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Natural hazards are extreme events that can cause loss of life and damage to property. Some of these hazards, such as flooding, can happen anywhere while others such as earthquakes, can be site-specific. In most cases, hazards disrupt human activities leading to times of unrest and emergency. The communities which are vulnerable to such hazards are at greater risk to experience human, economic, social, and environmental losses. The ISTOS project received funding under the call H2020 – WIDESPREAD – 05 – 2020 – TWINNING, which promotes institutional networking and research collaboration in Europe and aims to strengthen the scientific excellence and innovation capacity of the network partners in the area of the structural safety of buildings and infrastructure, disaster risk reduction (e.g. earthquakes, floods, medicanes), and post-disaster management.

KICKOFF MEETING

PURPOSE, OBJECTIVES AND ELEMENTS

The kick-off meeting of the partners within the ISTOS project was organized via Zoom teleconference on Friday 13th of November 2020. The objectives of the kick - off meeting were:

- to introduce all the partners of the project,
- to develop a common understanding of the project objectives, activities and expected results,
- to discuss in detail the activities for the first 12 months,
- to clarify the project management and administrative procedures.

Representatives from all project partners participated at the meeting. The meeting was focused on the project vision, objectives, and outcomes as well as the partners' expectations through the project.



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ISTOS project

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WEBSITE

LAUNCH DATE: 20 MARCH, 2021

The project website has been designed for the dissemination of the project from its very start, and will be updated with new material, periodically. The website available information regarding the project such as project objectives and outline, results participants, press releases, information on forthcoming events, etc.

The project website is available: <http://istoscenter.eu/>

CONCEPT OF ISTOS

Within the scope of the project, ISTOS will seek to bring together the excellence of the network partners to develop a dynamic, multi-disciplinary and challenging environment for research and innovation to raise the level and ambition of the research activities in Cyprus. To achieve innovative research while maintaining the sustainability of ISTOS, the implementation of the project will concentrate on three vertical priorities:

1. Structural safety of buildings and infrastructure
2. Disaster risk reduction,
3. Post-disaster management,

PARTNERS

ISTOS blends the excellence of two partners from Cyprus: the Frederick Research Center (FRC) and the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT) with two internationally leading research institutions: the Unit of Soil Dynamics and Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering established at the Aristotle University in Thessaloniki (AUTH) of Greece and the PLINIVS Study Centre established at the University of Naples Federico II (UNINA) of Italy.

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