

Housing and Self-Protection

- It is essential that constructions have conditions of survival without the intervention of public firefighting means, namely
 - a) Implantation in less exposed areas (e.g. not in canyons or steep slopes)
 - b) Use of good construction practices, both in the architectural design (e.g. roofs with fire-resistant under-tile) and in the choice of construction materials
 - c) Appropriate fuel management in the building surrounding areas
 - d) Autonomy in terms of water and energy
 - e) The existence of self-protection systems such as water-sprinklers
- Cultural assets placed in wooded areas need a particular fire protection plan
- Specifically in WUI settings and in case of simultaneous fire it will be difficult to protect everything
- Also consider man-made fuels (air-conditioning, vehicle, shading awning, etc.)
- For self-protection structures to be useful they have to be designed in accordance with the expected fire conditions, considering not only the fuel amount but how the fire will move on the landscape
- Do protection measures withstand Extreme Events?
- All the settlements and villages must have a scenario-based fire protection plan that must be activated in an emergency. The plan should consider who will leave the village and who will stay to do what and how

Recommendations have been largely distilled from the following reports:

- European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Almeida, M., Ribeiro, L., Alves, D. et al. (2023) Analysis of 2021 critical wildfire events in the Mediterranean region. Publications Office of the European Union. <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2760/562495>
- Castellnou, M., Nebot, E., Estivill, L., Miralles, M. et al. (2022). FIRE-RES Transfer of Lessons Learned on Extreme wildfire Events to key stakeholders. Deliverable D1.1 FIRE-RES project. 119 pages. DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.10260790
- Pronto et al., 2023, Research for REGI Committee – Forest Fires of Summer 2022, European Parliament, Policy Department for Structural and Cohesion Policies, Brussels. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2023/747280/IPOL_STU\(2023\)747280_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2023/747280/IPOL_STU(2023)747280_EN.pdf)