



SESSION 4: INSARAG Working Group Updates



SESSION 4

INSARAG Working Group Updates

Summary of presenters:

1. Flexible Response WG
2. Information Management WG
3. Light Team Quality Assurance WG
4. Medical WG
5. National Accreditation WG
6. Training WG
7. Transitional Guidelines Review WG
8. Q&A

1. Flexible Response WG

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Flexible Response Global Position

"Beyond the Rubble" (BtR) vs "Flexible Response" (Flex-R)

There is a clear difference between BtR and Flex-R. In BtR, the USAR teams still are in the country that made the international appeal for humanitarian assistance. So they are usually assigned further tasks (not USAR

"Beyond the Rubble" are activities offered/conducted by **USAR Teams** deployed after an earthquake or other sudden onset disaster to overcome the transitional phase between the USAR- and the early recovery/relief phase. These tasks are driven by the needs of the community as identified by the LEMA. **"Flexible response"** refers to / are activities offered /conducted by **Flexible Response Teams (FLEX-R TEAMS)**. They must be qualified according to INSARAG recognised standards, requested by the affected country to meet the needs of the LEMA or a respective agency. Tasks are driven by the needs of the community as identified by the LEMA. The operational responsibility belongs to LEMA, the management responsibility to the FLEX-R TEAMS. FLEX-R TEAMS should not commence any activities without a request from, or approval from, the LEMA. All activities are to have clearly defined goals, as determined by the LEMA.

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Flexible Response Global Position

The following capabilities of recognized FLEX-R TEAMS (under the umbrella of INSARAG), could be of benefit (Minimum standards for each Team has been described in Annex 1):

- Management, coordination support to the LEMA and/or UN coordination mechanism.
Assessment: (ASR 1 / ASR 2).
Building Damage Assessment (Str Eng).
Logistical support.
Health- and medical-support.
Technical support including structural engineering.
Water purification / WASH.
Haz Mat Experiences.
- Additional tasks could be given to an FLEX-R TEAMS. However, these teams are not being worked out in detail at present.

The question now is: classified / certified or not; need new guidelines/procedures and standards...

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DACC Sub-Working Group

- It works as two groups at the moment:
 - Engineering group
 - Coordination group
- The WG has met 14 times since September, either as a whole or in one of the groups.
- Discussions on the format of the DACC Handbook have suggested that the format of the new UC manual is a good candidate for a format for the DACC handbook. The UC manual provides a good overview of various activities that form a basis of discussion for the DACC.
- Engineers Group is focusing on
 - Coordination with national entities and procedures
 - Procedure for Technical On-Site Assessment of Damage
 - Some key decisions:
 - DACC guidance should be generic (not specific to earthquake, but applicable across flood, hurricane, blast, etc etc).
 - Any output should be as concise as possible, with minimal text (figure/diagrams preferred), and referring to existing docs where possible.

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DACC Sub-Working Group

- Discussions within the Coordination section have focused on
 - Discussing previous events and literature
 - The coordination details for acquiring USAR team engineers to participate in the engineering damage assessment for the DACC
 - DACC staff and resources
 - The annexes in the UC manual will be used as a template for outlining staff requirements, etc.
 - Coordination of engineers to be most effective in assisting national engineers
 - Understanding the important role of UNDAC/OSOCC in the context of setting up the DACC with the local municipalities.
 - Outlining the role of the UCC in the damage assessment coordination
 - How could the DACC support and be supported by relevant clusters
 - Shelter
 - Early recovery
 - Create a timeline for Engineer/DACC activities

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Cultural Heritage Sub-Working Group

- The Working Group endorses the direct and important social benefits that come from protecting cultural heritage during USAR operations.
- The Working Group agrees that an understanding of activities required to protect these sites should be part of general considerations when being deployed.
- The Working Group recommends that USAR team members should have a basic understanding of identifying and protecting cultural assets and their importance to the community. (Protect in place or protect by removal).

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Cultural Heritage Sub-Working Group

- The identification of high value heritage sites should be considered, recorded, and reported using existing USAR assessment process'. (Structural Triage, Survey 123 etc)
- USAR Teams should consider providing additional specialist training to team engineers. (Based on likelihood of need)
- Team management should proactively seek information on cultural heritage sites and priorities from LEMA that forms part of team briefings.
- When working in the post-rescue phase (Beyond the Rubble), work on heritage sites must be done with approval and guidance of the LEMA and/or heritage authorities.
- The development of a field guide for USAR operations at heritage sites will be developed and once approved form part of the INSARAG Technical Reference Library.

2. Information Management WG

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Information Management Working Group

Accomplishments

- **ICMS 2.0 delivered to all teams**
- **Long term funding secured for ICMS**
- **NAP accounts in Central / South America**
- **Participated and supported all regional exercises**
- **Delivered regional trainings for all classified teams and other ad hoc trainings**
- **UC Manual development support**
- **Best practice recognition through Esri conferences**

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Information Management Working Group

Future Plans

- **Enhancements to ICMS**
- **Evaluating future functionality**
- **ICMS support from INSARAG community**
- **Data sharing partnerships with humanitarian agencies**
- **Utilization of GIS Corps (NGO) to deliver language specific trainings and future ICMS development**
- **Incorporation of UAV imagery into ICMS (Flying Labs/WeRobotics)**
- **Develop one-pager guide for USAR teams**

3. Light Team Quality Assurance WG

Light Team Quality Assurance WG

LTQAWG Update - Brad Commens Co-Chair

- Pre-exercise meeting for the @fire IEC held on 28 September 2021
- First Light USAR IEC completed at INSIEME 2021 from 21-24 November 2021
- Review of @fire IEC conducted on 20 December 2021 by LTQAWG
- Report on the review of the @fire IEC provided to INSARAG Secretariat on 28 January 2022.
- LTQAWG meetings 7 & 8 March 2022.

Outcomes

- The Light USAR IEC process has been developed and proven in practice.
- A review of the Light IEC process has been completed
- No changes to the Checklist are currently recommended
- Further improvements to the concept are expected in the future for flexibility as required by INSARAG.
- Classified Light Teams will provide more Classifiers to the global pool.
- Light USAR team concept is progressing for recognition by the EU Civil Protection Mechanism (ECPM) in 2022.
RE: Council Decision No. 1313/2013/EU
- Three Light USAR Teams are progressing to IEC in 2022

Light Team Quality Assurance WG

Recommendations

- The LTQAWG reverts to a reference group as a point of consistency for future Light IEC team development.
- The revised *Light Teams Quality Assurance Reference Group* (LTQARG) will consult as needed to clarify queries from Teams, Mentors and Classifiers as they progress toward Light IEC's.

4. Medical WG

Medical Working Group (MWG)

USAR Team Leaders Update – 2022

Membership:

Australia – Hector Fuentes

Chile – Vincenzo Borgna

China – Peng Bibo

France – Magali Jeanteur

Japan – Yasushi Nakajima

Netherlands – Thomas Eckhardt

UK ISAR – Malcolm Russell

UK SARAID – Will Selley

USA – Anthony Macintyre (Chair)

WHO – Rudi Connix

Technical Expert – Trevor Glass

INSARAG and WHO EMT

Joint Statement

Key Points:

- At the time of mobilization, teams should research and ensure adherence to the entry requirements of disaster impacted countries they are deploying to assist.
- All field response personnel considered for potential international response are encouraged to obtain COVID-19 vaccination as soon as it becomes available to them through the prioritization schemes in their host country and/or sponsoring organization. As per standard procedures, all vaccination records should be available for presentation when requested.
- Teams must ensure that protocols to manage possible exposure are in place and all team members have trained on these prior to deployment.



Field Response During
Times of COVID-19 Outbreak



Joint Statement issued by the Medical Working Group of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) and the Emergency Medical Team (EMT) Initiative of the World Health Organization (WHO), and welcome by the INSARAG Steering Group Meeting (ISG) on 4 May 2021.

Permission to Practice

Request for authority to practice USAR Medicine

- Right to clinical practice cannot be assumed
- USAR Teams should seek **temporary permission** to provide clinical care
- Aligns with WHO EMT requirements
- Delivery of emergency medical care to patients while they are still entrapped in collapsed structures is **an essential humanitarian activity**
- MWG has produced a Generic Letter to assist teams

INSERT TEAM LOGO ¶



Request for authority to practice USAR Medicine ¶

[DATE] ¶

¶

[USAR TEAM NAME] requests clear acceptance to practice USAR medicine while responding to the impacts of [INCIDENT NAME] in [AFFECTED COUNTRY NAME]. ¶

USAR teams have, as an essential function, medical components that are integral to the overall team mission. To be fully successful in contributing to the team mission, the USAR medical component must be capable of practicing medicine, within the scope of USAR activities, in the impacted country. ¶

Delivery of emergency medical care to patients while they are still entrapped in collapsed structures is *an essential humanitarian activity* as disentanglement and rescue can take many hours. The rescue process itself can pose a risk to patients and medical intervention is required to prevent adverse impacts during and after the rescue process. In addition, assisting with the medical evacuation of patients to more definitive levels of care is anticipated in this mission. ¶

[USAR TEAM NAME] from [DONOR COUNTRY NAME] is capable of providing the following: ¶

- → Care of individuals entrapped in the rubble ¶
- → Medical treatment of victims encountered in the field during search and rescue operations and assistance with transportation to medical facilities ¶
- → Care of USAR team members in the often austere field environment (to include the team search dogs) ¶
- → Other tasks as indicated and requested by the LEMA. These tasks are often referred to as “beyond the rubble” and are to be distinguished from the role of Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs). ¶

In seeking the ability to practice USAR medicine, [DONOR COUNTRY NAME] is requesting [AFFECTED COUNTRY NAME] provide temporary permission from the Ministry of Health or other relevant authority to practice USAR medicine for the duration of the deployment. ¶

Full medical licensure documents can be provided prior to deployment of the medical individuals who will be deploying as part of the USAR team. ¶

If [AFFECTED COUNTRY] agrees to the above, please indicate level of acceptance through the most appropriate means (e.g. email, formal letter of reciprocity provided, etc.). ¶

SIGNATURE BLOCK ¶

Covid-19 Deployment Technical Reference Note

Updated – March 2022

- **COVID-19 Deployment Technical Reference Note**
 - Document is intended to provide updated information to USAR teams seeking to enhance their field operations in the SARS CoV2 virus (COVID-19) environment.
 - In order to remain mission-ready, teams need to strike the balance, in a rapidly evolving environment, that enables them to achieve the two primary goals of:
 - **Protecting their workforce**
 - **Maintaining operational capability and respond as required**



INSARAG MEDICAL WORKING GROUP

COVID-19 DEPLOYMENT TECHNICAL REFERENCE NOTE

Date: March 2022

MWG Workplan

Current & Ongoing

- **Monitoring of Covid-19 scientific evidence - Ongoing**
 - Covid-19 landscape continues to evolve (new variant emergence) and pose new challenges
 - MWG members are directly engaged in prevention of transmission and clinical management Covid-19
 - Emerging scientific evidence will be incorporated into MWG technical reference notes as required
- **Review of potential additional Covid-19 risk mitigation measures - Current**
 - In addition to the established risk mitigation measures, e.g., physical distancing, hand hygiene, wearing of masks, regular health checks, explore additional measures that could potentially be employed to increase surveillance, e.g.:
 - Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT)
- **EMT Spinal Cord Injury Guidelines - Current**
 - MWG contributing to the drafting of the pre-hospital section of the EMT Spinal Cord Injury Guidelines



<https://www.who.int/news/item/28-11-2021-update-on-omicron>

MWG Support to TL

How can we help you?

- Are there any medical challenges you facing that the MWG can assist with?
 - Send any requests/queries to insarag@un.org

MWG Next Meeting

HPNW 2022

- MWG plan to meet in-person during the HNPW in Geneva in May 2022

5. National Accreditation WG

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NAWG was formed in 2020 after ISG endorsement

Co-Chair: Ms. Chen Hong (China)

Co-Chair: Mr. Sebastian Mocarquer (Chile)

INSARAG Representative: Ms. Haruka Ezaki

AEME

Azerbaijan

Mr. Rashad Gasimzada

France

Mr. Christophe Debray

Germany

Mr. Peter Goxharaj

Morocco

Colonel Hicham Choukri

Turkey

Mr. Tahsin Berkant Ataay

Americas

Argentina

Mr. Martin Gomez Lissarrague

Chile

Mr. Sebastian Mocarquer

Colombia

Ms. Diana Patricia Corrales

Mexico

Mr. Luis Arturo Garcia Pulido

USA

Mr. Joe Kaleda

Asia Pacific

China

Ms. Chen Hong

Indonesia

Mr. Wahyudi L Putra Yudi

Pakistan

Dr. Muhammad Farhan Khalid

Singapore

Mr. Lok Wee Keong

South Korea

Mr. Jaecheol Sim

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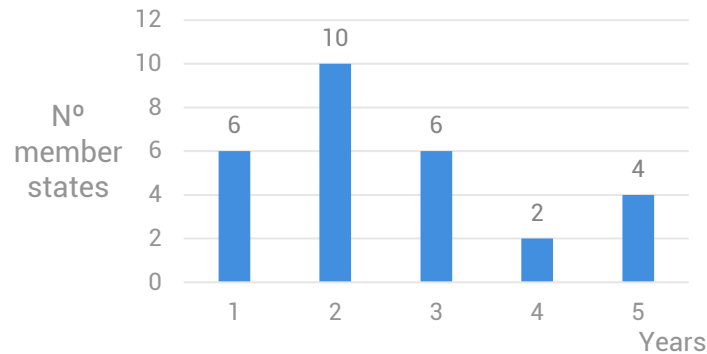
Purpose of the NAWG

1. Collate, review and prepare documents and offer quality control of the guidance and methodology developed on the INSARAG-recognized national accreditation process (IRNAP) globally, in particular the technical guidance note on the IRNAP.
2. Promote the exchange of experiences in the application of national USAR accreditation processes between the different regions.

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NAWG Phase 1: Analysis of existing NAP and IRNAP

Member states with intention of going through the IRNAP in the next years



Global IRNAP Survey – Dec 2020	Total	Americas	AEME	AP
Member states that have a NAP	24	7	13	4
Intention of going through IRNAP	26	9	9	8
Require assistance to develop further	20	5	9	6

Key findings:

- Great interest in the IRNAP process, with high demand to the INSARAG network in the near future.
- Disparity in national USAR and NAP systems is a challenging factor for a global approach.

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NAWG Phase 2: May 2021 – August 2022

I. IRNAP Technical Guidance Note

- Update of the Technical Guidance Note on the IRNAP, serving as a guide and encompassing the basic contents of the process adjusted for all regions.

II. IRNAP Checklist and related documents

- Update IRNAP Checklist and all related documents that serve as guidance for member states

III. IRNAP Training

- Training development for the TSG/TRG developed with objectives and program, adaptable to each region
- Links to IEC process.

IV. Remote Support to Regions: on methodological issues and interpretation of standards to the Technical Support Groups and Technical Recognition Groups (TSGs/TRGs)

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NAWG Phase 2: progress update

1. NAWG 20+ virtual meetings
2. IRNAP Virtual training delivered for AP expert's roster (January 2022)-> to be converted into a 4-hour awareness course.
3. IRNAP Technical Guidance Note and checklist review (version 2.0) to be submitted for endorsement at the ISG 2022
4. IRNAP 5-day training course under development by the Americas Region and to be reviewed by the NAWG for implementation globally in 2022
5. Remote support to regional groups (ongoing)

6. Training WG

Training Working Group Membership (Many Thanks to the Sponsors)

Core Members:

Kira Chebakova – RUS

Jacob Bolwinkel – DEN

Peter Goxharaj – GER

Tsukas Katsube – JPN

Joshua “JT” Turner – AUS

Dewey Perks – USA

Lucien Jaggli – ERS Secretariat

Associate Experts:

Arjan Stam – Form TL Rep

Paul Burns – TL Rep

Robert Norman – IMWG

Trevor Glass – MWG

**John Denny – IEC/R Secretariat
Rep**

**John Cawcutt – IEC/R Secretariat
Rep**

TWG REPORT - Updates of 2020

Progress

Monthly Virtual Meetings

WG Cross Pollination

Participation on other WGs

Challenges –

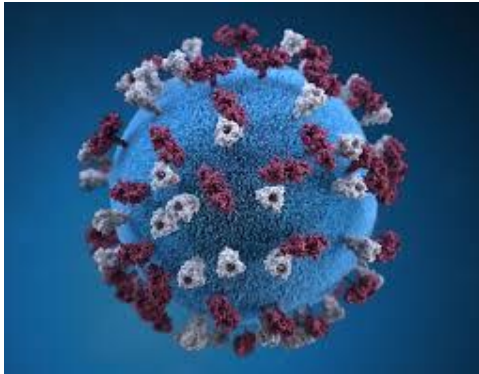
Time Management

Lack of Travel

Current Workload:

- **UC Training**
- **UC Manual Revision**
- **IEC-IER Exercise Design Handbook**
- **ERE Review**
- **Leadership Training**
- **EU - INSARAG Relationship**
- **Classifier Review Project**
- **Web-Based Training**
- **National Coordination Training**
- **1st Responder Course Review**

Key Focus for 2022



- **UC Manual Revision**
- **UC Training Revision**
- **IEC-IER Exercise Design Handbook**
- **ERE Review**
- **Leadership Training**
- **Web-Based Training**
- **National Coordination Training**
- **1st Responder Course Review**

7. Transitional Guidelines Review WG

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INSARAG Working Group Updates

Transitional Guidelines Review Group

David Lewis co-chair	AUS
Martin Evers co-chair	NED
Anthony Toh	SIN
Patricio Fuentes	CHI
Belit Tasdemir	TUR
Ove Syslak	NOR
Secretariat SCDF	SIN
INSARAG Secretariat	

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INSARAG Working Group Updates

Terms of Reference (ISG endorsed)

- Support and advice stakeholders
- Encourage implementation, translation
- Report and update governing bodies (TLM, RM's, ISG)
- Clarify, support and moderate
- Identify issues for upcoming cycle and Guidance Notes
- Transition to GRG in 2023
- Modernize the appearance and administration
- Work alongside the WG's
- Keep updated administration

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GL's, GN's, TRL

Item	Binding	Updated	Governance
Guidelines	YES	5 yearly	ISG
Guidance Notes	YES	1 yearly	ISG
Technical References	NO	Continuously	WG's

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Responsibilities

- WG's responsible for the content of their work
- T-GRG only to safeguard:
 - Consistency
 - Terminology
 - GuideLine, Guidance Note or Technical Reference
 - Proper administration
- Bilateral Response Guidance Note

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Practical approach

- All Working Groups are assigned a Point of Contact from T-GRG
- T-GRG meets in plenum 2 times a year (TLM and ISG)
- T-GRG to gather feedback from teams
- GRG will consist of 3 representatives per INSARAG region
- 2023 T-GRG will develop to GRG
- 2025 GM new Guidelines to be endorsed and published
- Q4 2024 all content (from TLM and WG's) should be ready for processing

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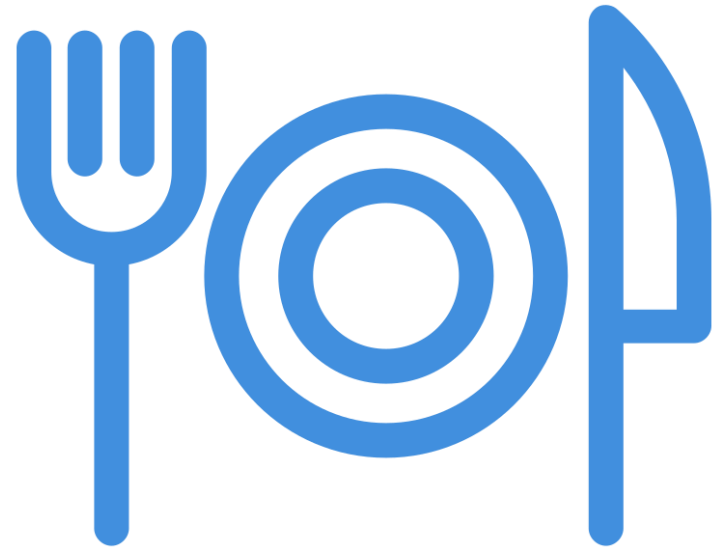
Transitional Guidelines Review Group

Thanks for your attention!

Open for questions

8. Q&A

LUNCH BREAK



The meeting will resume at 1350