



**2018
DISASTER MANAGEMENT SEMINAR
USDA FOREST SERVICE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS**

On August 13, 2018, HEF SLC members hosted a field tour for the 2018 International Seminar on Disaster Management through the USDA Forest Service (USFS) International Programs. The seminar shared U.S. expertise with an international audience helping them build capacity in their own countries and develop a network of disaster managers worldwide.

32 participants attended from 23 countries:

Bangladesh	Bhutan	Botswana	Brazil
Chile	Ethiopia	El Salvador	India
Indonesia	Malasia	Morocco	Mozambique
Myanmar	Namibia	Nigeria	Palau
Peru	Philippines	Russia	South Africa
Tunisia	Ukraine	Uzbekistan	

Attendees were representatives from national, regional and municipal disaster management offices, the US Agency for International Development (USAID), US Embassies and USFS International program. Five of the participants have direct responsibility for wildfire related activities. Other participants are concerned about disaster management and risk reduction from both natural and man-made disasters.

The 15-day seminar showcased disaster management systems at the federal, state, local and private levels. HEF members focused on lessons learned from the 1991 Tunnel Fire. Presentations included an overview of the Tunnel Fire with footage from the fire, background on the HEF and a driving tour of the fire area. The group visited the area impacted by the Tunnel Fire. They also participated in a computer simulated wildfire exercise based on the 2017 Tubbs fire.

The day provided a variety of opportunities for interaction and highlighted the Hills Emergency Forum cooperative approach. Speakers included representatives from:

- CAL FIRE Santa Clara Unit
- East Bay Municipal Utility District
- East Bay Regional Park District
- Oakland Fire Department
- Moraga Orinda Fire District.



The Hills Emergency Forum facilitates a cooperative approach among nine governing organizations addressing urban wildland interface fire issues in the Oakland-Berkeley hills.