



# REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

## TIRANA COUNTY PREFECT



**PLANNING, PREPARATION, COORDINATION OF  
EMERGENCY EXPERIENCE AND PRACTICES**



# Tirana County



Tirana County is one of the 12 counties of the Republic of Albania, with the capital in Tirana.

The county spans 1,652 square kilometers (638 sq mi) and had a total population of 883,996 people as of 2018. The county borders on the counties of Durrës, Dibër, Elbasan, Fier, and the Adriatic Sea.



# Tirana county

5 municipalities

36 administrative divisions

232 villages

- Municipality of Tirana - (24 administrative divisions - 135 villages)
- Municipality of Kamëz - (1 administrative division – 14 villages)
- Municipality of Vora - (2 administrative divisions – 18 villages)
- Municipality of Kavajë - (4 administrative divisions – 32 villages)
- Municipality of Rrogozhina - (4 administrative divisions – 33 villages)



## Main legal grounds

The constitution of Republic of Albania is the political and juridical starting point-for organizing Civil Emergencies.

Articles 170 (extraordinary measures) and 174 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania, address the issues of state of emergency and disasters, the acts issued and the measures taken under these circumstances.

Law 8756 on “Civil Emergency” 26.03.2001. Law no 11/2013 “On some amendments to the Law no 8677 date 04.05.2001 “For Protection from fire and rescue”. National Civil Emergency Plan.

Law 107 date 27.01.2016 “On County Prefect”

Law 139 date 17.12.2015 “On Local Self-government”

CMD 835 date 03.12.2004 “National Plan for Civil Emergencies”

CMD 965 date 2.12.2015 “On the interinstitutional cooperation of the governing structures, in case of civil emergencies”



# Civil Protection System

The Civil Protection System in Albania consists on permanent and temporary structures at central level, qark (county) and local level. Through these structures, each ministry, department or institution, has specific responsibilities, for all the stages of the emergency management cycle. Under coordination and cooperation of General Directory of Civil Emergencies

The qark's (county's) Prefect is responsible for coordination of planning and coping with civil emergencies at qark (county) or regional level. Under the chairmanship of the prefect under strict cooperation with General Directory of CE, is established the Planning and Responding to Civil Emergencies Commission whose main task is coordination of activities of the qark (county) authorities and voluntary organizations for planning and coping emergency.

## **Responsibilities at municipality and administrative division level.**

The mayor and the head of each administrative division, is responsible for planning and first responding to civil emergencies on each respective area of municipality.

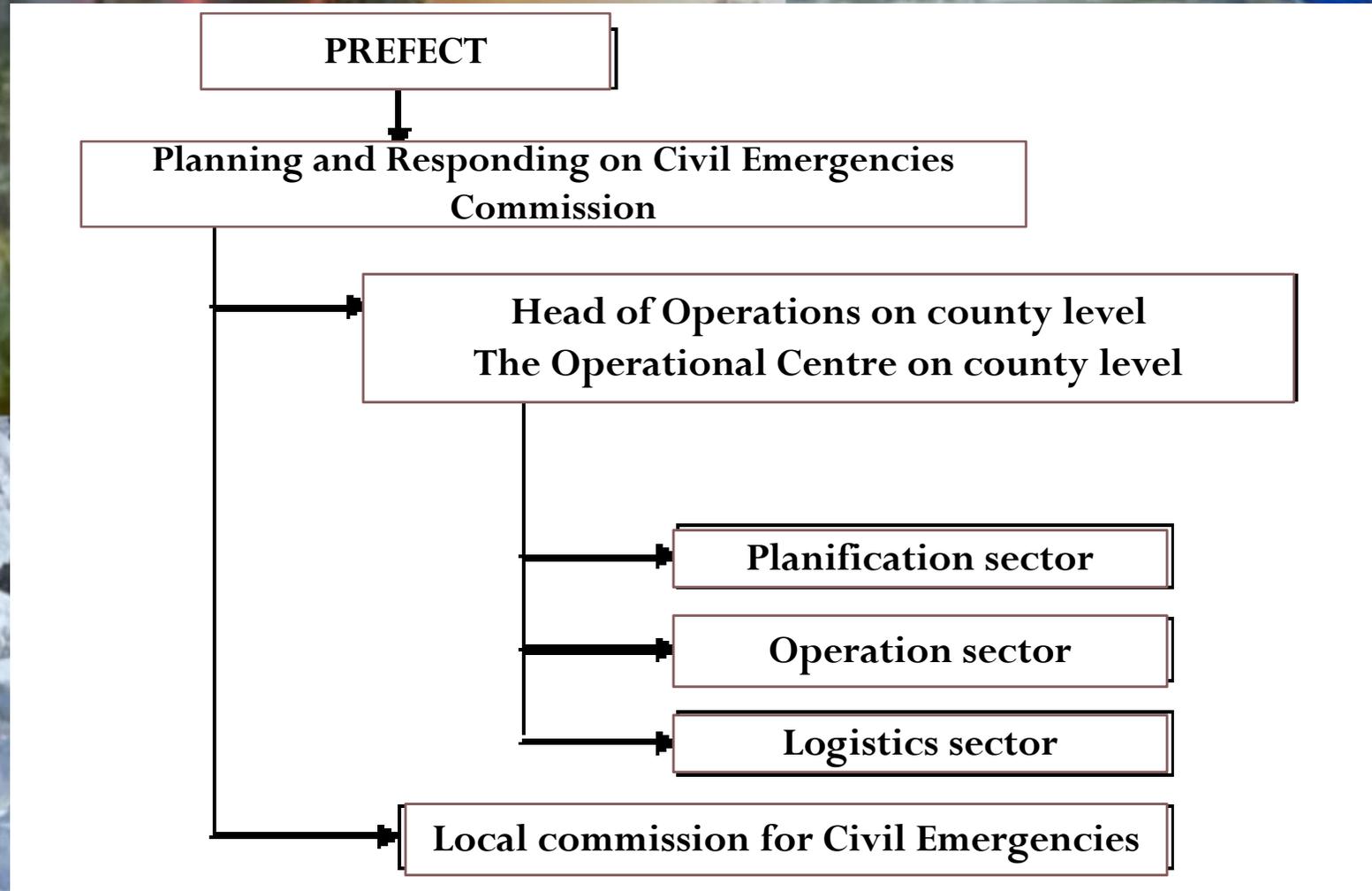
Under the chairmanship of the mayor and the head of administrative division, is established the Commission of Planning and Responding on Civil Emergencies. Its main task is to coordinate all activities of local government units and voluntary organizations.

The National Plan on Civil Emergencies along with the law on Civil Emergencies are the main documents in Albania related to prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response.

The plan covers all elements of prevention, mitigation and recovery and it suggests that all prefectures administrations and municipalities should develop their own Civil Emergency Plans



# ACTION SCHEME ACCORDING TO THE LAW



**The Major**



**The Local Commission for Civil. Emergencies**

**Head of Operations on municipality level/administrative division**

**Operation sector**

**Logistics sector**

**Emergency interventions structure on municipality level/administrative division**

**Emergency Response structure on local level**

**RED CROSS**

**DONORS**



# Responsibilities for the Prefects as Head of the Civil Emergency Commission on county level



On time drafting reports, periodic information according to data given in cooperation with

- Municipalities,
- Albanian State Police,
- Albanian electricity transmission system,
- Albanian water supply and sewerage sector,
- Environment directories,
- Albanian Armed Forces,
- Albanian Health Authority,
- Albanian Road Authority,
- Fire Protection and Rescue units, etc.

**Making proposals for concrete measures to undertake according to situations**

**(Orders, directives, etc.)**

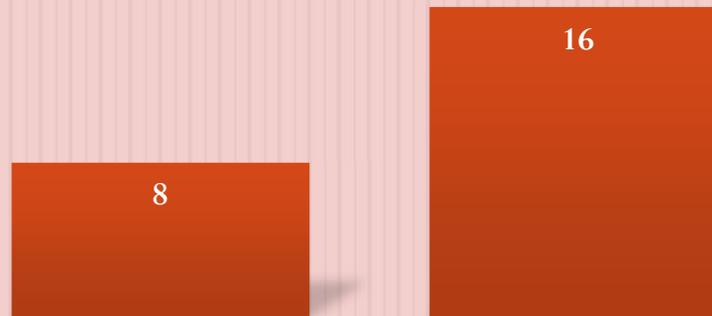


Hazards of natural origin which Albania is exposed to, are: geologic (earthquakes, rock falls and landslides); hydro-meteorological (flooding and torrential rains, droughts, snowstorms, high snowfall, avalanches and windstorms); biophysical (forest fires and epidemics); while the ones of manmade origin consist on: dams burst, floods and technological risks.

Forests occupy roughly 29% of Albania which is one of the Mediterranean countries most affected by forest fires.

Recently, only Tirana county dealt with a various disasters regarding fires

### Year 2019



February

Mars



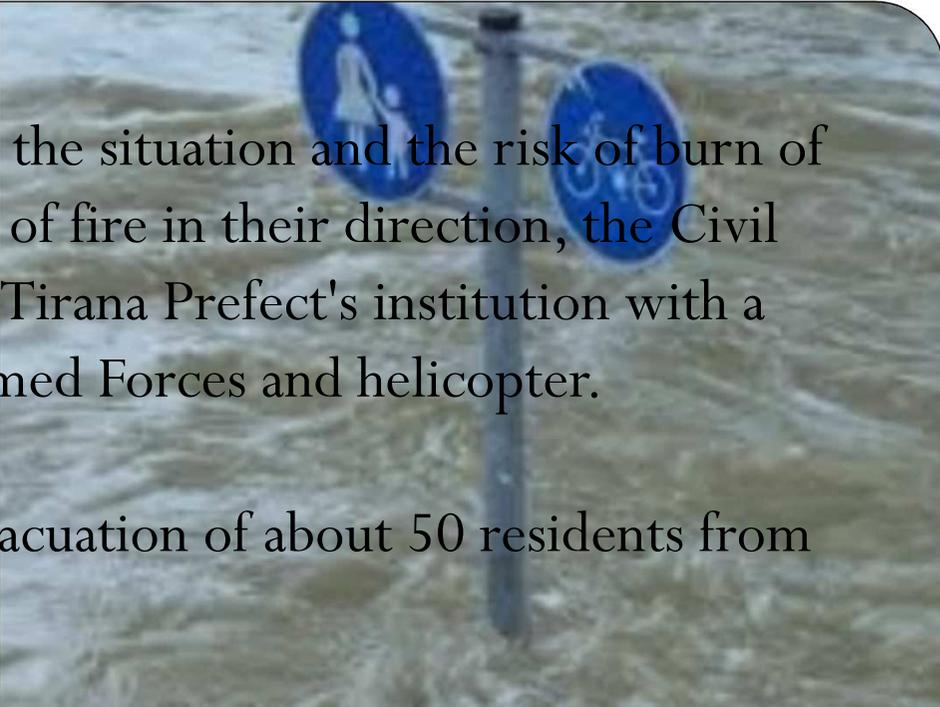
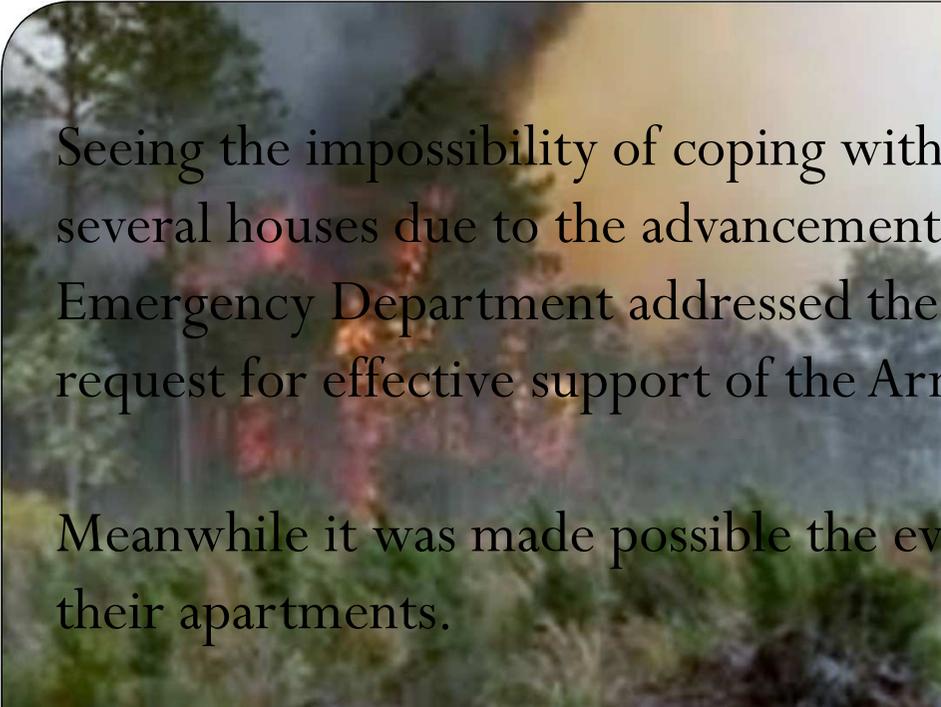
# Fire emergency case

On 09.29.2018, at about 12:00, civil emergency specialist at the Directorate of Civil Emergencies, Tirana municipality was announced by specialist on civil emergencies at Peza Administrative division, about a fire situation in Varosh village's olive groves. The situation was quite problematic and present danger to the population.

After receiving the information, the Directorate of Civil Emergencies, Tirana Municipality informed the Fire Service, the State Police, and the Municipal Police for the created situation.

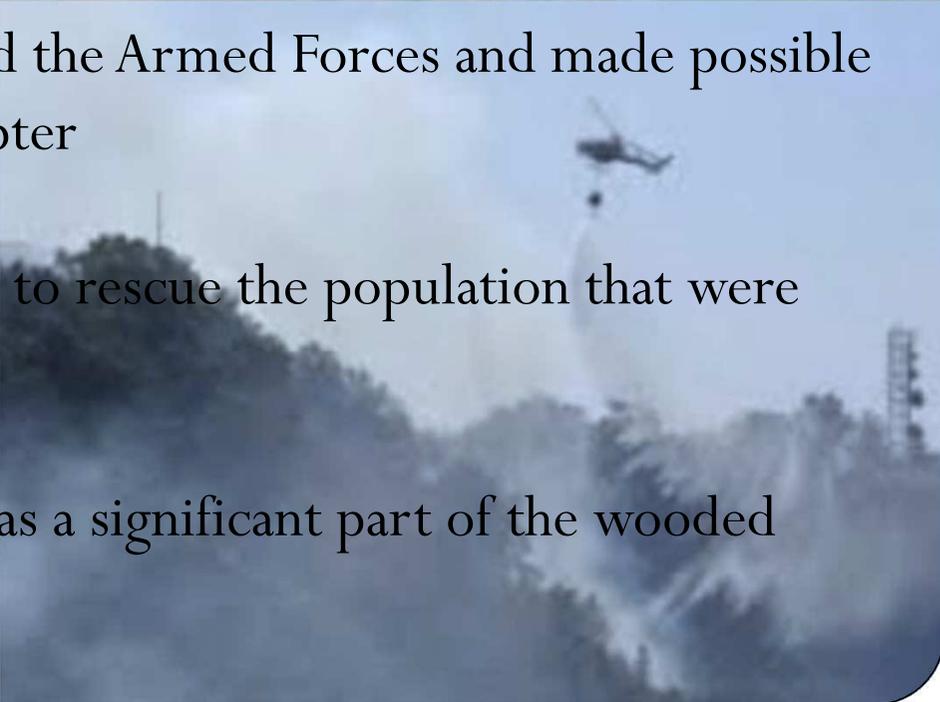
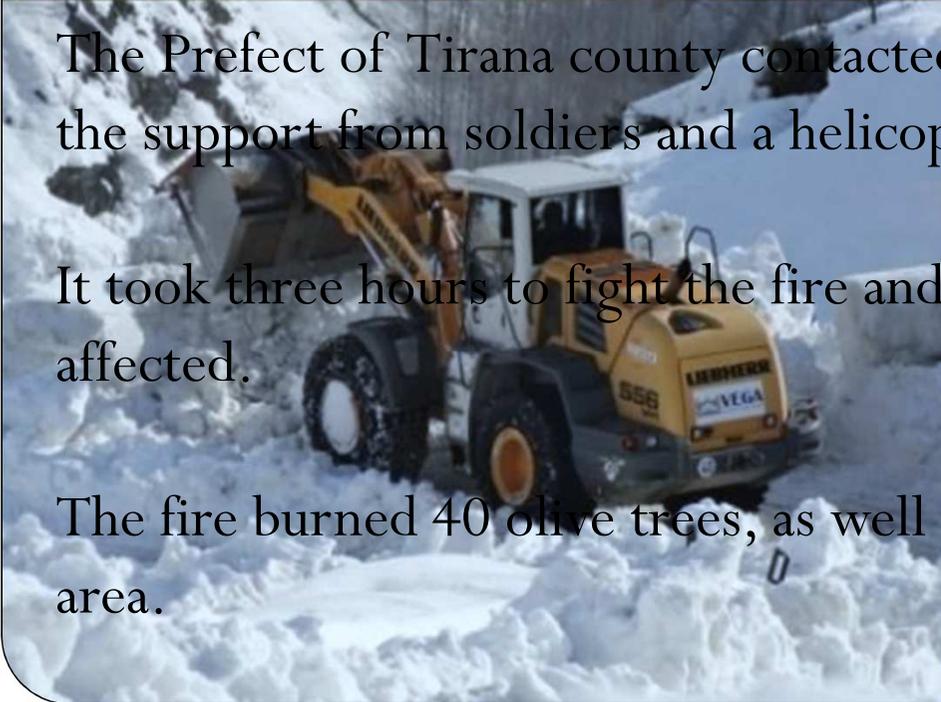
The fire service was at the place in a very short time, but their intervention with vehicles was impossible due to the rugged terrain. Everyone started to use backpack fire pumps and other tools, to control and fight the fire.

Directorate of Civil Emergencies, the Municipality of Tirana, were on the scene following and coordinating the firefighting operation in cooperation with the Fire Service, State Police, the Municipal Police and all the employees of the Peza Administrative division.



Seeing the impossibility of coping with the situation and the risk of burn of several houses due to the advancement of fire in their direction, the Civil Emergency Department addressed the Tirana Prefect's institution with a request for effective support of the Armed Forces and helicopter.

Meanwhile it was made possible the evacuation of about 50 residents from their apartments.

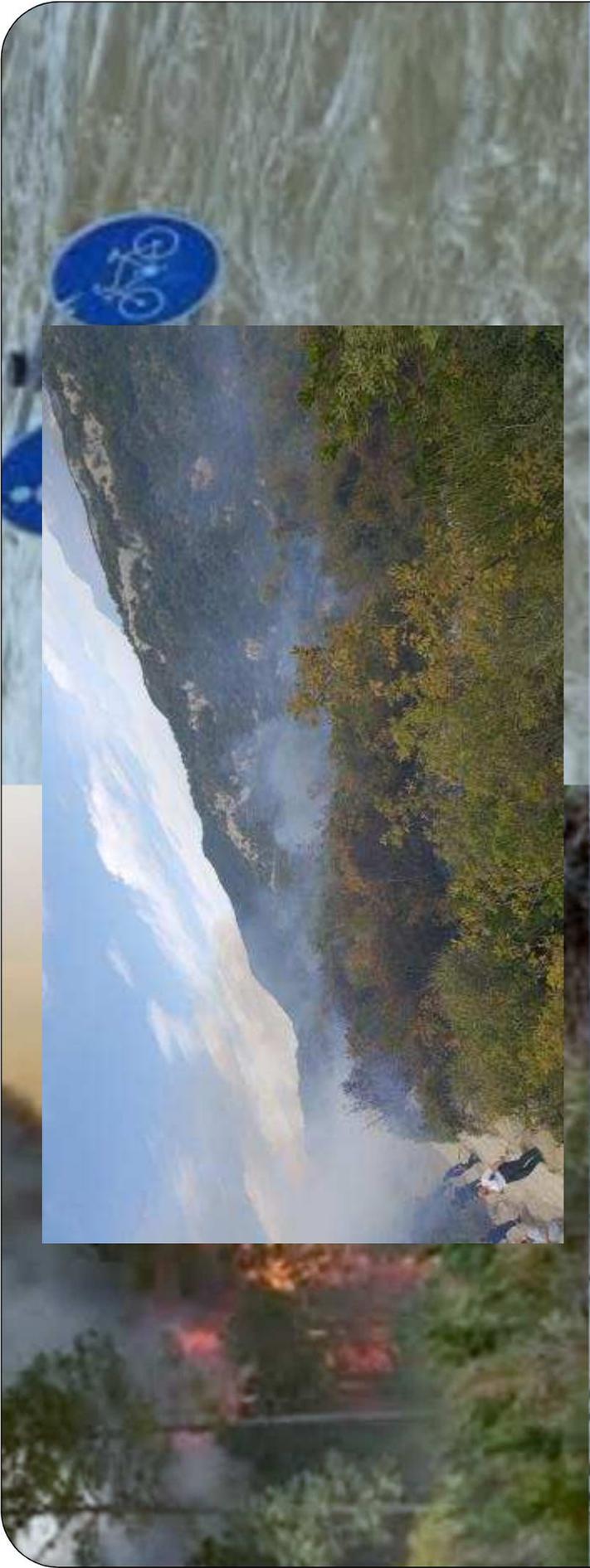


The Prefect of Tirana county contacted the Armed Forces and made possible the support from soldiers and a helicopter

It took three hours to fight the fire and to rescue the population that were affected.

The fire burned 40 olive trees, as well as a significant part of the wooded area.







# Learnings

The lessons learned from cases like this and an increasing ability of institutions to cooperate with each other and better respond to the occurred disasters, are a good basis for future challenges of these nature.

The behavior of the population in Albania often contributes to, rather than reduces, the effects of disasters. Another challenge is the dominant “command mentality”, instead of mentality of openness, initiative, coordination and cooperation. In addition, there is no solid culture of volunteerism among the population of Albania.

Regional cooperation can be strengthened through inter-agency meetings, joint planning and training exercises and routine sharing of information and reports. In essence, any activity conducted in a pre-disaster phase that builds trust, friendship and professional working relationships between key disaster personnel will facilitate improved disaster response.



## Gaps and problematics

Problems are related to the inadequacy of forecasting techniques; environmental control measures; training for emergency personnel and education to the population in prevention/protection and measures; Forest maintenance for fire prevention

Good infrastructure also helps minimize the area a fire spreads to, such as access roads and water supply, above all, and early detection of the fire as well as availability of sufficient firefighters to reach the fire as soon as possible