



EaPGREEN

Partnership for Environment and Growth



This project is
funded by the EU



TOGETHER

for a sustainable future

1966 - 2016

Company Training Course



Session 13: Emergency Planning – Part 1

Accidents and disasters affect everyone



Explosion in LPG terminal in Mexico City

A major fire and a series of catastrophic explosions occurred in 1984 at a LPG Terminal

Some 650 individuals were killed, more than 6,000 were injured, and the terminal was destroyed



Explosion in Fertilizer Factory: the Toulouse Accident

September 2001

31 people died

>3,000 people injured



Pesticide Plant Accident: Bhopal

Accident at a pesticide plant in Bhopal (India) in 1984, which resulted in the death of at least 3000 people, and in 200,000 to 600,000 people getting injured as a result of this accident



Copyright © 1996 EarthBase/Liaison Agency. All rights reserved.
Photo by Pablo Bartholomew

Acrylonitrile transport accident - Bangkok

September 2001



What can we learn from these disasters?

- Was the risk understood ?
- Who was responsible for the disaster ?
- What did the public know, understand ?
- Was there an emergency plan ?
- Was the response adequate ?
- What would have prevented the accident, or mitigated the consequences ?

Some common elements and conclusions

- All types of installations
 - Low awareness to risks;
 - Low levels of preparedness;
 - Insufficient co-ordination of rescue services
 - Accidents/disasters could have been prevented, or their damages lessened
 - People were living too close to risk areas
 - Accidents/disasters affect all countries
 - Accidents/disasters have consequences for personal, social, environmental, economic fabric
 - Natural and technological disasters often combine
 - Human development often occurs in hazardous areas
 - Society is more sensitized to rescue needs than prevention

Emergency prevention and preparedness

- Main elements in emergency preparedness:
 - hazard/risk identification and assessment
 - prevention of hazards
 - safety training and fostering of a safety culture at work
 - workers and community information on chemical hazards and risks
 - early warning and preparedness
 - emergency response planning, practice and drills
- Key factors for emergency preparedness include the co-ordination of emergency services, the provision of emergency infrastructure/equipment, and assuring that people know how to react correctly

UNEP APELL Programme

- APELL stand for Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies at Local Level (APELL)
- As a Programme, APELL depends on a higher level framework of:
 - national emergency strategy and administration;
 - ‘right to know’ legislation and transparency;
 - culture and practice of community involvement;
 - interagency cooperation;
 - assistance in hazard identification;
 - promotion of APELL process from higher up.

The APELL Process

- As a process, APELL is...:
 - “...a multi-stakeholder dialogue tool that establishes adequate coordination and communication in situations where the public might be affected by accidents and disasters.”
- Key aspects of the APELL process are: “local level”, “multi-stakeholder”, and “open communication”
- Main stakeholder groups: industry, community, and local authorities

Goals and Objectives of the APELL process

- The main goal of the APELL Process is the development of **integrated emergency response plans** through a multi-stakeholder participatory approach **involving industry, the communities and local authorities**
- The main objectives of the process are to protect lives and the environment, by reducing the occurrence and the potential impacts of industrial accidents/disasters.

This is achieved by:

- Promoting **better preparedness at the local level**
- **Raising awareness** of potentially affected communities
- Working through a structured 10-step process (**multi-stakeholder dialogue**)

Benefits of implementing the APELL process

- Benefits of implementing the APELL process include:
 - **Local community is aware of potential risks and impacts and prepared to respond correctly in the event of an accident**
 - **Emergency services become coordinated and prepared to respond to any disasters and are able to provide coordination**