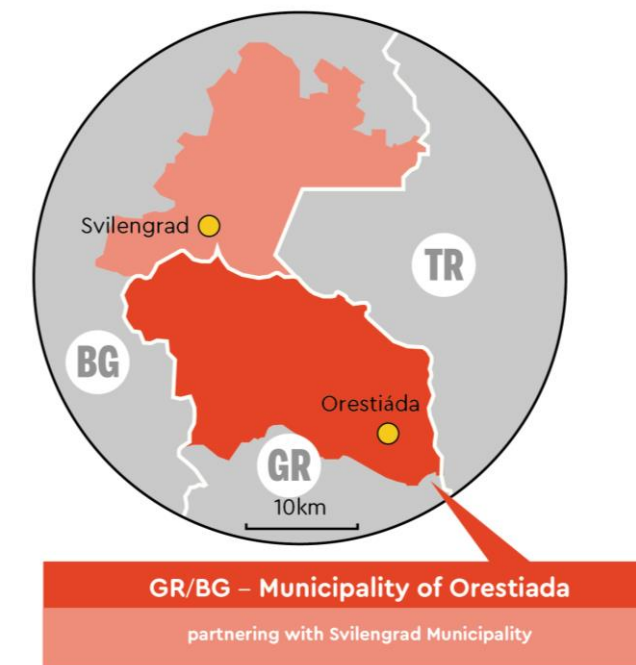


Cross-border risks and solutions



BULGARIA / GREECE

PARTNERS

Municipality of
Orestiada

Municipality of
Svilengrad



OBJECTIVES

Develop a Joint Cross-Border Crisis Management Plan for the Orestiada–Svilengrad area to enhance preparedness and resilience against forest fires.

Key aims: 1) Strengthen cross-border coordination and response capacity 2) Test preparedness through joint table-top exercises 3) Build skills and knowledge for local authorities and stakeholders 4) Raise awareness and promote a culture of safety 5) Protect people, heritage, and ecosystems under climate change 6) Share lessons and good practices with other EU initiatives

RESULTS

- Joint Cross-Border Crisis Management Plan for Orestiada–Svilengrad municipalities.
- Two joint table-top exercises improving coordination and operational readiness.
- Training workshops and capacity-building activities for local authorities, civil protection staff, and volunteers.
- Awareness campaigns fostering community engagement and safety culture.
- Enhanced cross-border cooperation framework for climate-resilient crisis management.

KEY LESSONS

- Local-level cooperation is crucial – effective crisis response starts from municipalities.
- Joint planning and exercises build trust and reveal real operational gaps.
- Cross-border communication protocols must be clear and practiced regularly.
- Community engagement enhances resilience and complements professional response.
- Continuous learning and knowledge exchange ensure sustainability and adaptability.