

[PRACTICE]

D6.2 SCENARIO INDOOR FACILITY VALIDATION

PRACTICE WP6 deliverable

Dissemination level: PP

Nature: R

UNCLASS – programme restricted

1. Executive Summary

Project PRACTICE established a set of potential scenarios that can be used in the preparation of CBRN studies and exercises. One of these scenarios has been developed in detail by the project for use in the first of three Validation Exercises. The first being Exercise ARDEN, which is to take place in the UK on Thursday 15th August 2013.

This Deliverable (D6.2) is aimed at summarising the planning arrangements that started with the “Desk Top Review” on 1st November 2012, which was then followed by the “Virtual Walk Through” on 8th February 2013 and which culminated with the “Walk Through” on 22nd March 2013. Some of the key planning meetings are also mentioned.

The scenario upon which the exercise is based, involves the release of a hazardous chemical in a conference centre which leads to the evacuation of a large number of people. These people are subsequently to be triaged and treated by the emergency services, decontaminated using water showers and subsequently processed through a Survivor Reception Centre.

The key focus of the exercise is to support the development of a User Manual (v0.1) designed within WP8 (led by King’s College London). The User Manual aims to educate the civilian on how to deal with a chemical event in a public place and will be followed with two other versions addressing the First Responders and Decision Makers in the following exercises in Sweden and Poland in 2014.

In addition to supporting the User Manual, the planning for Exercise ARDEN has addressed a variety of issues as dictated by the project’s Description of Works such as (i) the need to demonstrate preparedness and response to a CBRN incident in an enclosed space, with limited number of entrances, a mazelike structure, large crowds of moving people, the presence of surveillance and blocked ways of approach; (ii) to provide a platform for the initial testing of the WP5 toolbox and to provide feedback for its future development; (iii) to incorporate new and existing tools into the first version of the Tool Box and these will include Multi Agency Initial Assessment Team (MAIAT) and the Event Control Suite (ECS) both being provided by the West Midlands Police, the illuminated safe route system Waysafe provided by LGI, the Downwind early warning and reporting system provided by Bruhn NewTech and subject to further discussion the PHE Health Register Database; (iv) to balance the expectations of the project participants against the realities of such an exercise bearing in mind the commercial environment, the capabilities of the public, safety, ethics and the number of stakeholders and lastly (v) to ensure public communication, management and perception are properly coordinated in the interests of the owner of the site

The summaries presented in the deliverable show where and how the key stakeholders in the exercise have been consulted and their requirements identified.

The Walk Through did not identify any significant deficiencies or fundamental problems with the proposed exercise structure or the associated scenario. As such, the Walk Through confirmed that further development of the Exercise through to execution is justified.

Successful conclusion of the Walk Through also showed that the objectives for the Exercise have been appropriately considered in the work to date and that there is a high level of confidence, by all parties for a successful exercise.