

# CICERO

## Croatia-Italy Civil protection collaboRatiOn

### D.2.1.1 Minutes of the exercise with video-photo documentation

Joint cross-border exercises to learn different  
protocols in Italy and Croatia

#### Part I - Croatia





<b>Project acronym</b>	CICERO
<b>Project ID number</b>	ITHR0400226
<b>Project title</b>	Croatia-Italy Civil protEction collaboRatiOn
<b>Specific objective</b>	5.1 - Better cooperation for governance
<b>Work package number</b>	2
<b>Work package title</b>	Building capacities, improving collaboration in risk management for public authorities, stakeholders
<b>Activity number</b>	2.1
<b>Activity title</b>	Joint cross-border exercises to learn different protocols in Italy and Croatia
<b>Partner in charge</b>	LP - Pratiarcati
<b>Partner involved</b>	Part I – Town of Labin
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## 1. Introduction

The CICERO project answers to the need of better cooperation governance in the Programme area and in particular to the need to create a more extensive knowledge basis about legal and administrative obstacles and to implement a common collaboration in the domain of risk management. The common collaboration would also contribute to the reinforcement of institutional capacities of public authorities and stakeholders.

Two countries, Italy and Croatia, or more specifically, entities at the local level, are collaborating on the CICERO project: The Pratiarcati Union of Municipalities (public local authority located in Veneto region; province of Padua) and Town of Labin (a unit of local self-government; located on eastern side of Istria County).

As part of work package number 2 entitled "Building capacities, improving collaboration in risk management for public authorities, stakeholders" and after joint cross-border exercises, first in Croatia, and then in Italy, this document is being prepared, which will try on a simple way display all performed activities, exercise scenarios and protocols. The intention of this document is also to "dissect" step-by-step the performed joint exercises.

As part of the joint cross-border exercises, there were also held joint exercises for controlling an unmanned aircraft, which is explained in more detail in the document entitled "D2.3.1 Training course program - Common training course to use a drone with support documentation" and rescue exercises from heights and depths, whose course for members of the Italian volunteers is described in the document entitled "D2.2.1 Training course program - Training courses on safety, on the use of ropes, harnesses, slips and in general on works at height".

Specific objective of this activity is improving skills and competences of Civil Protection groups across borders to deliver a better response to natural disasters and the project will enable them to perform a better communication through citizens.

About a hundred members of the civil protection system from Italy and Croatia participated in both joint cross-border exercises, and the fact that both were very well attended by citizens is pleasing.



## 2. Joint cross-border exercises in Croatia

### 2.1. Introductory information about joint exercises in Labin

In order for the joint cross-border exercises to be held in a high-quality and safe manner, it was necessary to hold several introductory meetings of the operational team from the Croatian side, and after the scenarios and protocols of the exercises were agreed upon, information was exchanged with the Italian partners and details were adjusted.

#### **In this sense, a series of introductory briefings was held as follows:**

- meeting of Croatian managers, to define the desired outcomes of the exercise and possible scenarios (November 23, 2023);
- meeting with all civil protection stakeholders, in order to define cooperation in the implementation of the exercise and necessary resources for successful implementation. Determined framework scenarios and tasks that need to be done in the preparatory period and communication with other collaborators. Visiting the locations to determine the plan for the agreed firefighting, rescue and coordination exercise scenarios. Defined time and manner of exercise, means and notifications (March 29, 2024);
- meeting at the Dubrova Sculpture Park and the Šoht mining tower at Pijacal for the possible joint training of Croatian stakeholders, final determination of all scenarios, definition of necessary resources by activity holders (May 28, 2024);
- meeting and tour of locations of Croatian and Italian representatives of the civil protection system, the day before joint exercises (June 14, 2024).

#### **The Labin Public Fire Department was in charge of designing the scenario and protocol, coordination of all exercise participants, and logistics for holding the exercise in Labin, and all other organizations involved in the preparation of the exercise are listed below:**

- Project team of the City of Labin,
- Commander of the Public Fire Brigade Labin and the Regional Fire Brigade Labin,
- Deputy commander of the Fire Department of the Istrian County,
- Head of the Labin Police Station (Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Croatia),



- Teaching Institute for Emergency Medicine of the Istrian County - Head of the Labin Outpost (Emergency Medical Service Labin),
- Head and deputy head of the City Society of the Red Cross Labin,
- Manager of the K9 team Istria,
- Head of the Croatian Mountain Rescue Service - Station Istra,
- Directorate of Civil Protection of the Republic of Croatia - Station Pazin,
- Representatives of Italian civil protection groups.

The following table shows the abbreviations of the organizations that took part in the joint exercises and are mentioned as such in the rest of this document.

**Table 1: Abbreviations that explain the sections of civil protection:**

ABBREVIATION	NAME IN CROATIAN OR ITALIAN	NAME IN ENGLISH
JVP LABIN	Javna vatrogasna postrojba Labin	Public fire department Labin
PVZ LABIN	Područna vatrogasna zajednica Labin (JVP + DVD-ovi)	Regional firefighting community Labin (consists of JVP + DVD)
DVD	Dobrovoljno vatrogasno društvo	Volunteer fire department
HMP LABIN	Hitna medicinska pomoć Labin	Emergency medical aid Labin
GDCK LABIN	Interventni tim Gradskog društva Crveni križ Labin	Intervention team Red Cross city society Labin
MUP PP LABIN	Ministarstvo unutarnjih poslova – Policijska postaja Labin	Ministry of interior affairs - Police station Labin
HGSS STANICA ISTRA	Hrvatska gorska služba spašavanja Stanica istra	Croatian mountain rescue service Station of Istria
TIM K9 ISTRA	Potražni tim K9 Istra	Search K9 team
VZIŽ - VOC	Vatrogasna zajednica Istarske županije – Vatrogasni operativni centar	Firefighting community of Istria County - Fire operations center
AK VRSAR	Aeroklub Vrsar	Aero club from Vrsar
ŽC 112	Županijski centar 112	County center 112

## 2.2. Topic, objective and scope of the exercises

The topic of joint exercises is forest fire extinguishing and rescue using speleo and mountaineering techniques due to incident events at two locations in Labin.

### **The envisaged scenarios include:**

- Exercise of rescuing and providing first aid to injured persons using speleological and mountaineering techniques from tower Šoht; h=25 m, location "Pijacal"
- Extinguishing a forest fire and rescuing an injured person at the Dubrova Sculpture Park location
- Rescue exercise with caving and mountaineering equipment ("Tyrolean diameter") at the amphitheater location of Dubrova Sculpture Park
- Practicing drone control - training ground JVP Labin, Dubrova.

### **The aim and scope of the exercises refer to:**

- familiarization with the provisions of plans in the event of an extraordinary event,
- knowledge of intervention procedures / measures in the event of an intervention event,
- knowledge of roles and responsibilities when checking intervention measures in the event of an intervention event,
- determining the adequacy of the existing cross-border cooperation plan,
- checking the flow of communication in the event of an intervention event - VZIŽ headquarters vehicle,
- checking the response of the intervention services of the local community,
- verification of compliance of reference documents (cross-border cooperation),
- initiation of corrective - administrative actions in case of natural disasters.

## 2.3. Time and location of exercises

The exercises took place in Labin over 2 days; **on Saturday, June 15, 2024, in the Dubrova Sculpture Park**, in 2 microlocations (the amphitheater and the bay nearby) and **on Sunday, June 16, 2024, at the "Šoht" mining tower** at the Pijacal location in Podlabin.

On the first day, June 15, 2024, the exercise began at 9:00 a.m. and was conducted in real time according to the agenda shown in the following table. There was a practical exercise



of extinguishing a forest fire and rescuing an injured person, a rescue exercise with caving and mountaineering equipment (“Tyrolean diameter”) in the amphitheater, drone control at the JVP Labin training ground. In addition, an exercise in practical fire extinguishing with a manual fire extinguisher was held for the public.

**Table 2: Time, place and topic of the exercises - Day 1 - June 15, 2024**

Time	Topic	Place
<b>9:00 – 10:00</b>	Practical exercise in extinguishing a forest fire and rescuing an injured person	Dubrova Sculpture Park - bay
<b>10:00 – 10:30</b>	Extinguishing with a manual fire extinguisher for the public	Dubrova Sculpture Park - stretch between the and the amphitheatre
<b>10:30 – 12:00</b>	Practical rescue exercise with caving and mountaineering equipment (Tyrolean cross section)	Dubrova Sculpture Park - amphitheatre
<b>12:30 – 14:00</b>	Practical exercise in drone control	Polygon JVP Labin - Dubrova
<b>14:00– 14:30</b>	Analysis of the conducted exercise - representatives of the preparation of the exercise	Multifunctional hall JVP Labin - Dubrova
<b>10:00 – 12:00</b>	Viewing of all vehicles, demonstrations, exhibition stands, etc. for the general population	Dubrova Sculpture Park - near the amphitheatre

On the second day, Sunday, June 16, 2024, the exercise started at 10:00 a.m. and was conducted in real time according to the agenda shown in the following table. There was a practical exercise of rescuing and providing first aid to injured persons using speleological and mountaineering techniques from the Šoht mining tower at the Pijacal location in Podlabin.



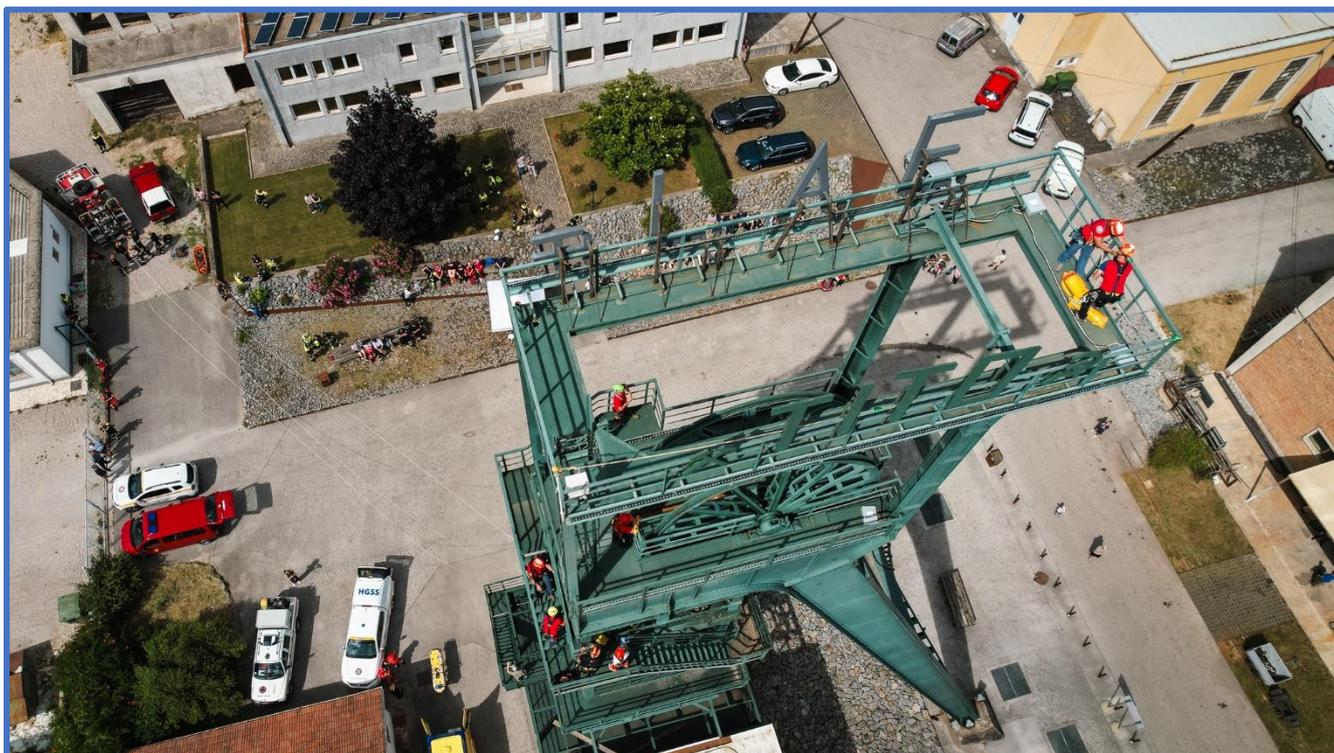
**Table 3: Time, place and topic of exercises - 2nd day - June 16, 2024**

Time	Topic	Place
10:00 - 12:00	Practical exercise in rescuing and providing first aid to injured persons using speleological and mountaineering techniques	Mining tower Šoht - Pijacal location in Podlabin
13:00- 14:00	Analysis of the conducted exercise - representatives of the preparation of the exercise	Multifunctional hall JVP Labin - Dubrova

**Photo 1: Dubrova Sculpture Park, location of 1<sup>st</sup> exercise**



**Photo 2: Šoht minning tower from above, location of 2<sup>nd</sup> exercise**



### **3. Exercise scenarios for joint cross-border exercise in Labin**

Below are vividly described scenarios for joint cross-border exercises, which were held from June 15-16, 2024 in Labin.

#### **3.1. Practical exercise of extinguishing a forest fire and rescuing an injured person - Dubrova Sculpture Park**

##### **3.1.1. Day 1 - scenario 1**

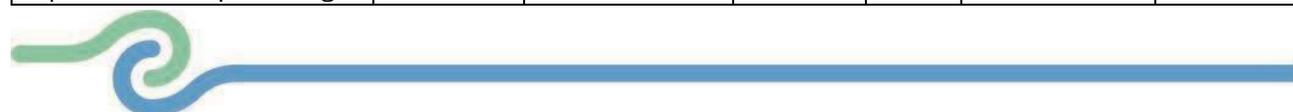
Two minors ride an unregistered motorcycle through Dubrova Sculpture Park and lose control of the motorcycle due to inappropriate speed. A minor sitting in the back fell off the motorbike and suffered a broken collarbone, as well as scratches on his elbow, knee and lower leg. A minor who rides a motorcycle falls into a ravine with the motorcycle and

suffers an open fracture of the left lower leg and a number of scratches, and as a result of the fall, the engine and the nearby forest catch fire. A spinal cord injury is suspected. Both have helmets on their heads. A passer-by, who happened to be there at the time of the accident, is in a state of panic, and after a while he falls ill and falls into a short-term unconsciousness. The intervention of firefighters is required to pull out a seriously injured person from the cave - using ropes, a trough and a board for immobilization and the creation of a lifting system. Extinguishing a forest fire caused by fuel spilling from the engine tank is carried out using an Iveco Daily fire truck and a team of firefighters trained to extinguish forest fires.

PVZ Labin's rescue and firefighting team participates in the exercise together with Italian volunteers in charge of firefighting SQUADRA ANTINCENDIO ALBIGNASEGO - Forest FireFighting Team Albignasego. The intervention team of GDCK Labin and HMP Labin participate in the treatment of injured persons. The VZIŽ headquarters vehicle takes over the VOC center (fire operations center).

**Table 4: Exercise schedule - search and evacuation of injured persons in a motorcycle crash**

SEARCH AND EVACUATION OF PERSONS INJURED IN A MOTORCYCLE FALL						
Exercise segment / activity	Start time	Participants / unit / formation	Number of persons	Material and technical resources		Operating Channel
				Vehicles	Equipment	
Report by a passerby about the event	9:00	Passerby	1			Cell phone
Notifying emergency services about the event	9:01	ŽC 112	1	1	VOC	Cell phone
Calling an ambulance	9:01	ŽC 112	1	1	VOC	Cell phone
Making a call to the fire department	9:02	ŽC 112	1	1	VOC	Cell phone
Arrival of HMP Labin	9:05	HMP Labin / CK Labin	4	2		Radiostation 7
Arrival of PVZ / JVP Labin	9:06	PVZ Labin	8	3		Radiostation 7
Assessment of the situation and confirmation of the rescue plan	9:06	PVZ Labin / HMP	1/1			
Coordination of the procedure of providing	9:12	PVZ Labin / HMP	8/3		Person, stretcher,	

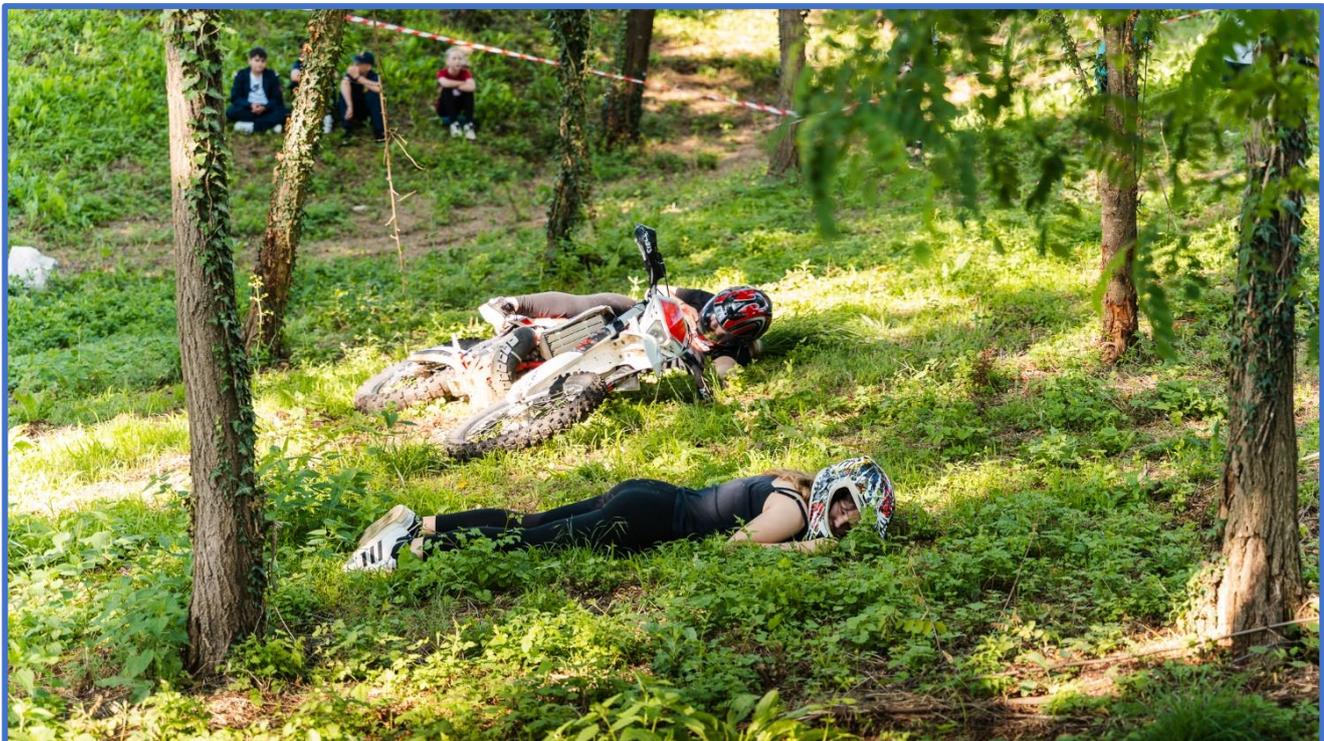


SEARCH AND EVACUATION OF PERSONS INJURED IN A MOTORCYCLE FALL						
Exercise segment / activity	Start time	Participants / unit / formation	Number of persons	Material and technical resources		Operating Channel
				Vehicles	Equipment	
assistance to the injured person					portable anchorages, equipment JVP Labin	

Below is a step-by-step presentation of the first scenario.

**Presentation 1: Step-by-step of the 1<sup>st</sup> scenario**

**1/ The injured driver and passenger of the motorcycle**



2/ Arrival and preparation of emergency services



3/ Descending emergency services into the abyss to rescue injured persons



4/  
Examination  
and  
immobilizati-  
on of injured  
persons



5/ Extraction  
of the injured  
person and  
transfer to  
further  
treatment



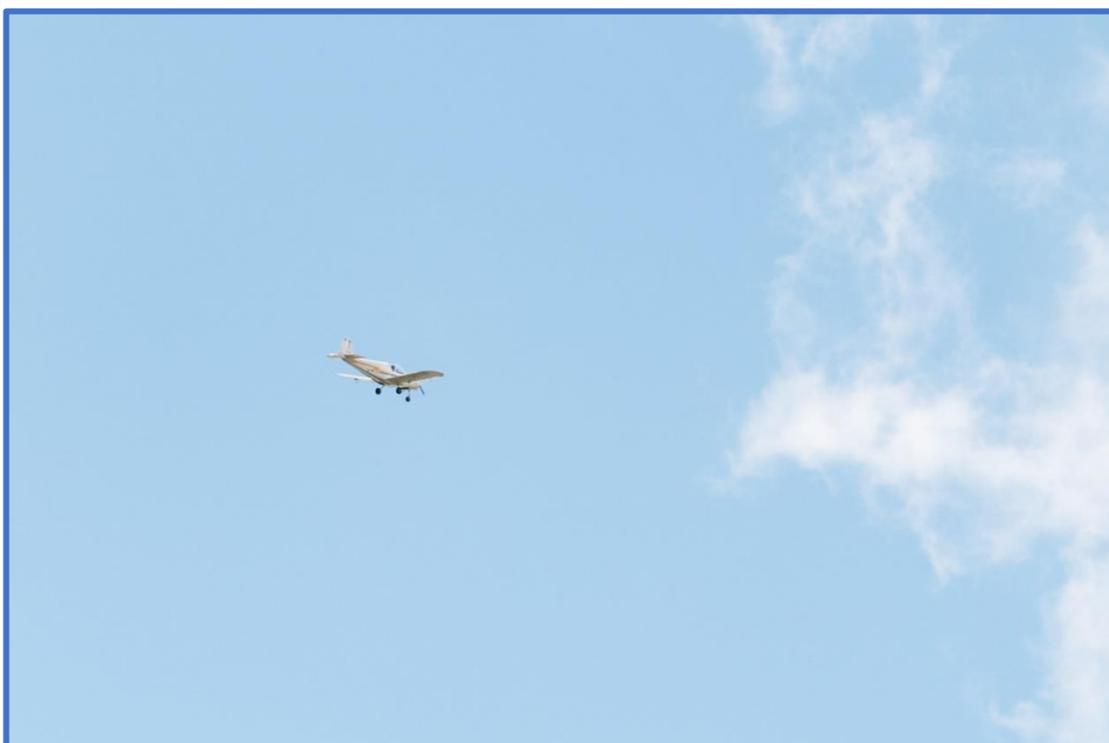
6/ The outbreak of a forest fire and the preparation of firefighters



**7/ Fire  
extinguishing**



**8/ Flyover and  
control of the  
burned area**



9/ Control of  
the burnt  
area and  
tidying things  
up



## 3.2. Practical rescue exercise with caving and mountaineering equipment (Tyrolean cross section) – Dubrova Sculpture Park, amphitheater

### 3.2.1. Day 1 - scenario 2

After an organized search for two missing persons, members of the GDCK Labin team who participated in navigation and movement training, in the area around the amphitheatre in Dubrova, we have a report that the dog of the K9 Team found injured persons in a deep rock crevice. While walking through the forest, two frivolous members of the team talked to each other, looked at the device, did not pay attention to where they were walking and did not notice the big hole in front of them. One member of the team fell into a hole 15 m deep. During the fall, he suffered a fracture of his right upper arm, scratches on his face, arms and legs. He hit his head and feels dizzy. While falling, he accidentally pulled the hand of another member who tripped and fell to the ground and suffered minor injuries and was able to alert the Labin emergency teams that rescue from the depths using mountaineering equipment was needed. Arriving at the site of the intervention and scouting, it is determined that the most suitable construction of the "Tyrolean Cross" is through the amphitheatre (a stone cleft).

Upon arrival, the two teams perform separately, making anchorages on each side using natural anchorages - trees and artificial ones - fire engines. After the construction of the crossbar, one firefighter with a stretcher is attached to the crossbar, and the teams position him above the injured person and lower him into the abyss at that point. The fireman immobilizes the injured person and places him on a stretcher. Using the lifting system, the stretcher is lifted and pulled to the other side of the amphitheatre (cleft) where the injured person is handed over to the members for care and then the dog is lifted from the mentioned cleft.

PVZ Labin, HGSS Station Istra together with Italian volunteers trained for rescue from heights SIRE Squadra Intervento Recupero Emergenza - Emergency Recovery Intervention Team and GDCK Labin and HMP Labin are participating in the exercise for caring for injured persons.

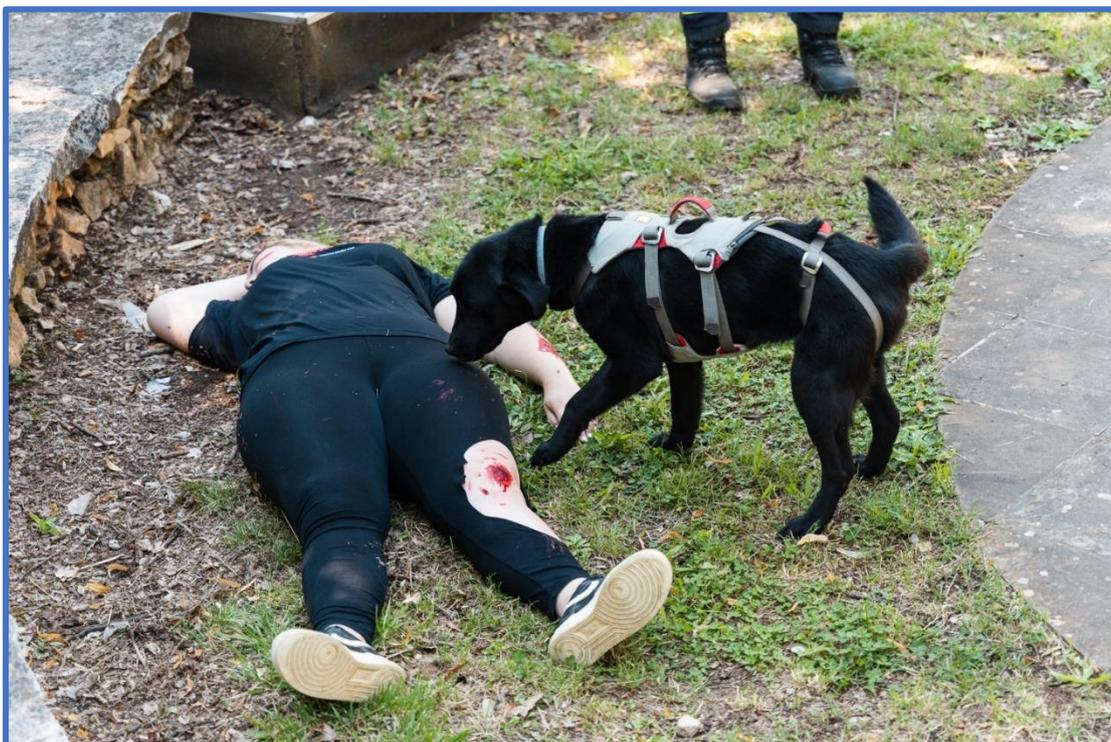


## Presentation 2: Step-by-step of 2<sup>nd</sup> scenario

### 1/ Accident report



### 2/ The K9 team locates the victim and checks it's general condition



3/ Arrival of  
emergency  
services and  
preparations  
for rescue



4/ Creation of a Tyrolean cross-section across the amphitheatre (horizontal-vertical cross-section)

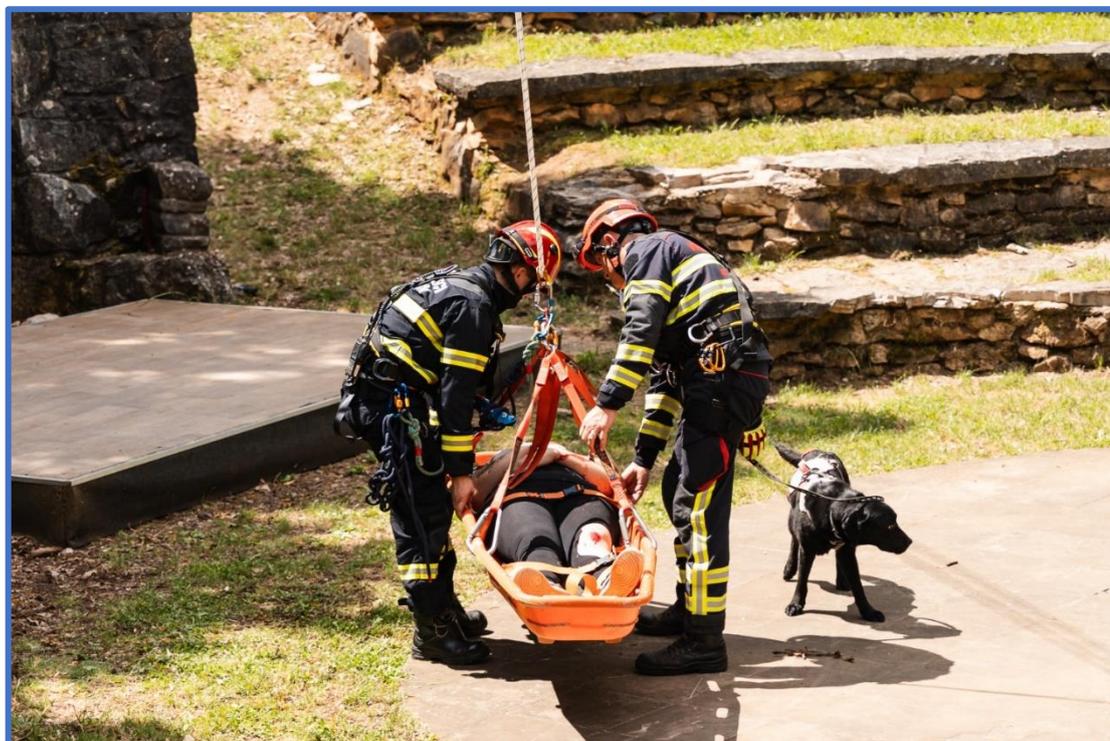




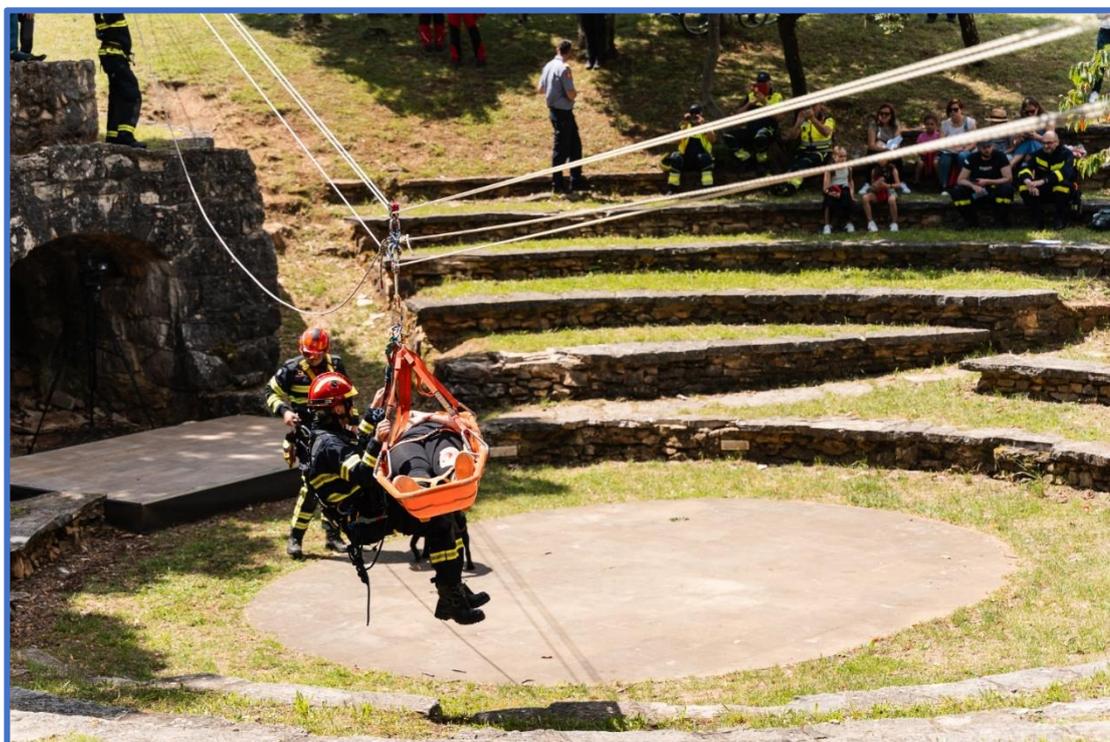
5/ A fireman with a stretcher is lowered to the injured person



6/ Immo-  
bilization of  
the injured  
person and  
placing on a  
rescue  
stretcher



7/ Pulling an injured person on a stretcher and a firefighter to a safe place





8/ Handover  
of the injured  
person to the  
Emergency  
Medical  
Service for  
further care



## 9/ Pulling the K9 team out of the pit



### 3.3. Practical exercise in rescuing and providing first aid to injured persons using speleological and mountaineering techniques from the Šoht mining tower - location Pijacal, Podlabin

#### 3.3.1. Day 2 - scenario 3

During the walk, the man notices two people on the mining tower Šoht, one of whom calls for help, and calls 112.

On Šoht, at a height of about 25 meters, a person has a heart attack. Upon arrival, two HMP employees climb the stairs to him and check his state of consciousness and breathing and begin resuscitation using an automatic defibrillator. Team HMP invites JVP Labin for the need to evacuate an immobile person from Šoht - using speleo-alpinist techniques and equipment. In addition, as a result of the work on the repair of the iron structure, the anchorage collapses and another person is injured in the leg and left arm area. The person performs the repair from the outside of the Šoht structure and uses a belt for work at height. It is necessary to rescue another person in parallel.

The PVZ Labin team for rescue from depths and heights comes to the intervention, together with Italian volunteers, who approach the construction of a cross-section from the manhole, which they attach to the fire engine, and they evacuate the person from the manhole into the bed and hand it over to HMP Labin for disposal.

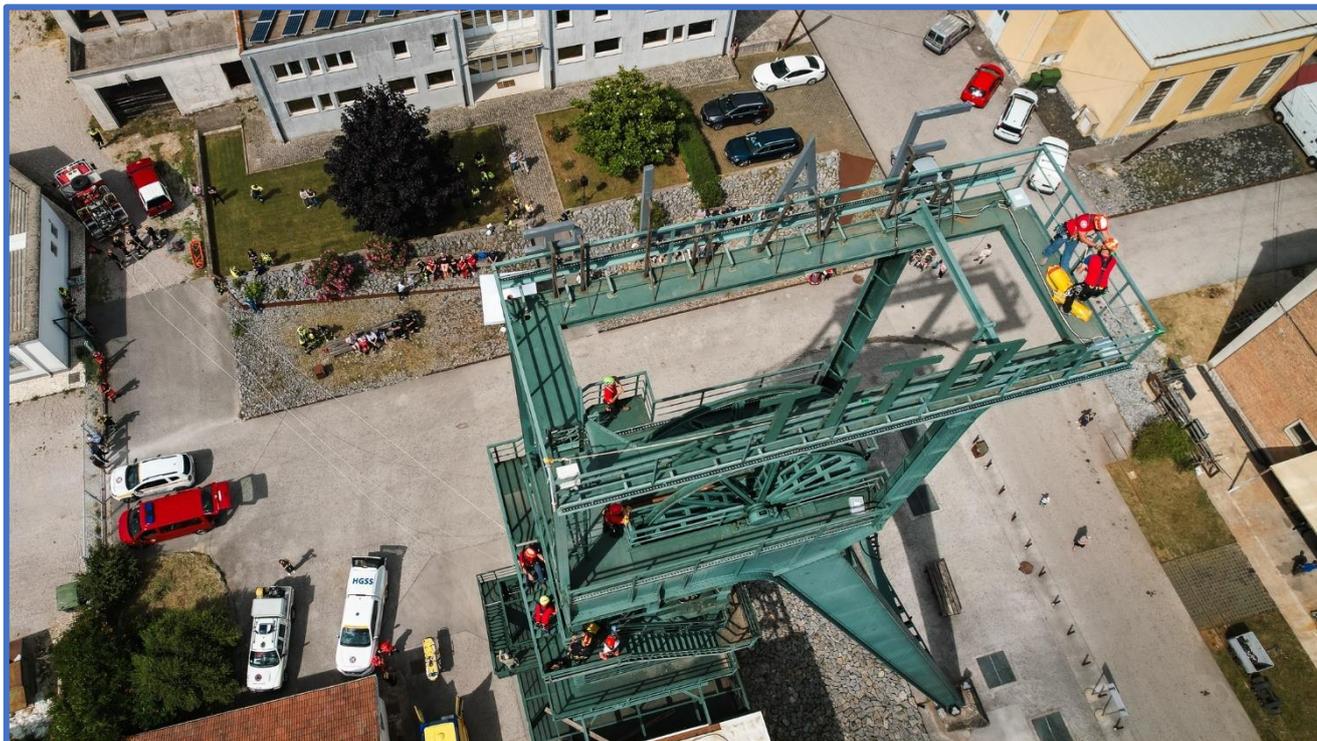
The evacuation of the second person with an injured leg using the Roglis rescue device is underway, which will be carried out by members of the HGSS Station Istra. Evacuation is performed so that the rescuer secures the injured person and vertically lowers the injured person to safety. After this person has also been lowered from the Šoht tower and handed over to the HMP for processing, we consider the exercise completed.

Internal equipment (75 kg mannequin, stretcher and portable built-in anchorages) and caving equipment of the Labin Public Fire Department are used for the exercise.



### Presentation 3: Step-by-step of the 3<sup>rd</sup> scenario

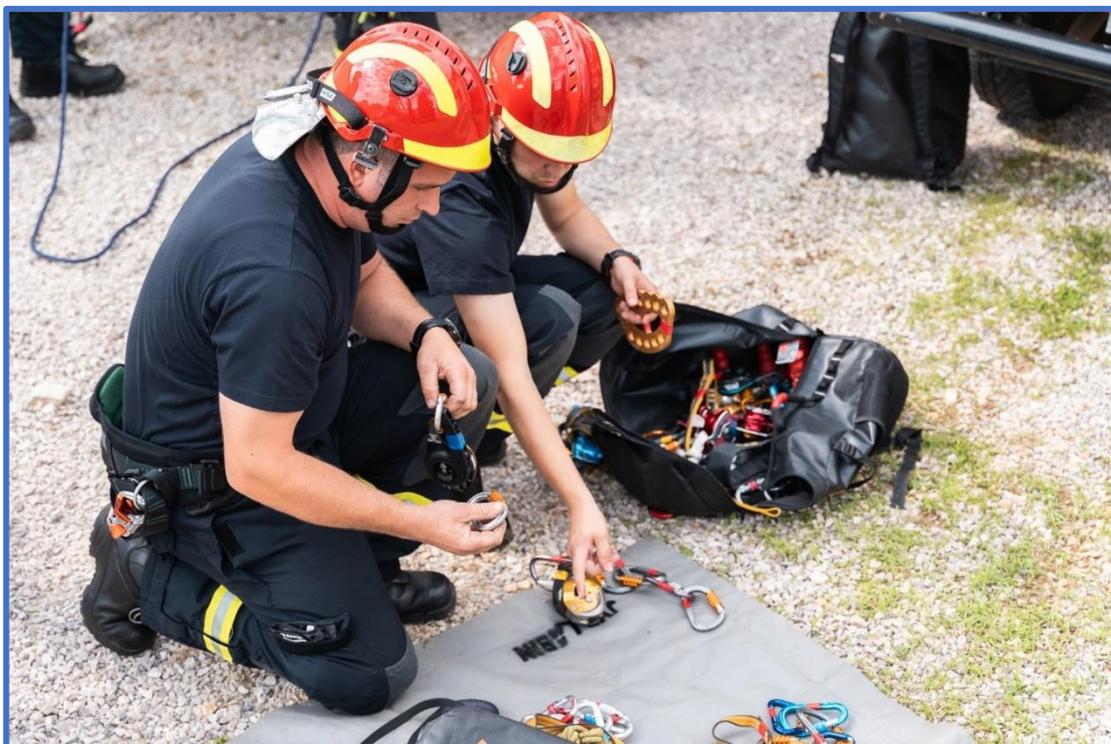
#### 1/ Location of the exercises – Šoht mining tower



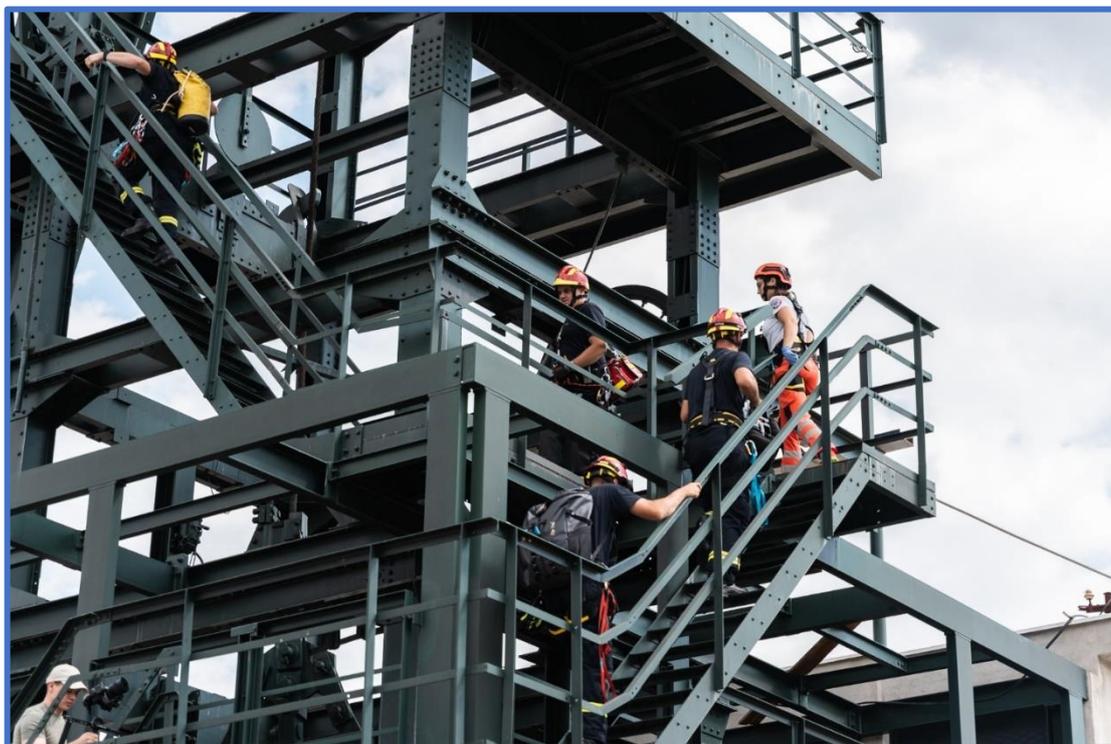
#### 2/ Notification of an accident and the arrival of emergency services

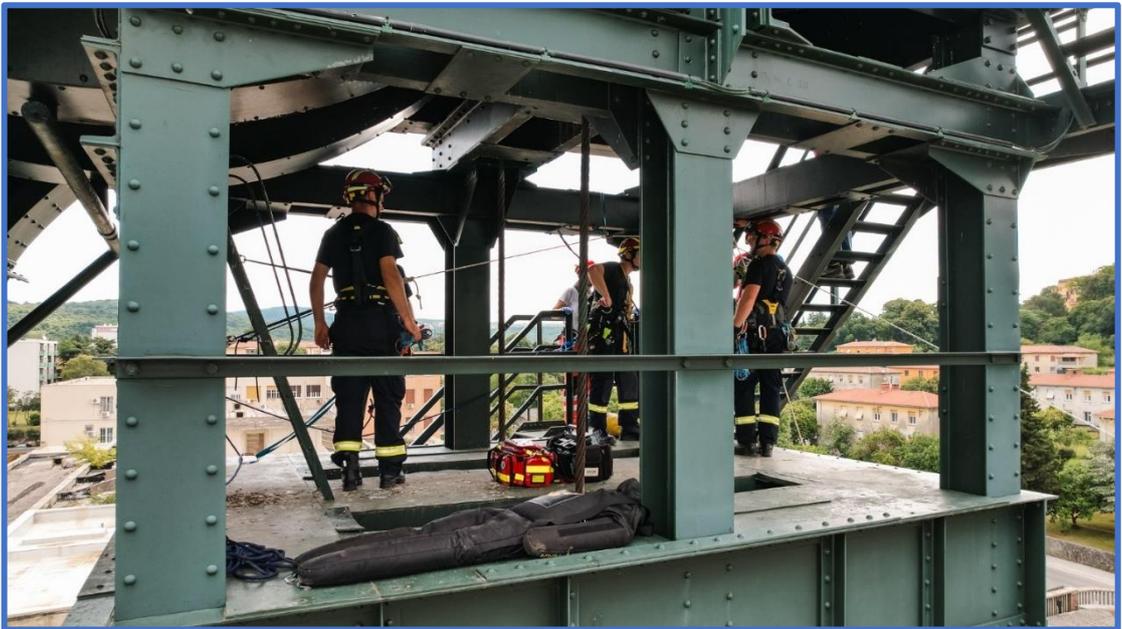
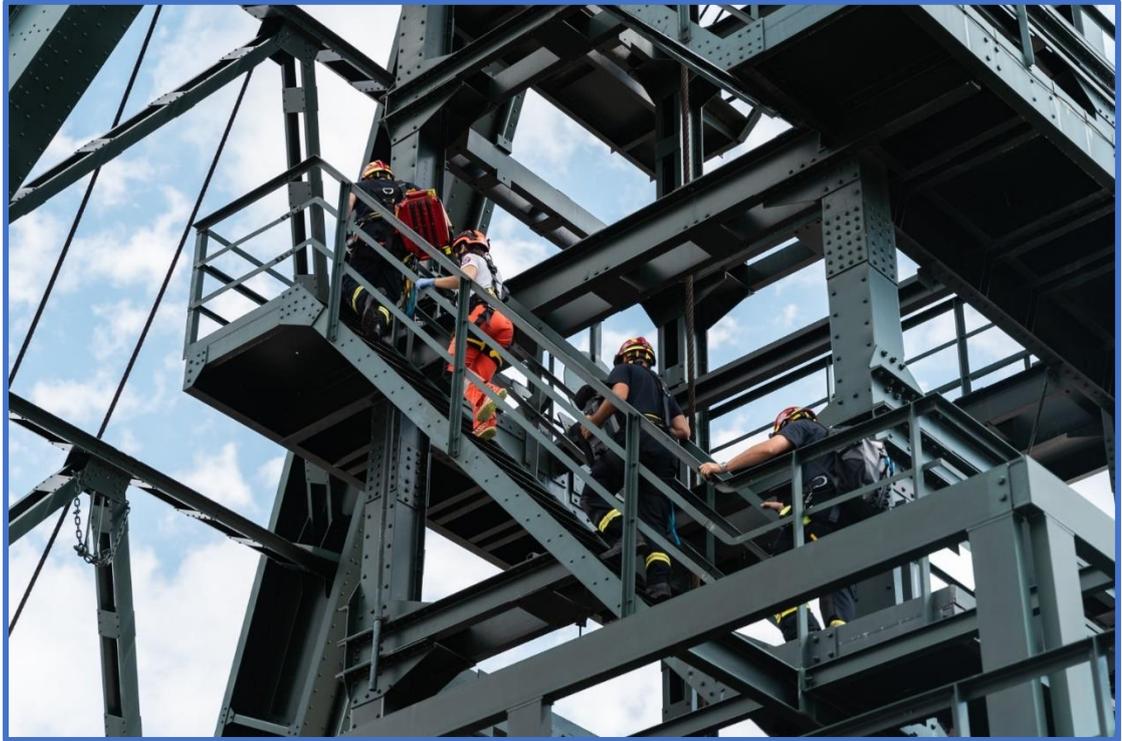


**3/ Arrival of  
emergency  
services and  
preparations  
for rescue**

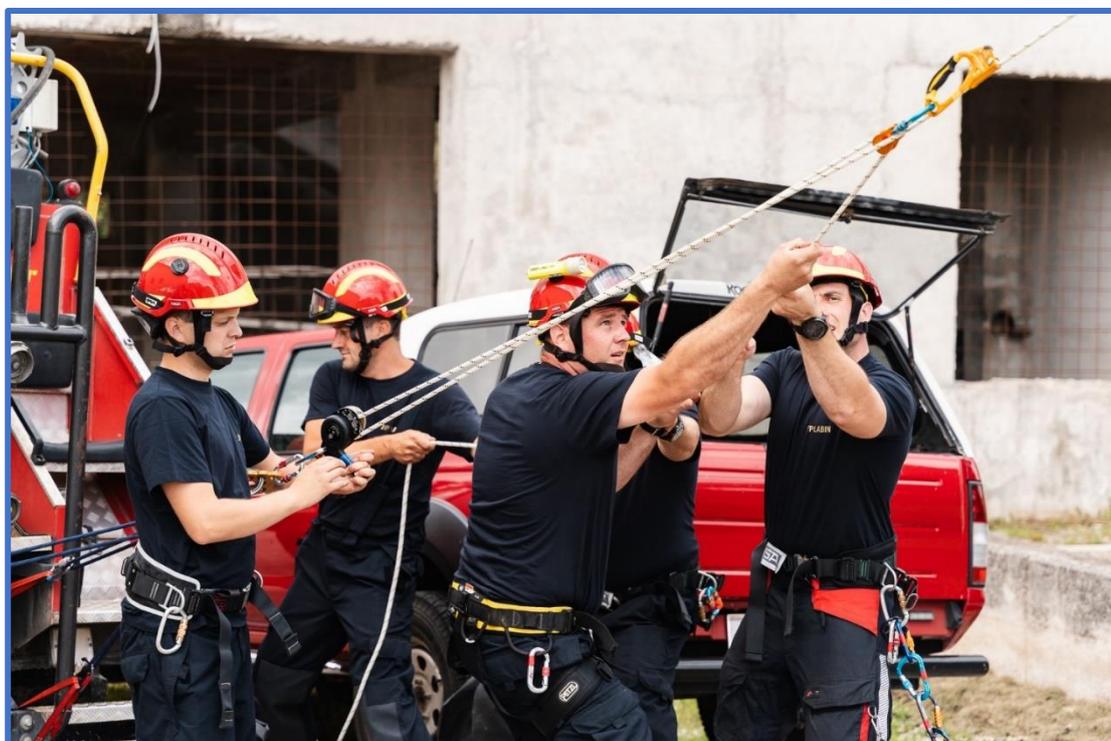


**4/ HMP and JVP employees climb the mining tower to check the state of consciousness and breathing and began resuscitation using an automatic defibrillator**

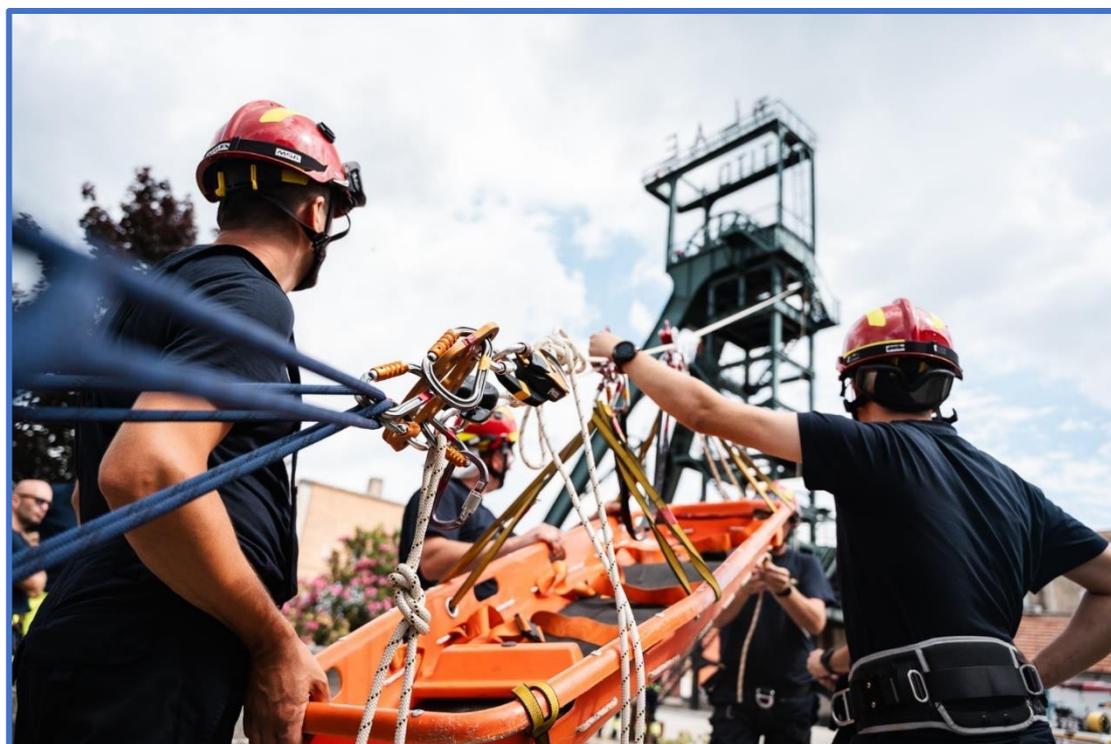
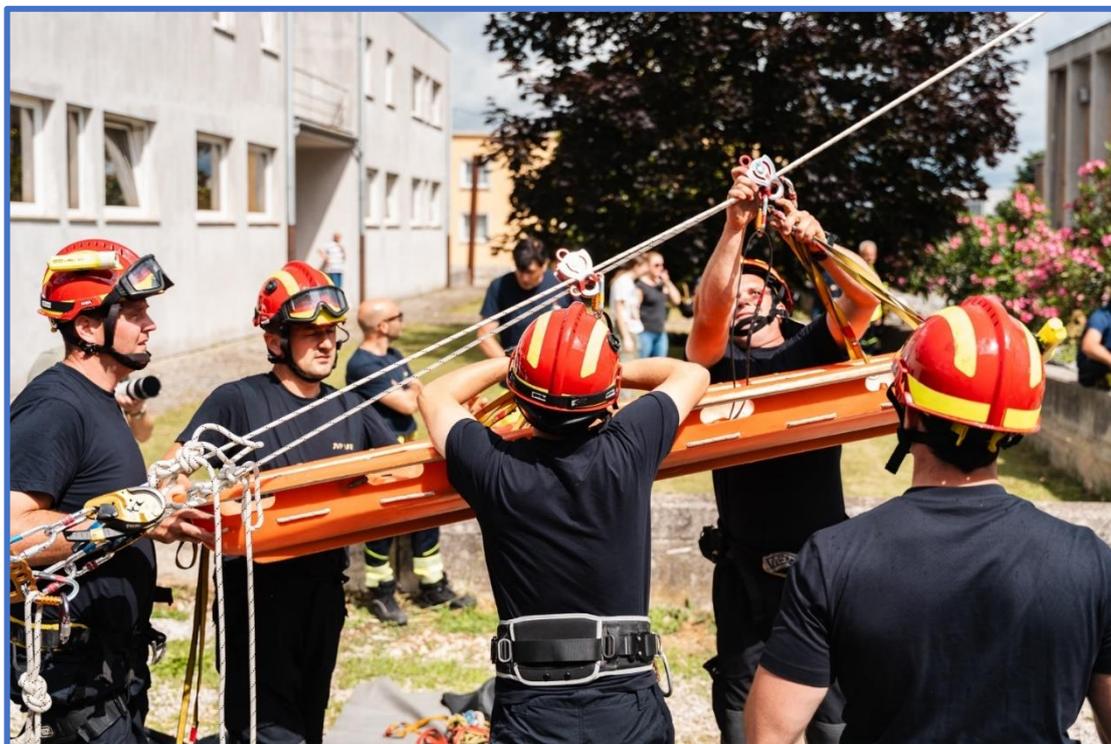


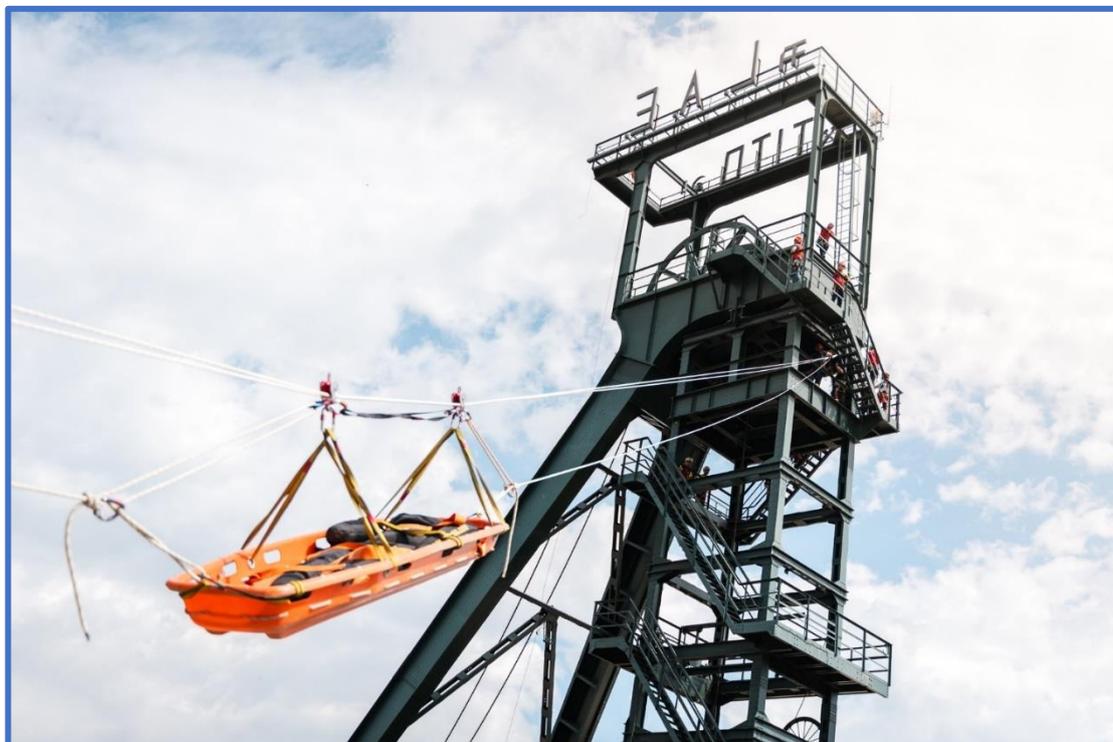


5/ JVP approached to the construction of a cross-section from the manhole, which they attach to the fire engine, and they evacuate the person from the manhole

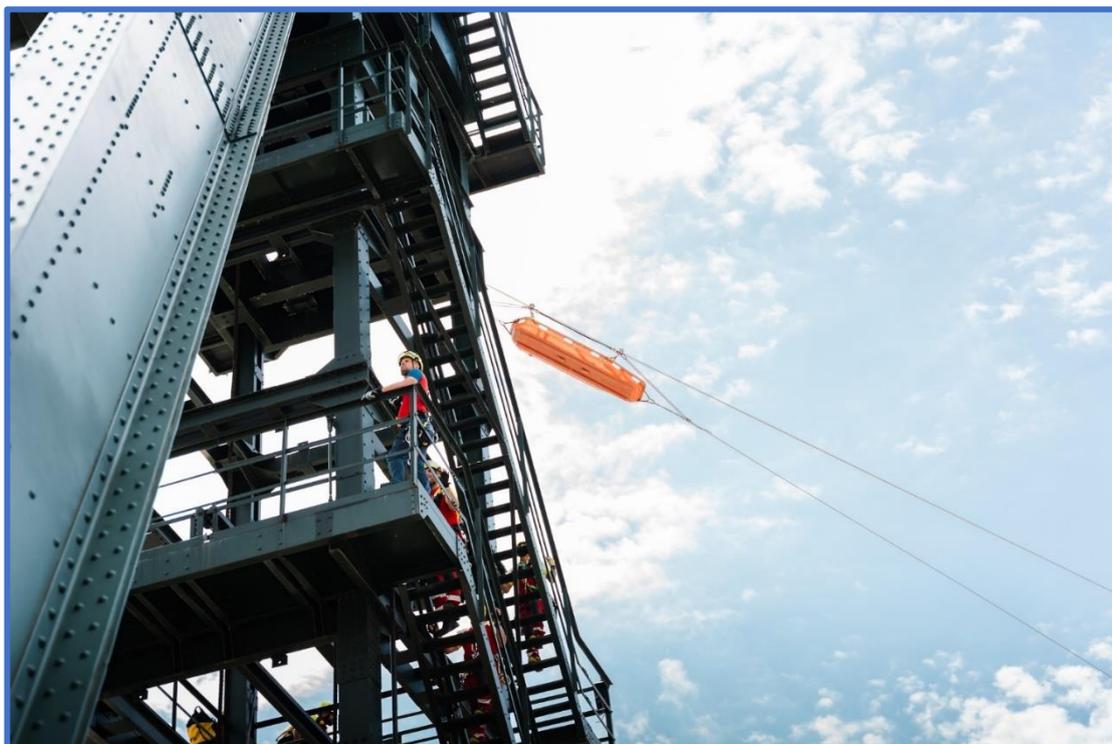


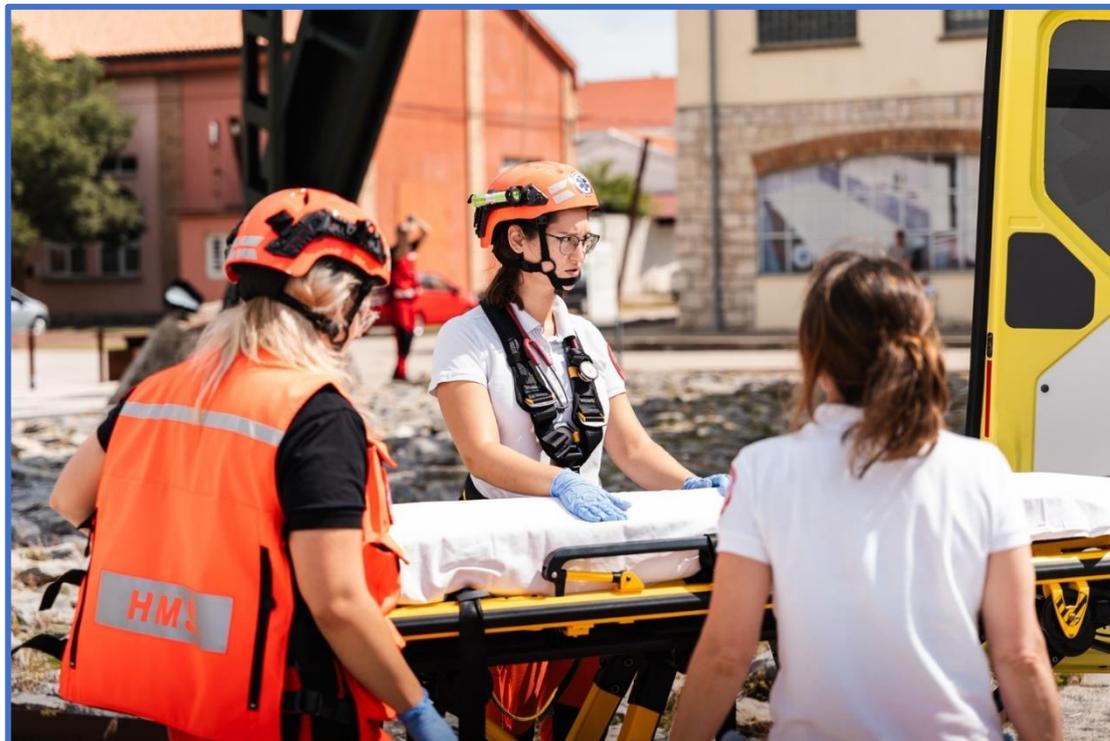
6/ Lifting a stretcher for an injured person up to the mining tower



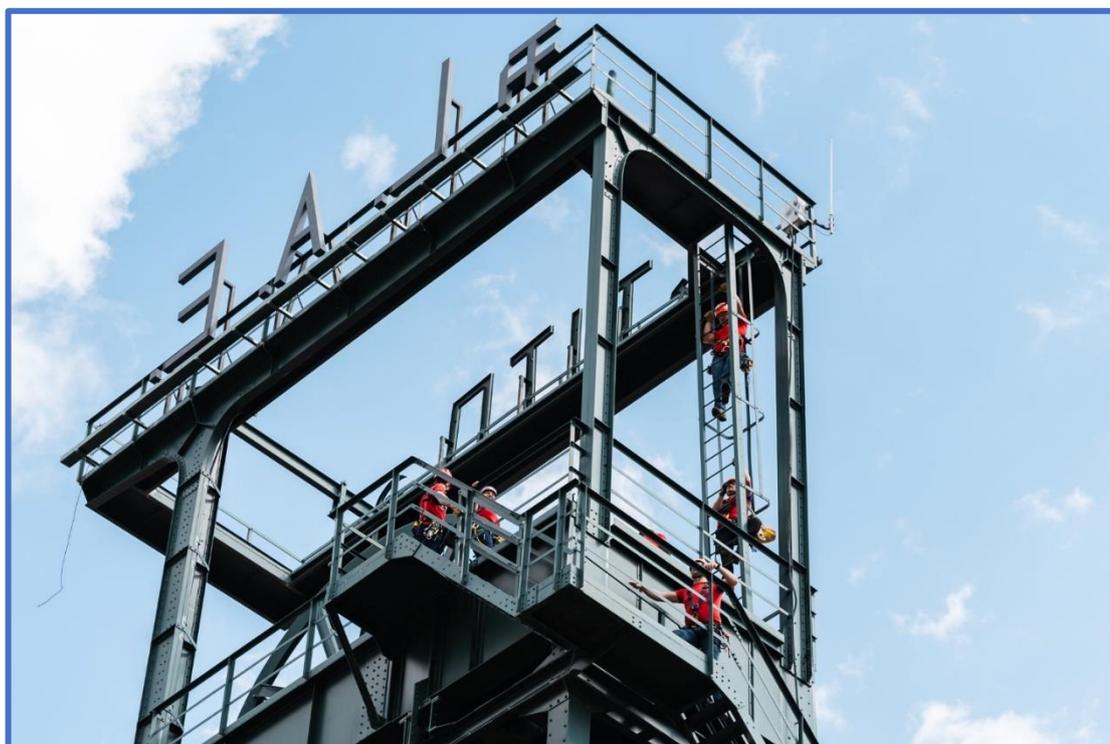


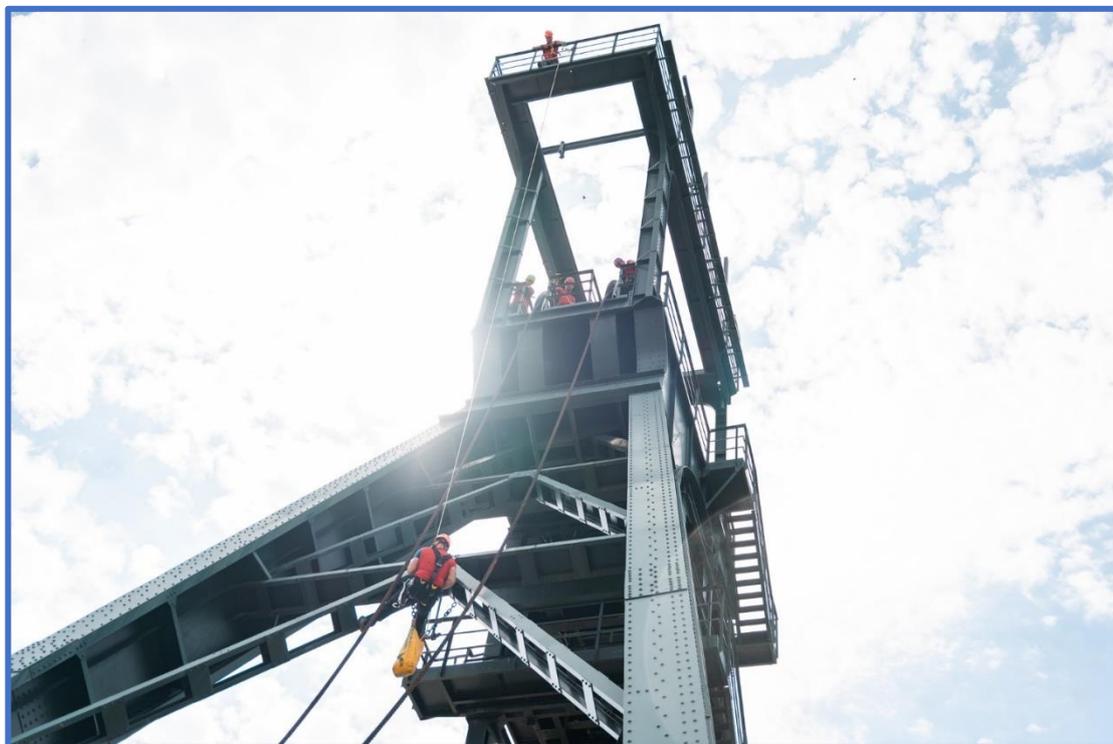
7/ Pulling an injured person on a stretcher and handover of the injured person to Emergency Medical Service for further care

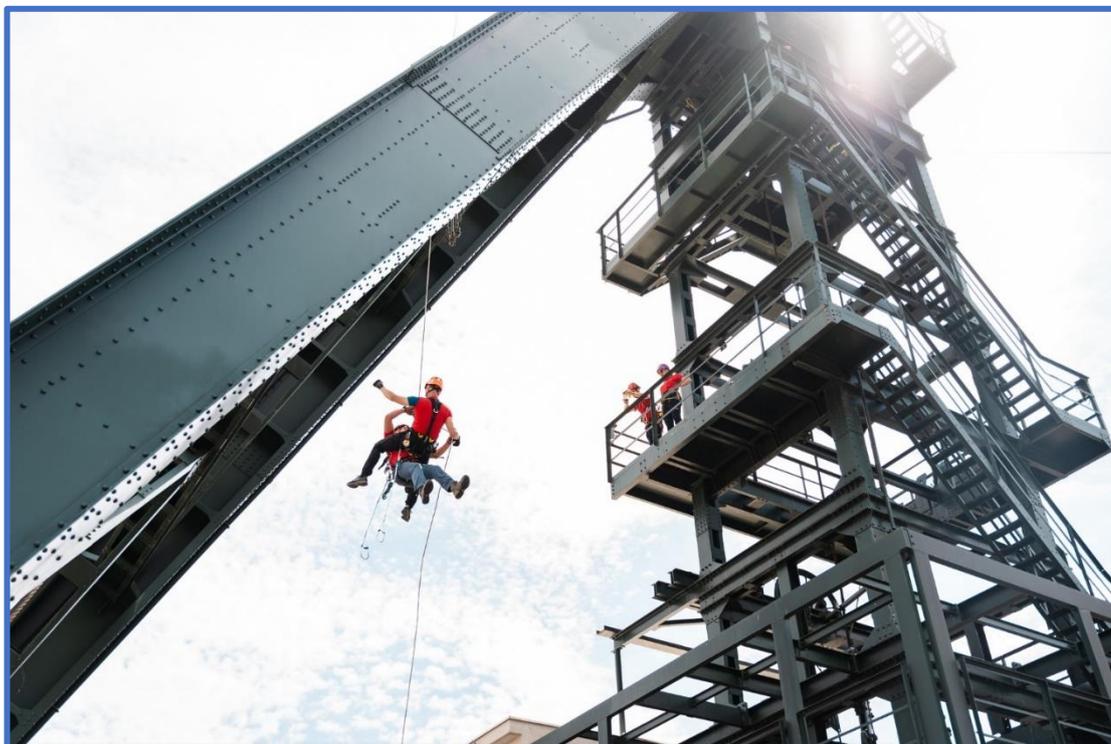




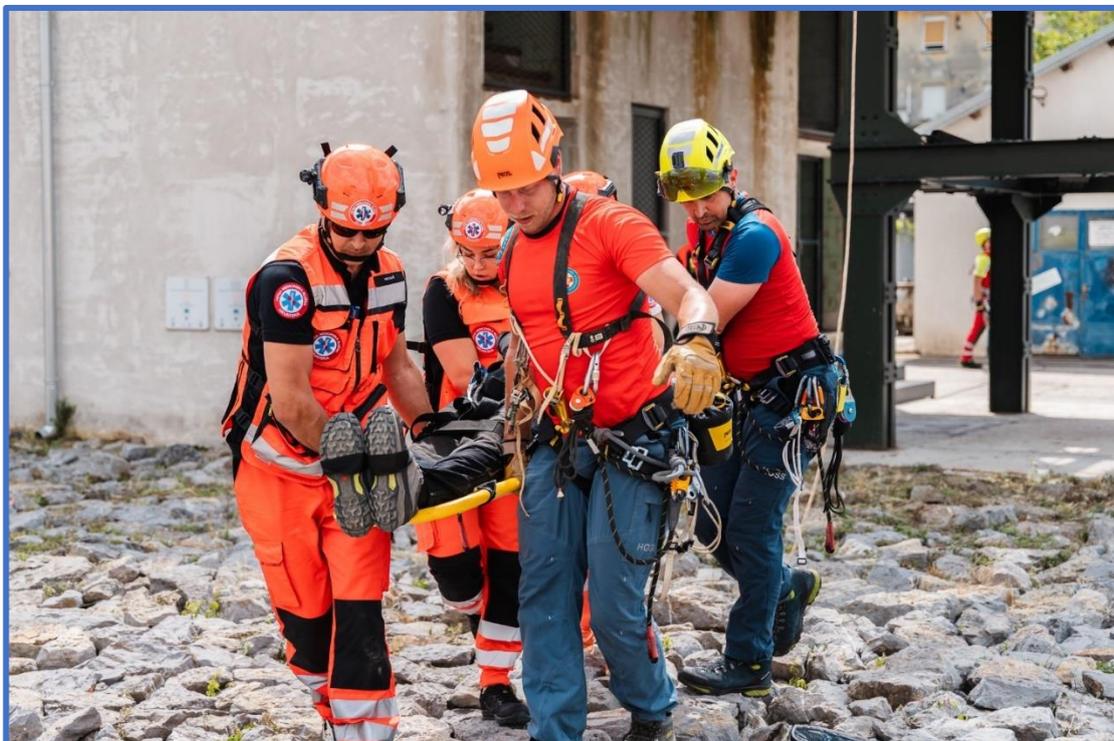
8/ The evacuation of the second person using the Roglis rescue device - carried out by members of the HGSS Station Istra







8/ Handover  
of the  
injured  
person to  
the  
Emergency  
Medical  
Service for  
further care





### 3.3.2. Day 2 – scenario 4

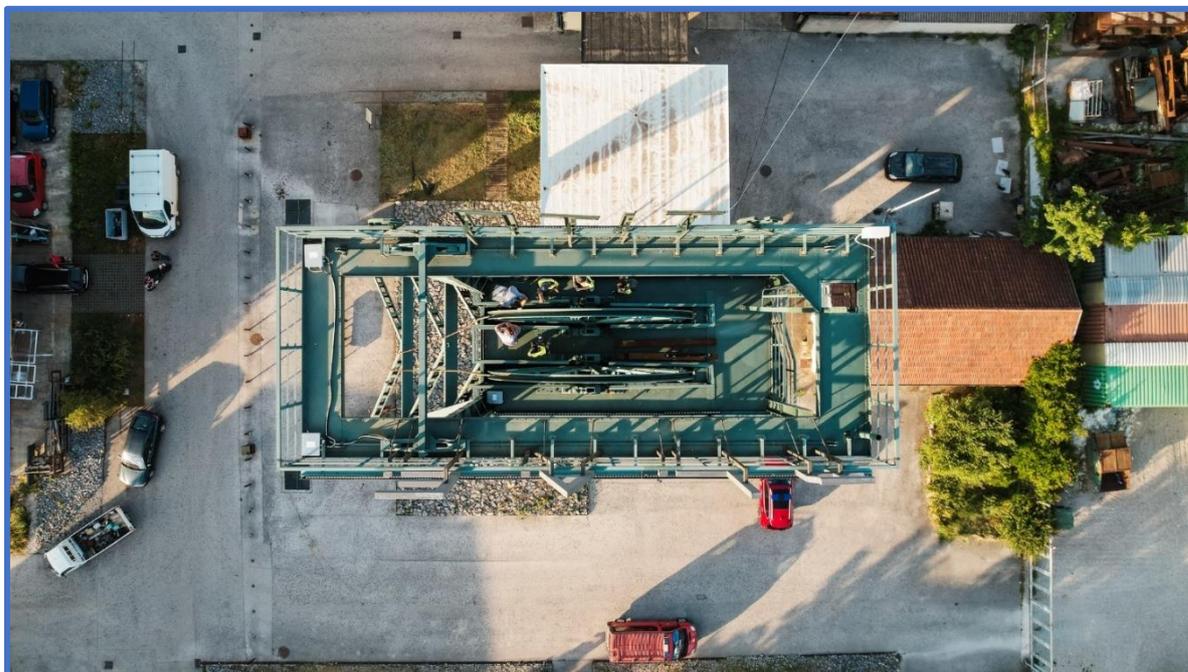
The fourth scenario, performed by volunteers from Italy - their SIRE team, brings a slightly different rescue protocol from heights and depths.

The rescuer, hanging from the ropeway, is guided and stopped above the casualty to be recovered. At this point the rescuer descends through a rope toward the casualty. Upon reaching the casualty, the rescuer has the casualty put on an emergency harness, attaches a rope to the emergency harness to retrieve and attaches the other branch of the same rope to his harness. The rescuer begins the ascent up the rope, at one point stops and begins to retrieve the casualty with the help of his own weight and arms taking advantage of the pulley and ascender system on the top anchor. One rescuer continues in this way so that both of them reach the upper anchorage of the ropeway. Here the lead workers give continue the descent of both of them through the zip line until they reach the bottom. Once there, the injured person is unhooked and entrusted to the care of the medical staff.

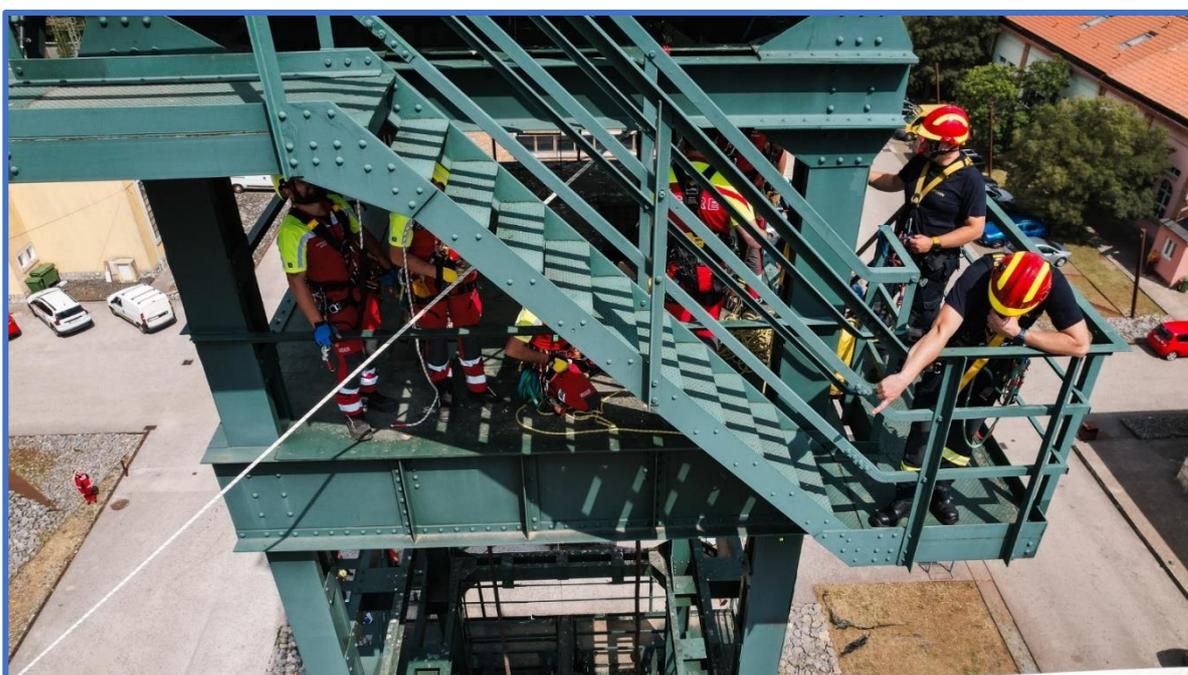


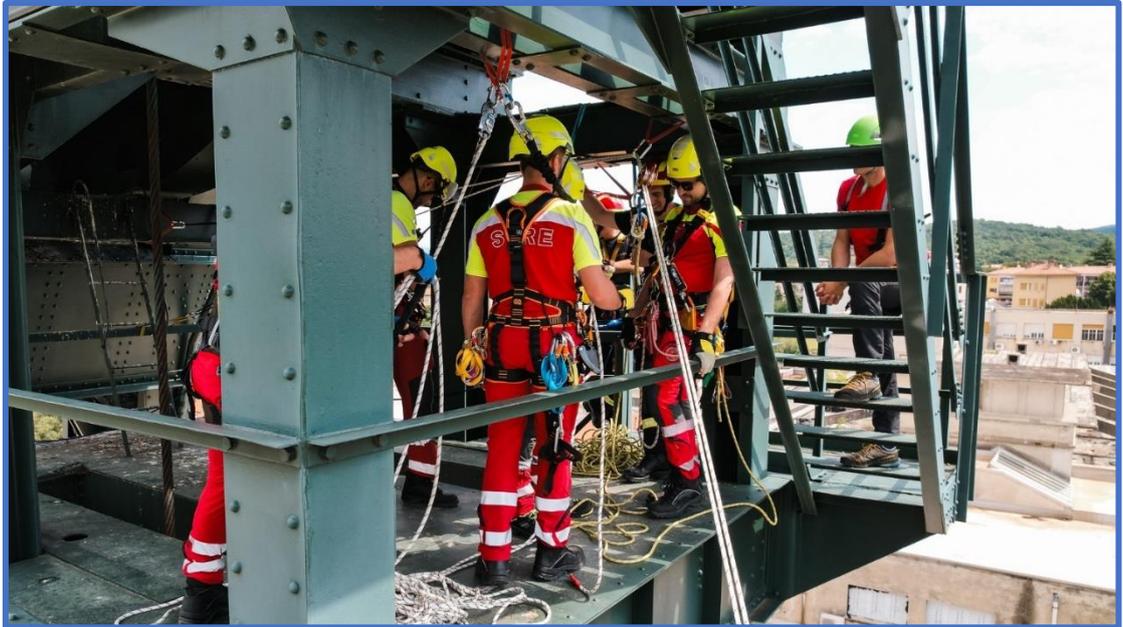
## Presentation 4: Step-by-step of the 4<sup>th</sup> scenario

### 1/ Location of the exercises – Šoht mining tower



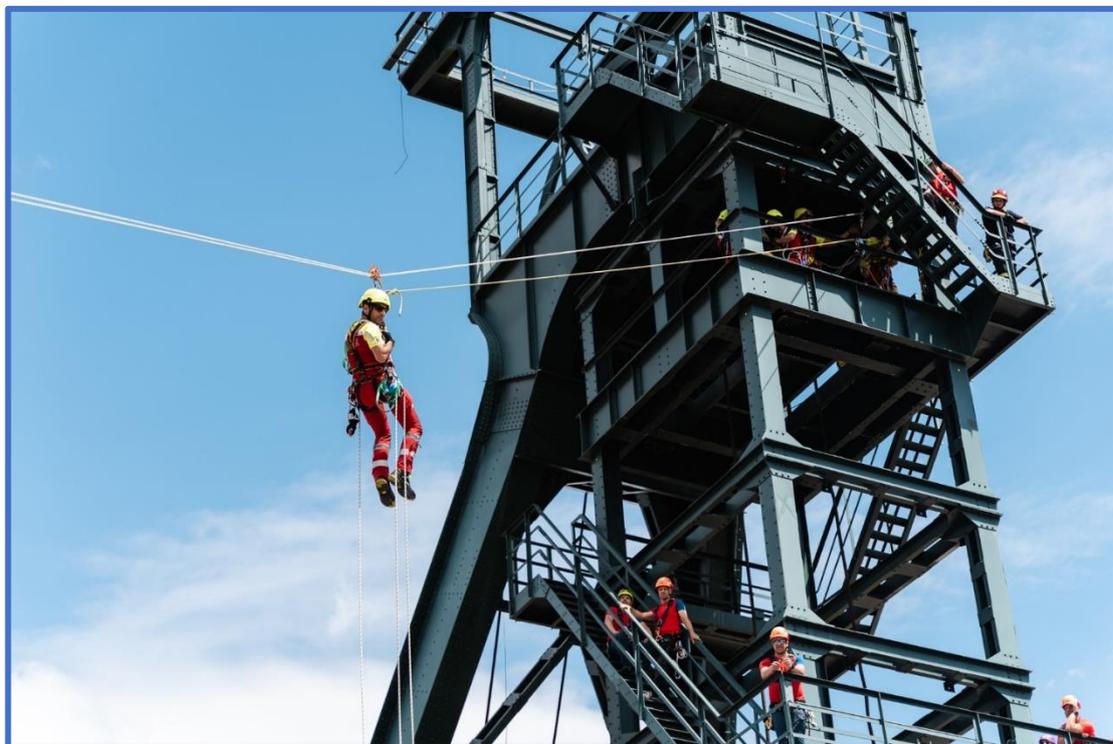
### 2/ Preparation of Italian SIRE team for the exercise





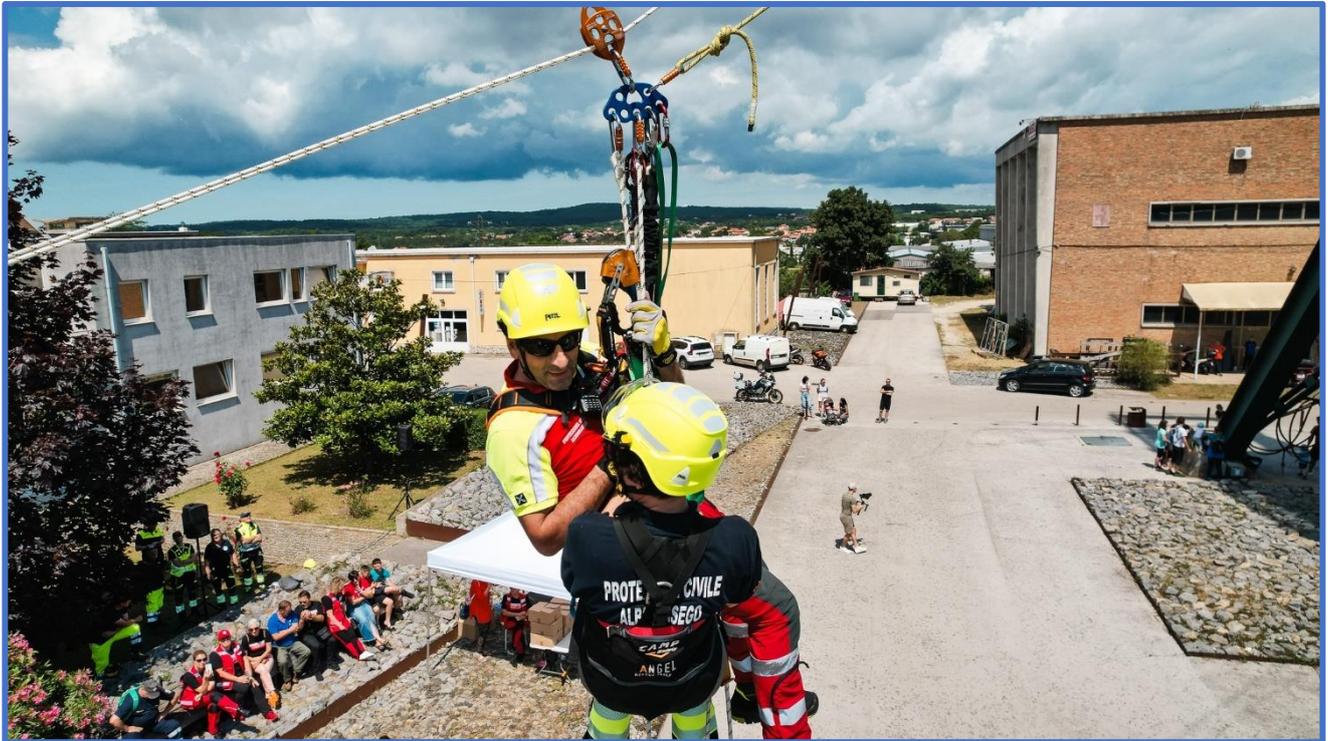
3/ Setting up  
a "zip line"  
and  
descending  
to the  
injured  
person





4/ Checking the injured person's vital signs, preparing for evacuation by fastening the seat belt and lifting out of the precipice





## 5 / Handover of the injured person to the Emergency Medical Service for further care



### 3.4. Practical training in drone control - training ground JVP Labin, Dubrova

We carried out the theoretical part, which comes down to legal regulations in the Republic of Croatia and the EU, respecting the regulations of the following: Croatian Civil Aviation Agency (HACZ), Air Navigation Control (HKZP) and the State Geodetic Administration (DGU), use of the AMC portal for air ticket booking space. We established a team and work plan for the use of drones within the fire organization. The theoretical part for Croatian volunteers was held in April in Labin.

On the other hand, Italian volunteers had undergone a training course to obtain a license to use drones (training of 10 people was contracted to pass the license A1-A3, license A2, 10 days of practical training in the field) in Italy in period February - April.

The practical part consisted of transferring the acquired knowledge to the training ground and acquiring the knowledge to control the drone. The scenario for the practical part included taking off the drone, taking a video of the fire scene and transferring the video to the VOC (Fire Operations Center).

#### Presentation 5: Practical training in drone control

##### 1 / Location of the training – training ground of JVP Labin, Dubrova



2 / Training in  
drone control



3 / Transfer  
of footage to  
the fire  
operations  
center



## 4. Analysis of the conducted exercises

The analysis of the success of the exercises were carried out in the JVP Labin multifunctional hall in the composition of representatives of the preparation of the exercise and representatives of the intervention services. Two such coordination meetings were held as part of which analyses were made regarding the used equipment, techniques and rescue protocols.

**Photo 2: Analysis of the conducted exercises**



## 5. Demonstrations and exercises for citizens and children

### 5.1. Practical exercise extinguishing with a manual fire extinguisher - Dubrova Sculpture Park

Between exercises in the Dubrova Sculpture Park, visitors were able to try extinguishing an initial fire with the S apparatus. An employee of JVP Labin demonstrated extinguishing a flammable liquid under controlled conditions.

This activity was intended for citizens, especially children and youth.

#### Presentation 6: Practical exercise extinguishing with a manual fire extinguisher

##### 1/ Citizen exercise location - controlled conditions



## 2/ Demonstration of wearing firefighting protective equipment



## 3/ Demonstration of setting up the isolation device





#### 4/ Fire extinguishing demonstration with "S" apparatus





## 5.2. Practical exercise of reviving and inspecting vehicles and equipment, for the public - Dubrova Sculpture Park

Citizens had the opportunity to learn how to resuscitate an injured person and to see and try out all emergency services vehicles and equipment.

### Presentation 7: Practical exercise of reviving and inspecting vehicles and equipment

#### 1/ The process of resuscitation of an injured person

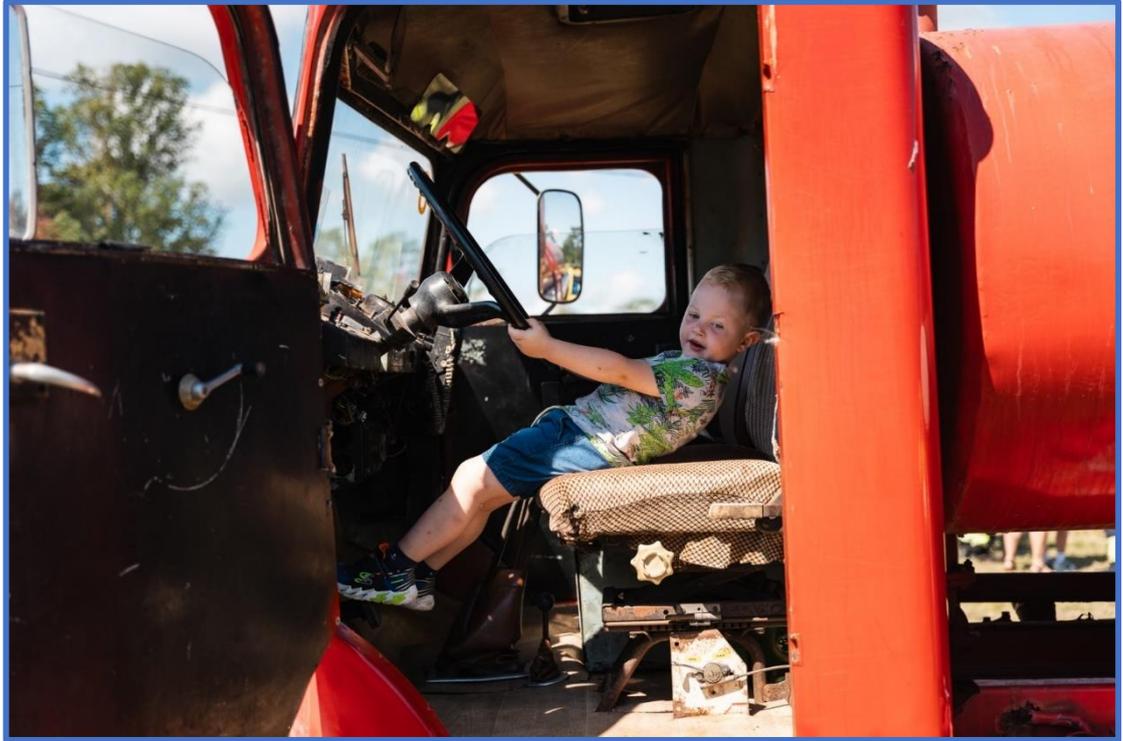


## 2/ Exhibition of vehicles and equipment - county headquarters vehicle as a firefighting operation center



## 3/ Exhibition of vehicles and equipment







## 6. Video presentation of exercises

In addition to the photo-documentation of the exercises performed in Labin, Croatia, a video presentation of the same was made, which can be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aGrV0-NVuFI>

