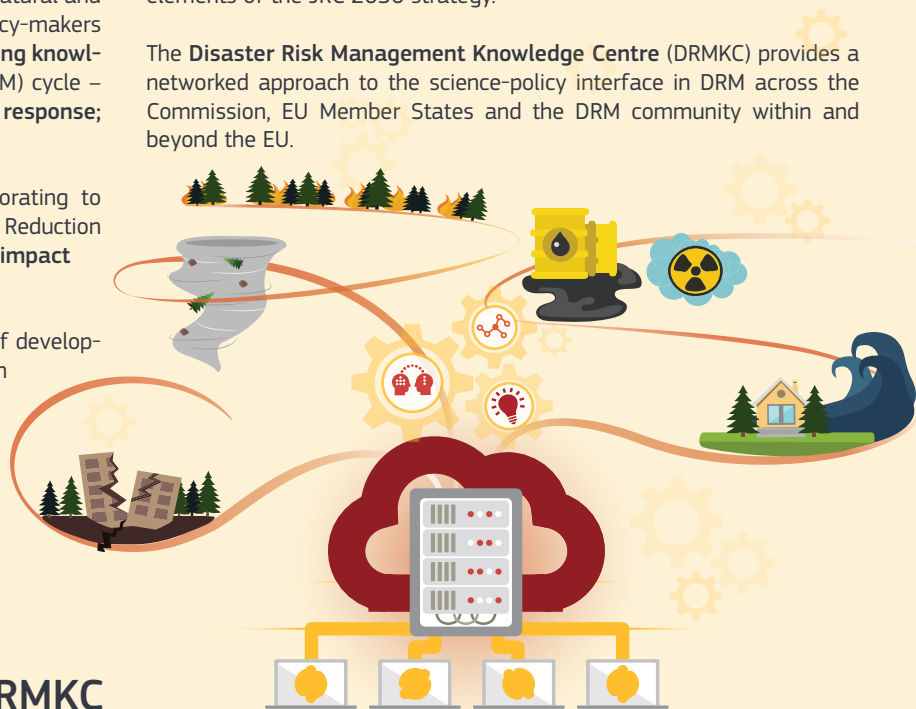
While complexity and uncertainty are growing and a lot of developments cannot be predicted as such, a stronger anticipation culture would strengthen EU preparedness and resilience. Understanding disaster **risk** becomes essential to enhance resilience and contribute to **smart, sustainable and inclusive growth**.

Commission Knowledge Centres

Together we are stronger

The Commission officially endorsed the concept of Knowledge Centres in its **Communication on Data, Information and Knowledge Management** (C(2016) 6626)). They bring together experts and knowledge from different locations inside and outside the Commission, creating a new instrument to develop and pursue informed and **evidence-based EU policies**. The development of **Knowledge Centres** has become one of the key elements of the JRC 2030 strategy.

The **Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre (DRMKC)** provides a networked approach to the science-policy interface in DRM across the Commission, EU Member States and the DRM community within and beyond the EU.



3 key pillars that structure DRMKC



Partnership:

Networks are fragmented and it becomes imperative to foster the transfer of knowledge and technologies across scientific networks specialised on different hazards and threats - **where knowledge begins** - to strengthen the science-policy interface by providing integrated support to the policy cycle – **where knowledge applies**.



Knowledge:

Scientific research results along with operational knowledge gained from lessons learned, exercises and trainings need to be better exploited. Pooling of information and granting access to scientific results and expertise to boost transfer of research outputs to end-users – **where knowledge meets** - is the first step to facilitate the difficult task of making sense of existing knowledge and to identify existing gaps – **where needs are identified**.



Innovation:

There is the imperious necessity for a common space where continuous testing, training, benchmarking, validation and promotion of more and more focused innovation in all phases of the DRM cycle will take place. Industry and the scientific community play an essential role in **developing innovative methods, tools and technological solutions** for the mitigation of disasters (adaptation and prevention) and their impacts (preparedness and response).

DRMKC products

Developing collective knowledge and innovative tools

Supported and empowered by the union of well-experienced scientific networks, the DRMKC offers a collaborative space with a **multidisciplinary approach** to the complexity of the DRM by proposing concrete collective goals to be reached in support the development of a more sustainable future.

The DRMKC facilitates information and knowledge sharing, while enhancing the connection between science, operational activities and policy needs. The **DRMKC Flash News** helps disseminating information across sectors and networks.



Risk Data Hub

The DRMKC Risk Data Hub (RDH) is a multi-hazard geoportal providing a common repository for EU wide disaster risk and damage and loss data. It also offers several dashboards to generate insights on current risks and the impacts of disasters at country and regional levels.

Index for Risk Management

The Index for Risk Management (INFORM) provides a quantitative assessment of the risk of humanitarian crises in a multi-hazard context with a major focus on developing countries.

European Crisis Management Laboratory

The European Crisis Management Laboratory (ECML) is a permanent infrastructure hosted by the JRC that acts as a R&D and test facility for ICT focused solutions. ECML integrates devices, applications, and crisis management related information sources to support crisis management needs, such as threats analysis, common situation awareness, training and collaborative decision making.

Science for DRM

The **Science for DRM** series has mobilised the whole DRM community with the common aim of summarising the state-of-art, to learn from the past experiences and to contribute to the definition of the new challenges. The Science for DRM is notably contributing to enhance **risk awareness** and to the dissemination of information on DRM policies and science.

Global Conflict Risk Index

The Global Conflict Risk Index (GCRI) is a core component of the EU's Conflict Prevention system. It uses open source data on 22 structural variables to estimate conflict risk in 138 countries over the next 1-4 years. The results are delivered on the Science4Peace portal.

At the core of the Science Pillar of the Knowledge Network

Through the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network, the scientific community and operational stakeholders in disaster management have a new space to connect and share knowledge to deal with disasters. The Science pillar will base its work on the achievements and activities of the European Commission's Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre, seeking to further expand and strengthen them.