Emergency Management Unit

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Deputy Emergency Management Director

(represented by Lars Westholm, Project Manager)
County of Västra Götaland

- 1.5 million citizens
- 49 municipalities
- 240 km from south to north
- 800 employees
The civil emergency planning – before – during – after –

1. Protect peoples life and health
2. Protect critical functions in the society
3. Prepare for emergencies and try to reduce consequences

From everyday accidents to major disasters!
Basic principles

The principle of responsibility
Whoever is responsible for an activity during normal conditions should assume the same responsibility during emergencies.

The principle of parity
During major emergencies authorities should, as far as possible, be organized in the same way as they are during normal conditions.

The principle of proximity
Emergencies should be managed at the nearest decision making level.
Geographic area responsibility

290 municipalities  
21 counties  
Government & authorities
The work of county administrative board before an emergency

- Risk management in spatial planning
- Training, exercises and information
- County Risk- and Vulnerabilities Analysis
- Auditing and follow-up
  - Municipalities duties within CEPS
  - Local Fire and Rescue Services

- Civil-Military Cooperation
- Responsible for planning
  - For rescue operation after release of radioactive substances from NPP
  - complex rescue operations
During an emergency

- Duty Officer 24/7

- Responsibilities during an emergency
  - Initiate Command group
  - Coordinate and Support different actors response
  - Coordinate confirmed information
  - Coordinate governmental and international resources
  - Report to the Government offices of Sweden
Responsible for the rescue operations

- Complex rescue operations if needed
- Release of radioactive substances from NPP
Accidents with foreign casualties

- Duty Officer receives information about major accidents from SOS Alarm (911 system)
- IF involving information about foreign casualties the Duty Officer informs the President of the Consular Corps of Western Sweden (CCWS)
- The Swedish Police is responsible for registration of casualties. They inform the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.
River and Valley of Göta Älv

Vulnerabilities
- Critical functions
  - drinking water for 800,000 people
  - Important transportation routes by road, train and boats
- Densely populated area

Threats
- Most landslide-prone area in Sweden
- Failures of big dams
- Major flooding
- Contaminated industrial sites
A long coast line
Storms, flooding and natural disasters

- Conferences for coordination of actions and information
- Weather warning system – indication of wind speed and consequences
- Land slides
Transport system
Other risks

- Ringhals Nuclear Power Plant
  60 km south of Gothenburg
- Epizootic and Zoonosis
- “Social risks”
Important to protect Sweden’s functionality

- The Port of Gothenburg (largest port in Scandinavia)
  30% of foreign trade
  11,000 ships / year

- Important transportation routes through the County

- Refinery of raw oil at the west coast
  Approx. 90% of Sweden's fuel request

- Petrochemical centre of Sweden in Stenungsund
Fires with many causalities

- Fire at a party for youngsters (1998)
  63 dead and 200 injured.
  Difficult care of victims and relatives during many years.

- Fire at sea M/S Scandinavian Star (1990)
  159 dead
  Capacity of smaller municipalities to receive ships during emergencies.
  RITS (Rescue Operations at Sea) was established.
Landslide of E6 Småröd (2006)

- 500 x 200 m and affected road and railway
- Apprx. 10 vehicles (one truck with HS) in the area but no severe injuries.
- It was difficult for the Fire and Rescue Service to overview the area when arriving to the scene.
- Dangerous to rescue victims from their vehicles.
- Good cooperation after to restore road and railway in the planning process.
Exercise Gothia Cup April 2014

- Gothia Cup
  - Football tournament
  - 37,000 participants
  - 70 nations

- Organized by the municipalities in the Gothenburg region.

- Major accident during a disco at a football arena

- Great international interest
Thank you!