



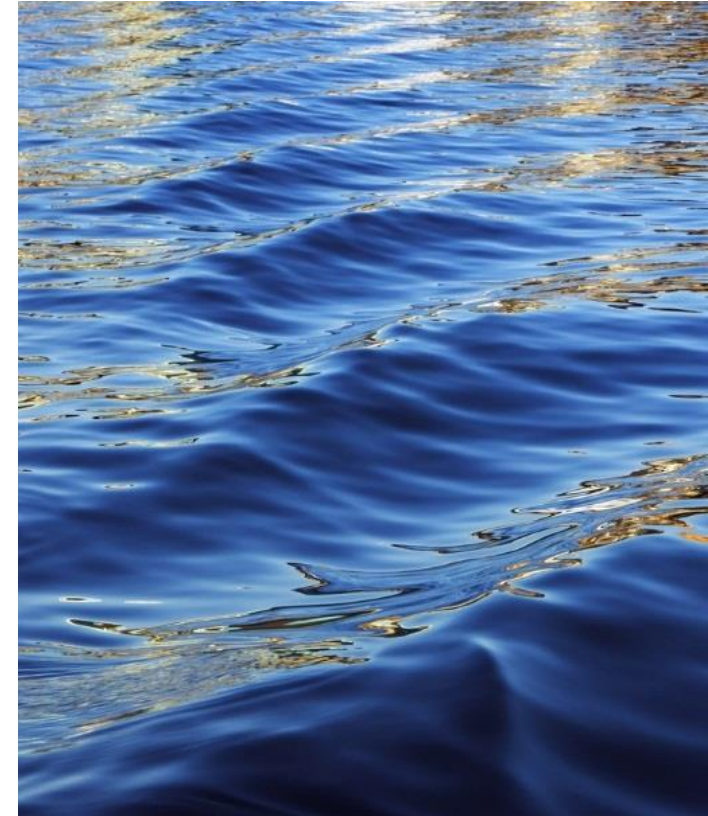
Training and Exercise Program for Emergency Response Preparedness

Benefits of a Robust Program

Luke Chavez

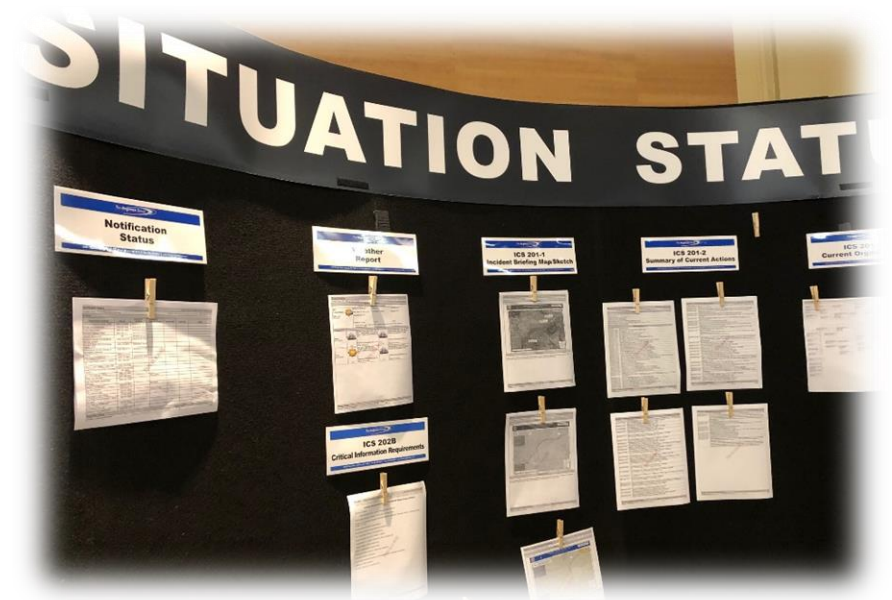
Training and Exercise Coordinator (MEP)

EPA Region 8 Emergency Management Branch



Agenda

- What are Training and Exercises (T&E)?
- Planning Exercises
- EPA Regional Training and Exercise(T&E) Programs
- Benefits of Exercises and a T&E Program
- Training and Exercise Support to
SERCs/TERCs/LEPCs
- Questions





What are Training and Exercises (T&E)?



Training and Exercise

- **Training**
 - Teaching or developing in oneself or others, any skills and knowledge that relate to specific useful competencies.
- **Exercises (Practice before the game)**
 - Test and validate plans and procedures, test the readiness of response capabilities, and increase the confidence and skill of personnel.



Training and Exercise

- **Types of Exercises**
 - **Discussion Based**
 - Seminars
 - Workshops
 - Tabletop Exercises (TTX's)
 - Games
 - **Operations Based Exercises**
 - Drills
 - Functional Exercises
 - Full-Scale Exercises





Planning Exercises



Planning an Exercise


- Exercise project management involves **five phases**, which are collectively known as the **exercise cycle**.
1. **Foundation:** Establish **buy-in** from management and/or senior officials. Develop a project management **timeline** and establish milestones, identify an exercise **planning team** and schedule planning conferences.
 2. **Design and Development:** Involves **Identifying objectives, designing the scenario**, creating documentation, coordinating **logistics**, planning **exercise conduct**, and selecting an **evaluation and improvement** methodology.



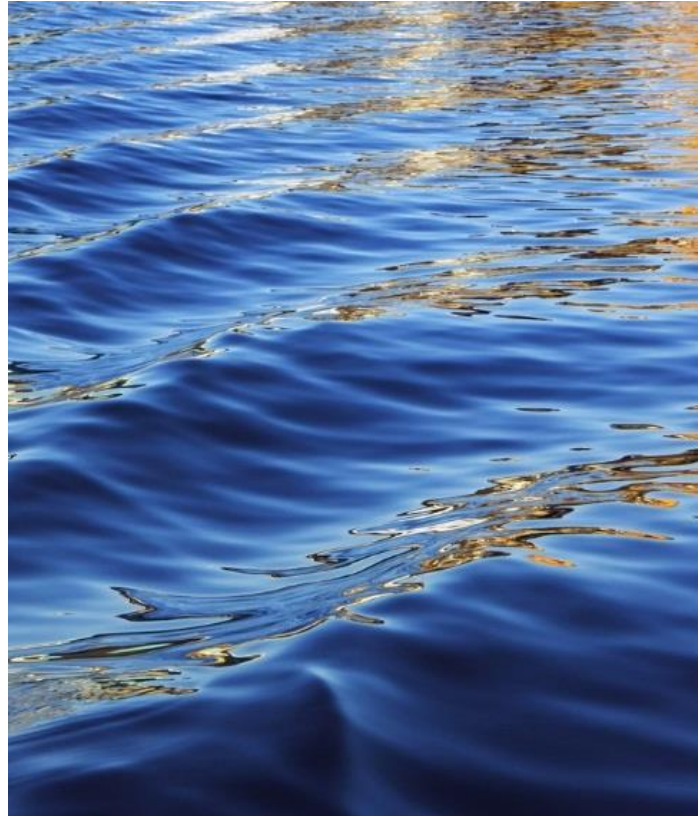
Planning an Exercise (cont.)

3. **Conduct:** Exercise conduct steps include **setup, briefings, facilitation, control, evaluation** and wrap-up activities.
4. **Evaluation:** Includes a formal exercise **evaluation and an AAR/IP that identifies strengths and areas for improvement** in an entity's preparedness, as observed during the exercise.
5. **Improvement Planning:** **Corrective actions** identified in the evaluation phase are assigned, with **due dates, responsible parties and tracked to implementation**





EPA Regional Training and Exercise(T&E) Programs





EPA Region 8 T&E Program

Region 8 Objectives for our T&E Program

- Region 8 Response Program preparedness and readiness



- Exercise outreach assistance to our federal, state, tribal, local and industry partners on hazmat and oil spill response preparedness and readiness

EPA Region 8 T&E Program

T&E Program Process

- Annual Training and Exercise Planning Workshop (TEPW)
- Reg 8 Training and Exercise Priorities
- Track Reg 8 Participation in Trainings and Exercises and Priorities met
- Trainings and Gap Analysis





Other EPA Regional T&E Programs





Benefits of Exercises and a T&E Program


Benefits of Exercising



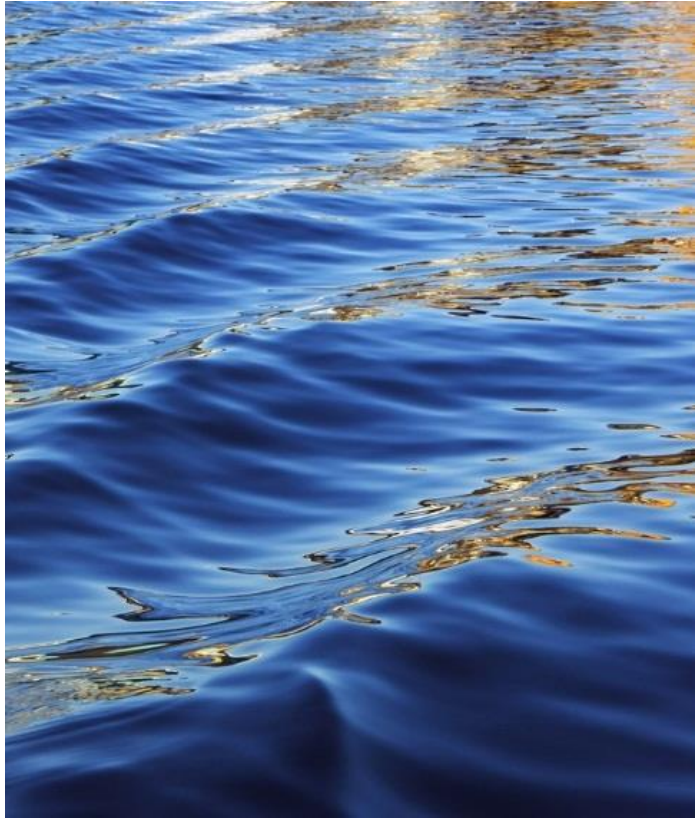
- Reveal planning weaknesses and gaps
- Improve response capabilities, coordination and communication
- Clarify roles and responsibilities

- Meet mandatory requirements
- Validate plans
- Practice
- Gain public confidence
- **Build relationships/Trust**





Training and Exercise Support to SERCs/TERCs/LEPCs





Assistance We Have Provided

- Participation on Exercise Planning Teams (concepts, scenarios, objectives, players, controllers, evaluators and improvement planning)
- Reach back for hazmat and oil technical information
- EPA authorities with assessments, cleanup and disposal of hazardous materials
- Emergency Response Planning
- Contractor support in exercise planning and design
- Assistance in coordinating federal, state, tribal, local and industry partners
- Oil spill response and other hazmat trainings





Questions?

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