



INSTITUTIONALISING DISASTER MANAGEMENT
EDUCATION AND TRAINING
FOR THE WORLD'S MILITARIES

PREVIEW

1. ✓ THE NEED

2. OPTIONS

3. TRAINING VISTAS

4. FOCUS AREAS




'NEED' FOR SOME SOUL SEARCHING

1. Are adequate number of servicemen being trained in all aspects ?
2. Is the education & training institutionalized or ad hoc ?
3. Is the requisite training infrastructure in place? If so, how good are the trainers, training material and training methods ?
4. Have training requirements been scientifically deduced and formalized in to a well structured and purposeful curriculum ?
5. Is formal certification provided? If so, how professional is the evaluation and comparison vis-a-vis the best global standards ?
6. Are the training institutes accredited? If so, how does the accreditation compare with the highest standards, world-wide ?
7. What is the quality of the training ? What are the real takeaways ? Is it realistic and practical or overly pedagogic and academic ?
8. How effective has the training proved in actual disaster operations ?

“much more needs to be done”

PROFESSIONALISM & SPECIALISATION

1. A soldier – being optimally trained for combat tasks – is sub-optimally trained for “other” duties, including DM.
2. DM has metamorphosed in to a specialized & complex science.
3. ‘Effective’ DM now requires optimally - not generally or casually - trained professionals.
4. Not that the average military soldier is unfit for DM duties, just that he/she needs further grooming to become a more efficient DM manpower resource to deliver higher performance.
5. War is nothing but a ‘man-made disaster’, therefore the military MUST get involved in other disasters too.
6. Military skills can easily be translated in to specialized DM competencies. 

CONVERTING MILITARY SKILL-SETS IN TO **DM SPECIFIC SKILL SETS**

<u>SER</u>	<u>GENERALISED SKILL-SETS (MILITARY)</u>	<u>SPECIALISED SKILL-SETS FOR DM</u>
1.	Military communications	Establishing communication networks, operating radio and other comn devices of civil aid agencies, using HAM networks
2.	Operating Military Earth-Moving Equipment	Rubble and debris clearance, controlled demolitions, collapsed structure engineering
3.	Casualty Evacuation from battlefield	Specialized CASEVAC of flood / avalanche / earth-quake / cyclone stricken people in large numbers
4.	Search And Rescue	Specialized SAR at sea / in snow / seismic and contaminated zones

<u>SER</u>	<u>GENERALISED SKILL-SETS</u>	<u>SPECIALISED SKILL-SETS FOR DM</u>
	<u>(MILITARY)</u>	
5.	Food Supply	Mass feeding, provision of potable water, emergency kitchens
6.	Field Sanitation	Establishment of large-scale sanitation facilities, mass hygiene measures
7.	Decontamination	Decontamination in NBC / CBRN emergencies, disposal of contaminated materials, isolation and quarantine measures
8.	Disposal of the dead	<i>En masse</i> registration, burial and cremation, preserving samples
9.	First Aid and Medical Services	Specialist medical procedures for particular disasters, field surgery, trauma management and psychological counselling

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| 10. Preventive Medicine | Post - disaster prevention of endemics / epidemics, control of vectors |
| 11. Veterinary Services | Insect & rodent control, zoonotic disease control, emergency veterinary surgery |
| 12. Civil Engineering Services | Restoration of public utilities, emergency power supply |
| 13. Provision of Shelter and Housing | Establishment of disaster-relief shelters, tented colonies, container homes, specialist cabins, porta homes |
| 14. Traffic control | Operation of air, land and sea transport facilities, humanitarian convoys, managing traffic circuits and choke points |
| 15. Miscellaneous | Damage assessment, explosive disposal, preservation of art & cultural objects, civil governance, public administration, media management, inter-agency coord, etc. |

DM : A TRANS-NATIONAL APPROACH TO PROFESSIONALISE MILITARY EDUCATION & TRAINING

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A BOUQUET OF OPTIONS

1. Within a 'Unit', train a defined percentage, say 10-20%, of **personnel in common DM tasks**
2. Within a 'Formation', select 10-25% of **units/sub-units** for **specialized DM tasks**. Train each **as an entity** for a specialized DM role
3. **Learn from the experts:** formalize DM training with UNOCHA, UNHCR, UNDAC, ICRC, INSARAG, etc internationally and with specialist DM organizations within each country
4. **Task-based education and 'Systems Approach to Training' (SAT).** Tasks could include Setting-up a Unified Comd HQ, a Communications Grid, SAR, Establishment of relief camps, etc
5. **Hazard-centric approach.** Co-relate vulnerability assessment of 'regional hazards' to locations of military units and formations. Pre-position related DM equipment adjacent to them

A BOUQUET OF OPTIONS (continued)

6. **Institutionalize** training for disaster relief and response by **including it in military training curricula**

7. Service-Specific Education and Training :
 - Train **'jointly'** for common DM skills (like collapsed building SAR, slithering, watermanship, etc)
 - Army, Navy and Air Force to train **independently** for their respective DM skills as per an **overall training philosophy /doctrine** (e.g. Army - Avalanche Rescue, Navy – Underwater Recovery, Air Force – Aerial CASEVAC & Supply Drops)

8. Standardize DM training for all stakeholders, including the military, under one/two specialist institute(s). **Inter-stakeholder pollination** accrues added benefits of **organizational synergy and interoperability** between disparate agencies

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TRAINING VISTAS : KEY ISSUES

1. Align DM education and training of the military to its envisaged roles/tasks/duties in such operations.
2. Focus on the military's 'core competencies' : SAR, provision of communications, establishment of relief camps to provide immediate health and medical succour, logistics involving large-scale relocation/transportation of people and provisioning of relief materials.
3. Allow full freedom to each military to draw up its own 'Task-List', based on its unique operating environment. 

TASKS COMMONLY ASSIGNED TO MILITARY FORCES **IN DISASTER OPERATIONS**

- 1. SAR in all types of terrain, for all types of disasters.**
- 2. Establishing 'Command and Control HQ' in the field.**
- 3. Establishing a Communications Grid.**
- 4. Setting-up of Relief Camps till other agencies can take over.**
- 5. Air, land and sea Survey, including Route Reconnaissance and initial Damage Assessment.**
- 6. Initial Logistic Support till other agencies can take over. This includes transportation of personnel as well as relief materials.**
- 7. Assistance in Engineering Works : accommodation, shelters, helipads, airfields, etc. Includes Road and Rubble Clearance and Salvage Operations.**

- 8. Distribution of food, necessities and aid materials on land, water and air.**
- 9. Restoration of basic utilities, especially water supply and electricity, in coordination with the local authorities. Maintenance of essential services.**
- 10. Provision of Specialist Task Forces to assist in various disaster-relief functions such as provision of specialist personnel ; divers, welders, electricians and skilled tradesmen including CBRNe task forces.**
- 11. Medical aid including first-aid, life-saving surgery and establishment of mobile field hospitals. This includes Veterinary Services.**
- 12. Assistance in maintenance of law and order, only when specifically requested for.**
- 13. Stage management of international relief, when so requested.**
- 14. Deactivation, removal and disposal of explosives, bombs and mines.**
- 15. All aspects of NBC / CBRNe emergencies.**

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FOCUS AREAS

- 1. Make Training Dynamic and Inter-Agency**
- 2. Evolve a 'DM Training Doctrine' for the military**
- 3. Categorise Skills and Expertise**
- 4. Create Military Data-Bases of DM optimised manpower & equipment**
- 5. Accord primacy to the 'Search and Rescue' function**
- 6. Integrate the military into the National 'Incident Command System'**
- 7. Formulate Military SOPs, Training and Operating Manuals for DM**
- 8. Army, Navy and Air Force must train jointly with each other and with other stakeholders, including specialized DM agencies**

FOCUS AREAS (continued)

- 9. Institute a system of 'Performance Audit'**
- 10. Formalise a system of Archiving, Record Keeping and Learning from Experience**
- 11. Incorporate New Management Techniques**
- 12. Make extensive use of MIS and IT Applications**
- 13. Emphasize Practical Training : Mock Up Drills and Simulation Exercises**
- 14. Identify and resolve interoperability/compatibility issues**
- 15. Provide globally acceptable formal certification and accreditation**



THANK YOU



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