The State Fire Service Capacity Building MENTORSHIP to Czech Republic and Armenia

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Two years planning and preparation process toward IER

WHY?

- Close inter services cooperation through last 15 years
- Common activities: exercises, trainings, projects
- Similar systems, mentality, structure of USAR
- Participation in IEC as evaluator - knowing strengths and weaknesses + recommendations
The Process

- Official request from the National HQs of the Fire Brigade (the sponsor) of Czech Republic to its counterpart in Poland for Menthorship after verbal agreement
- Nomination of two experts for the preparation – buddy system
- Initial visit – 36 hrs exercise according to INSARAG Guidelines with Mentors’ evaluation – post exercise report and creation road toward IER
- Regular exchange of information regarding POE, system improvement, changes in the exercise preparation and documentation
- Second Exercise – only documentation scanning and post exercise report study
- IER
IER

- (verification of last version of exercise documentation, POE presentations, sites, etc),
- Shoulder to shoulder with IER exercise frontman - VV
- Explanation to IER Cadre Team – support to IER exercise frontman
- Participation in exercise results presentation
- Lessons learned discussion with Czech USAR managers

Effect – consideration next common IER
Mentorship to Armenia

- An official request sent to the Head of the State Fire Service for support in the preparation toward IEC
- First assessment visit to determine the scope of work to be done
- Post visit report and discussion with the Head of MES Armenia
- Discussion with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland to support the preparation – Project within the Polish Development Programme
- After the positive answer from the MoFA the Chief Commandant made a statement to support Armenia
Scope of Work

- First to determine what Mentor can and can not do
- Based on the assessment report – road map toward IEC: missing equipment, trainings, exercises and documentation
- Naming two experts from the SFS to become Mentors – buddy system
- USAR Poland supporting the process (trainings, shoring, medical plans, etc)
- Almost two years full preparation process with two MoFA yearly projects
Scope of the project

- Project budget ~ 200 000 EUR

- Project actions:
  - Evaluation during preparation phase:
    - 3 x internal field exercises
    - Mentor’s reports on progress
  - Trainings for key personnel
    - Organization of USAR team (INSARAG Guidelines)
    - 2 x OSOCC training
    - USAR management training
    - Medical component training
    - Shoring training
    - IEC preparation training
    - Table top exercises with assessment training
Scope of the project

- Internal exercises assessed by mentors based on IEC/R checklists
- Participation of Armenian skeleton team (5 personel) in Czech IER
- Personnel trained:
  - 5 participants per each OSOCC course
  - 5 medical staff on medical training
  - 5 participants on USAR management course
  - 6 participants on table top exercises
  - 10 participants on shoring training
  - 10 participants on training of USAR organization
- Each training duration: 5 – 7 days
Remarks

- Different IEC/IER exercises – completely different approach – case to case examples
- Mentors should be ready to be able to help 24/7
- Buddy system is much better – allow flexibility and 2 perspective
- Sometimes additional expertise is needed – additional trainings, workshop or exercises
- Two years time in many cases is the minimum (especially for the teams getting ready for IEC)
- Effect – 2 „well done” and now other countries asking for mentoring…