

FLOODING: RAPID RESPONSE AND SIMULATION SCHEMES FOR SAFETY OF DISABLED



*Flooding:
Rapid Response
and Simulation
Schemes for
Safety of
Disabled*



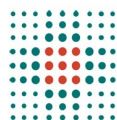
FINAL CONFERENCE

**Verona, Italy – 23-24-25
February 2009**

Ferrara Local Health Authority

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- 1) Create a local Task Force with diverse stakeholders**
- 2) Analyse the existing concepts of “river flooding”**
- 3) Literature review**
- 4) Legislative Review**
- 5) Elaborate 10 questions to assess specific needs of disabled persons in case of river flooding**
- 6) Carry out a needs assessment of specific needs of disabled persons in case of a River Flooding**



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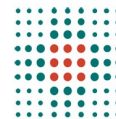
1) Creation of an effective working team (Ferrara Task Force):

- Prefect's office
 - Social Services Department
 - Fire Fighters
 - Municipal Civil Protection
 - Provincial Civil Protection
 - Hospital Emergency Departments
 - Voluntary Associations (ANMIL - National association for disabled through work, ANMIC - National Associations for Civil Disabled, Centro H)
 - Representative of general practitioners
- ✓ **The group met monthly on regular basis for the duration of the project**

The Ferrara Task Force



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2) Analysis of the existing concepts of “river flooding” and suggested to ULSS 20 Verona

(borrowed by PO 2005 Glossary - simulation performed in 2005 on the Po River)

3) Literature review

There is not significant existence of documentation, procedures, nor literature regarding rapid reactions and simulations schemes for safety in case of flooding for disabled persons. Literature regarding simulation **procedures exist only for physically self sufficient persons.**

4) Legislative review:

collection of available legislative information regarding:

- Civil Protection Norms and Legislation
- Disabled Norms and Legislation

5) Elaboration and translation of a 10 questions set in order to define specific needs of disabled persons in case of river flooding.

(performed together with voluntary association of disabled persons and Social Services Department)



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6) need assessment of disabled persons in case of a River Flooding

- 3 **focus groups** have been conducted

✓ *Elaboration of results were conducted by ULSS20 Verona*



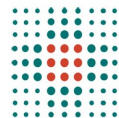
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As a side effect of the project, the **Ferrara Task Force** met systematically in order to pursue the following objectives:

- **Expand the local network of experts and stakeholders**
- **Individuate and upgrade systematically the map of not physically self sufficient citizens in Ferrara Province**
- **Find funds and organize simulation and rapid reaction exercise for disabled in case of river flooding in the Po river area.**



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Procedure Protocol To Set Up Focus Group

What is intended by Focus Group?

- Methodology of qualitative research carried out through discussion in a focalised group.
- A group of people are stimulated to talk openly and in depth about a subject proposed by a moderator.
- The moderator directs the discussion towards relevant themes with the minimum of involvement.



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Procedure Protocol To Set Up Focus Group

Purpose of Focus Group Survey

- To collect relevant information concerning specific needs and risk perception of people with disabilities in the event of river flooding or other natural disasters.

Purpose of Protocol

- To provide the standard procedures to European partners involved in the project to conduct **Focus Group** survey



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Procedure Protocol To Set Up Focus Group

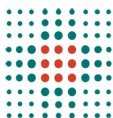


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Focus Group's Target

- **People affected by the following disabilities:**
 - sensory
 - motor
 - cognitive (or learning difficulties)

 - **Significant people**
 - relatives
 - friends
 - volunteers
 - etc.
- who look after the disabled.**



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Procedure Protocol To Set Up Focus Group

Setting (1)

➤ Facilities:

- confort room with chairs for a maximum of 13 persons

➤ Participants:

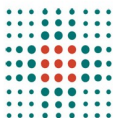
- minimum 3, maximum 10 participants
- avoid setting up groups that are too homogeneous in relation to disability

➤ Tools:

- **set of 10 questions** (elaborated by Ferrara Local Health Authority)
- **obsevational grid**
- **audio recorder**
- **list of participants**
- **consent for audio recording**
- **disclaimer document**



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Setting (2)

➤ **Conductors:**

- 1 header

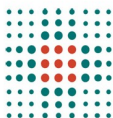
- ❖ introduces the project, general objectives and the focus group's specific aims
- ❖ conducts the group (not member but facilitator)

- 2 note takers

- ❖ write the minutes
- ❖ observe participants' non-verbal expressions

Time:

- from 60 to 90 minutes



Procedure Protocol To Set Up Focus Group

Report (1)

➤ Analysis based on:

- **written records** (data from note takers)
- **audio recording** (to check specific points)
- **non-verbal observation** (note taker)



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Procedure Protocol To Set Up Focus Group

Report (2)

➤ **Observational criteria:**

- **leadership configuration** (highlight if anyone within a group takes up a dominant role and influences discussion)
- **comments' frequency and intensity** (check if the discussion of certain issues triggers special interest and participation)
- **specific nature of replies** (record, in particular, those replies that refer to participants' direct experience)



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Procedure Protocol To Set Up Focus Group

Questions

1. Have you never been in a situation of emergency in case of natural disaster?
2. Do you think to be able to manage a situation of emergency like this?
3. In case of natural disaster do you know what to do, nowadays? Do you know which Organization or Corporation to call?
4. Do you know which kind of obstacles could find the rescue services coming to you?
5. Are you in urgent need of something in case of rescue (for example: life-saving medicine, oxygen, etc)?
6. Are you in need of special transport, such as wheelchair, stretcher, etc?
7. Do you have somebody who could help you, waiting for rescue service?
8. Do you think to be able to help somebody?
9. Do you exactly know what to do in case of emergency, such as to give first aid?
10. Do you think it should be useful to do a rescue simulation?



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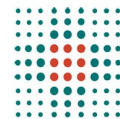


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Thanks for your attention!



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