

Tool kit for Health/Communication Managers and Staff involved in daily communication activities

Resource: Country information sheet - ITALY

Objective: Provide a general overview of the Italian context in terms of levels of responsibility and entities involved in the management of health crisis.

Levels of responsibility in crisis management

There are four levels involved in the crisis emergency management in Italy:

- **National level:** the **Prime Minister of the Ministers' Council** determines the policies of civil protection, holds the legislative power in matter of civil protection, promotes and coordinates the activities of the central and peripheral administration of the State, the Regions, the Municipalities, the national and local Public bodies, and public and private organizations.

For the development of these activities, the Prime Minister of the Ministers' Council uses the **Department of the Civil Protection**, which is composed of six offices dedicated to the various types of crisis' possibilities (voluntary work, training and communication; hydrogeological risks; seismic and volcanic risks; emergency management; administration and budget; human and technical resources) and a press and information office.

- **Regional level:** The legislative power is up to the 20 Regions. The **President of the Regional committee** in case of necessity (i.e. if activated by the national level or the local governments) activates the unit of crisis, among which are convened the **Head offices** responsible for different areas (Health, Family, Agriculture, Urban planning, Civil Protection, Environmental Protection, etc.), according to the nature of the threats. These Head offices can be involved in the emergency, so that they activate the relevant actors on the territory.
- **Provincial level:** on the base of regional dispositions, the Province prepares the action plan (Provincial Committee of Civil protection), while the Prefect manages it, making use of the following structures:
 - **Aids Coordination Centres**, composed by the people responsible for all the operating structures of the provincial territory in order to define the strategies of action and to rationalize the employment of the available resources.
 - **Mixed Operations Centres**, intermediate structures between the province and municipality level, constituted by the representatives of the involved Municipalities.



- **Local level:** The Mayor, who is responsible for the civil protection at municipal level, has the task to:
 - organise and coordinate the first local actions;
 - provide updated information to the Prefect and the President of the Regional committee.

In order to perform these actions he is equipped with a municipality emergency community plan, that is implemented through the **Municipality Operations Centre** that directs and coordinates the services for population aid and assistance.

Main entities involved in health crisis situations:

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| <p><u>National level</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Health • Civil Protection • Health Governing Body • The Department of Carabineers for Health Safeguard - NAS • Superior Institute of Health -ISS • National Institute for Insurance against Industrial Injuries - INAIL • National Agency for Regional Health Service - Agenas • Experimental Institutes for the Prevention of Animal Infective Disease - IZS • Italian Pharmaceutical Agency - AIFA • National Centre for the Prevention and the Control of Diseases – CCM <p><u>Regional level</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional administrations • Presidency Regional committee • Regional Department head offices • Local Health Departments - ASL <p><u>Provincial level</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial administrations • Prefect • Local Health Departments - ASL <p><u>Local/municipal level</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipality administrations • Local Health Departments - ASL |
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More information can be found on the “HEALTH C Background report” available at: http://healthc-project.eu/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/D2.3-Background-report_final1.pdf

