



Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtas Áitiúil
Environment, Heritage and Local Government



National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management



An Stiúrthóireacht Náisiúnta um Dóiteáin agus Bainistíocht Éigeandála
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An Overview of Emergency Management at National Level

Keith Leonard

October 2016



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Objectives

- Cover key concepts
- Explain Systems Approach in context of EM
- Examine response arrangements
- Address future developments



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Approach

- Humanitarian Principles
- Culture based in public sector, strong emergency service influence
- EU Civil Protection & international good practice



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Systems Approach



- International good practice
- Cyclical process of continuous improvement
- A way of managing multi-level, multi-sectoral work
- Applicable to emergency response services



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Inter-agency Co-ordination

- Provide a systems approach to emergency management from the Risk Identification stage, through the Planning and Preparedness stages to Response and the Recovery (incl. review) stage
- Ensure that each stage of emergency management is co-ordinated
- Define a common language & terminology
- Simplify Inter-agency working
- Lead Agency / Lead Government Department



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Principles that underpin emergency management

- Protection and care of the public at times of vulnerability
- Clear leadership in time of crisis
- Early and appropriate response
- Efficient and co-ordinated operations
- Transparent and accountable system of emergency management
- Safe working
- Promoting community resilience



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All Hazards Approach

- Generic Aspects
- Communication
 - Public communication
 - Inter-agency communication
- Information Management
- Co-ordination
- Structures
- Flexible
- Require sub-plans to address specific emergency types
- Based on the Framework for Major Emergency Management (2006)



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Emergency Types

- Listed in Framework – Appendix F7
 - Natural
 - Transport
 - Technological
 - Civil
- Sudden On-set High Impact
- Rising Tide
- Complex/ Domino
- Mass Casualties /Fatalities - Disaster



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Risk Assessment

- National Risk Assessment
- EU legislation (Risk Assessment coupled to Risk Management Capability)
- Regional Inter-agency
- Guidance
- Drives work programme



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Mitigation

- High Risk
- Regulation
- Resilient Communities
- Critical Infrastructure
- Ownership of risk – Interface with Principal Response Agencies (An Garda Síochána, HSE, local authorities)



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Planning & Preparedness

- Major Emergency Plan & sub-plans
- Guides
- Training (inter-agency)
- Exercises
- Seminars/ Workshops
- Regional inter-agency work



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Lead Concept

- Lead Agency
- Lead Government Department
- Mandate to lead co-ordination at the response phase; more complex picture for other four stages



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Local Co-ordination Group

- Agenda (Information Management)
- Driven by Strategic Aims
- Mandate
- Public Information
- Link to Parent Department/ NCG
- Dealing with complex emerging issues
- Anticipating issues
- Supporting On-site Co-ordination



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Governance/ Working Structures

- National Steering Group
- National Working Group
- Regional Steering Groups (8)
- Regional Working Groups (8)
- Task specific groups



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Flooding/ Severe Weather

- Will happen (more frequently and higher impact) – Winter 2015/16
- Resource intensive and prolonged duration
- Public Information as a key objective
- Flood Forecasting & Warning
- Technology (remote sensing, engineering)
- Recovery – complex issues



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Guidance

- Guides
 - Flooding
 - Seveso III
 - Evacuation & Rest Centres
- Protocols
 - Rail
 - Radiological
 - Land Based Response to Marine Emergencies



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National Response

- National Co-ordination Group
 - National Emergency Co-ordination Centre (Kildare St)
 - All Government Departments & relevant agencies
 - Supporting local response



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Continuous Learning

- Regional Exercise Programmes
- Exercise BLIZZARD
- Exercise STORM
- Exercise INEX-5



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Potential Future Development

- Development of national civil protection
- Review of Framework for Major Emergency Management
- National cross-cutting issues (CIP, Complex Emergencies, Resilience)
- EU Civil Protection objectives & drivers
- Warning & Informing/ social media & other channels



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CO-ORDINATION

- Collaborative leadership
- Shared objectives
- Clarity
- Trust
- Appropriate delegation of tasks
- Mandate to make and implement decisions collectively



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Summary

All Hazards Approach

Risk Assessment

Co-ordination

Humanitarian Principles

Continuous learning (systems approach)

Collaborative Leadership