

The Network of Centers of the Italian Civil Protection System

Description

The Network of Centers is constituted by the operative units, able to collect, elaborate and exchange every kind of data (meteorological, hydrological and precipitation data for hydro-geological and hydraulics risk, volcanic, seismic is coming...), thus providing a multiple support system for decisions taking by the Civil Protection Authorities.

The Network is coordinated by the Department of Civil Protection – DPC – that is under the direct Authority of the Prime Minister of the Italian Government.

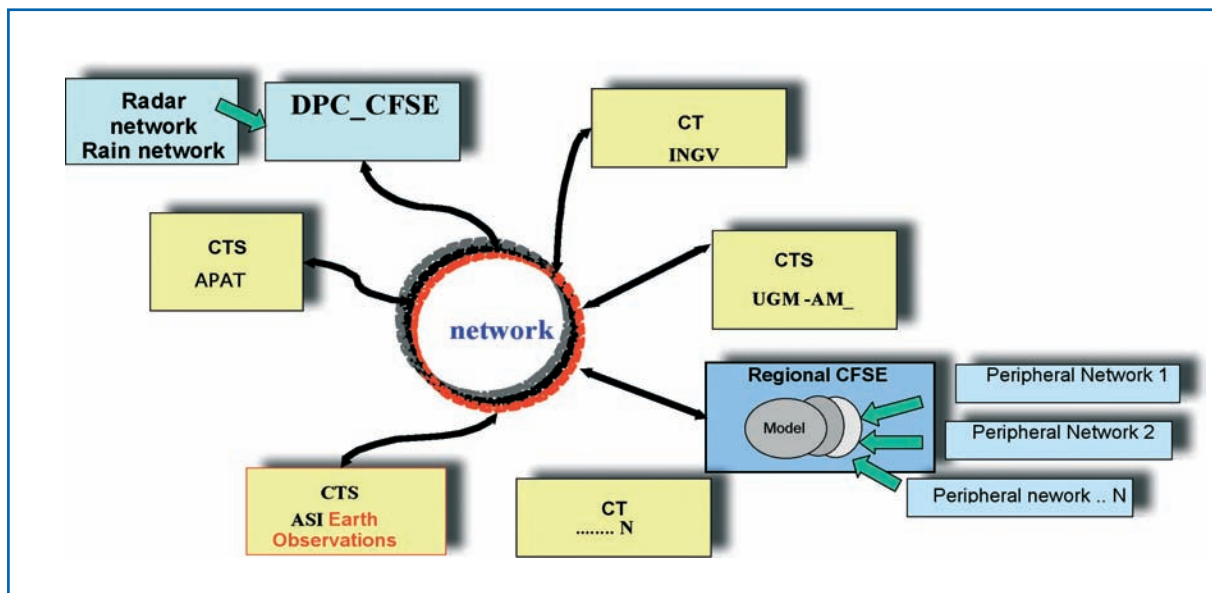
DPC is responsible to issue the guidelines, procedural and operative standards, as well as to coordinate the Network during national level emergencies.

The Network includes two type of Centers :

“Centro Funzionale” = Center for Forecasting and Surveillance of Effects(CFSE).

When completed the Network will include 21 Regional Centers, collecting observations, running forecast models and one at National level, under the control of DPC, collecting Regional data, integrating the national picture and acting as back up in case of need.

“Centro di Competenza”= Center for Technological and Scientific services (CTS) are National level Institutions which provide services, information, data, elaboration, technical and scientific contributions for specific topics.



A number of CTS has already been defined, and are operational. Major Institutions include:

- The General Office for Meteorology - UGM - of the Military Air Force
- The National Environmental Agency - APAT
- The Italian Space Agency - ASI
- The Italian Institute for Geophysics and Volcanology - INGV

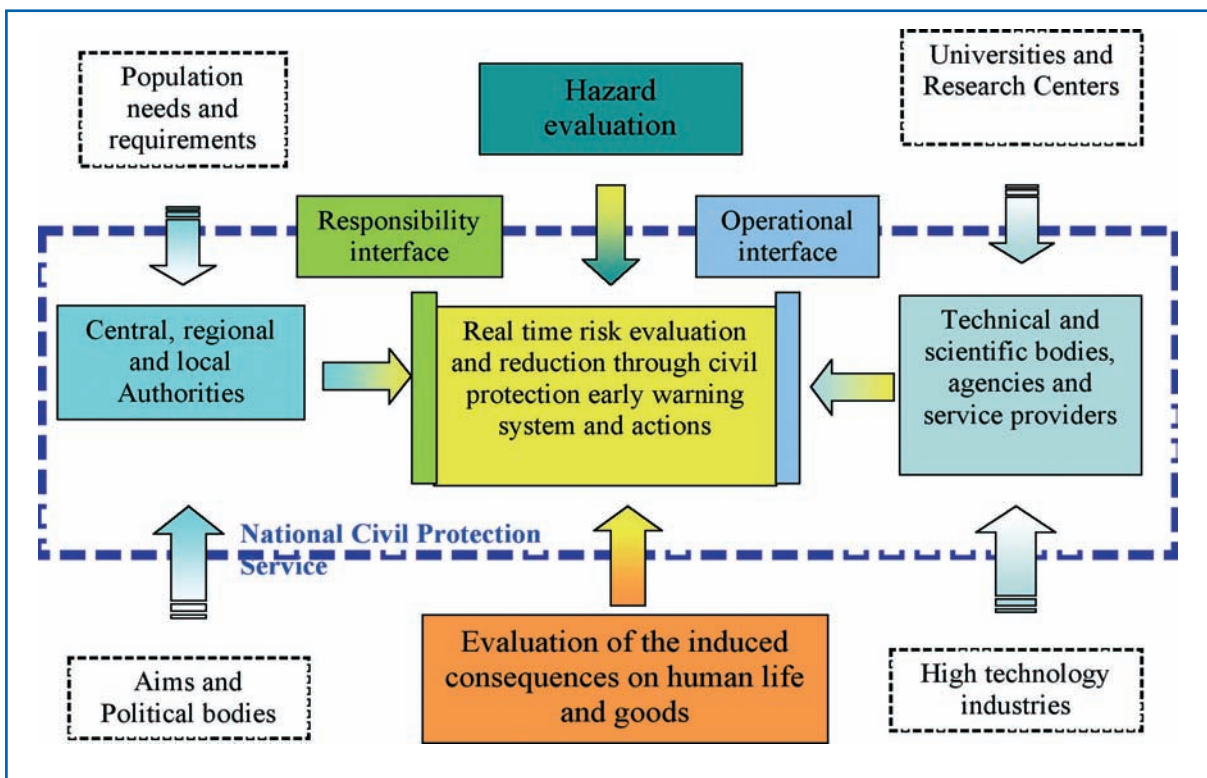
Added value

The system directly addresses two major calls of the GEO 10-year implementation plan: On information needs, by involving Agencies and Institutions in charge of services in other SBA's, it puts in practice the development and use of common products across different SBA's. On Disasters SBA, it realizes the coordination of systems for monitoring, predicting, risk assessment, early warning, mitigating, and responding to hazards at local and national levels, bringing more timely dissemination of information for decision making.

Relevance to GEO

It represents, at Country level, an operational set-up that involves all actors involved in Risk Management, realizing synergies and avoiding duplications in the use of Observation Systems and associated modeling, ensuring the discharging of the relevant responsibilities from Central to local governments and putting together in the same network the Government, the major Public Institutions and the Scientific and Technological Communities. The approach represents a "good practice" to be replicated in other Countries, and, according to its main features, has the potential to be scaled up from Country to Region.

Participants



Current Status and next steps

The Network is being built up. Today 10 Functional Centers and 41 Competence Centers are operational.