The Global Wildland Fire Network (GWFN)
Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC)

The Global Wildland Fire Network
In accordance with the decision of the former Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction (IATF/DR) of the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), the Global Wildland Fire Network (GWFN) and the UNISDR Wildland Fire Advisory Group (WFLAG) were created in 2004 under the auspices of UNISDR. The GWFN provides an umbrella of 14 independent Regional Wildland Fire Networks of different / individual origins and mandates. Its mission is to (a) reduce the negative impacts of landscape fires on the environment and humanity, and (b) to advance the knowledge and application of the ecologically and environmentally benign role of natural fire in fire-dependent ecosystems, and sustainable application of fire in land-use systems.

National and Regional Network Activities: A Few Examples 2016-2018

Development of a Regional Fire Danger Rating System for the South Caucasus
With the financial assistance of Switzerland, through the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and the scientific-technical support by the Canadian Forest Service and the GFMC the system was implemented in 2015-16.

The Wildfire Emergency in Chile 2017: The Follow-up Process
On 2-3 October 2017, the National Forest Corporation of Chile (Corporación Nacional Forestal – CONAF) and GFMC convened the Second Regional Symposium and Consultation on Cross-Boundary Cooperation in Fire Management in South America in Viña del Mar, Chile. The consultation was supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Interior and Public Safety, and the Ministry of Agriculture of Chile, with the patronage of the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL). The consultation was attended by delegations of organizations and agencies of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela. The participants of the consultation released the Declaration of Viña del Mar 2017 / Declaration of Viña del Mar 2017 on Cross-Boundary Cooperation in Fire Management in South America.

Support of Countries in Devising National Fire Management Policies
After the wildfires affecting Matti, a suburb of Athens, Greece, which left behind 102 people killed, numerous injuries and the loss of critical infrastructures, houses, and private assets. On 23 August 2018 the government of Greece entrusted the GFMC to lead a committee to be in charge of the underlying causes of the wildfiend fires in the country and to develop recommendations for required reforms and policy measures in order to increase the resilience of the natural, cultural and urban-industrial landscapes of Greece and the people living therein against wildfires. The Committee, consisting of GFMC lead and a Core Team of five Landscape Fire Scientists delivered its strategic recommendation to the government on 7 February 2019. Among other it was recommended to set up a national Landscape Fire Management Agency.

The Global Wildland Fire Network

Global Activities
The GWFN – through its Secretariat – the GFMC continued contributing to the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and its successor arrangement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

Starting in 2005 the GWFN contributed to the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters. Since the Sendai Framework is the successor instrument to the HFA for implementing policies and action in DRR, the earlier positionings of the GWFN as a contribution to the HFA has consequently being updated. This Voluntary Commitment reflects our renewed support to the implementation of the Sendai Framework.

First International Landscape Fire Award goes to Indonesia in 2019
The award was launched by the GWFN in 2019 and will be awarded to individuals or institutions for:
Recognition for Successful Achievements in Reducing the Adverse Impacts of Landscape Fires on the Environment and Humanity and the Promotion of Sustainable and Safe Application of Fire in Land Use and Ecosystem Management.

The Global Wildland Fire Network (GWFR)
United Nations International Strategy / Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
A Voluntary Commitment to the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

Regional Wildland Fire Networks: North America – Mexico / Central America – Caribbean – South America – South America – South America – South America / Central Asia – Central Asia – Europe

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Opening of the Regional Central Asia Fire Management Resource Center (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia)
In 2015 the Regional Central Asia Fire Management Resource Center (ICAF/MRC) has been established in Ulaanbaatar, with the long standing support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) through the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) (for detailed activities 2015-2019 see the Central Asia regional poster). One of the major activities in 2018 included the active participation in the Asian Ministerial Conference of Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) in Mongolia.

Opening of the Regional Central Asia Fire Management Resource Center – South East Asia (Bogor, Indonesia)
In 2017 the GFMC through financial support by the German Federal Ministry for Food and Agriculture, based on a decision of the German Bundestag – has established its 4th Regional Branch by establishment of the Regional Fire Management Resource Center – South East Asia (RFMRC-SEA), which is based at IPB University. This Center is serving the Science-Policy Interface (SPI) with regards to our mission.

Opening of the Regional Eurasia Fire Monitoring Center (Krasnoyarsk, Russia)
By agreement between The Global Fire Monitoring Center and Sukachev Institute of Forest was signed in 2017 to establish the Regional Eurasia Fire Monitoring Center (RFMC) at the Sukachev Institute for Forest, Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Krasnoyarsk, Russia. On 27 August 2019 the Center was officially inaugurated.

Website of the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC): http://gfmc.online/gfmcmain.html
Website of the voluntary Commitment to the Implementation of the Sendai Framework 2015-2030: https://sendaimcomitments.unisdr.com/commitments/20190222_001