



**GOFC GOLD Fire IT Meeting, Santiago, Chile, 15-17 November 2016**

# **Review of Recent Activities of the Global Wildland Fire Network and the Regional South America Wildland Fire Network**

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# The Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC) and the Global Wildland Fire Network

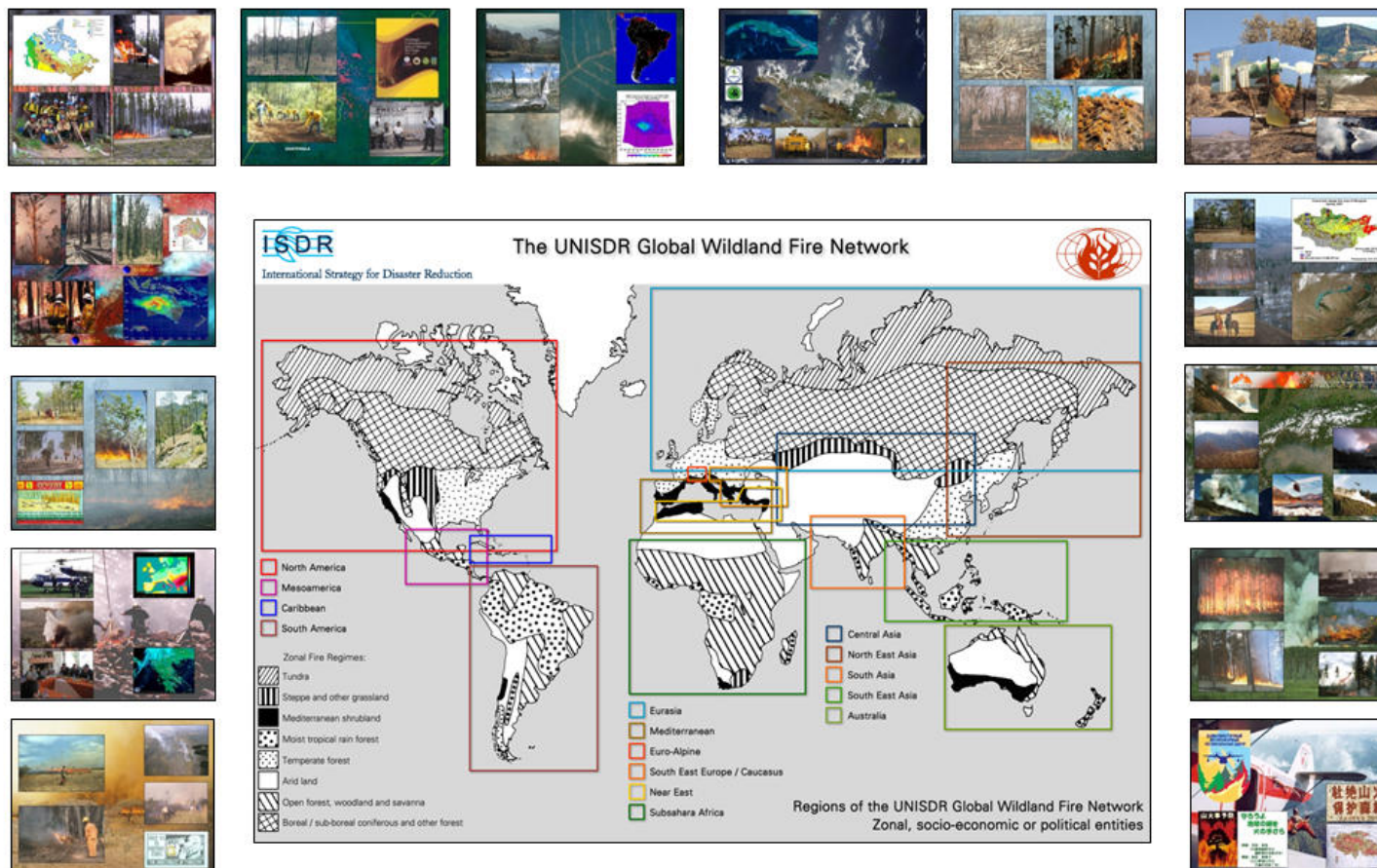


As a global facility for vegetation fire documentation and analysis, the GFMC is:

- Provider of scientific and technical advice to governments, regional entities and international organizations, notably the UN, for the development of policies and strategies to reduce the negative impacts of fire on the environment and humanity and to promote the safe and benign use of fire in ecosystem and land management
- Secretariat of the **Global Wildland Fire Network** and the UNISDR Wildland Fire Advisory Group

# The Global Wildland Fire Network (launched in 2001)

## 14 Regional Wildland Fire Networks – Cooperating with the GOFC-GOLD Regional Implementation Teams





Recommendations of the  
**“UNECE Regional Forum on Cross-boundary Fire Management”**  
Geneva, 28-29 November 2013  
Establishment of Voluntary International Cooperation Mechanisms



# Recommendations of the UNECE / FAO Forum

(Recommendation 4)


## Adoption and continued development of the **International Wildfire Preparedness Mechanism (IWPM)**

- **The IWPM will provide a voluntary framework from which to cascade improved knowledge, good practice, experience and training globally**
  - Sharing of fire management expertise across borders
  - Application of standard training materials
  - Development of common SOPs for enhancing cross-boundary inter-operability in fire management, especially in wildfire emergencies

# Website of the International Wildfire Preparedness Mechanism (IWPM)

<http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/iwpm/index.htm>

## International Wildfire Preparedness Mechanism (IWPM)



[The IWPM in Brief](#)

[Background Reading](#)

[Offers and Recent Successful Capacity Building by Exchange](#)

[International Fire Aviation Guidelines](#)

  
[Competency Standards and Training Materials in 13 Languages](#)



### Welcome to the Portal of the International Wildfire Preparedness Mechanism!

The IWPM was developed in following up the UNECE/FAO Regional Forum on Crossboundary Fire Management (UN Geneva, November 2013). The IWPM, currently hosted by the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), is a non-financial instrument serving as a broker / facilitator between national and international agencies, programmes and projects to exchange expertise and build capacities in wildland fire management and particularly in enhancing preparedness to large wildfire emergency situations. The IWPM has been developed in tandem with the International Fire Aviation Guidelines and the International Manual of Common Rules for Fire Aviation.

National agencies responsible for the management of vegetation fires as well as projects seeking or offering expertise are encouraged to use the contact forms (contact details to GFMC are provided in the forms):

- [IWPM Contact Form for requesting assistance in wildfire preparedness](#) (PDF)
- [IWPM Contact Form for offering assistance in wildfire preparedness](#) (PDF)

The GFMC is offering a number of tools that may either be used directly online or be requested for implementation by interested parties:

- [Tools of the Global Fire Monitoring Center \(GFMC\) for advising / supporting nations and the United Nations in Capacity Building in Wildland Fire Management and Wildfire Disaster Risk Reduction](#)
- [GFMC tools mirrored by the UNEP/OCHA Environmental Emergencies Center \(EEC\)](#)

[Back](#)

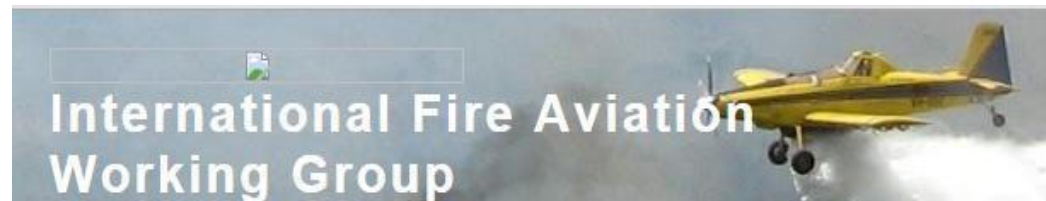
# Recommendations of the UNECE / FAO Forum

(Recommendation 4)

**Adoption and continued development of the [Voluntary International Fire Aviation Guidelines](#) prepared by the [International Fire Aviation Working Group](#)**

▪ **The Forum recommends that UNECE member states adopt in principle the Draft Fire Aviation Guidelines and support their continued development for enhancing aerial firefighting**

- Safety
- Effectiveness
- Efficiency
- Inter-operability





# The Global Wildland Fire Network – Regional Fire Monitoring / Fire Management Resource Centers

- 2010: Establishment of the first Regional Fire Monitoring Center (RFMC) – for the Southeast Europe / Caucasus Region (Skopje, FYR Macedonia)



- 2013: Establishment of the Regional Eastern European Fire Monitoring Center (REEFMC) (Kyiv, Ukraine)



- 2015: Establishment of the Regional Central Asia Fire Management Resource Center (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia)





## **Functions of “Regional Fire Monitoring Centers” (RFMC) / Regional Management Resource Centers” (RFMRC) (I)**

➤ **A RFMC / RFMRC is serving as a regional open fire information repository / hub:**

**Public provision (online and on request) of all information relevant to vegetation fires, e.g.,**

- Conventional databases, statistics
- Scientific and technical literature, narratives, reports (often / mainly grey literature, which is normally hardly accessible)

➤ **Science-technology interface**

Provision of an instrument in the region that will serve the **need bring wildland fire and related sciences into a readable format to policy makers and practitioners**

# Functions of “Regional Fire Monitoring Centers” (RFMC) / Regional Management Resource Centers” (RFMRC) (II)

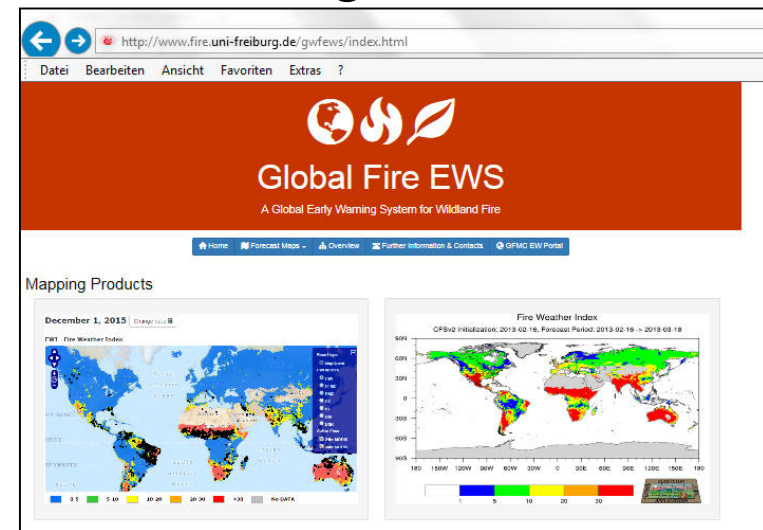
## ➤ Monitoring and information dissemination

Through **partner institutions** delivering information / monitoring

- Fire precursors (fire early warning, fire danger rating)
- Active fires (ongoing fires, current situation)
- Fire impacts (area burned, fire damage, human health & security)

The Global Wildland Fire  
Early Warning System

<http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/gwfews/index.html>

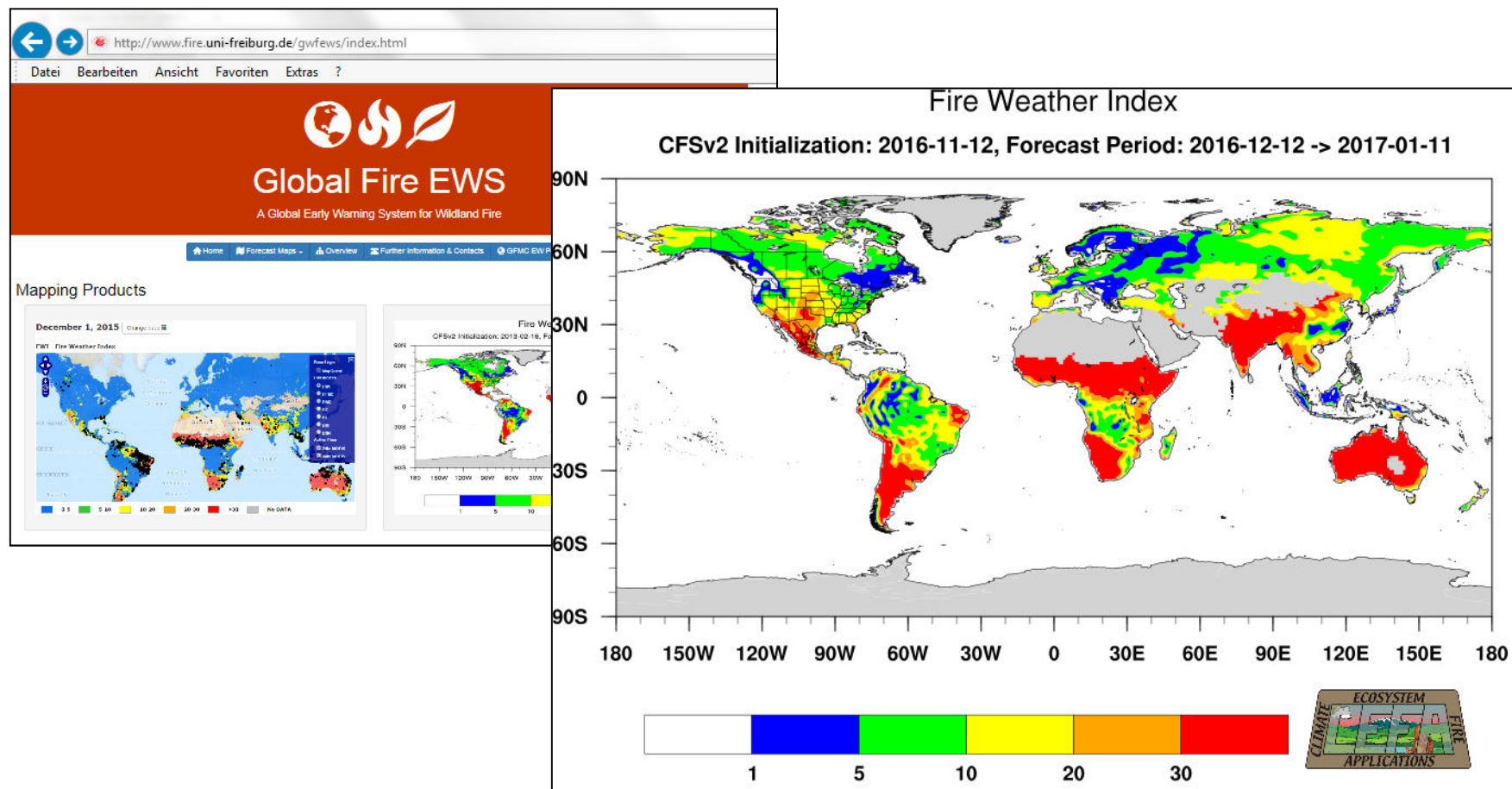


# Global Wildland Fire Early Warning System – Partners:

Program for Climate, Ecosystem and Fire Applications:

Global FWI Forecast up to 8 months:

<http://www.cefa.dri.edu/CFS/fwi.php>

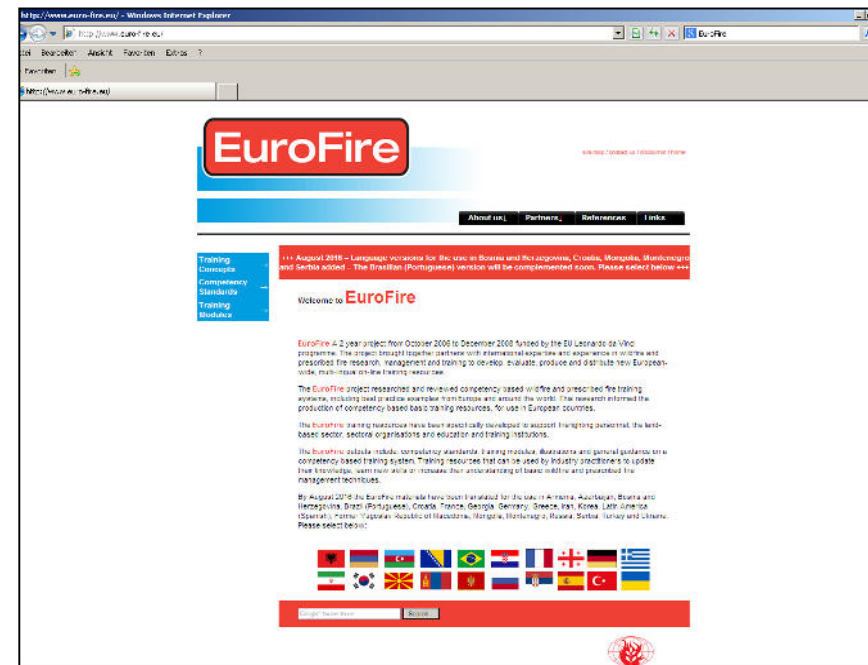


# Functions of “Regional Fire Monitoring Centers” (RFMC) / Regional Management Resource Centers” (RFMRC) (III)

## ➤ **Capacity building: Training and outreach**

Following the philosophy and the economic needs for sharing resources in the region:

- Conducting national and regional training courses, continuous education, seminars, workshops, conferences on ....



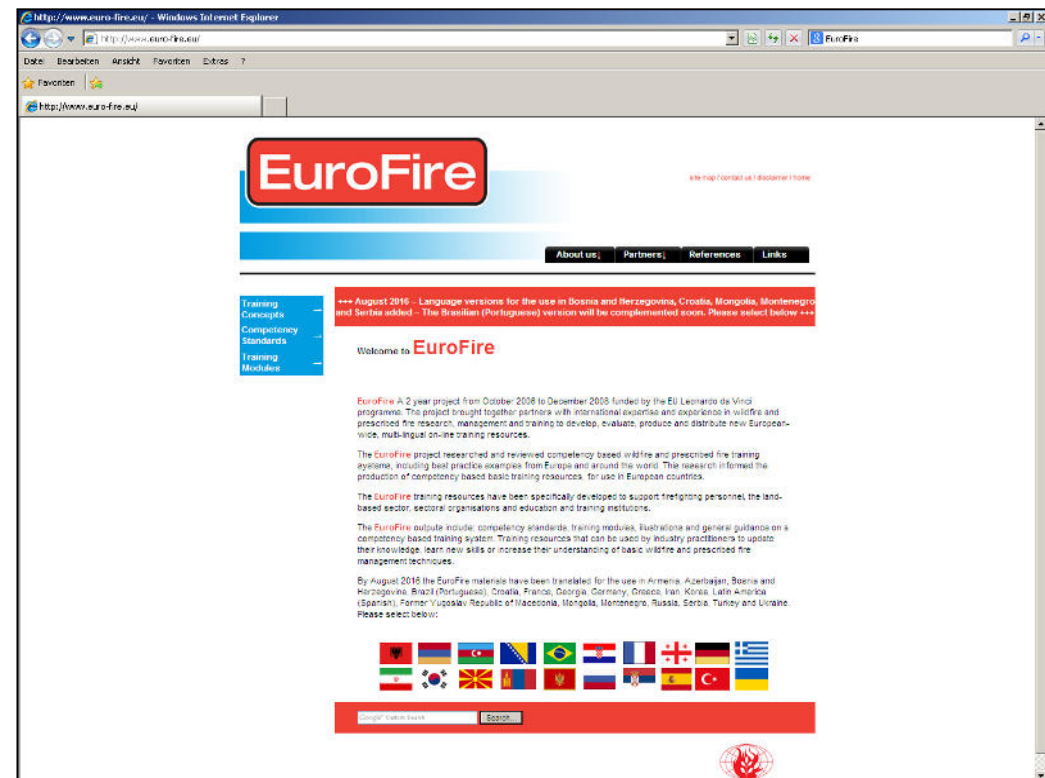


# International competency standards for training of firefighters



**November 2016:  
Available in 14  
Languages for the  
use in 50+ countries**

**[www.euro-fire.eu](http://www.euro-fire.eu)**



# Example of Practicing Preparedness and Cross-boundary Interoperability in Fire Management

**EuroFire**

2<sup>nd</sup> International Fire Management Training Course for the South Caucasus and Western Balkans – Attended by 10 Countries (Antalya, Turkey, October 2014)



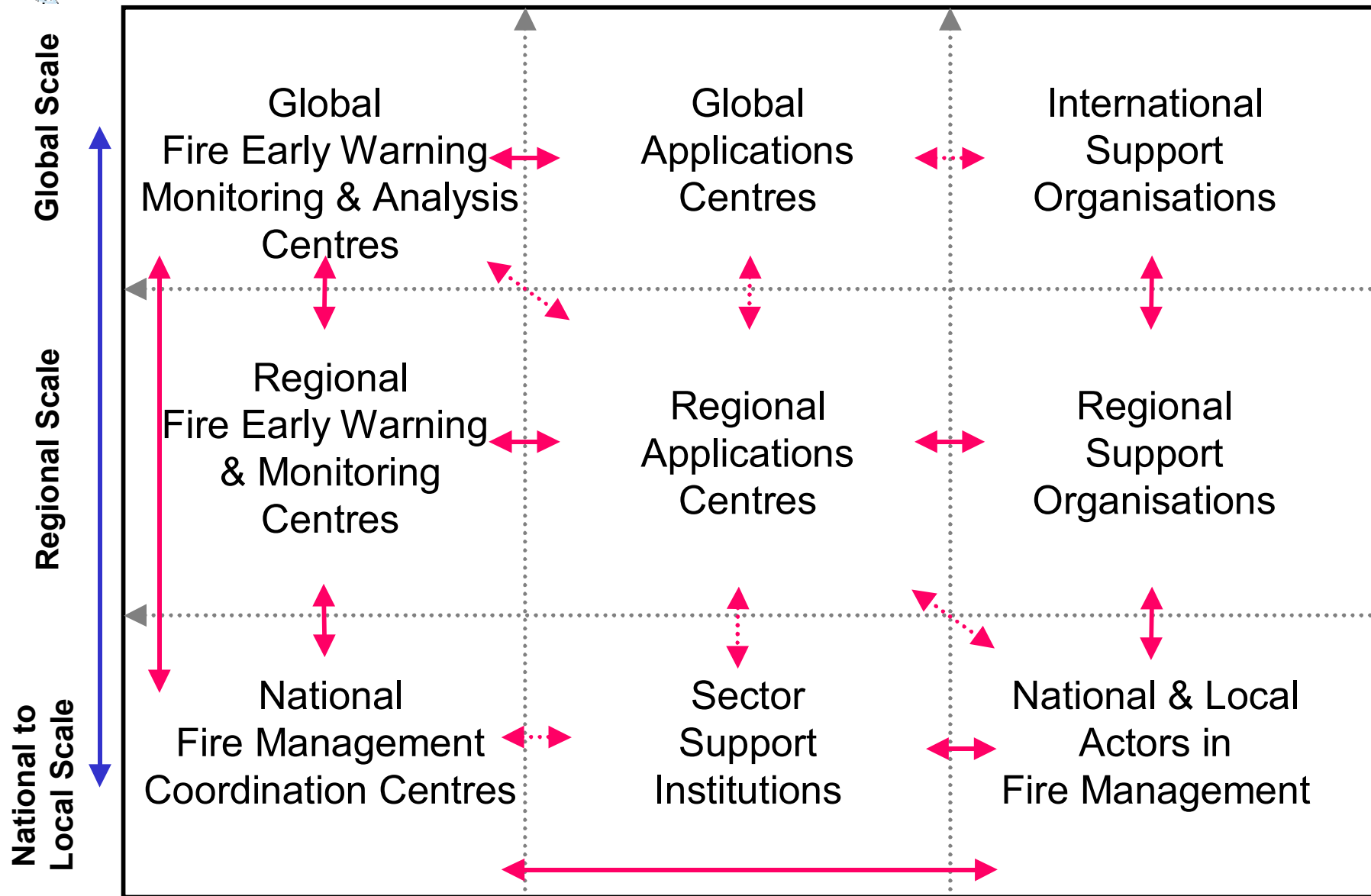
## **Functions of “Regional Fire Monitoring Centers” (RFMC) / Regional Management Resource Centers” (RFMRC) (IV)**

### **➤ Advisory support to nations and to the regional organizations:**

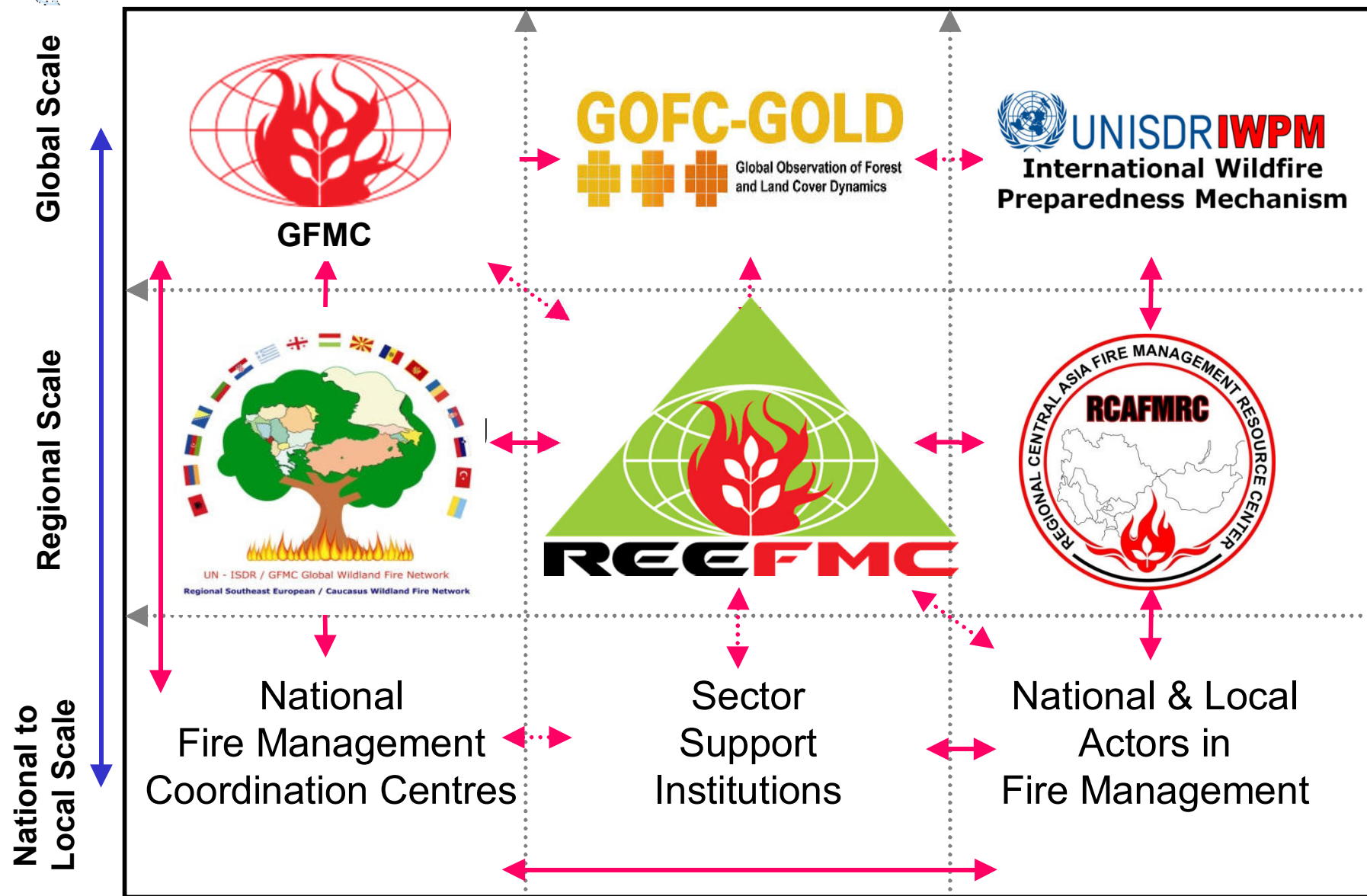
- Development and implementation of fire management policies
- Support of participating countries of the region to develop informal or formal agreements / protocols for cross-boundary cooperation in fire management

### **➤ International nexus: Regional and global networking** RFMRCs support Regional Wildland Fire Networks and ensure inputs of regional interests in the Global Wildland Fire Network









# Activities 2016



- Middle East – Islamic Republic of Iran (May 2016)
  - Introduction of Iran to the Regional Wildland Fire Networks of SE Europe / Caucasus and Central Asia
  - Introduction of the EuroFire Competency Standards in Parsi (Persian)

**EuroFire**



# Activities 2016



## ■ South Asia – Nepal (September 2016)

- Regional Consultative Workshop on Cross-Boundary Cooperation in Fire Management in South Asia
- Development of agreements and procedures for enhancing cross-boundary interoperability
- Godavari Resolution on Cross-Boundary Cooperation in Fire Management in South Asia

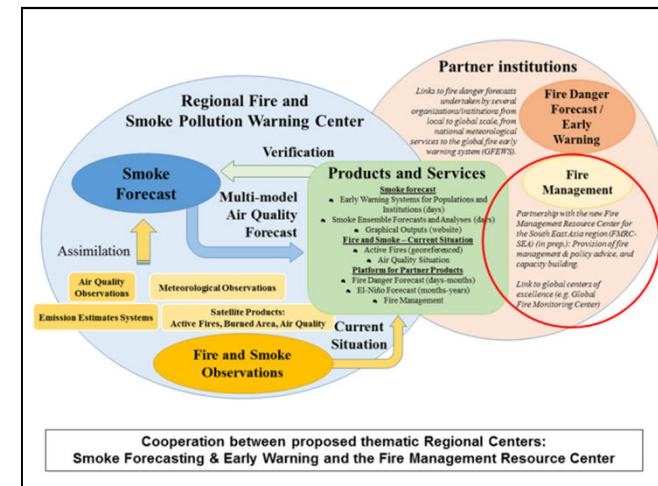




# Activities 2016

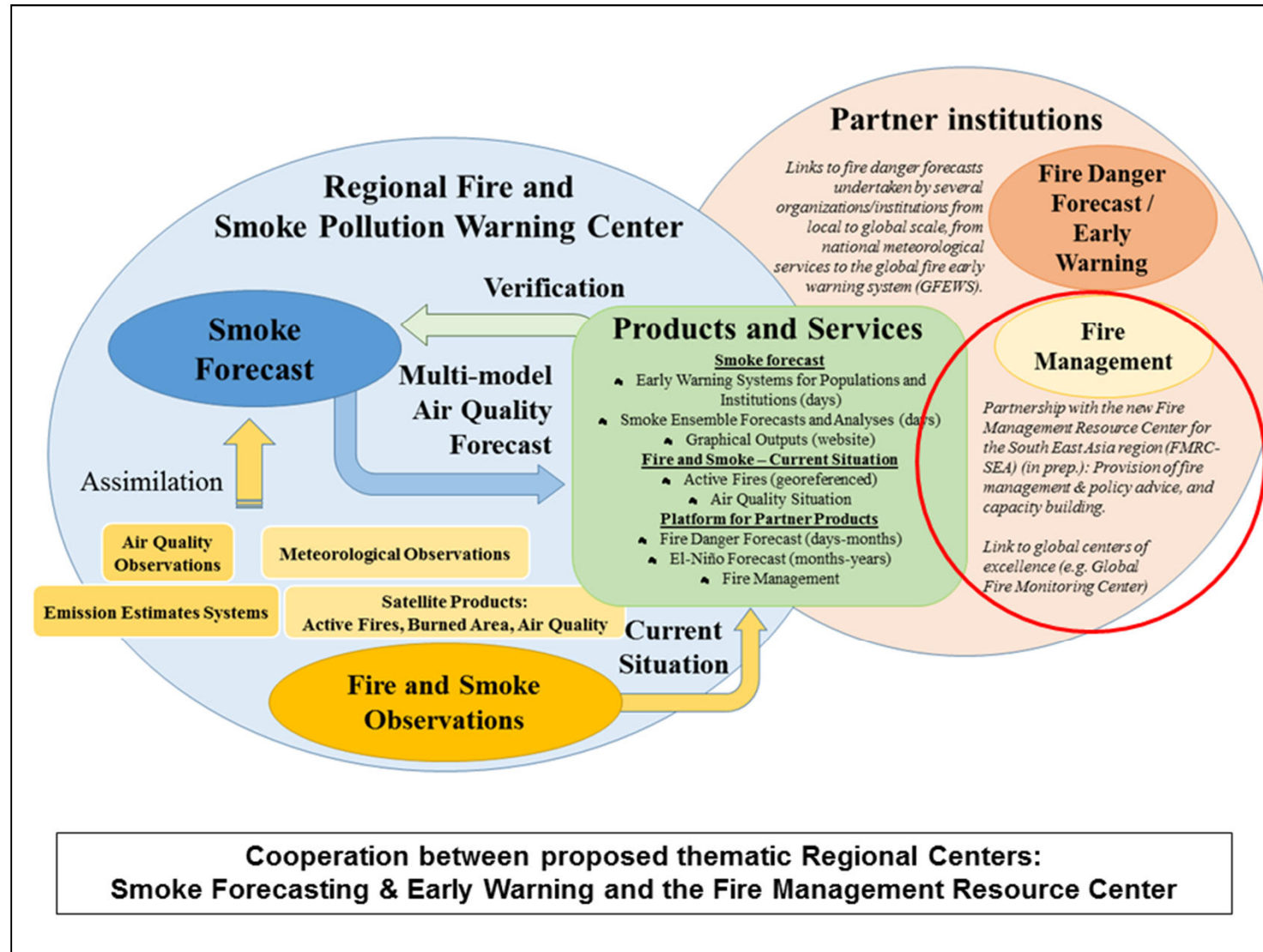
## ■ South East Asia – Indonesia (August 2016)

- Development of a concept for the establishment of a Regional Vegetation Fire and Smoke Pollution Warning and Advisory System (VFSP-WAS)
- Preparation of the establishment of the Regional Fire Management Resource Center – South East Asia Region





# Interaction between two Regional Centers in South East Asia: Collaborative efforts between WMO and GFMC



# Activities 2016

- **South America – Republic of Uruguay (May 2016)**
  - Participating countries: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay
  - Introduction of the EuroFire Competency Standards in Spanish and Portuguese (Brazilian)
  - Introduction of the International Fire Aviation Guidelines



**At the frontlines of  
wildland fire:**

**Wildfires burning in  
Southeast Siberia and  
Northeast Mongolia**

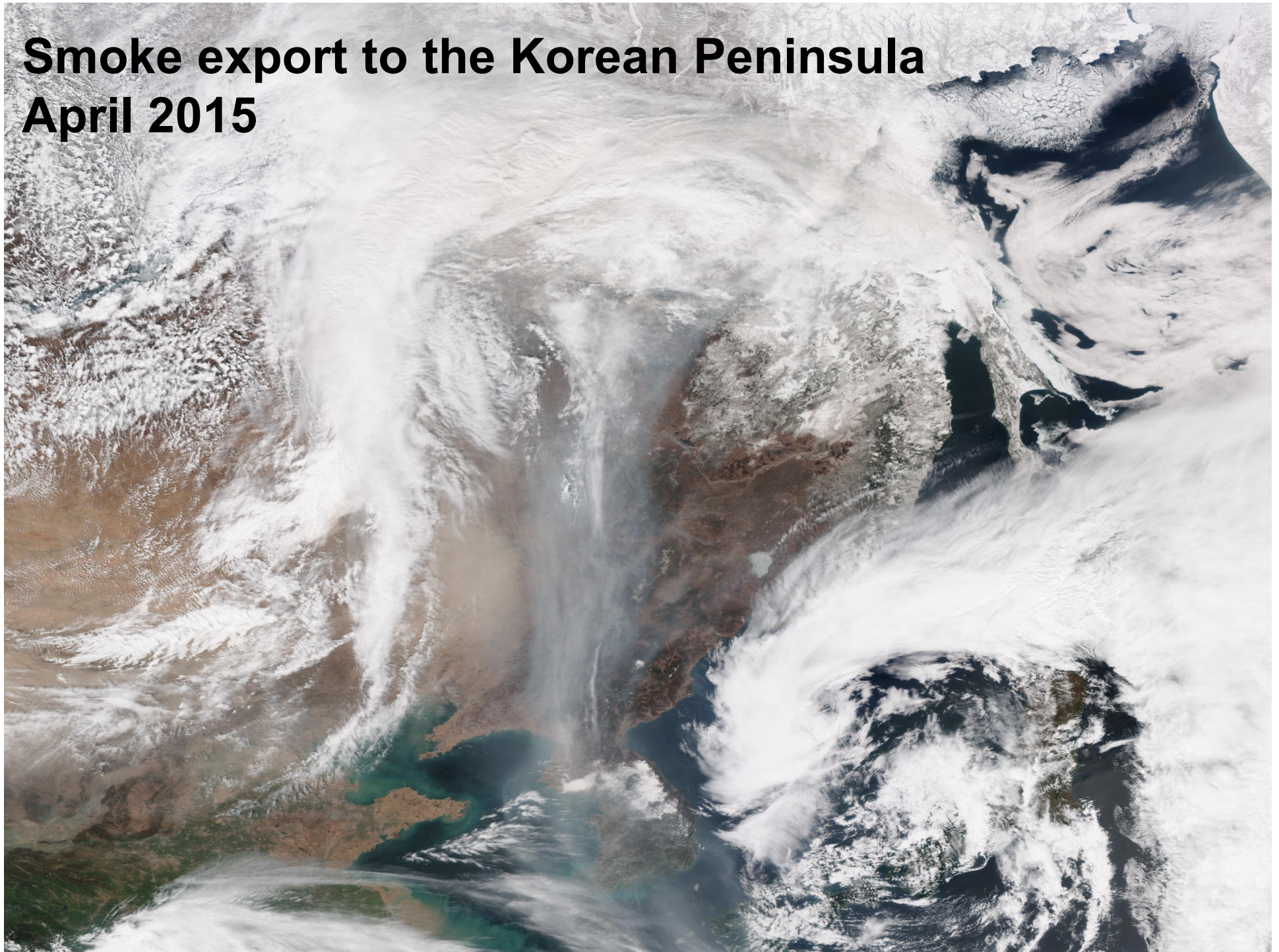
**14 April 2015**





# **Smoke export to the Korean Peninsula**

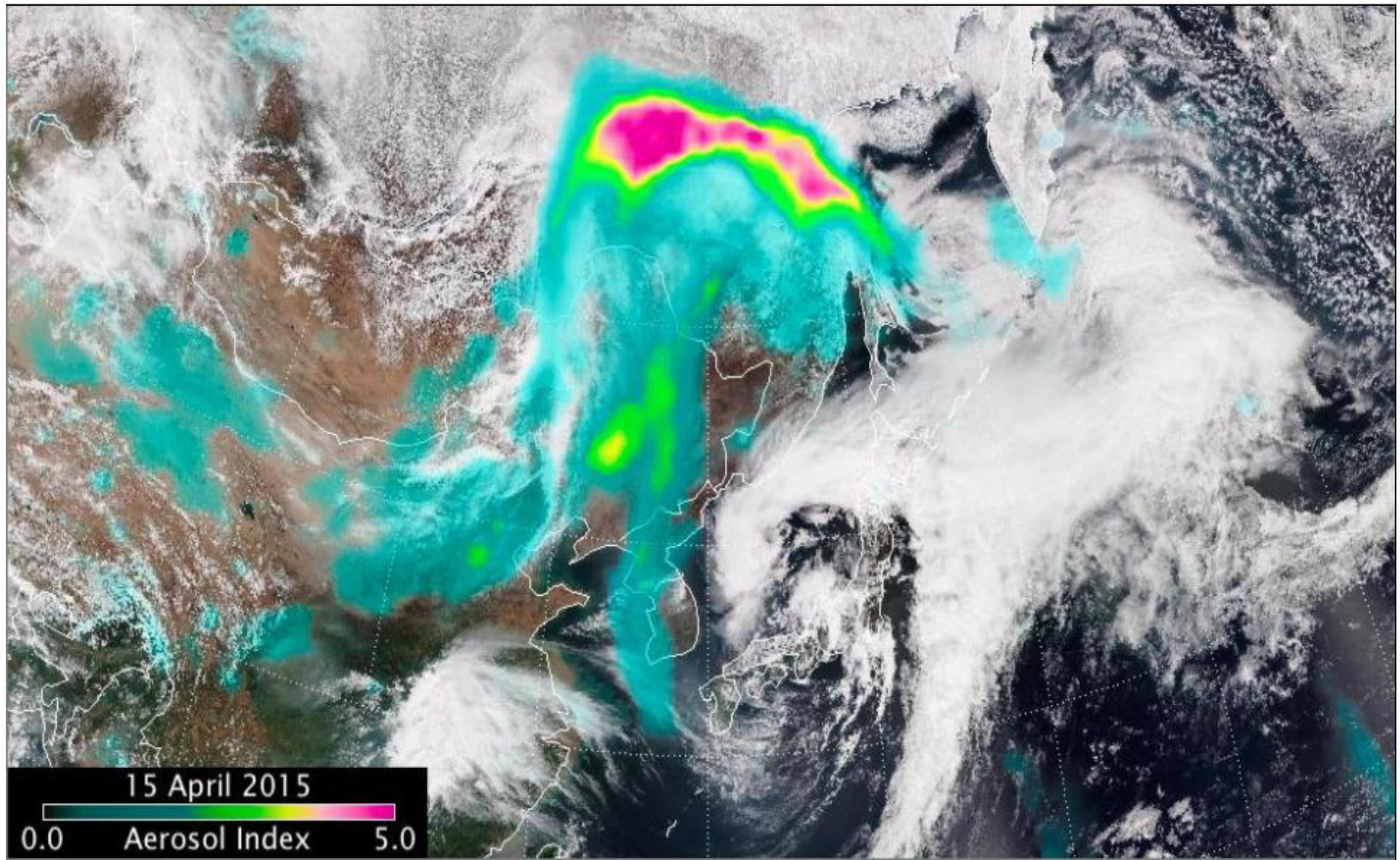
## **April 2015**





# Smoke export to the Pacific and North America

## April 2015

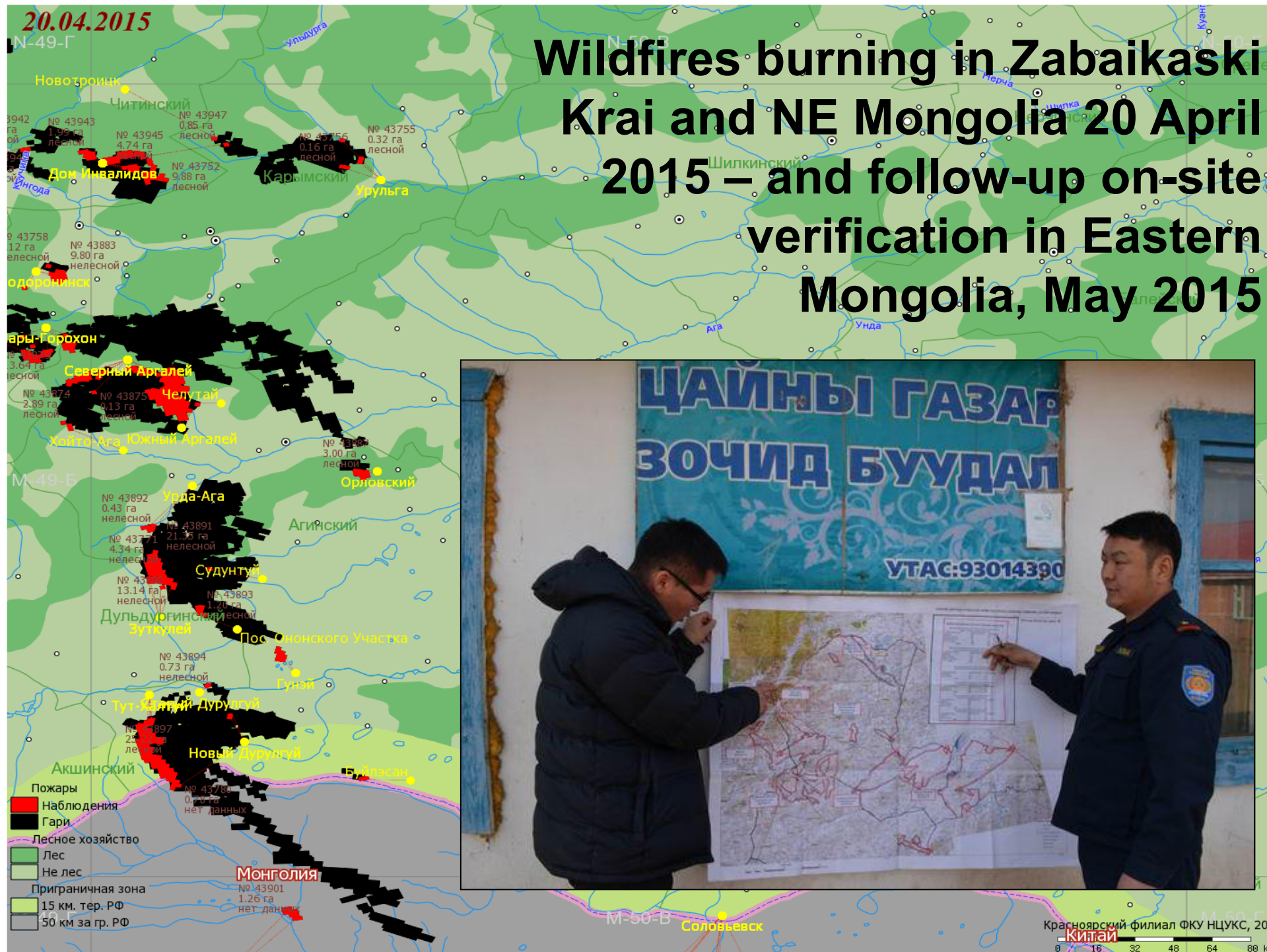




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# Wildfires burning in Zabaikaski Krai and NE Mongolia 20 April 2015 – and follow-up on-site verification in Eastern Mongolia, May 2015



## Action taken in Mongolia:

- Setting up a first National Round Table on Fire Management
- Establishment of an inter-agency fire management committee (“National Coordination Committee on Forest and Steppe Fire Protection”) with representation of civil society
- Development of a proposal National Fire Management Policy, directed to the government



**Next steps:**

## **Initiation of Cross-boundary Cooperation in Fire Management**

- **Establishment of an international agreement on cross-border cooperation on forest and steppe fires**

Mongolia-Russia agreement:

Signed on 14 June 2014





# Joint Mongolian-Russian Fire Exercise 2014





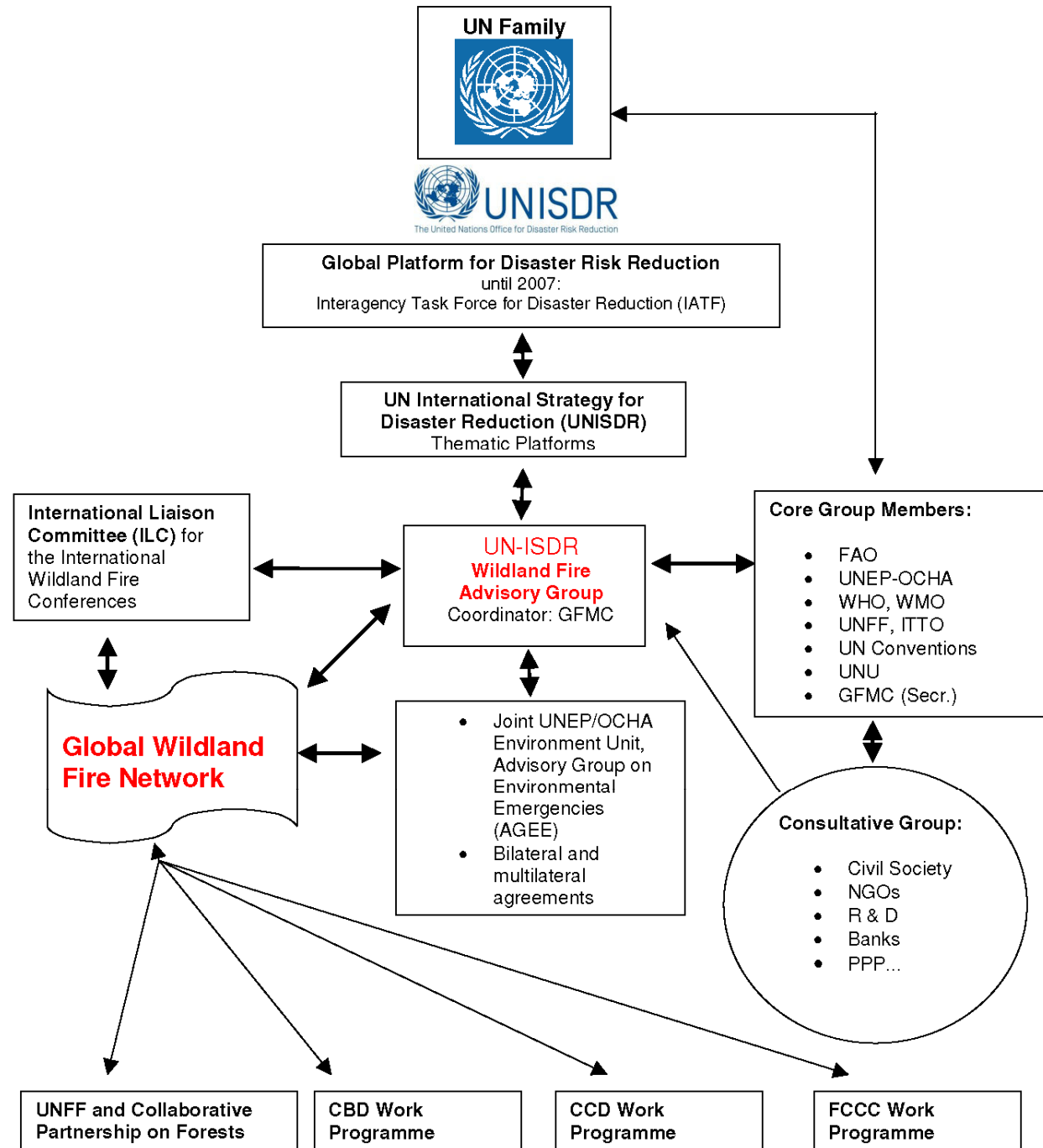


# Joint Regional Fire Management Training





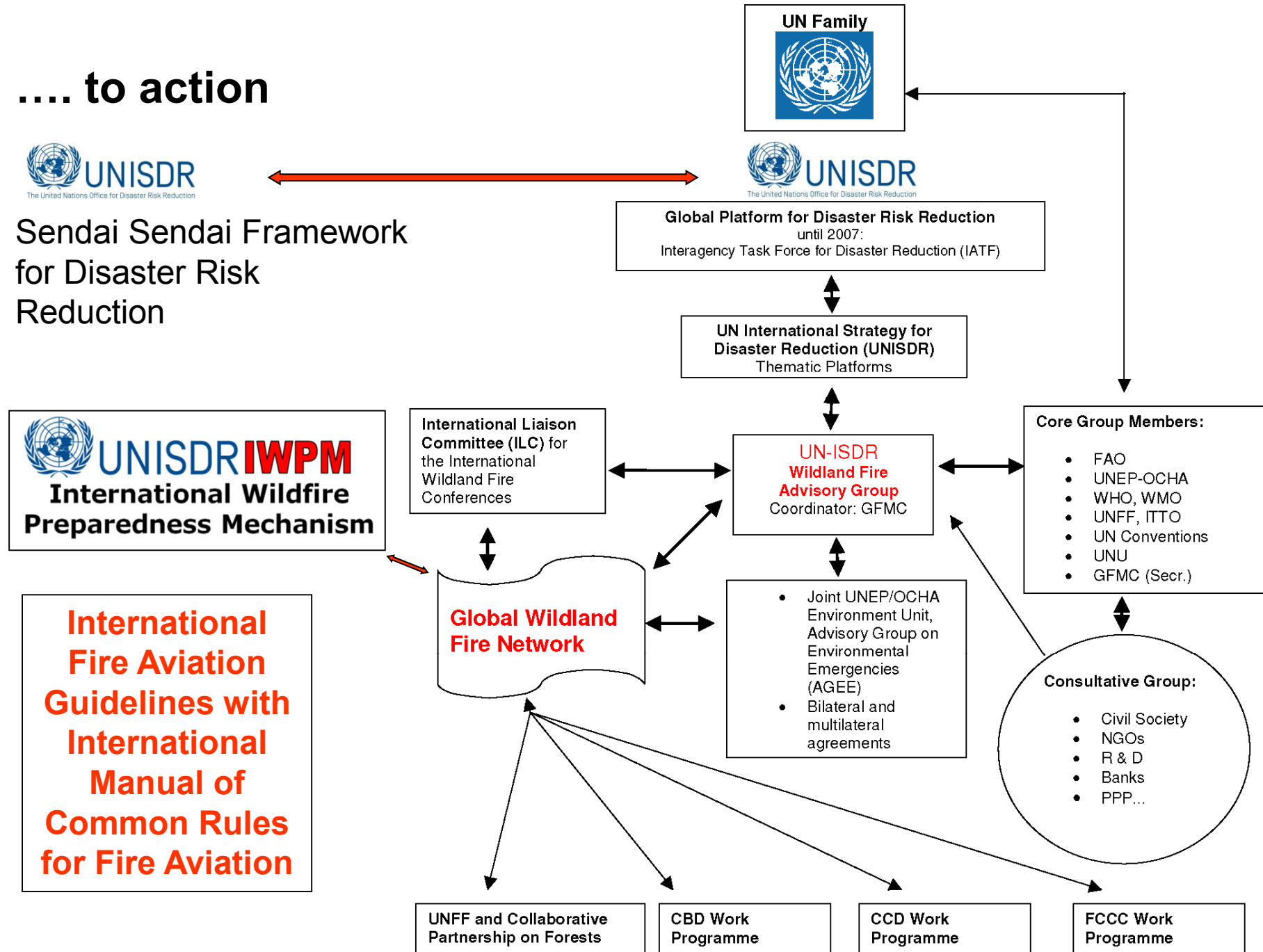
**The inter-agency and international policy dialogue under the auspices of the UN – initiated by the GFMC – is transiting ....**



.... to action



Sendai Framework  
for Disaster Risk  
Reduction





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**Thanks for Your Attention**

