In order to reduce the risk of natural and other disasters, Fire & Rescue Service Kranj joined the European project DIRECT - Disaster RESilient Communities and Towns, whose primary objective is to raise awareness of the wider local community, public institutions and educational institutions in the region in the field of protection against natural and other accidents. Under the leadership of the Foundation for the Development of Northern Montenegro, FORS Montenegro, the partners in the project include the Fire & Rescue Service Kranj of the Republic of Slovenia, Directorate for Emergency Management of the Ministry of Interior of Montenegro, Fire Rescue Brigade of Moravian – Silesian Region, Czech Republic and Czech Association of Fire Officers. The project is co-financed by the Directorate European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) by the European Commission (DG ECHO).

For the protection, rescue and relief in case of natural and other disasters, both the state and local communities have organized and equipped protection, rescue and relief forces. The protection of people, animals, property, cultural heritage and the environment against natural and other disasters on the territory of the Republic of Slovenia is regulated by the Act on the Protection against Natural and Other Disasters (ZVNDN).

Objective of protection against natural and other disasters is to reduce the number of accidents and to prevent or reduce victims and other consequences of these accidents. The state, municipalities and other local communities organize protection against natural and other disasters as a single and comprehensive system in the country. The system of protection covers programming, planning, organizing, implementing, controlling, financing measures and activities for protection against natural and other disasters.

Tasks of the system for protection against natural and other disasters:
- detection, monitoring and investigation of the risks of natural and other disasters;
- prevention of natural and other disasters;
- alerting, warning and alarming about the emerging threats and providing guidance for protection, rescue and assistance;
- education and training for protection, rescue and assistance;
- organizing civil protection and establishing and maintaining other forms of preparedness for protection, rescue and assistance;
- self-protection, self-help and mutual assistance;
- mobilization and activation of forces and means of protection, rescue and aid;
- arranging and implementing protective measures;
- rescue and assistance;
- elimination of the consequences of natural and other disasters to ensure the basic conditions for life;
- assessment of damage caused by natural and other disasters;
- international cooperation in the implementation of protection against natural and other disasters;
- supervision of the implementation of regulations on protection against natural and other disasters;
- assistance to other countries in case of natural and other disasters.

Civil protection is a deliberately organized part of the system of protection against natural and other disasters, which includes management bodies, units and services for protection, rescue and relief, protective and life-saving equipment and facilities for protection, rescue and relief.

Everyone must inform the nearest information centre or the police about any threat to a natural or other disaster as soon as he/she has noticed or learned about it.

Protection against natural and other disasters ensure within the limits of their competences or rights and obligations:
- citizens and other residents of the Republic of Slovenia as individuals;
- inhabitants voluntarily organized into societies, professional associations and other non-governmental organizations performing activities important for protection against natural and other disasters;
- public rescue services;
- companies, institutions and other organizations;
- local communities; and
- the state.

Protection against natural and other disasters is a unified subsystem of the national security system that is coordinated and linked to other national security subsystems at the level of local or wider self-governing community, region and state. The state realizes protection against natural and other disasters also through an active role in international organizations on the basis of international treaties.

Organization of protection against natural and other disasters in the Municipality of Kranj

In the area of MO Kranj, the organization of protection against natural and other disasters is within the responsibility of the Protection and Rescue Service, which directly provides assistance in the planning, organization, management, direction and supervision of tasks in the preparation of protection and rescue plans and tasks in case of natural and other disasters to units for Rescue and Help in the Municipality, Civil Protection, Speleologists, cytologists, Divers, Mountain Rescue Service, Scouts, Firefighting Service, Voluntary Firefighting Associations, Red Cross; realizes the concept of protection and rescue in the municipality by creating a vision, goals, and tools with all entities that are legally defined in this area (Civil Protection Units, Firefighting Service, Fire Brigade, Voluntary Firefighting Associations, Red Cross, Hospital, Police, Inspection Bodies, etc.); coordinates with other protection and rescue agents based on the principle of subordination (Protection and Rescue Directorate, Inspectorate for Protection against Natural and Other Disasters, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia - Fire Fund Committee, URSZR – Kranj, Police, the Slovenian Armed Forces); plans, coordinates the production of and evaluates protection and rescue plans (floods, fire, nuclear accident, railway accident, earthquake) and other by-laws with other statutory institutions; prepares, monitors and implements the annual plan for protection against natural and other disasters; carries out risk assessment and plans for protection, rescue and relief; takes care of the coordination and organization of civil protection, fire safety and rescue in case of natural and other disasters and all related tasks of cooperation and coordination with other competent persons and authorities in the said field of work; performs other administrative and professional tasks from its field of work.

Sources:

Law on Protection against Natural and Other Disasters - ZVNDN. Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, no. 51/06 – official consolidated text and 97/10.


Contact for more information on the project:

Gasilsko reševalna služba Kranj
Bleweisova cesta 34, 4000 Kranj, Slovenija
+386 4 23 75 251
info@gasilcikranj.si
www.gasilcikranj.si

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