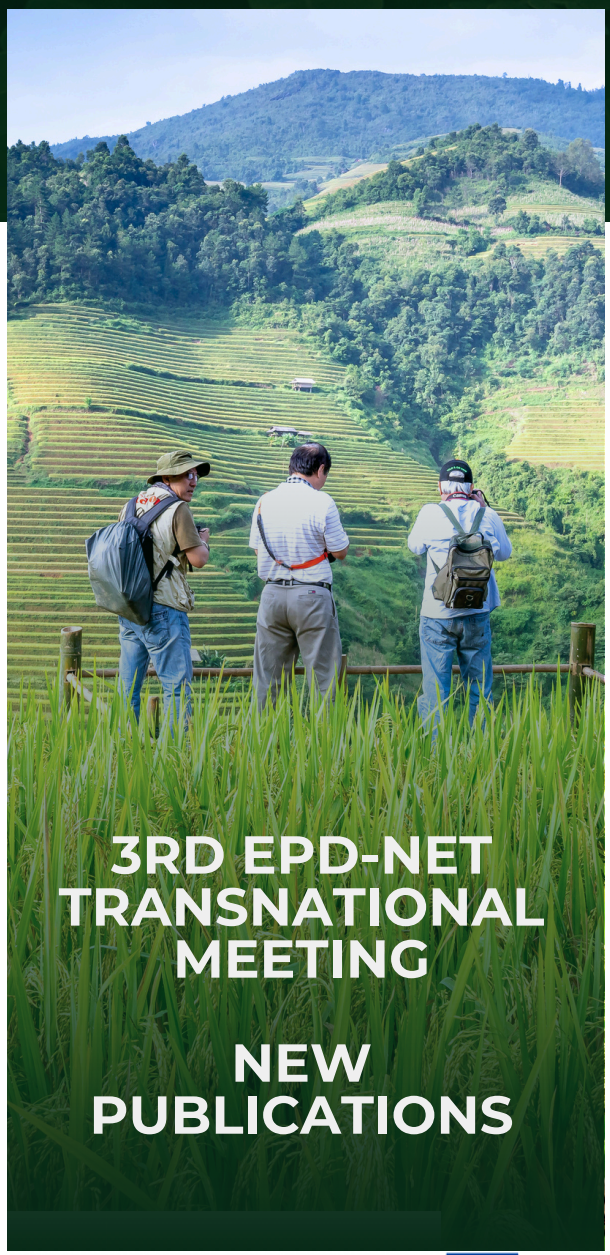
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NEWSLETTER | EPD-NET

The EPD-Net Project is an EU co-funded Erasmus+ initiative bringing together 32 partners from 13 countries. It focuses on ecological planning and design (EPD) for disaster- resilient and sustainable cities by establishing a transnational learning network and developping an AI-supoorted, adaptive “smart training module” (LMS plus a self-assessment component). The project aims to strengthen the role of planning and design disciplines in disaster management and to enhance employability and institutional capacity trough training content that integrates green, digital, and resilience competences.

FILLING THE GAP: DEVELOPMENT OF ECOLOGICAL PLANNING AND DESIGN LEARNING NETWORK AND AN ADAPTIVE SMART TRAINING MODULE FOR DISASTER RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES



3RD EPD-NET TRANSNATIONAL MEETING

From 29 June to 3 July 2026, EPD-Net partners met in Ponte de Lima, Portugal, hosted by Previform, for the project's 3rd consortium meeting. Work package sessions held at the Axis Hotel in Fornelos covered progress on WP3 (the Learning Hub, Moodle system, EPD-Assist, and Nature Based Intelligence GPT demos), WP4 (pilot preparation and safeguards against AI-assisted certification), WP1 (coordination, ClickUp monitoring, and the Risk Register), WP5 (translation of dissemination materials), and WP6 (the emerging Nature Cities Alliances). The week also included guided visits to firefighting and nature-based resilience sites in northern Portugal — the Viana do Castelo Firefighters Corps, Lindoso Dam and Castle, the Porta do Mezio Biological Park, and the Porto Sapadores Fire Regiment — closing with a social dinner in Ponte de Lima.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

EPD-Net partners Arife Koca, Sevgin Aysu Balkan, and İlknur Küçükoğlu published "Translating Resilience Knowledge into Education" in Sustainability, a Q1 journal, proposing a 35-module, 105-topic curriculum for ecological planning and disaster-resilient cities, built on green, digital, and resilience skills and aligned with EU competency frameworks.

At ICRESS 2026, Prof. Dr. Saye Nihan Çabuk and Prof. Dr. Alper Çabuk presented "EPD-Net as a Paradigm for Raising Awareness and Reducing Forest Fire Risks Through Ecological Planning and Design," extending the project's resilience work into wildfire risk education and awareness.

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