Barents Rescue 2011

Exercise for cross-border assistance and emergency preparedness
18-23 September

Barbro Näslund-Landenmark
Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency
Risk & Vulnerability Reduction Department

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**Total population:** appr. 5 436 000

**Surface Area:** 1 755 800 sq km, equals to combined surface area of France, Spain, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands
Common challenges & common solutions

- Barents Euro-Arctic Emergency Cooperation-Intergovernmental agreement Norway, Sweden, Finland and Russia
- Cross-border regional cooperation for improved & efficient emergency preparedness
- Regular joint exercises
- Barents Rescue 2011 exercise in North Sweden, in September
- 40 local, regional and national organisations participated
- MSB – different roles planner/executor, evaluation
Cross-border Co-operation
Giving and Receiving Assistance
Flood Challenge

• Encompasses the entire scale, from alarm to training emergency response crews at the site of an emergency
• A number of various exercises + the main international exercise in September
• A Observer-seminar, workshops and exchange of experiences between operational personnel
Exercise Objectives

• To define, test and evaluate relevant bilateral and multilateral agreements for assistance and the applicable legal and administrative framework
• Promote cooperation between authorities in the Barents Region as well as at national and international level
• To test national and international warning and alarm routines as stated or indicated in relevant agreements
• Strengthen trans-boundary co-operation at local and regional level
Exercise Objectives

• Improve procedures and practical activities for requesting, sending and receiving assistance

• Enhance the awareness and use of media being an important part in the crisis management process for channeling information to the public.

• Planning process itself (building personal networks, enhance familiarization between participants, improving the planning process)
Objectives for MSB

- MSB will support national actors by setting up and performing both national and international cooperation conferences in order to achieve an international common operational picture and address the need for critical resources.
- MSB’s duty officer, TiB, will receive an alarm regarding a dam failure and prepare the setting up of an organisation within MSB to respond to the situation.
Objectives for MSB

- The Swedish National Air Medevac (SNAM) to test the command post and co-operation, with other authorities within Sweden and neighbouring countries. SNAM tested the operability for mass evacuation of intensive care patients in co-operation with the Swedish Board of Health and the regional county to train medical staff and local medical posts in hand-over of patients and information.

- The EFRC Module – to test the equipment and the specialized functions within the team. Including co-ordination and co-operation with other national and international actors as well as handling the media. The activation of the module was also tested.
Scenario Timeline

Dam Failure

operational Activity
Training Body

Game Time

15 APR
Coop Conference National
TTX 1: National

08 JUN
Coop Conference International
TTX 2: International

13 SEP
Alerting
Decisions
ALARMEX
Evacuation
CPX Regional

14 SEP
HNS, RDC operational

19 SEP
Operational Command
CPX International
BC/Receiving

20 SEP
Emergency Ops by the Response Teams

21 SEP
Operational Command
Re-Deployment

22 SEP
BC/Receiving
Real Time

23 SEP
Observers seminar

[Image of a group of people labeled as Dam owner, Key-note speaker, Hydrologist, Drinking water security, Dam supervisor, Moderator.]

Photo: MSB
Swedish National Air Medevac (SNAM) performed its annual exercise

Onboard the SNAM aircraft ordinary crew, eight flight doctors, eleven flight nurses, one medical technician one mission coordinator.

The mission coordinator - Teamleader for the mission. Additional reconnaissance team sent out - also includes one MSB mission coordinator - sent out earlier to evaluate and make necessary pre planning before the aircraft arrives at the scene.
SNAM - a regular aircraft from Scandinavian Airlines – SAS

A Boeing 737-800, used on everyday SAS flights, was converted into an advanced air ambulance with intensive care facilities.

As no aircraft is on stand-by, it will only be converted upon demand, it is very cost efficient. The concept is under supervising of the MSB, and the medical staff is recruited via the County council of Västerbotten, who can give very advanced medical care during the flight.
SNAM has six intensive care units and six stretchers for intermediate care as well as 20 seats for patients with minor injuries or other passengers.

- After a three hour turnaround, SNAM departed southwards with evacuated patients.
- Later in the evening, the aircraft returned to its regular SAS schedule.
Within EU – “The Mechanism”
Community Civil Protection Mechanism

• Co operation within EU:
  Prevention, Preparedness, Response

• In total 31 countries:
  - EU
  - Norway, Iceland,
    Lichtenstein, Croatia
MIC
EU´s coordination centre

- MIC = Monitoring and Information Centre
- Brussels, 24/7

- Coordinate communication and information
  \[ \text{PS} \]
  \[ \text{MIC} \]
  \[ \text{Affected country} \]

- Coordinate resources
Why a flood module, EFRC?

- Globally one of the main natural disasters
- Several countries in Europe have during the recent years suffered from severe floods
- More requests for flood combat assistance
What is the EFRC?

• Module developed through cooperation between:
  - MSB, Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency
  - CMC, Crisis Management Centre, Finland
  - The project is co-financed by European Commission

• Project time initially 2 years
• Started on the 1:st of January 2010
• Module ready for deployment
  1:st of November 2010

Personell pool
EFRC Equipment

2 km light weight barriers
- designed to reinforce existing structure
- protect valuable objects

Assessment and safety element
- 2 boats
- rescue nets/slings
- GPS equipment
Training the EFRC

- Cooperation within the team
- Establishment of barriers
- Flood response and rescue
- Assessments of the needs
- Production of maps and digital documents
- Media
- Reporting
Web address

- https://www.msb.se/en/Training--Exercises/Exercises-Section/Barents-Rescue-2011/