



Welcome to European Union project CoSafe.

Cooperation for Safety in sparsely populated areas

Within the CoSafe project homepage you can find information about the project, activities, participants, contact addresses, news, and a photo gallery with pictures from the different meetings and scenarios.

Report from Finnish teams:

Development of risk assessment tool for major accidents has been tested during the rescue exercise in Taivalkoski, Finland. The results were analyzed and the main conclusion was that the safety personnel were quite satisfied with the method. However some development ideas were exposed. The patient's safety, the communication during the situation and ensuring the on-site leader's role should be emphasized. We are doing necessary modifications to the method in February. After that the method will be tested by the medical emergency staff in Oulu. Next phase in developing a risk assessment tool for major accidents is to determine how outputs from risk assessment can be used in planning and preparing for major accidents. The patient safety and the safety of the safety personnel are strongly connected because of this, risk assessment tool needs to be developed for accommodate also patient safety. This development will be done in co-operation of medical and safety experts in spring 2010.

Goal of the CoSafe team is that the method could be sent to partners in June 2010 for testing with the instructions and specifications.

Report from the Icelandic team:

The NPP Secretariat organized an annual congress in Reykjavik called the „LAVA09“ which was attended by a representative from the Icelandic CoSafe project team and from the Swedish Lead Partner. The preparation included a poster making concerning the SNAM exercise in September 2005 as well as a Power Point show representing the work of the CoSafe team so far and what products are in process.

The CoSafe team has also been working on analyzing the electronic questionnaire which was sent to all possible groups of disaster responders. The first analysis will be introduced at the CoSafe meeting which takes place in Akureyri in March 2010 (see below).

The main work now is focused upon the international meeting which takes place in Akureyri during the 16. – 20. March 2010. This CoSafe meeting will be accompanied to some extent by a project group called „The Cross-border Mountain Rescue project“. The CoSafe team will have their normal project meeting and workshops in Reykjavik and Akureyri during this period. However, the meeting will be broken up on the 17th of March with an open seminar „Awareness of mountain disasters: risks and rescue“. The seminar takes place during the Wednesday and is organized for both project groups (CoSafe and Cross-border mountain rescuers) and open to all interested groups. Icelandic and foreign speakers are on the agenda, which is quite interesting, and there will also be an exhibition about rescue clothing, CoSafe products etc.

Report from the Scottish team:

The Scottish CoSafe team has continued to work on products and services and will





finalise its list of active projects before going to Iceland in March. Around 6.30 am on the cold and snowy morning of January 2nd a head on collision between two cars occurred on the road to Harris just outside Stornoway.

The driver of one vehicle died at the scene of the accident. Travelling in the other car was a family of six, two adults and four children. A multi agency response involving the police, ambulance service, fire brigade and primary care physician effectively triaged and transferred the injured to the Western Isles Hospital. Initial assessment and treatment of the family occurred in the accident and emergency department. One child had a spinal injury and was transferred by air ambulance to the neurosurgical unit in the Southern General Hospital, Glasgow, three others were managed in the Western Isles Hospital the most serious injury being a ruptured kidney. A CoSafe led formal debriefing session with representatives from all involved agencies usefully highlighted concerns with communication, transmission of radiographic images and access to the hospital in very cold conditions, but it clearly demonstrated how a successful outcome can be achieved by coordination at the accident site, flexibility and everyone playing to their strengths.



[CoSafe Video](#)



[CoSafe Gallery](#)



(Photo: West Highland Free Press 8th January 2010)

Report from the Swedish team:

The Swedish team has conducted a mapping of emergency and disaster equipment. Focus has been on vehicles for transportation of casualties, equipment for prevention of hypothermia, communication and specific equipment (i.e. oxygen, chemical protection suits). In connection to this we have developed a program (working title GUIDE) in cooperation with the department of computer sciences, Umeå University. The program is under development, but a working prototype exists and is a base for further discussions and development. With this program, you are able to search for vehicles and critical equipment from a map. You pinpoint an accident site and make a search perimeter from the accident site (for instance a search radius of 50 km). You can then search for specific equipment (i.e. tents and stretchers) and get all units that keep this equipment. This program can easily be transferred to any map in the world.

- Latest updated information you always find at our homepage www.cosafe.eu



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