

# **RECOMMENDATION FOR THE EVACUATION — PROTECTIVE MEASURE (October 2017)**

April 2019

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# PURPOSE

- This document which was developed in order to plan the evacuation protective measure is **an integral part of emergency response plans**.
- It can be applied, *mutatis mutandis*, by all persons developing emergency response plans in the event of natural and other disasters.



# LEGAL BASIS AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Act on the Protection against Natural and Other Disasters (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [Uradni list RS], official consolidated version and No. 97/10 (hereinafter: ZVNDN));
- Decree on the Content and Elaboration of Protection and Rescue Plans (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [Uradni list RS], No. 24/12, 78/16) (hereinafter: Decree on the Content and Elaboration of Protection and Rescue Plans);
- Decree on the Organization, Equipment and Training of Protection and Aid Forces (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [Uradni list RS], No. [54/2009](#), [23/2011](#), 27/2016) (hereinafter: Decree on the Organization, Equipment and Training of Protection and Aid Forces);
- Rules on Staffing and Material Formation of Civil Protection Units, Services and Bodies (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [Uradni list RS], No. [104/08](#)) (hereinafter: Rules on Staffing and Material Formation of Civil Protection Units, Services and Bodies);
- Instructions on Implementing Protective Measures (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [Uradni list RS], No. 39/94) (hereinafter: Instructions on Implementing Protective Measures);
- Decree on the Organization and Operation of the System of Monitoring, Informing and Alarming (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia [Uradni list RS], No. 105/2007) (hereinafter: Decree on the Organization and Operation of the System of Monitoring, Informing and Alarming).
- **The guiding principles are in accordance with:**
  - **international human rights law and**
  - **international humanitarian law.**



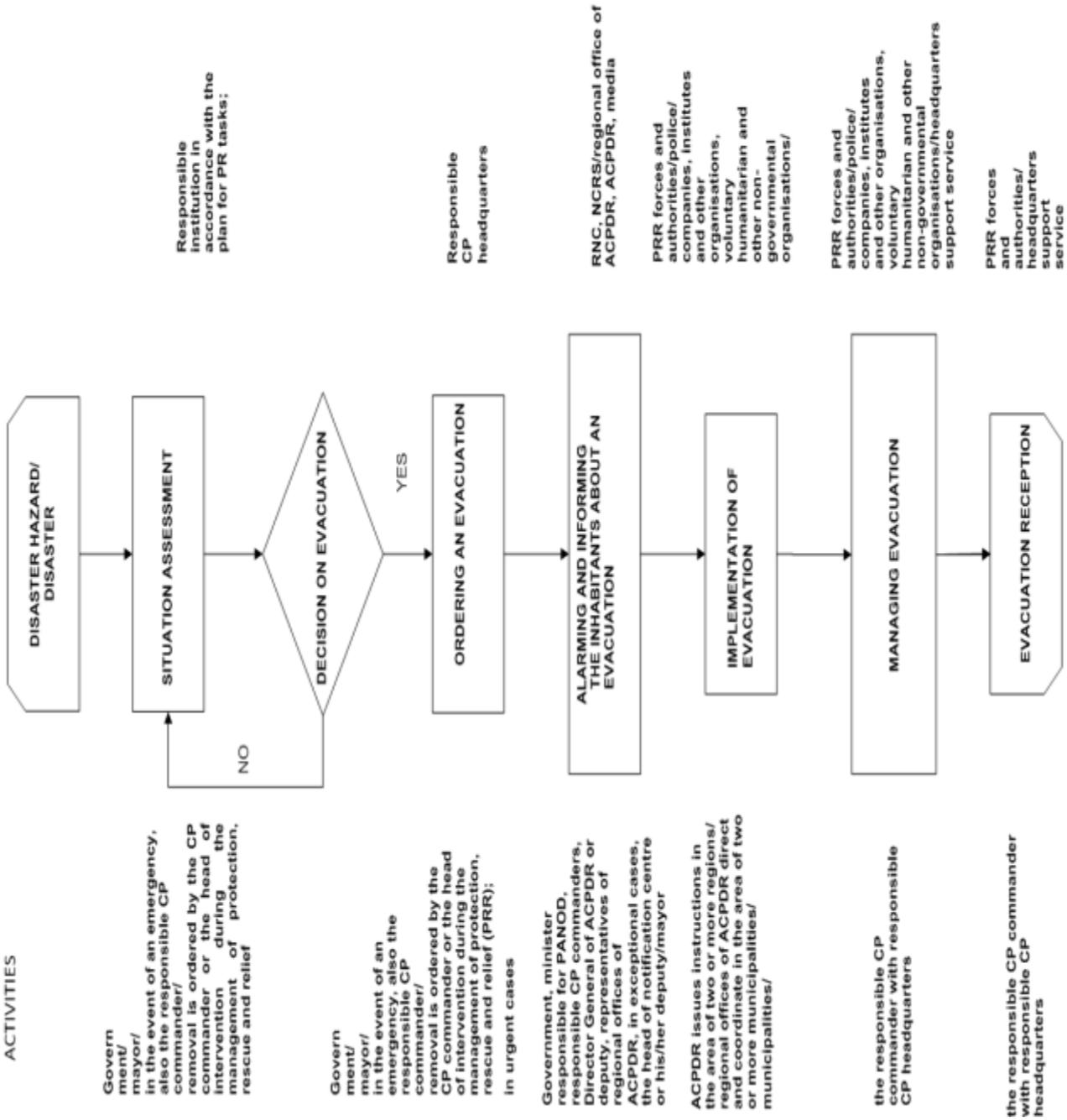
# ASSUMPTIONS REGARDING THE PLANNING OF EVACUATION PROTECTIVE MEASURE

- Principle of step-by-step deployment of forces and resources;
  - local community shall initially deploy its own forces and resources.
  - Where **the scale of a disaster** or threat **overwhelms** the available forces and resources of the local community or they cannot be provided by neighbouring local communities, the state shall ensure that forces and resources from a wider area are called in.
- coordination on national, regional and local level (national – strategic, municipal – concrete):
  - evacuation is the **last** possible solution;
  - **specific circumstances** for every type of disaster (nuclear, earthquake, floods etc.);
  - **gradual** evacuation is feasible to a much greater extent than the evacuation of all the inhabitants;
  - **vulnerable groups** (people who are ill, the elderly, the disabled, convalescents, pregnant women, mothers and single parents with dependent children).
- **The evacuated inhabitants:**
  - often suffer long-term psychological and social harm, particularly if they have been evacuated **for a long time**;
  - can suffer illnesses twice as severe compared to people who experience disaster but **do not have to abandon** their home;
  - **protection of the evacuated area** (entry to and exit from the affected area).



DIAGRAM OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE EVACUATION PROTECTIVE MEASURE

PERSONS WHO PERFORM OR ARE RESPONSIBLE



# SITUATION ASSESSMENT

- **Preparing a situation assessment** is of **key** importance to decision-making;
- **monitoring of hazards**
- **communication of information** from organisations (early warning systems) to **decision-makers** (government / major / responsible Civil Protection (CP) commanders...) is important;
- persons who perform an evacuation must be defined and also the **data threshold**, which, if exceeded, **will signal the need for ordering an evacuation.**



# ORDERING AN EVACUATION

- **Before making a decision to evacuate:**
- make an **analysis** with regard to the identification of hazard location and risk assessment;
- **take into account:**
  - analysis of **vulnerability**,
  - **time** available for evacuation,
  - **number** of inhabitants to evacuate,
  - **exit/evacuation routes**,
  - **safety**,
  - **resources**,
  - **environmental** factors,
  - **social** factors,
  - **night** evacuation compared to evacuation during the **day**;
- **time planning model** – time constraints;
- scientific calculations play an important role => **they provide preliminary information for decision-making** with regard to the time planning of evacuation and increase the efficiency of early warning messages;
- it is necessary to consider issuing **warnings in certain time intervals**;



# ORDERING AN EVACUATION

- **if lives of inhabitants, livestock and domestic animals and goods are exposed to immediate threat and if cultural heritage cannot be protected in any other way; evacuation is ordered for the duration of hazard;**
- **ordered by:** the Government, the mayor or, in the event of an emergency, by the responsible Civil Protection commander;
- **records** are kept (maintained by the headquarters support service),
- **written orders** are issued as soon as possible.



# ALARMING AND INFORMING THE INHABITANTS ABOUT AN EVACUATION

- Alarming or the use of warning siren signals is prescribed by:
  - the Government of the Republic of Slovenia;
  - minister responsible for the protection against natural and other disasters;
  - the mayor;
  - the responsible Civil Protection Commanders and their deputies;
  - Director General of the Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief or his/her deputy;
  - representatives of regional offices of the Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief, or
  - representative of municipal service responsible for protection against natural and other disasters;

other persons authorised by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia or the mayor;

in exceptional cases, responsible public employees in regional notification centres.



# ALARMING AND INFORMING THE INHABITANTS ABOUT AN EVACUATION

- **Unified public warning system** (organized by the Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief (ACPDR) **on local, regional or national level**: Notification Centre of the Republic of Slovenia (NCRS) and Regional Notification Centre (RNC)).
  - 1. If the **zone at risk exceeds the area of one region** then the **NCRS** immediately after alarming, communicates...
    - the information **via Radio Slovenia and Television Slovenia**, programmes 1 and 2;
    - information to the RNCs so they can inform regional radio and television stations;
    - **it is also recommended** that the information is communicated to the Slovenian Press Agency (**STA**) in order to inform all the journalists and inhabitants who are not affected by the disaster;
  - 2. If the **zone at risk does not exceed the area of one region** the **RNC** must, immediately after the activation, inform the inhabitants in the area at risk about the hazard via:
    - a regional radio and television station and any other mass media, and provide instructions on personal and mutual protection;
- the ACPDR also publishes information on hazards, warnings and response instructions at the website **[www.sos112.si](http://www.sos112.si)** and wap portal **[wap.sos112.si](http://wap.sos112.si)**;



# NOTIFICATION CENTRE



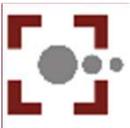
# ALARMING AND INFORMING THE INHABITANTS ABOUT AN EVACUATION

- **Clear, reliable, timely and accurate information** are essential for an efficient evacuation:
  - **information must be provided regularly and through all the phases of an evacuation;**
  - **the aim is to reach the largest number possible of** inhabitants – various methods:
    - **radio** announcements,
    - **television** announcements, **news broadcast**,
    - **websites**/social networks,
    - **e-mail, telephone, telefax**,
    - **sirens**,
    - **system for the notification of inhabitants** (static and vehicle mounted),
    - **knocking on doors**;
- **dissemination of information is determined in advance.**



# IMPLEMENTATION OF EVACUATION

- Evacuation is organised by:
- municipalities:
  - implemented by companies, institutes and other organisations as well as voluntary humanitarian and other non-governmental organisations **which are defined in the plans** for protection and rescue (PR) tasks;
- in the area of two or more municipalities:
  - directed and coordinated by the ministry responsible for the protection against natural and other disasters (PANOD);
- the evacuation is performed by persons who are responsible for and perform the tasks:
  - from the **evacuation assembly point** to the **evacuation reception area**;
  - in accordance with the planning of evacuation protective measure;
- persons who are responsible for and perform the tasks also perform the **emergency transfer of livestock and other domestic animals**, if this is the only possible arrangement.
- owners, managers or users of **cultural heritage**:
  - responsible for performing the prescribed protective measures, including evacuation;
  - they may request assistance from the expert service for the protection of cultural heritage;



# IMPLEMENTATION OF EVACUATION

- **Ensuring the safety of evacuated areas:**
- feasibility of **the control of access** to the evacuated area and the **exit** from it (preliminary measures for property protection);
- measures for a **safe suspension of operation and work in the industry** in the affected areas;
- **measures for special institutions** where **the personnel must remain**,
- **measures** with regard to **pets and livestock** which were left in the area by the inhabitants;
- preliminary measures with regard to inhabitants who **cannot be evacuated** or **refuse to be evacuated** (threat announcement, counselling, safety and protective measures);
- measures for protecting **cultural heritage**.



# IMPLEMENTATION OF EVACUATION

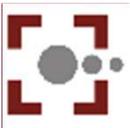
- Predetermining appropriate evacuation assembly points and reception areas to be used during an evacuation:
  - **location depends on the type and level of hazard** and the probability of **domino effects** (e.g. fire after an earthquake, landslides after heavy rain or damage to chemical and technological plants);
  - the following must also be taken into account:
    - many evacuated inhabitants wish to be **as close to their home as possible**;
    - some inhabitants **evacuate themselves** and **take care of their accommodation** (with family, friends and/or in a hotel), therefore the capacities in accommodation centres do not have to provide for all the evacuated inhabitants;
    - **interruptions with regard to work, school** etc. must be **mitigated** as much as possible;
    - **facilities** must be suitable for the anticipated conditions (e.g. for **winter or summer**).
  - **Refuge for animals, livestock and pets:**
  - **In the event of the evacuation** of animals,
  - livestock and pets, suitable accommodations facilities **must be determined in advance**.



# IMPLEMENTATION OF EVACUATION

## Infrastructure and means of transport:

- evacuation capacity which is based on **private and public means of transport** (by **road, railway**; special attention must be paid to the coordination of transport in order to prevent congestions);
- measures with regard to the assembly points and transport of **groups of inhabitants with special needs**;
- important characteristics and factors which must be taken into account:
  - **effects of weather conditions**;
  - **shortest route** to determined **target areas**;
  - **capacity of suggested roads** for the suggested means of transport;
  - **possibility of increasing capacity** and traffic flow with the help of **transport strategies**;
  - **availability of infrastructure**; evacuated inhabitants en route are **informed of actual conditions on the route**;
  - the number of **potentially hazardous points**, such as bridges and tunnels;
  - **estimate of damage** on **evacuation routes**;
  - **availability of** evacuation **reception areas**;
- **some routes become impassable** => planning of **additional routes** for evacuation.



# IMPLEMENTATION OF EVACUATION

## Control of transport and traffic:

- traffic flow will be particularly demanding to manage in densely populated urban areas and rural areas with narrow roads;
- **separating passengers on foot** and road traffic;
- special routes for **buses**;
- **gradual evacuation (in phases)**;
- **reserves** of fuel, portable toilets and water **en route**;
- **procedures** and available **personnel** for providing help in the event of:
  - traffic accidents,
  - breakdowns,
  - urgent health care,
  - other hazards;
- **measures for responding** in the event of **disorganized self-evacuation** (for example, procedures for the mobile control of traffic, predetermining reception centres).



# IMPLEMENTATION OF EVACUATION

## Transport of animals, livestock and pets:

- transport of animals from a hazardous area **must be planned separately** or the arrangements for **the care of animals must be determined**: refuge, sufficient food and water.



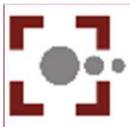
## Transport of cultural heritage objects:

- evacuation or transport of cultural heritage objects from a hazardous area is **planned separately**, as required;
- it is performed if cultural heritage cannot be protected in any other manner.



## Safety of persons who are responsible for and perform the tasks:

- their protection from all types of hazards **is of key importance**;
- **in order to be able to perform their tasks**;



# PLANNING –Databases

- **PLANNING – Data from Annexes to Emergency Response Plans**
- Overview of **areas** from which the evacuation is being performed, together with the **data on the number of inhabitants** or animals which are being evacuated from individual areas;
- overview of evacuation **assembly points** and **evacuation routes**;
- overview of **evacuation vehicles**, together with the data on **vehicle owners**, **vehicle capacities** and **types of motor fuel**;
- overview of **decontamination stations**, together with the data on owners, types, purposes and capacities of decontamination stations and locations of mobile decontaminations stations;
- overview of **shelters**, together with the data on their locations, levels of resistance and capacities;
- overview of **facilities/shelters** for the accommodation of **animals**, inspections of **vehicles** for the evacuation of **animals**.



# MANAGING AND DIRECTING AN EVACUATION

- After the decision on evacuation is made, it is important that it is performed in a **coordinated manner**;
- **managing and directing** an evacuation must be planned in advance;
- **hierarchy of decision-making** must be **defined** (national, regional and local level);
- **operational and expert management is organised and performed as a unified system**;
- **management is performed by responsible Civil Protection commanders**;
- **participating units, services and other operational structures** organised within societies and other non-governmental organisations or commercial companies, institutes and other organisations **are managed independently by their leaders** in accordance with professional rules and regulations;
- if there are more persons performing the tasks, they must act in accordance with instructions of the responsible Civil Protection commander.



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