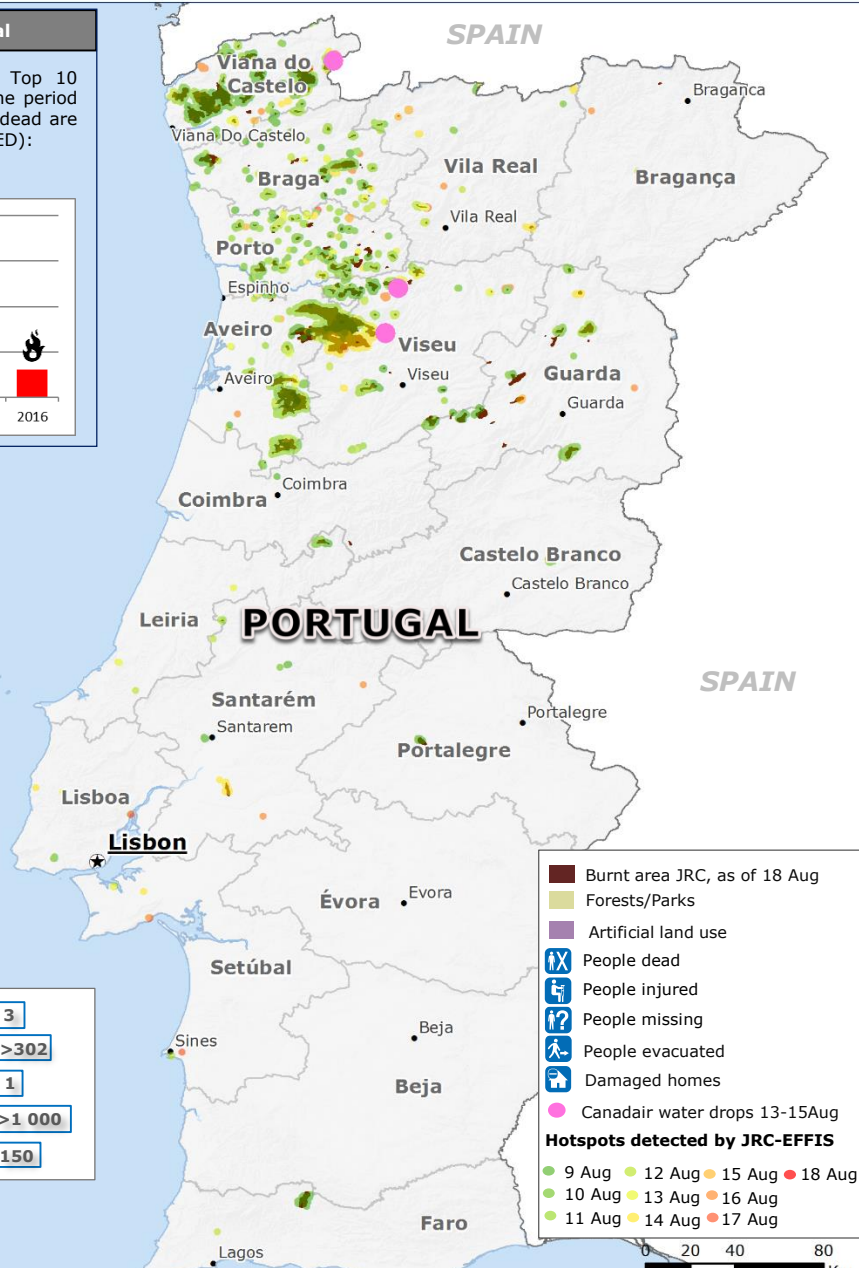
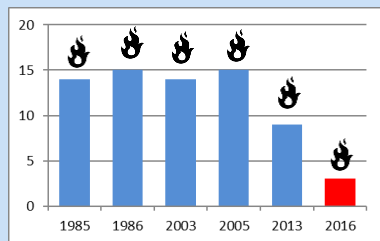




FOREST FIRES in Portugal

The Forest Fires included in the Top 10 Natural Disasters in Portugal for the period 1985 - 2016 sorted by number of dead are shown below (current event is in RED):

Source: [CRED/EM-DAT](#)



SITUATION

- On 10 August, the National Authority for Civil Protection in Portugal (ProCiv) activated the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM), requesting aerial firefighting means to support the response to the forest fire situation in Portugal which started to deteriorate rapidly after 6 August. As of 17 August, 95 081 ha of forests and scrubland have been burned in 2016 (source: ProCiv).
- The EU Buffer Capacity, a Canadair CL-415 (Buffer-IT), managed by Italy, co-financed by the European Commission and registered in the European Emergency Response Capacity (EERC) or Voluntary Pool, was made available by the ERCC to Portugal.
- The Buffer-IT operation started on 11 August from the aerial military airforce base of Monte Real, in the centre of Portugal. During its 8 days of deployment in Portugal the Buffer IT performed 11 forest fire fighting missions, flying a total of 46:45 hours completing 139 water drops.
- As of 16 August the forest fires situation in Portugal started to improve and additional international assistance was no longer needed. On 18 August, the Buffer-IT plane returned to its base in Italy.
- EFFIS forecast the fire danger remains at "Low" for the affected areas in northern Portugal and Funchal on 19 Aug and it might increase to "High" over 20-23. On 19 Aug weather becoming overcast with rain locally. Winds will be from south directions with 15 km/h gusting to 35 km/h. During afternoon hours winds are expected to change becoming from northwest directions with the same intensity. Maximum temperatures are expected to reach 25° locally. Over 20-21 Aug. weather will be fair with no significant phenomena although maximum temperatures in considerable rise expected to reach 27° to 28° (on 20 Aug) and 30° to locally 32° on 21 Aug. Winds will be from north/northwest directions with 25 km/h gusting to 45 locally. Sources: EFFIS, PROCIV, Media

FIRE DANGER FORECAST for 19 Aug. (JRC-GWIS)

