

**Project Short Name:** FAST/MED-DisasTRuck

**Project Title:** Rapid Medical Response to Disasters

**PO (Policy Objective) 3:** A More Socially Inclusive Mediterranean

**SO (Specific Objective) 3.2:** Ensuring equitable access to healthcare, reinforcing the resilience of healthcare systems, including primary care, and promoting the transition from institutional to community-based care.

**Countries:** Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Tunisia, Malta, Greece, Egypt, Algeria, Jordan

#### **About the Project:**

The "**Rapid Medical Response to Disasters**" project encompasses a series of initiatives designed to preempt situations arising from natural disasters or human-induced mass destruction, causing both material and spiritual damage. These scenarios often disrupt healthcare services or result in situations where healthcare access becomes impractical due to migration waves triggered by disasters. The project aims to address instances where the surge in workload impedes local healthcare access for the population. "**Rapid Medical Response to Disasters**" seeks to refine existing intervention systems, aspiring to deliver healthcare services with greater speed and efficacy.

#### **What will be improved?**

The increasing global migration movement, coupled with the rise in natural disasters caused by wars and climate change, has become an escalating issue leading to loss of life and property, according to the United Nations. The Fast Medical Intervention for Disasters project aims to minimize the negative consequences of these issues by providing rapid and effective primary healthcare services from the scene of the incident.

As of the end of 2022, it was determined that 108.4 million people were displaced worldwide. This number has increased by an additional 19.1 million people since the end of 2021. This represents the largest increase since records began in 1975. (Global Trends in Forced Displacement UNHCR 2022)

Between 2005 and 2015, disasters caused significant losses, affecting the well-being and security of individuals, communities, and countries as a whole. During this period, over 700,000 people lost their lives, more than 1.4 million were injured, and approximately 23 million people were left homeless due to disasters. In total, 1.5 billion people were affected by disasters in various ways. Particularly, women, children, and vulnerable groups suffered disproportionately. The overall economic loss exceeded 1.3 trillion dollars. Additionally, between 2008 and 2012, 144 million people abandoned their homes due to disasters. The increasing frequency and intensity of disasters, exacerbated by climate change, significantly disrupt efforts towards sustainable development. (Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030)

Currently, numerous disaster intervention techniques and tools are employed. However, the slow transportation and setup observed or personally experienced, the

use of equipment unsuitable for the situation, and insufficient preparedness based on the diversity of events often prevent those in need from accessing healthcare services from the very beginning of the incident. The Fast Medical Intervention for Disasters project aims to address a significant portion of these challenges.

### **Who will benefit?**

Beneficiaries encompass official healthcare institutions, non-governmental organizations, and search and rescue teams within the Mediterranean region. Additionally, stakeholders within the Mediterranean basin and nations globally facing urgent needs stand to gain.

### **Expected Achievements:**

- Swift and efficient access to the incident site and affected individuals.
- Minimal setup time and prompt initiation of services at the incident site.
- Systematic registration of patients/injured individuals, ensuring seamless coordination and continuous monitoring.
- Real-time dissemination of information and data flow from the incident site.
- Proactive measures to prevent potential outbreaks.
- Development of a skilled and educated workforce through training initiatives.
- Uninterrupted continuity of local healthcare services during disaster situations.
- Provision of maximal service with minimal resources.
- Delivery of sustainable healthcare services under challenging conditions.
- Expedited coordination with stakeholder institutions and shortened response times.
- Reinforcement of disaster awareness within the community.
- Establishment of a prepared team consciousness for immediate response through regularly planned exercises.
- Provision of practical field experience to healthcare personnel undergoing higher education.
- Maximization of efficiency from renewable energy sources during disaster situations.
- Preservation of maternal and infant health.
- Creation of a service area equipped with sustainable and renewable facilities.
- Deployment of modern, functional equipment, and well-prepared teams to stakeholder regions, ensuring the fastest access from the nearest point when required.

**About us:** The Çanakkale Provincial Health Directorate, affiliated with the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Turkey, is an official institution boasting considerable strength in terms of experience, personnel, and equipment compared to its counterparts in similarly sized provinces. Leveraging local resources and regional support forces, the directorate stands as a robust governmental entity. It encompasses 12 hospitals, 849 physicians, a total of 4856 healthcare personnel, 1125 patient beds, and 175 intensive care unit beds. Additionally, it possesses 62 emergency aid ambulances, 3 emergency rescue vehicles, 1 emergency intervention vehicle, 10 patient transfer ambulances, 4 specialized ambulances, and 22 disaster intervention tents.

The Çanakkale Provincial Health Directorate holds significant potential in terms of preparedness, intervention, and sustainable field operations. It is an integral part of the Ulusal Medikal Kurtarma Ekibi (UMKE), comprising 125 specialized volunteers with extensive experience in disaster and emergency situations. The directorate, under the

Ministry of Health of the Republic of Turkey, remains consistently ready for disasters and is capable of offering support, domestically or internationally, as needed.

**Contact Information:**

Okay KARABİBER

okay-234@hotmail.com

+905419431994

Enes ATLI

enesatli94@gmail.com

+905546365697