

**Budapest, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016.**

**EU PROJECT “EURBAN WATER AID 2016”**

**AGREEMENT NUMBER: N° ECHO/SUB/2015/719073**

**SUBJECT:**

**3rd Workshop (Belgrade) – Report - „EURBAN WATER AID 2016 “**

Within the project “EURBAN Water Aid”, in Belgrade, Serbia the third of four Workshops was held. This important event took place between the 13<sup>th</sup> –14<sup>th</sup> of October 2016, and present were representatives from Slovakia, Croatia, Serbia and Hungary. The new representative from European Commission, the replacement for Mr. Per Øyvind Semb, desk officer of the “EURBAN Water Aid” project, desk officer Mr. Arya Honarmand was regretfully not able to join due to last minute complications. Budapest and Kosice waterworks’ representatives were also present, as well as the Hungarian Red Cross.

Colonel Peter Jackovics EUWA project Technical Director and Head of Core Group warmly addressed the audience and expressed his thanks to Belgrade Waterworks for hosting and organizing WorkShop3, he also outlined the milestones of the project. The present Workshop was also the place of the first of the two Exercise Planning Meetings, with the second scheduled around February 2017. The first Meeting took place early in the morning, this is the reason why the general plenary meeting started at midday. Colonel Jackovics informed the participants that the actual planning meeting was successful, and that the required results were achieved. The exercise planning meeting team included only two participants from each partner state, the chairman of the working groups, the workshop manager, and one delegate of the Hungarian Red Cross National Society.

Opening remarks were by Mr Dragan Dordevic, acting director of the Belgrade Waterworks and Sewerage (BWS), our host who expressed his best wishes for the success of the EURBAN Water Aid project. He also discussed the 2014 floods and the lessons learned, which led to the establishment of more efficient response teams for water purification.

Following opening remarks, there was a presentation “Practices, experiences in national and international flood response” by Colonel Peter Jackovics.

Following the above, the representative of Budapest Waterworks summarized the achievements of the past two workshops in his presentation “The Progress So Far – general

review about the workgroups of WSH”. In the presentation, the findings of the three Work Groups were presented, including the SWOT analyses developed during Workshop 2. The presentation also reiterated earlier comments made by our previous EU desk officer, as follows:

- The present Project is similar to some earlier successful projects (e.g.: “MURA 2015”).
- The Mechanism we are using is for EU solidarity and cross border help, in three main areas: prevention, preparedness, and response.
- Aim is to improve the capacity to respond to disasters, via exercises, trainings, exchange of experts.
- Participants are advised to start writing their reports immediately, and to pay double attention to financial details.
- The call for assistance must be made through "DG ECHO", not bilateral call, otherwise the EU will not finance the exercise.
- He expects many observers, visitors, this is an interesting topic.
- We should not have the exercise at the same time as the Brussels Civil Protection Forum in May 2017, if possible. (We are scheduled for April 2017)
- Must have strict separation between planners and team leaders. None of the people present in the workgroups can be team leaders.
- Self-sufficiency is a key element for the participating rescue teams. Teams will continuously operate for 36 hours, including working at night.
- Interoperability, or cooperation among teams, will form a key element of a successful exercise.
- Teams should be prepared to fill out the module fact sheets ahead of the actual exercise.

Colonel Peter Jackovics thanked the presentation and used some of its slides to illustrate the difficulty faced by participating organizations. In order to ensure the success of the exercise, participants agreed that the 2017 field exercise will be held at a lake instead of the Tisza river itself.

The Workshop continued with a general review of WS 3 topics and detailed summary in a presentation from Colonel Peter Jackovics (commander of the Hunor USAR team). His presentation outlined the goals and expected results for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Workshop, which are:

- This is also an Exercise Planning Meeting, the first of two such scheduled meetings. This has already been successfully conducted as follows:
  - o Replicable exercise scenario with European dimension is almost finalized; detailed plans of activities for TTX, CPX and FSX are close to being finalized; structure of the participating units, the exercise control team (EXCON), and the role players, logistics is set up; HNS could be delivered.
- The main goal of the actual workshop is the harmonization of WP and USAR in action with host nation support. In more detail, the following is expected:

- In the plenary part of the workshop, conditions and opportunities of joint deployment of the USAR, HCP and WP modules were presented. Then the workgroups - according to their own aspect - put together the joint pre-deployment checklist of the modules, adapting to the INSARAG Guidelines (e.g. RDC /Reception and Departure Centre/ protocol) and to the use of the Host Nation Support (HNS) guidelines. For example, in case of USAR-WP joint application, there is no need for the modules to transport potable water and/or potable water supply from the host nation. The checklist contains the information required for the application of WP modules, such as locating raw water sources and measuring the quality of the raw water, number of people affected, possible installation sites, characteristics of local infrastructure and info on how to connect to them (e.g. hydrants, electricity), fuel procurement opportunities, etc. A GIS system will be developed in the framework of the project, in which the information needed for the checklist will appear and can be updated in real time. For the application of the GIS system the workshop will provide input regarding the checklist. Results of the first three workshops will need to be summarized, which will be put forward by the workgroup managers to the exercise planning group.
- Expected results: Enhanced harmonization of WP and USAR modules' deployment and operation, Workshop minutes, summary report (by each workgroup), WP-USAR joint checklist, GIS application.

This concluded the plenary session. Following the plenary meeting, participants were divided into three groups: Command and Control Workgroup (chaired by the National DG for Disaster Management, Hungary); Support and Logistics Workgroup (chaired by Budapest Waterworks); Operations Workgroup (chaired by the Fire and Rescue Service, Slovakia). The workgroups program lasted for the rest of the day. Group presentations were scheduled for the second day of the Workshop.

On the second day, organized study tour was delivered to Water Treatment Plant MAKIS, along the Sava river. The water treatment plant uses modern technology and is able to help in the supply of the city of Belgrade with adequate quantities of water.

Following the visit of the water production facilities, the participants were led to the main conference chamber of the MAKIS facility, where the final group presentations were made.

## Final Conclusions of the EURBAN WATER AID 3<sup>rd</sup> Workshop

During the second day plenary session at MAKIS, each Workgroup presented its findings and produced presentation documents as seen in APPENDIX.

Workgroup Support and Logistics presented its finding as follows:

- Checklist for host nation support: Think about what your team has, what it needs, and what it may need during and after the mission.
- Teams should be prepared to have a list of their members, equipment and capabilities. Also, teams will need to get to the affected area or RDC, and be aware of the team's present and future needs.
- Host nations should provide: a long list of items was presented, from ease of border crossing through medical care to water quality requirements (full list in presentation).

Workgroup Operations presented its findings as follows:

- Working group „Operations” was analysing possible situations/problems on missions. The group divided these possible situations carried out by rescue units or EUCP modules in accordance with time period of mission and then found recommendations for Host Nation Support on how to solve possible issues.
- The Group presented a SWOT for HNS (host nation support):



- The Group identified two areas for problems, basically before and after arriving at the location of operations. Identified problems and recommendations for HNS support are found in Appendix.

Workgroup Command and Control presented its findings for Host Nation Support. The findings concerned the subject of information as follows (more detail in Appendix):

- General information about effected area (terrain, language, infrastructure, etc.)
- Information about the disaster (location, time, type, etc.)
- Information about the chain of command (who is in charge, who is the liaison officer)
- Information about the intervention (designated location of the team, media issues, communication issues, etc.

Following the group presentations, the participants travelled home to their respective countries.



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