



SESSION 7: First Responder Program V2.0



First Responder Training 2.0

Building resilience - where it is needed most

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We have a FRT since 2005, so what? 2.0 really?

TWG developed that training, it was implemented in China 2009-12, in Iraq since 2019, in Sri Lanka in 2021, soon in Georgia and Zimbabwe...



So why updating, why changing a running system?
Because something changed!

The Times They Are A-Changin' – Bob Dylan 1964

For the first time in history - the UN hold a World Humanitarian Summit in 2016. A historic event that re-adjusted the focus of relief work – setting it apart from intl. relief workers and putting local community in front!



Our focus must change now too!

INSARAG had a coherent approach, and it was intended to start with Capacity Building – and not just classifying USAR teams. But somehow many of the member states began to set the focus just to international relief by USAR teams.



Our methodology is build up in a way that always thought of the first step to be a local one!

So the FRT was a quite logic idea. But we thought of a multi-use i.e., having FRT for both: professional First Responders and community ones...

In fact a nice idea but it does not really work, so a revision of FRT was needed.

As local as possible – resilience building!

Grass Root Level.... The new approach, more local is hardly possible! We have to consider that the intl. USAR teams deploy rarely, but also only for bigger quakes.... What about those hundreds of local “small” quakes? Building local resilience will save much more lives in the future...



It is proven fact that local First responders save more lives than intl. USAR teams. Enhancing the performance of the Community Responders is important as in many countries the amount of professional First Responders is limited. Additionally, many villages and small cities are in remote areas and difficult to reach...



1st Result: the “old FRT” stays!

It does not work for the new approach, but it is a rock solid training course that can be used anywhere on earth for professional First Responders, be it fire fighters or civil protection staff as they have the needed background knowledge to understand the content easily.

Also these persons usually have access to training grounds and equipment the FRT can be done as well for end user as well as ToT for further implementation of the FRT in other districts etc.

The only needed update of the “old FRT” is a little bit of cosmetics i.e. pictures, graphics. The content will be untouched/unchanged.

Sometimes there is a word missing!

The technical English in the “old FRT” is fine for professional First Responder, but in resilience building our customers are not professionals and suddenly we have a “lingo” problem...

So tell me... Is there of word for “the clutch” in Sorani?

Is there a widely understood term in Bahasa for “HazMat”?

Does “Managing the scene” has an expression in Georgian?

And not to forget: Education level matters! Sometimes the villagers might have a maximum of 6 years school... And sometimes no school at all! So SIMPLE LANGUAGE is the door opener... As well as more graphics as 50% of all humans learn easier from pictures than text!

Quite some valuable reasons for a new designed course, isn't it?



2nd result: FRT customized for Community Responders!

It is not only language and education: didactics have to be involved as well as we have to understand that there are also cultural barriers, gender items, and due to climate, unavailable funds/budget or general availability an important downgrading in regard to equipment, PPE and First Aid!



Thereof the FRT 2.0 explains more in detail, offers pictures, flowcharts and other graphics.

Many slides have be customized i.e., being downgraded for better understanding Based on the experience of the FRT's hold in 2020/21 in Iraq and Georgia, new chapters are included giving information on the rescue methodology, how to form a rescue team and how to conduct the assessment.

Implementation problems due to COVID-19:



- 1) None of the foreseen field tests was possible
- 2) Alternatively done virtual trainings were good for theory, but lack of the “exercise proof”. In addition these events very difficult due to technical problems
- 3) Masks hampered photo sessions for pictures
- 4) Local trainings could be observed via Webex or Zoom but the ongoing pandemic lead to various alternative dates/participants etc.

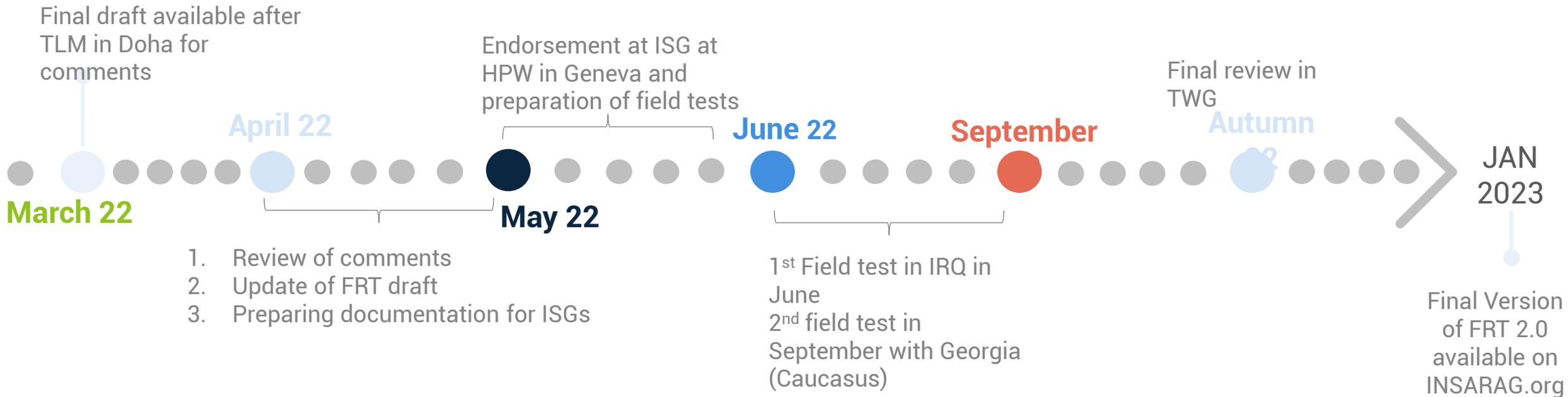
3rd result: Lessons learnt from the COVID pandemic

Yes, there is one and a good one! Virtual FRT's were tested in Iraq and Georgia! So in the future we might have many virtual FRT's:



For countries with low budgets as well as for those with long travel distances, the virtual theory sessions can make sense! Same for those professionals that work in shifts and due to low staff wouldn't be able to join a four-day course, but a one-day off for the exercise can be arranged as well as daily online participation.

The final time schedule for implementation:





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