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MEDiate towards enhancing societal resilience

The MEDiate project aims to improve the assessment of disaster risks and strengthen disaster risk governance to manage disaster risks. The project is developing a decision support system (DSS) for disaster risk management by considering multiple interacting natural hazards and cascading impacts, using a novel resilience-informed (strategic focus), people-centric (tactical focus) and service-oriented (operational focus) approach that accounts for forecasted modifications in the hazard. The project involves stakeholders and pilot sites from the City of Oslo (Norway), Essex County Council (United Kingdom), Nice Cote d’Azur Metropolis (France) and Seyðisfjörður in Múlaping (Iceland).



In the final year of the MEDiate project, stakeholder workshops are held across four testbeds. These sessions evaluate project outcomes while exploring future exploitation and adaptation opportunities.

In spring 2025, MEDiate entered an intensive phase as the consortium prepared the final Participatory Action Research (PAR) cycle to complete the MEDiate platform and begin its evaluation. In May, the team launched the Serious Game, an online and in-person card activity that helped stakeholders prioritise risk and resilience metrics across sectors. The results provided weightings for the multi-criteria decision-algorithm engine, enabling stakeholders to identify balanced mitigation strategies. In June, each testbed hosted a final in-person workshop with hands-on exercises using the MEDiate DSS platform. Participants tested its ability to integrate multi-hazard risk and impact insights, demonstrating how MEDiate supports smarter, knowledge-driven, and people-centred decision-making in complex crisis scenarios.

Stakeholder engagement in MEDiate is driven by a Participatory Action Research (PAR) approach, ensuring co-design, co-development, and co-evaluation of its Decision Support System (DSS). Involving authorities, civil protection, infrastructure providers, businesses, NGOs, and community actors, the MEDiate DSS platform is tested across four diverse contexts—Oslo, Nice, Essex, and Múlatþing—each with unique hazard profiles and governance settings.



Fig.1 Stakeholder engagement at four testbeds

Nice | Múlatþing
Oslo | Essex



Serious Game

A serious game is essentially a tool for facilitating a silent negotiation-based preference elicitation exercise, designed to promote collective understanding across sectors. MEDiate has developed a two-phase, card-based serious game, available both as a board game and as an online version in the local language:

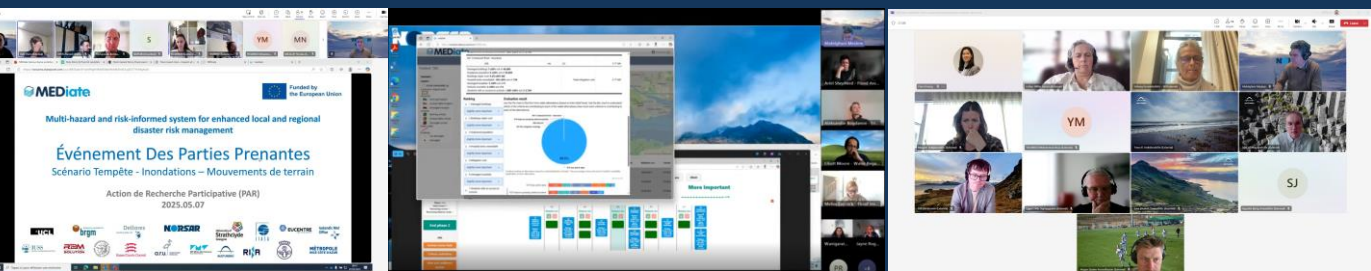
- **Phase 1:** Stakeholders sort criteria from most to least important to answer the question *“What is more/less important?”*.
- **Phase 2:** Participants compare consecutive rows of criteria and decide *“How much more important is one row compared to the other?”* by adding or removing distance cards between the criteria rows.

Through a limited number of moves and one open discussion in each phase to explain their choices, participants gradually align their preferences and priorities. In the end, a compromise solution is reached. The results are then translated into a mathematical ranking, which provides a structured basis for evaluating the optimal mitigation strategies.



Fig.2 Serious games in Person and Online

Oslo emergency team |
Oslo municipality team
Nice | Essex | Múlatþing



Stakeholder exercises

The stakeholder exercise begins with roundtable discussions on whether the information provided by the MEDiate DSS platform—such as impact chains, risk and resilience metrics mapping, and Multi-criteria decision-algorithm (MCDA) results—is *actionable*. This is followed by a hands-on tutorial of the DSS platform, where stakeholders can explore scenarios and experiment with rankings, using the outputs of the serious game as a starting point. Through this process, participants gain insights into how shifting priorities influence the perception of optimal mitigation strategies, while also recognizing the importance of cross-sector collaboration and comprehensive disaster risk management.

Fig.3 Stakeholder exercises – round table discussion and hands-on platform tutorial

Round table discussion: Essex team1 | Essex team2

Hands-on MEDiate DSS platform exercise: Nice | Essex | Múlatþing



Testbed Factsheets

The testbed factsheets provide a general description of each testbed, including information on the population and area, followed by an overview of previous crises and a map illustrating the multi-hazard interactions analyzed within the MEDiate project. Using the QR codes to learn more about the testbed scenarios, the multi-hazard interaction map, and the associated impact chain scheme.

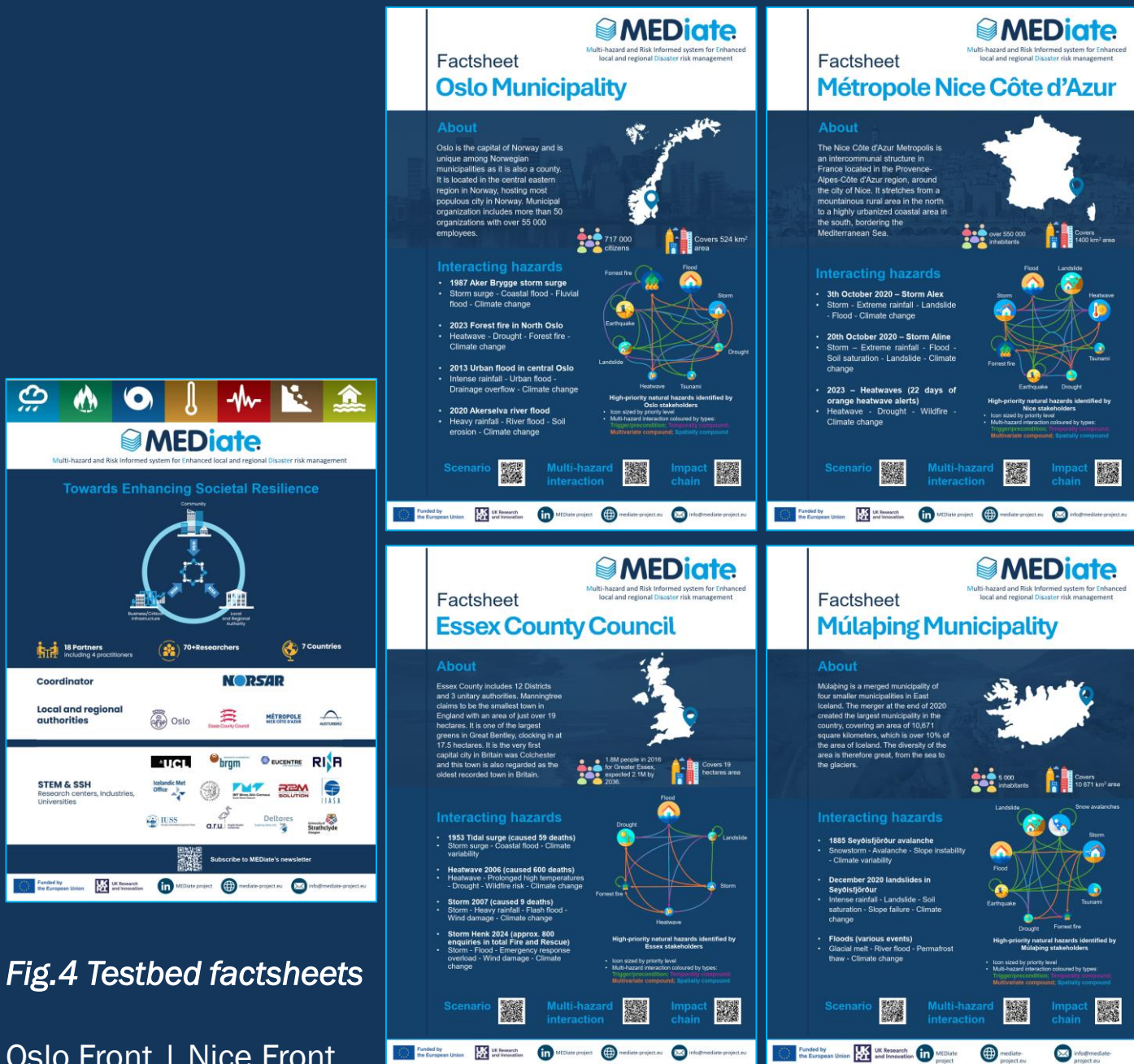


Fig.4 Testbed factsheets

Oslo Front | Nice Front
Back for all | Essex Front | Múlatþing Front

Upcoming Webinar



Dr. Sólveig Þorvaldssdóttir

Fostering stakeholder collaboration towards disaster resilience

Time: 29 January 2025,
14:00-16:00 (UK time)

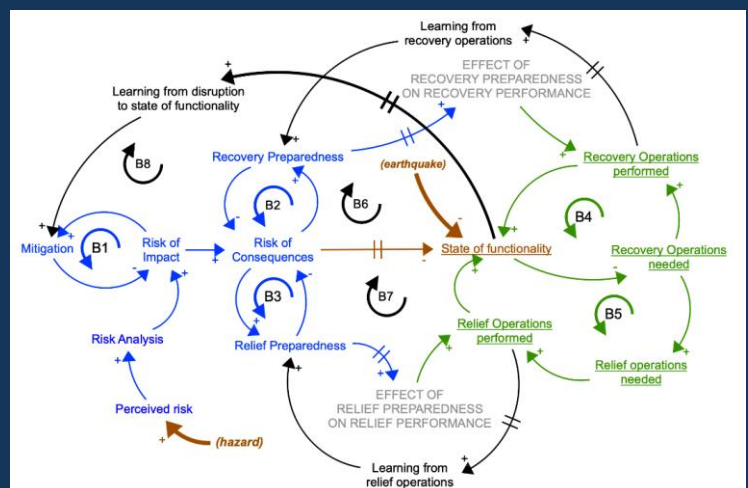
Where: Online

Register [HERE](#) !

Hosted by UCL UNESCO Chair

Stakeholders have different roles. For example, some help to define the problem by building disaster-risk scenarios. Others work on solutions by developing mitigation strategies or preparedness activities. Collectively, they contribute to a large complex management system. Diagrams and simulation models that illustrate the cause and effect of decisions made by different stakeholders can provide insight into the key aspects of such systems. A simple system dynamics simulation model of a disaster-related management system based on eight disaster-related objectives will be presented. Additionally, the talk will outline the results of a task within the MEDiate Project on modelling stakeholder relations of a 3-decade-long risk reduction programme for urban avalanches and landslides in Iceland. The programme originally included multiple towns, and numerous stakeholders at different hierarchical levels, and was meant to be finished in 2010. Due to programme expansions and delays, it is still ongoing.

In 2020, in a span of one week, 24 landslides fell above or onto one of the towns, leading to evacuations and damages. The results are a set of diagrams highlighting causal relations among the stakeholders that include key policy issues required to drive an effective disaster-related



Upcoming Webinar



Dr. Abdelghani Meslem

Integrated Approaches to Risk, Resilience, and Preparedness: Insights from C2IMPRESS & MEDiate Projects

Time: 29 September 2025,
14:00-15:00 (CEST)

Where: Online

Register [HERE](#) !

Hosted by MEDiate and C2IMPRESS

To mitigate the natural disaster-induced multi-hazard risks, C2IMPRESS and MEDiate projects were introduced 3 years ago. These EU-funded projects have leveraged the idea of developing a joint task force, where local people, administrations, experts, and other stakeholders are interconnected with a common platform; thus, identifying and addressing a risk can be accomplished more easily and effectively. As the projects will be closing on September 30, 2025, a webinar has been arranged as one of the closing activities of the projects.

The C2IMPRESS project is ready to provide a better understanding and public awareness of multi-hazard risks, the associated multidimensional impacts, vulnerabilities and resilience of extreme weather events, including their origins and the aftermath. On the other hand, the MEDiate project will start contributing to enhance the existing assessment systems of disaster risks and to improve disaster risk management and governance.

This webinar will play a pivotal role for both ends. Through the sessions, the project representatives will demonstrate their systems to the mass audience. And the participants will briefly know about the projects along with the tools and methodologies that have been developed for disaster preparedness, such as the decision support system (DSS), Citizen Engagement Platform, hazard monitor app, etc. They can witness the natural disaster risk management systems live from the projects.

Feature events



MEDiate results featured in the EGU 2025

Time: 27 April - 2 May 2025

Where: Vienna, Austria



MEDiate in panel discussion in Disaster Resilience Days 2025

Time: 19 - 21 May 2025

Where: Brussels, Belgium



Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2025

Time: 2-6 June 2025

Where: Geneva, Switzerland



MEDiate Final Consortium Annual meeting in Nice, France

Time: 24-25 June 2025

Where: Nice Cote D'Azur, France



MEDiate Demonstration in the Security Research Event 2025

Time: 24-25 June 2025

Where: Warsaw, Poland



MEDiate Demonstration in Disaster Resilience Days 2025

Time: 6 - 8 October 2025

Where: Athens, Greece

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