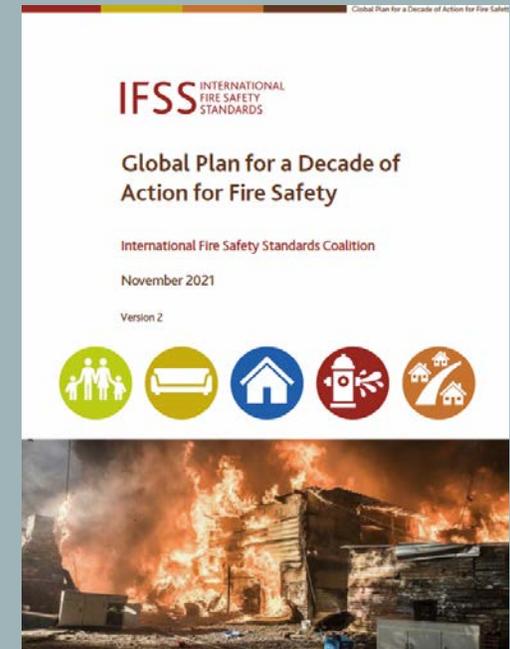


Global Plan for a Decade of Action for Fire Safety

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Overview

- The global fire problem
- The benefits of global efforts aimed at reducing fire risk and increasing fire resilience
- Initiatives that work
- Goal and objectives for a *Decade of Action for Fire Safety*
- Five pillars of action
- Linkages to other global activities and actions

Global Annual Impacts from Fire – People

150,000 deaths

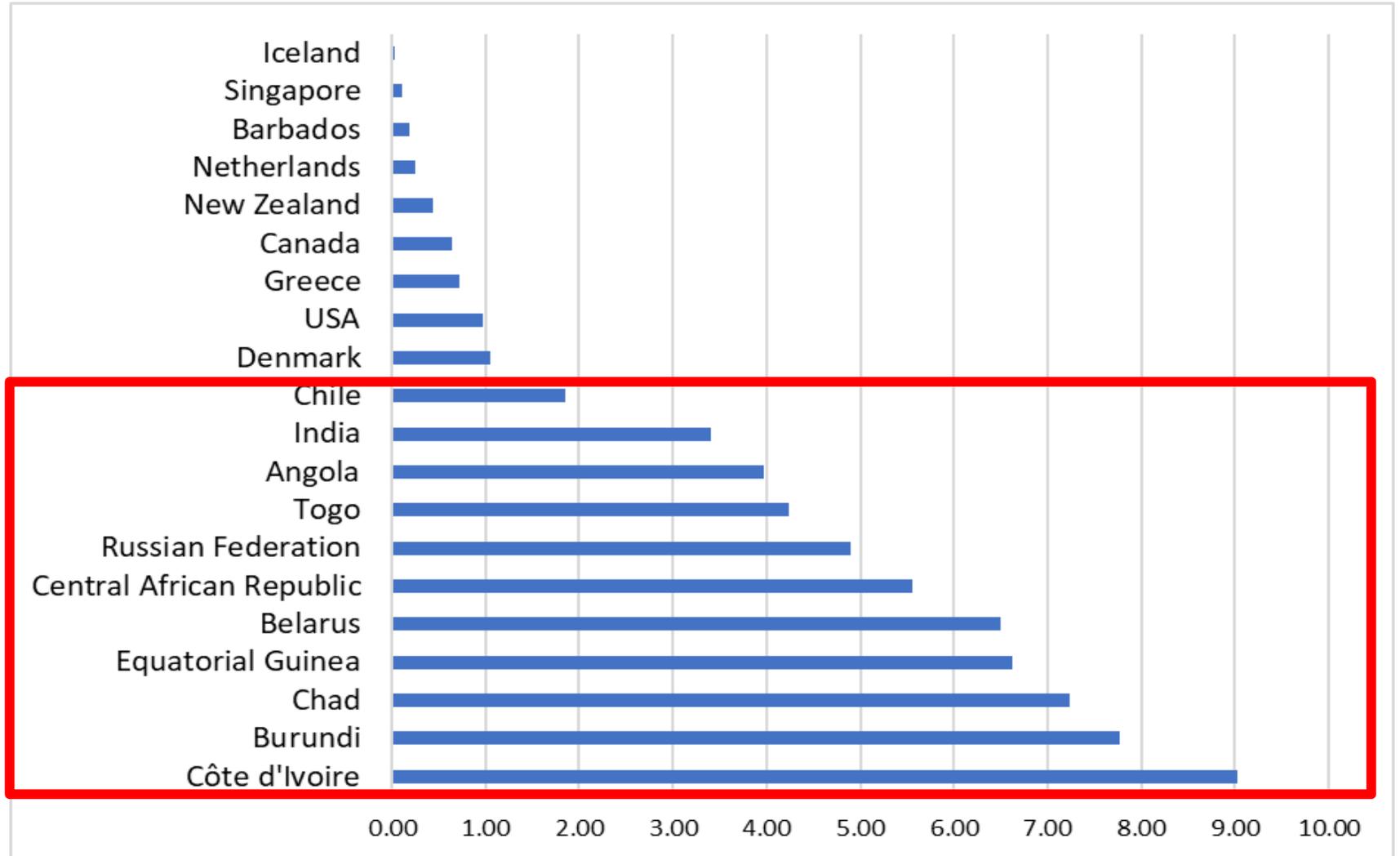
10,000s of people displaced

>7,000,000 injuries

Image ©Justin Sullivan; Data from WHO & RICS Insight, *Developing a global standard for fire reporting* (2020)

Global Annual Impacts from Fire – People

Fatality rates per 100,000 persons



Data from WHO – analysis by Brian Meacham

Global Annual Impacts from Fire – Property, Heritage, Environment



10,000s of buildings damaged or lost

Significant damage to environment, heritage

> \$500,000,000,000 in costs and losses (> 1% GDP)

Grenfell Tower Fire (Credit: Natalie Oxford, 2017)



Industrial fire at a plastics factory in Leamington Spa, UK, August 2021 (Credit: SWNS)



Incendie de Notre Dame à Paris. vue depuis le ministère de la recherche. (Credit: Marind)

Increasing Annual Wildland Fire Problem due to Climate Change



Image © Andrea Booher / US FEMA; Data NIST, US CDC, NFPA (USA)

Drivers of Change that Cannot be Ignored

- Growing population, rapid urbanization, increased densification, greater numbers of populations and buildings at risk
- Climate change resulting in drier conditions, higher temperatures, increased winds, and more severe wildland fire

See, for example: IAFSS Agenda 2030 for a Fire Safe World, Fire Safety Journal (2019); Urban Fire Regulatory Assessment and Mitigation Evaluation (FRAME) Diagnostic, World Bank (2020)



Shanghai, 1990 and 2010



Smoke plumes from 2020 fires, Oregon, USA
(Credit: NASA Worldview)

Benefits of Global Action

Reduced human trauma,
suffering and social inequity



(Credit: USDA / Lance Cheung)

Reduced property and
economic losses



(Credit: Brian Meacham)

Reduced impact on the
environment



(Credit: Brian Meacham)

Wide Range of Initiatives that are Known to Work

- **Training and education** for members of the public on the causes of fire and burns, the very rapid spread of fire and smoke, and safety and evacuation planning.
- Developing and distributing **safe consumer appliances** into the marketplace.
- **Setting and enforcing laws, regulations and codes** requiring the use of fire safety standards and best practice in building fire safety.
- Designing more **fire-safe and fire-resilient new (formal/regulated) buildings and infrastructure**.
- Enforcing **effective fire safety management** through regulation and in the private sector through the use of nonregulatory intervention measures.
- Resources for **enhancing fire and rescue services and fire suppression infrastructure**.
- Incorporating **fire safety features into land-use, urban planning and transport planning**.

Why a Decade of Action for Fire Safety?

- Fire impacts have no geographical, socio-economic or political boundaries.
- Key partners in global fire safety agree that the time is right for a cultural shift of accelerated investment in fire safety, particularly in low-income and middle-income countries.
- We need
 - sharing of knowledge and expertise,
 - development of sustainable fire safety strategies and programmes,
 - encouragement to use and enforce improved fire safety standards,
 - a change of approach to measure national progress in fire safety policy
- *Decade of Action* approach has been shown to work, for example, Road Safety

Why a Decade of Action for Fire Safety?

- A *Decade of Action for Fire Safety* can provide actions, and a timeframe for action, to encourage political and resource commitments to fire safety both globally and nationally.
- Donors can use the *Decade of Action for Fire Safety* as a stimulus to integrating fire safety into their assistance programmes.
- Low-income and middle-income countries can use the *Decade of Action for Fire Safety* to accelerate the adoption of sustainable and cost-effective fire safety programmes and standards.
- High-income countries can use the *Decade of Action for Fire Safety* to make progress in improving their fire safety performance as well as a platform to share their experiences and knowledge with others.

Goal and Objectives

- **Goal:** To stabilise and then reduce the forecast level of fire fatalities, injuries, economic cost and environmental impact around the world by 2032, even as global population increases.

Objectives

Objectives (1):

1. Encourage every country to have a strong and adequately resourced national fire safety focus.
2. Establish an ambitious yet feasible target for reduction of fire-related fatalities and injuries by 2032, by building on the existing frameworks of regional and national and local initiatives.
3. Improve the quality of or implement fire data collection at the local, national, regional and global levels.
4. Monitor progress and performance on a number of predefined indicators at the national, regional and global levels
5. Encourage increased funding for fire safety, including education and training, and better use of existing resources, including through ensuring a fire safety component within infrastructure projects.

Objectives

Objectives (2):

6. Facilitate development and implementation of **contextualised public service messaging, training and education** on measures to increase individual, family and community fire safety.
7. Facilitate **development and distribution of fire-safe heating and cooking appliances** appropriate to the needs of low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).
8. Facilitate the development of **fire-safe building materials, technologies and systems** appropriate to the needs of all communities, from low-income to high.
9. Develop and implement **sustainable fire safety standards, guidance, strategies and programmes** that are contextualised for local implementation and maintenance.
10. **Strengthen the management infrastructure, capacity and professionals** employed in technical implementation of fire safety activities at the national, regional and global levels.

Goal and Objectives

Objectives (3):

11. Strengthen the fire service capacity and firefighting infrastructure to meet increasing needs and the interface with rescue and hospital capacities.
12. Facilitate sustainable and fire resilient communities through integrated infrastructure, planning and building regulation, fire service support and community support.
13. Where currently lacking, develop and implement effective regulatory frameworks that will enforce compliance of laws, regulation, codes and standards.
14. Assure that regulatory framework adequately considers life safety in buildings and in relation to wildlife fires; and asset preservation in terms of economy, community welfare and heritage, and environmental impact.
15. Continually review fire data that is collected and make evidence-based changes to regulatory frameworks as appropriate.

Pillars of Action

Pillar 1
People



Pillar 2
Products



Pillar 3
Structures



Pillar 4
Infrastructure



Pillar 5
Communities

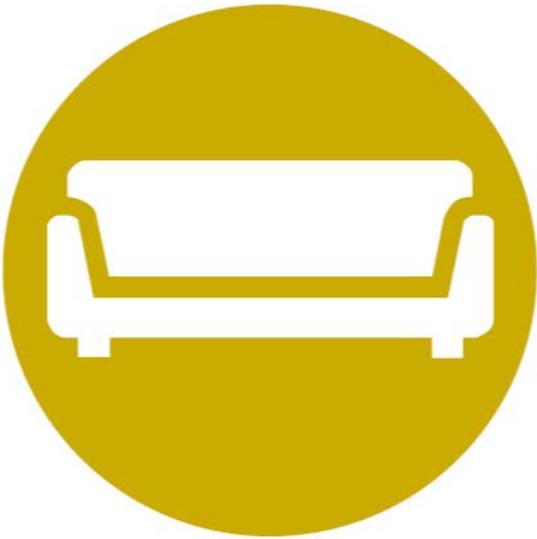


Pillar 1
People



- Pillar 1 offers a set of actions that can be implemented to help individuals and groups (people) to:
 - increase their understanding of fire
 - learn what they can do to reduce their exposure to fire and flames
 - reduce their vulnerability to unwanted fire if it occurs
 - gain access to emergency medical care in the case of burns, smoke inhalation and other fire impacts to persons
 - gain access to post-fire counselling and support services and obtain just and fair settlements.

Pillar 2 Products



- Pillar 2 presents a set of actions that can be implemented to help reduce fire hazards and risks associated with appliances, contents and building components (products). This set of actions is focused on identifying and reducing:
 - the use of open flame devices and appliances for heating, cooking, and related functions
 - hazards associated with potentially unsafe electrical devices and appliances and
 - hazards associated with the improper use and installation of building contents, materials and assemblies (e.g. construction materials, wall linings, etc.).

Pillar 3 Structures



- Pillar 3 presents a set of actions that can be implemented to help reduce fire hazards and risks associated with structures, including their planning, design and operation. This set of actions is focused on:
 - building fire safety legislation and regulation
 - material, design, inspection and test standards
 - deployment of improved fire safety technologies for both passive and active fire safety
 - robust fire safety management schemes
 - adequately educated, qualified and certified professionals
 - adequate resources for building and fire inspection and control.

Pillar 4
Infrastructure



- Pillar 4 presents a set of actions that can be implemented to help enhance firefighting infrastructure. This set of actions is focused on support for:
 - the fire service
 - emergency medical response services
 - apparatus and
 - critical firefighting infrastructure, such as water supplies and distribution systems.

Pillar 5
Communities

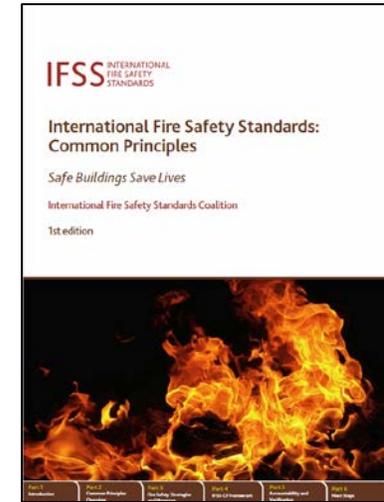


- Pillar 5 presents a set of actions that can be implemented to facilitate sustainable and fire resilient communities.
- This set of actions is largely focused on promoting the concept of integrating fire safety issues into planning and zoning of buildings and infrastructure in a sustainable and resilient manner, as well as addressing wildland-urban interface (WUI) fire threats.

Representative Resources

- IFSS Common Principles

1. Prevention
2. Detection and Communication
3. Occupant Protection
4. Containment
5. Extinguishment



- Standards, guidelines, handbooks

- Fire Protection Handbook, NFPA, USA
- Urban Fire Regulatory Assessment and Mitigation Evaluation (FRAME) Diagnostic, World Bank
- Fire Safety Engineering Guideline for Informal Settlements, South Africa

Potential Indicators of Progress

Strategy

Number of countries that have a clearly empowered agency leading fire safety

Number of countries with a national strategy for fire safety

Number of countries that have dedicated funds to implement their fire safety strategy

Number of countries that have adopted UN sustainable development goals/policies into national laws, planning, building and fire regulations, and design standards

Number of countries that participate in the International Fire Safety Standards Coalition

Number of countries that have adopted the International Fire Safety Standards: Common Principles

Number of countries that have adopted all five pillars of fire safety action and are working towards improving fire safety

Number of countries with goal-based fire safety targets

People

Number of countries with national annual public fire awareness campaigns/programmes

Number of countries that are investing in training for fire safety

Number of countries that are investing in fire safety education at a national and local level

Number of countries that are investing in 'residents voice'/engaging residents in fire safety issues

Number of countries with national data on fires by asset type

Number of countries with national data on fatalities and injuries

Number of countries that collect annual fires data consistent with internationally accepted definitions

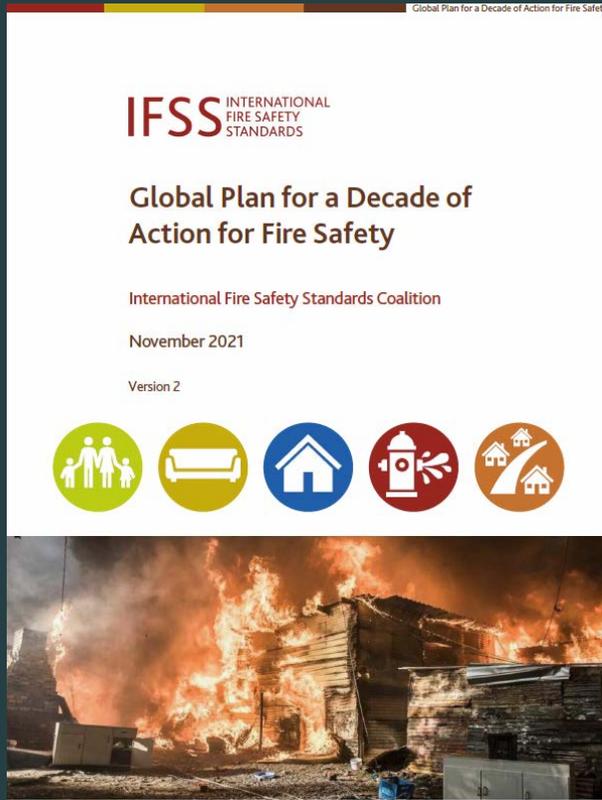
Strong Linkages to International Efforts

- UN Sustainable Development Goals
- World Bank Building Regulation for Resilience Program
- International Fire Safety Standard Coalition

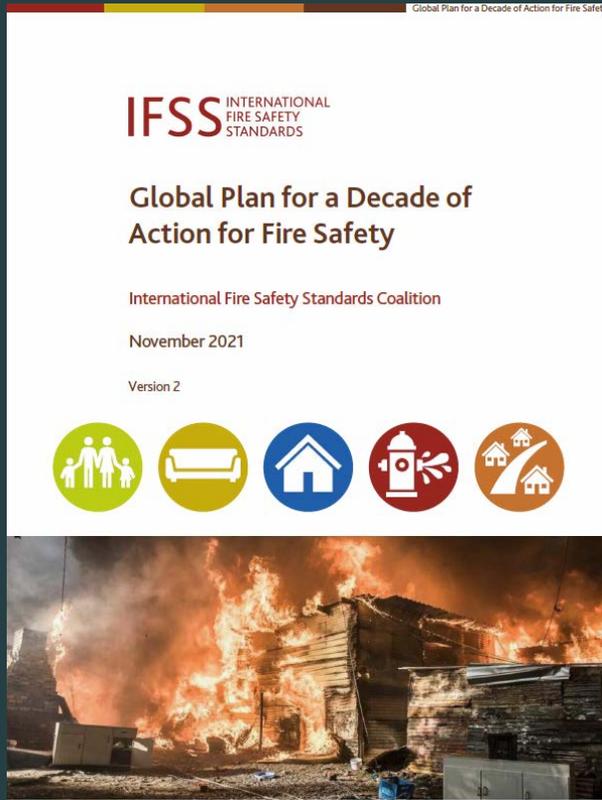


Target Funding Goal

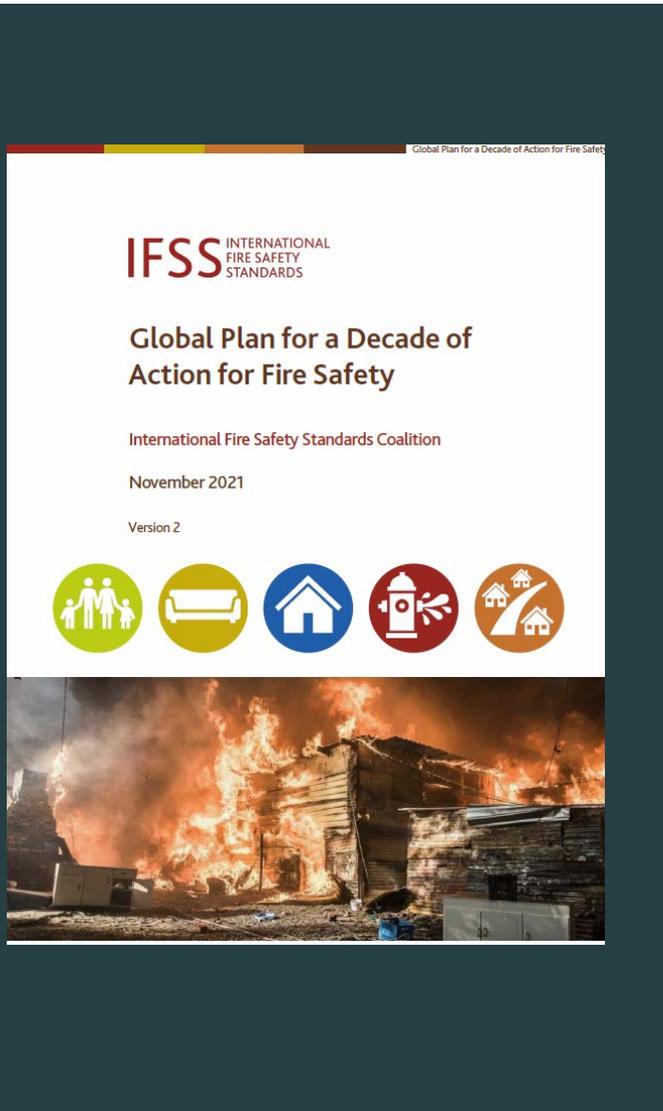
- A global funding target of **US\$500 million** in support of the Decade of Action for Fire Safety goal, objectives and actions is suggested.



- Decade of Action for Fire Safety currently supported / endorsed by all 80+ members of the IFSS Coalition
- Committee established to oversee development of materials on IFSS Decade of Action for Fire Safety 2022-2032 Plan, Goal, Objectives and Actions
 - Gary Strong, Chair; Brian Meacham, Vice Chair
 - Five subcommittees – one for each pillar – plus Communications SC
 - Immediate focal areas
 - Awareness
 - Endorsement
 - Adoption
- Aims for 2022 – communication, awareness, support



- The magnitude of the global fire problem is enormous: more than 150,000 deaths, more than 7,000,000 injuries, displacement of tens of thousands of people, and billions of US dollars in human, property and business costs annually.
- A plan for a Global Decade of Action for Fire Safety is proposed. The guiding principles underlying the Plan are those included in a sustainable and fire resilient approach for society, buildings, infrastructure and communities.
- The goal of the Global Decade of Action for Fire Safety is to stabilise and then reduce the forecast level of fire fatalities, injuries, economic cost and environmental impact around the world by 2032, even as we see an increase in global population over this period.



Thank you for your attention! Questions?

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