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CBRN
Centres of Excellence
An initiative of the European Union



Middle East Scientific Institute for Security

Amman, Jordan

Middle East Regional Secretariat

Profile

FRAMEWORK: European Union (EU) Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence (CoE) Initiative.

ESTABLISHED: 25 June 2013.

LOCATION: Public Security Directorate, Civil Defense Directorate, Hazardous Materials & Lab Test Department, Amman, Jordan.

OVERALL GOAL: Strengthen the capabilities of Partner Countries to mitigate CBRN risks, whether natural, accidental, or deliberate in origin.



Partner Countries



The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan



The Republic of Iraq



The Republic of Lebanon



Objectives

- 1 ▶ Support the Middle East CBRN National Teams/ Committees to fulfil their mandates.
- 2 ▶ Support Partner Countries in updating and implementing the CBRN National Action Plans.
- 3 ▶ Support the Regional Action Plan (RAP) development and implementation.
- 4 ▶ Assist in monitoring the ongoing CBRN CoE projects.
- 5 ▶ Organise regional events (e.g. Round-Table Meetings, Field Exercises and visibility events).
- 6 ▶ Provide technical support upon request of the partner countries.
- 7 ▶ Reinforce the outreach to and coordination with EU Member States, international organisations and donors.
- 8 ▶ Promote the use of local expertise and facilities.
- 9 ▶ Reinforce the cooperation with other CoE regions.

Terrorism
Disease Outbreaks
Radiological
Strategic Trade
Food contamination
Accident
Waste Management
Biological
Safety and Security
Nuclear
CRIME
Chemical

CBRN

Regional Priorities



Protection of Critical Infrastructures



Chemical Security and Safety



CBRN Forensics



Field Exercises to test and validate Partner Countries' capabilities



Hazardous Materials Transportation



Recent Achievements

Achievement 1: ARZ 2021 and ARZ 2023 CBRN Counter-Terrorism Field Exercise

Lebanon organized an international counter-terrorism field exercise that took place in Beirut, Lebanon in December 2021 in partnership with several international organizations and partner countries. Lebanon, with the support of the Regional Secretariat is organizing a new Field Exercise to take place in October 2023 in Beirut.



Achievement 2: The Middle East CBRN Regional Action Plan

The Middle East Region was the first within the Initiative to elaborate a CBRN Regional Action Plan (RAP) in June 2018. Several priorities were implemented. The Regional Secretariat is now planning its update and review.



Achievement 3: The first CBRN Conference for the Arab Region

The Amman Regional Secretariat, with the support of the Regional Secretariats in Abu Dhabi, Algiers and Rabat organized the first CBRN Conference for the Arab Region in Cairo at the HQs of the League of Arab States.



Projects

The region participated in **27 projects**, 8 of which are **ongoing**:

- ➔ **Project P97:** Improvement of Chemical Safety and Security in the Middle East.
- ➔ **Project P94:** On-site technical assistance to the EU chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear Centres of Excellence regional secretariats.
- ➔ **Project P92:** MediLabSecure phase II, Preventing biological risks increased by environmental and climate change.
- ➔ **Project P89 EU P2P:** Export Control Programme for Dual-use Goods - Middle East.
- ➔ **Project P76 STRONGLABS:** Preventing biological risks increased by environmental and climate change by strengthening Public Health Laboratories.
- ➔ **Project P75 MEDILABSECURE:** Preventing biological risks increased by environmental and climate change in the Mediterranean, Black Sea and Sahel regions by strengthening institutional capacities in the context of One Health.
- ➔ **Project P74 MEDIPIET:** Mediterranean and Black Sea field epidemiology training programme network to increase security in the EU neighbourhood.
- ➔ **Project P73:** Protection of Critical Infrastructures.



Methodology



3 National Focal Points



3 CBRN National Teams institutionalized



3 Needs Assessment Questionnaires Workshops undertaken



2 National Action Plans officially were endorsed and 1 is under development



1 Regional Action Plan endorsed by the CoE National Focal Points