



Concept Note

Tabletop Exercise Session

Date: Thursday 29.10.2020 [14:00-17:00 PM]

Part of ITU Online Workshop on ICTs Tabletop Exercises, Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) and Tampere Convention for Disaster Management in the Arab region

Introduction

In the face of the global COVID-19 crisis, as in any other emergency, the speed and efficiency of the response is proportional to the level of preparedness. To help countries better manage disaster response efforts at a time when the intensity of human and economic impact is on the rise worldwide, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) along with the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) are developing this simulation exercise to help identify, discuss and prioritize key preparedness activities to increase resilience and reduce vulnerability of the ICT sector.

1. Background and Context

Table-Top exercises or TTX offer a step-by-step process to help participants test and refine national plans and strategies, including policies and regulatory frameworks for the use of ICTs for disaster management. The exercises also give an overview of whether networks, redundant communications capacity, personnel, and other telecommunication systems are in place and ready to be used for disaster response.

This simulation exercise is based on an emergency flooding scenario. The scenario will cover a period of approximately four days from the first alert given (preparedness) until two days after the floods have affected the area (response).

2. Simulation Objectives

The specific objectives of this TTX exercise is:

1. Highlight the importance of having in place ICT strategies and policies that need to be implemented at a national level to enable a fast response in the aftermath of disasters (e.g. National Emergency Telecommunications Plans and procedures)
2. Demonstrate the importance of having a multi-stakeholder approach for decision making throughout the disaster management cycle.

3. Highlight the importance of knowing the roles and responsibilities of different entities/administrations involved in disaster and emergency management as well as the contact points in each one of the administrations.

3.Simulation Scenario

This section should include the below elements:

1. Scenario: Floods
2. The date and time: 29 Oct (14:00 to 17:00 pm)
3. The country is GETONIA

The exercise will use a flooding scenario at Getonia as the river level will incline at the river sides and remain high for the next couple of days.

The exercise will cover a simulated period of four days from preparedness (from 2 days before) till response (2 days after).

The scenario will include elements of CAP Alert and widespread disruption and destruction to key telecommunications infrastructure and power (both government and private sector owner), the and will affect approximately 60% of the country.

4.Participants

This simulation will bring together key decision makers from the ICT regulatory bodies, the ICT private sector, humanitarian organizations, disaster management offices, and other key stakeholders at a national level.