



# Programme for Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Floods in the Western Balkans and Turkey

## IPA FLOODS

### MEETING NOTES

#### Main Planning Conference for Field Exercise: IPA FLOODS – VARAŽDIN 2017

Location	Hotel Turist, Varaždin, Republic of Croatia
Date	26 and 27 June 2017
Subject	Main Planning Conference - Presentation and discussion about the organization of the field exercise IPA FLOODS – VARAŽDIN 2017 to be held 9-13 October 2017
Present	See attached list of participants.

#### Topics:

According to the meeting agenda (attached).

#### Discussion:

On behalf of the hosts Mr. Igor Milić, Exercise Expert, NPRD Croatia, welcomed all participants and wished a fruitful conference. He pointed the importance of developing the cooperation and of implementing the knowledges in such an important and complex's area like floods response.

Mr. Antonio Barbera, IPA FLOODS, Programme Manager – DPC Italy, thanked the hosts for hosting the conference and good cooperation in preparation and organizational point so far. He welcomed National Exercise Coordinators from Partner countries and consortium members and expressed his belief in the successful and fruitful conference.

#### Visit of exercise locations

In the first part of the MPC, visit to exercise locations were organized in following schedule:

1. **Base of Operations:** location of Voluntary Fire fighting Association (FFA) Biskupec in the City of Varazdin. This location provides opportunity for setting up tents and all other BoO equipment in the area of 6000 m2 with additional space within BoO for smaller vehicles (large vehicles to be parked outside at nearby parking area 150 meters from BoO). There is also FFA HQ main building which offers possibility for accommodation for EUCPT (sanitation included), location for setting up an OSOCC and meeting area. Location is also suitable for closing ceremony (indoor and outdoor).
2. **Reception and Departure Center:** location of RDC has been determined on big parking place (not in function for public use) that is located on the half way from Varazdin City highway exit and City of Varazdin. Location can accommodate big convoys and large number of people (4000 m2).



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3. **Area of Operations 1 – Kucan Ludbreski:** located 30 minute's drive from RDC on river Bednja near small village. Location will provide opportunity for one HCP and one FC modules to support local authorities in flood defence operations trigger by malfunction of existing flood defence barriers.
4. **Area of Operations 2 – Veliki Bukovec:** located 40 minutes drive from RDC on river Bednja near small village. Like on AoO 1, this location will provide opportunity for one HCP and one FC modules to support local authorities in flood defence operations trigger by malfunction of existing flood defence barriers.
5. **Area of Operations 3 – Veliki Bukovec (artificial lake):** located 50 minutes drive from RDC. This location will provide opportunity for two HCP to support local authorities in flood defence operations in flooded village.
6. **Area of Operations 4 – City of Varazdin):** located 10 minutes drive from RDC on river Drava. This location will provide opportunity for all modules (HCP and FC) to support local authorities in flood defence operations of City of Varazdin.

NPRD will search for one additional area of operations as a backup location. Main idea is that AoO 1, 2 and 3 are used upon arrival of Modules (immediately after RDC procedures are completed; assessment and operations) for duration of approximately of 30 hours (continuity on exercise day 1 and 2 – night operations included) while AoO 4 will be used for last exercise day where all modules will be deployed for the time period of approximately of 10 hours (exercise day 3 - observers day). *Please see presentation (attachment to these minutes) on exercise structure with exercise timetable.*

## Reporting on latest programme activities

Mr. Antonio Barbera – DPC Italy, reported in general on latest Lot2 activities (Operational trainings HCP-FC held in Germany, Regional workshop BC/HNS held in Zagreb-Croatia and on-going delivery of materials HCP-FC & local procurement (*presentation in attachment*)).

Mr. Guillermo Griem – THW Germany, reported in detail on two operational trainings HCP-FC held from 26 March to 1 April and 23 to 29 April 2017, Deggendorf in Germany (*presentation in attachment*).

Ms. Manilla Marcuccio – Studiare Sviluppo, presented on “state of the art” concerning the procurement under IPA Floods Lot 2, with special focus on EU open tender procedures for FC/HCP and local tenders for small equipment. There is a concern due to communication problems with local suppliers and special attention should be focused on this issues having in mind deadline for delivery of equipment (*presentation in attachment*).

## Exercise structure and planning

Topic was presented by Mr. Igor Milić, Exercise Expert, NPRD Croatia, that triggered lot of discussions.

Field exercise is preceded by a Table top Exercise with command post features. Date of exercise remain 9 – 13 October 2017 on location in Varaždin County, Republic of Croatia.





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### Objectives:

- Exercise the capacities developed by the newly established/trained national teams and multinational CPMs in a regional cooperation framework
- Test operational capacities of multinational CPMs and their interoperability under a common chain of command and control
- Test Standard Operating Procedures, border-crossing and Host National Support protocols developed for national teams and multinational CPMs and elaborate adjustments as appropriate
- Improve cooperation with incoming international assistance via the participation of CPMs of the same type from participating states of the UCPM and a EU Civil Protection Team

All countries were asked to communicate their national objectives until FPC.

As exercise audience following capacities will participate:

1. IPA HCP Modules x 2 (North and South)
2. IPA FC Modules x 2 (North and South)
3. HCP Modules from Italy and Germany
4. EUCPT – TAST (5 coordination and 2 TAST experts to be allocated from IPA and Consortium countries while liaison officer will be nominated by ERCC) to establish and run an OSOCC)
5. ERCC.

All Modules should be self-sufficient in all aspects (equipment, vehicles, food, water, etc.) except sanitation (to be provided by host country). Particular challenge for IPA countries will be allocation of vehicles to transport pumps and flood barriers to Croatia. It was decided that each country find solution for transport, first within their institutions and then on the open market and to communicate those arrangements to exercise organizers. Lump-sum agreement will be signed with all nations to cover costs for exercise participation in line with exercise budget (same arrangement as for exercise IPA FLOODS – CRO 2016).

Headquarter level from participating countries in the exercise should also be active, not only during Table top exercise (TTX) on 09 October but through entire exercise to support their teams/modules.

It was agreed which countries will have leading role for particular IPA Modules during exercise:

1. HCP Module South - Macedonia.
2. HCP Module North - Serbia.
3. FC Module South - Turkey.
4. FC Module North - Montenegro.

Role of leading country is described in Module SOP.

National participation will be from EXCON side and will include:

1. LEMA – local Civil Protection Headquarters
2. Local teams – water rescue, medical, police, fire-fighters
3. On-site commanders.

### Exercise timetable:

- 9 October (day 0) TTX - request for international assistance /offers/ acceptance, communication channels (e-mail, phone, vOSOCC). The main document that will be used during the TTX will be EU HNS Guidelines



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- 10 October (day 1) - arrival at RDC between 14:00 – 16:00, RDC activities, assessment meeting in OSOCC, rescue activities, night work (continuity)
- 11 October (day 2) - meeting in OSOCC, rescue activities, night work
- 12 October (day 3) - meeting in OSOCC, rescue activities, re-deployment – assessment, evaluation workshop, closing ceremony
- 13 October (day 4) - departure

**Exercise structure** was presented for both, Tabletop and Field exercise. Exercise structure will include players – Modules and EUCPT, EXCON (ex. director, controllers, evaluators, S&S officers, and trainers), observers, actors, admin and support personnel (*presentation in attachment*). Focus is on Exercise Planning Team that will act as EXCON including National Exercise Coordinators from IPA countries and experts from Consortium partners.

**Communication plan** was introduced for training audience. All Modules should provide their own communication means. The permitted frequencies will be communicated to national PoC's by host country prior to exercise.

### Scenario development

Scenario will include floods in NW Croatia with special focus on Varazdin County along river Drava basin. Situation will trigger request for international assistance via Union Civil Protection Mechanism with needs for flood defence capacities (high capacity pumping, flood containment and coordination support).

**Exercise instructions** will contain 12 topics + 11 annexes. Draft to be developed by NPRD Croatia by end of July 2017. Final version will be completed before FPC (document will be available on Dropbox, not only for reading but editing as well). Users are NEC, EXCON and DG ECHO.

**Evaluation** concept was presented by Ms. Marzia Santini – DPC Italy (evaluation experts) will focused on exercise objectives. Team of evaluators will be set up to focus on different aspects of the exercise. Evaluation workshop will be organized on Final Planning Conference and immediately after the field exercises (fresh impressions and initial lessons - basis for the evaluation report).

Evaluation Team will consist of a total of 8 members: one team leader, one deputy team leader, six evaluation experts (two experts from the beneficiaries, two experts from the Consortium partners and two experts from the Participating States of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism). The Evaluation Team will be split in small sub-teams, where each sub-group will assess different aspects of the exercise at different times, according to a rotation plan. Deadline for nominations of evaluators is 07 August 2017.

### Host Nation Support

During the exercise HNS will offer:

- for modules - facilitation of border crossing procedures, sanitation and hygiene facilities, communication frequencies, liaison officer(s) for each module
- for EUCPT - liaison officer(s) and OSOCC „hardware” (TAST to provide basic ICT support and visibility items).

### Observers programme

Date of the observers programme is 11 - 13 October 2017. Invitations with registration forms will be sent out in July 2017. Deadline for nominations is 08 September 2017.



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### Conclusions:

- Final Planning Conference will be organized from 13 to 15 September 2017 in Varaždin
- Invitation packages (Modules, EUCPT, observers, evaluators) to be sent by 20 July
- Evaluation team will take part in FPC
- Two trainers to be allocated per IPA Modules (one to focus on coordination and one on technical aspects), two trainers for EUCPT, and one trainer per Modules from Germany and Italy (focus on coordination)
- NPRD Croatia will develop a detailed plan for exercise locations preparations.

### Attachments:

- Conference agenda
- Participant's list
- Presentations (available in Dropbox shared folder where all MPC participants are invited to join)

