

PLAN OF ACTION
OF THE BSEC AD HOC WORKING GROUP OF THE EXPERTS IN SEISMIC RISK

1st of January 2021 – 31st of December 2022

Country-Coordinator: Romania

General objectives

The present Action Plan in the field of cooperation on Seismic Risk sets the main guidelines for enhancing mutually beneficial co-operation in the respective field between the BSEC Member States for the period 2021-2022.

The activities of the Ad Hoc Working Group are defined by Goal 17” Cooperation in Emergency Situations” of the” BSEC Economic Agenda Towards an Enhanced BSEC Partnership” and are guided by the relevant 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.

The Ad Hoc Working Group will also follow 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.

A special attention will be paid to:

- enhancing the coordination among the BSEC Member States in preventing and reducing the consequences of seismic risk,
- strengthening the cooperation among the BSEC Member States to develop and increase strategic projects,
- promoting regional workshops, training sessions, scientific conferences, seminars to develop scientific community involvement,
- increase the effectiveness and the visibility of the BSEC Ad Hoc Working Group of the Experts in Seismic Risk (AHWGERS),
- adopting a common approach to face the COVID-19 pandemic challenges by developing instruments for information, sharing the knowledge, exchanging the experience among the experts of the BSEC member countries.

Activities

To achieve these objectives, during the period 2021 - 2022, the National Institute for Earth Physics - NIEP, representing Romania in BSEC AHWGESR, propose the following actions:

- Holding the meeting of BSEC Ad-Hoc Group of Experts in Seismic Risk on June 9, 2021, which, due to Covid-19 restrictions and travel limitations, will be organized online. This meeting will be dedicated to information on the progress made by BSEC Member States in the field of seismic risk assessment and to open discussions for identifying concrete mechanisms for regional cooperation. The date and the venue of the next meeting of the AD Hoc Working Group envisaged for 2022 will be also discussed.

- Organizing a two-day workshop at the NIEP headquarters to discuss scientific issues related to the prevention and reduction of the consequences of seismic risk. Another goal of the workshop is to foster collaboration among BSEC Member States, institutions and experts participating in AHWGESR through sharing the knowledge, exchanging the experience, lessons learnt. The second day will be dedicated to a trip to one of our National Seismological Observatories. These activities might be postponed for 2022 due to the special conditions generated by the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic

- Development of a special web portal with easy access for all BSEC Member States that brings information regarding significant earthquakes occurring both off-shore and inland in the Black Sea Region, reports on significant events and not only. This portal is aimed to be not only a point of information for experts and scientists but will also allow them to share their published studies and to increase the scientific community capacity to answer to fundamentals scientific and socio-economic problems in the field of seismic risk assessment and will increase the visibility and the effectiveness of the AHWGESR.

- Focus on ensuring the implementation of the above-mentioned activities.