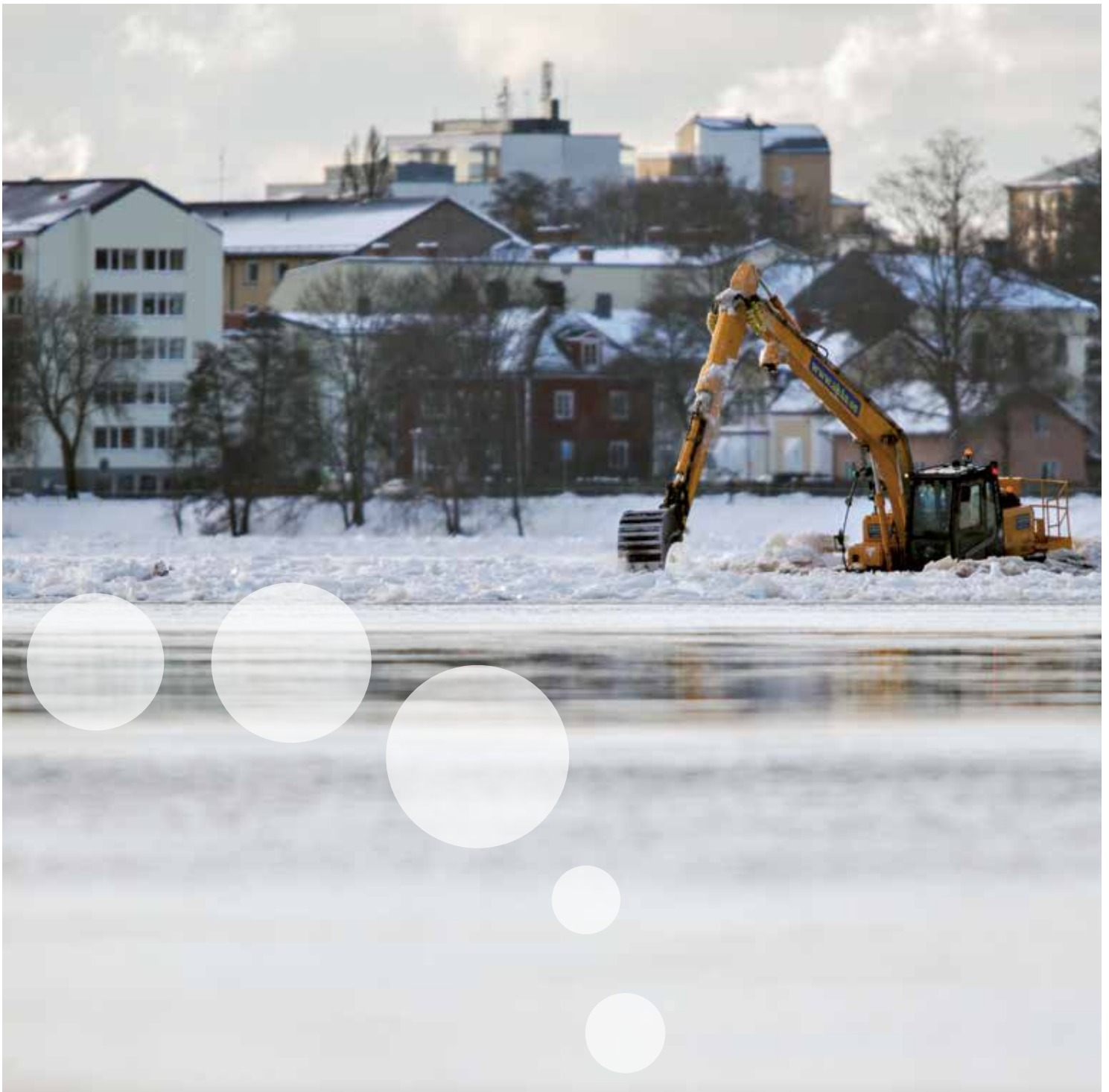


ACTIVITY REPORT 2013

Sweden's National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction



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Activity Report 2013

Sweden's National Platform
for Disaster Risk Reduction

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Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB)

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ABBREVIATIONS

Auth.Net – Authority network of the National Platform

CAB – County Administrative Board

CNDS – Centre for Natural Disaster Science

EFDRR – European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction

EU – European Union

DRR – disaster risk reduction

FHS – Swedish National Defence College

GP – Global Platform

HFA – Hyogo Framework for Action

LGSAT – Local Government Self-Assessment Tool

MCR – Making Cities Resilient campaign

MSB – Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency

NGO – non-governmental organisation

NP – National Platform

SG – steering group of the National Platform

SGI – Swedish Geotechnical Institute

SGU – Geological Survey of Sweden

SKL – Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions

SMHI – Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute

UD – Ministry for Foreign Affairs

UNISDR – United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

INTRODUCTION

The MSB (Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency) is via Mette Lindahl Olsson, Head of Natural Hazards and Critical Infrastructure Section, the focal point for Sweden's national commitments under the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005–2015. For Swedish policy work in accordance with the HFA the focal point is the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

The MSB is also responsible for coordinating Sweden's national work via Sweden's NP for DRR.

This Activity Report covers the 6th year of operation of the NP – 2013.

During the year the following authorities and organisations were included on the NP:

- Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning,
- Swedish Energy Agency,
- Swedish Board of Agriculture,
- Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management,
- Lantmäteriet (Sweden's Land Survey),
- Swedish National Food Agency,
- The county administrative boards of Sweden (CABs),
- Swedish Environmental Protection Agency,
- Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB),
- Swedish National Heritage Board,
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida),
- Swedish Forest Agency,
- Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI),
- Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare (SoS),
- Swedish Geotechnical Institute (SGI),
- Svenska Kraftnät (the state owned national grid company),
- Geological Survey of Sweden (SGU),
- Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SKL),
- Swedish Transport Administration.

In autumn 2013 the Swedish Maritime Administration was invited to participation at an Auth.Net meetings for Swedish authorities, and was at the SG meeting put forward for inclusion on the platform.

Aim and Objective

The overall aim of the HFA and the establishment of NPs for DRR is the substantial reduction of disaster losses in lives and in the social, economic and environmental assets of communities and countries.

The aim of Sweden's NP for DRR is to improve the coordination of work on the prevention and mitigation of the effects of natural disasters in Sweden.

This improved coordination via the NP and the measures that NP members take will make Sweden less vulnerable to natural events and will enhance society's ability to manage natural disasters. The NP is a forum for cooperation and through its operation it supports its members and their target groups at national, regional and local level with input into work on preventing natural disasters and to adapt Sweden to climate change.

The objective is that NP members, and by extension, their target groups at national, regional and local should through the work of the NP experience:

- Increased knowledge of the activities of other entities in this field.
- Better coordinated development and dissemination of knowledge, methods and data in this field.
- An efficient use of resources in this field.
- Increased opportunities for national and international cooperation.
- Tangible benefits of a strong national network.

Assessment of achievement of objective

The assessment is that the activities accounted for in this Activity Report taken together led to the fulfilment of the aim and objective of the NP.

SWEDEN'S NATIONAL PLATFORM

In the appropriation directions to the MSB for 2013, the Swedish Government tasked the MSB with the following assignment:

“The MSB shall be the national focal point for Sweden’s commitments under the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015. The MSB shall also, via a national platform, coordinate national work on disaster risk reduction.”

The MSB represents Sweden in the European and Nordic networks for NPs and focal points. For Swedish policy work in accordance with the HFA the focal point is the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

The NP consists of 20 authorities and organizations, hereafter referred to as *members*. Participation on the NP is voluntary and is principally financed by each member. Sweden’s NP is authority-based and cooperation with other entities is dealt with mainly through reference and working groups. Working groups can be added to work on clearly defined tasks or activities. Reference groups may be established as needed. The MSB finances the NP secretariat and the costs resulting from serving as the HFA focal point. NP work is steered by a three-year action plan, which is updated and decided by the SG annually.

The NP consists of:

- **The Steering Group (SG)**, responsible for the focus and overall steering of the work. It is made up of the Directors General (or equivalent) among the platform members. The SG meets at least once a year.
- **The Authorities’ Network (Auth.Net)**, which carries out the ongoing work of the NP. The network consists of one designated representative per member for which deputies have also been designated. The Auth.Net meets at least four times a year.
- **HFA Focal Point and Secretariat at the MSB**, responsible for international contacts, coordination, communication, reporting and administration of NP work. The secretariat supports both the MSB in its role as HFA focal point and the NP.

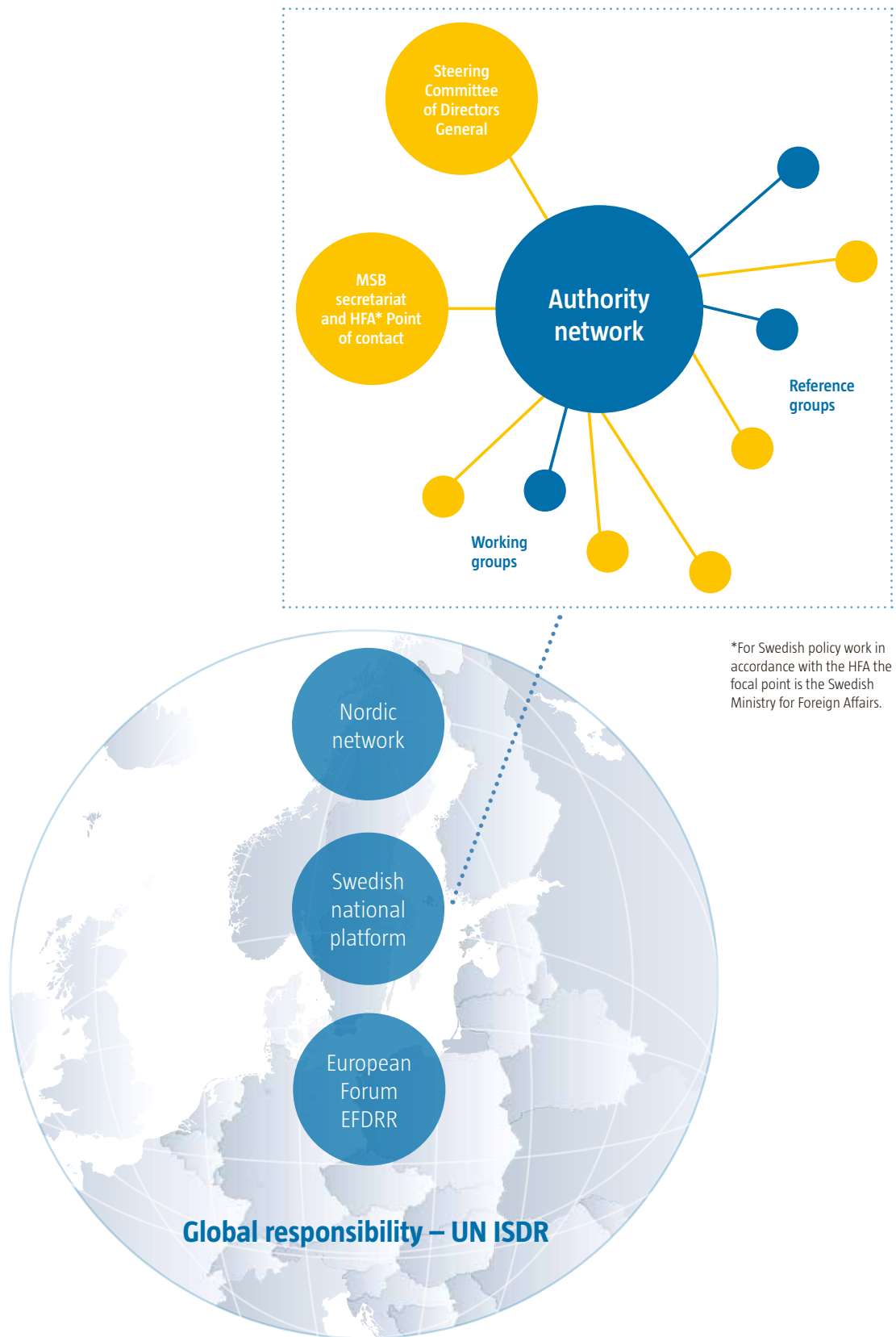


Figure 1. The MSB represents Sweden in the European and Nordic networks for NPs and focal points.

NP activities

Sweden adheres to the Hyogo Declaration and the HFA through the combined work at all levels by all entities in Sweden – authorities, municipalities, CABs, the private sector, voluntary organisations and individuals.

Within the framework of the NP, coordination and cooperation are enhanced between NP members. The activities that members agree to and that are implemented within the framework of the NP add further value to the collective work. Discussions about activities and their implementation strengthen and enhance coordination and cooperation between NP members.

The national reports submitted to the UNISDR every second year present an overall picture of Sweden's work with the HFA. The Activity Report for the NP only presents the activities implemented to enhance coordination and cooperation on the NP, and the activities resulting from the MSB's role as the national HFA focal point.

Focus areas

The focus for NP activities during the period 2013-2015 is on the following natural events:

- Floods, including high flows and rises in sea level.
- Landslides (in soil and bedrock) and coastal and waterway erosion.
- Risks on the increase, such as biological threats, heat waves, ash clouds.

All NP work should take climate change into consideration.

Financing of activities

Activities which normally come under a member's area of responsibility are carried out and financed by that member. Such activities are reported in each member's business plan and Activity Report.

Activities may also be performed as direct interaction between network members. These activities may include, for example, studies, projects or seminars and conferences intended for various target groups. Such activities are financed jointly by the members participating in the activity.

This can also involve, for example, activities for common learning in the network and for strengthening the network as a network. The MSB finances the platform's secretariat and some joint costs. The overall situation regarding NP activities is accounted for in this Activity Report.

Members

During 2013 the NP Auth.Net consisted of the following:

AUTHORITY	REPRESENTATIVE	ALTERNATE
Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning	Anders Rimne	Mirja Ranesköld
Swedish Energy Agency	Urban Bergström	Tony Abajji
Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management	Tomas Johansson	Jessica Hjerpe Olausson
Swedish Board of Agriculture	Catrin Molander	Anja Bertilsson
Lantmäteriet – The Swedish Mapping, Cadastral and Land Registration Authority	Stigbjörn Olovsson	Martin Ehrlén
Swedish National Food Administration	Christina Nordensten	Per Erik Nyström
County Administrative Boards	Gustav Wallhagen	Staffan Edler
Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB)	Mette Lindahl Olsson	Håkan Axelsson
Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	Tor Borinder	Lars Westermark
Swedish Heritage Board	Erika Hedhammar	Camilla Altahr-Cederberg
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency	Patrick Kratt	Vacant
Swedish Forest Agency	Dan Rydberg	Johan Eriksson
Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute	Lena Lindström	Åsa Sjöström
Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare	Vacant	Vacant
Swedish Geotechnical Institute	Bengt Rydell/ Carina Hultén	Karin Lundström
Swedish National Grid	Gunilla Nyberg	Maria Bartsch, Anna Engström Meyer
Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions	Ann-Sofie Eriksson	Emilie Gullberg
Geological Survey of Sweden	Anna Hedenström	Mats Engdahl
Swedish Transport Administration	Håkan Nordlander	Bo Kristofersson

As a trial the Swedish Maritime Administration, represented by Patrik Wiberger, participated at the Auth.Net meetings during the second half of 2013; and the Swedish Maritime Administration became a member of the NP in 2014.

ACTIVITIES

Completed activities

NP meetings

The Auth.Net has held four one-day meetings and one two-day planning-days, which included a field visit to Örebro and Lindesberg municipalities, who hosted the visits; as well as a visit to a previous dam failure in Nyhammar, hosted by Västerbergslagens Kraft. The focus of the field visits was on flooding issues and dam failures resulting from torrential rain. Smaller working groups have been set-up for the activities presented in this Activity Report. In autumn 2013, the Swedish Maritime Administration participated at the Auth.Net meetings.

The SG met on 12 November at the MSB offices in Stockholm. Invited guests were Margaretha Wahlström (the UN Secretary General's Special Representative) and Paola Albrito (the Head of the UNISDR Regional Office for Europe in Brussels).

A draft of the updated Action Plan for the NP period 2014-2015 was presented by the MSB. The SG approved the plan and gave the Auth.Net the mandate to approve (after additions to the activities section) the final version at its first meeting in 2014.



The SG at their meeting at the MSB in November 2013. Back row from the left: Janet Edwards, MSB; Anna Åberg, SGU; Rolf Westerlund, National Board of Housing, Building and Planning; Staffan Norin, Forest Agency; Erik Amrén, National Heritage Board; Björn Risinger, Agency for Marine and Water Management; Bo Krantz, Svenska Kraftnät; Martin Eriksson, Environmental Protection Agency; Anna Öberg, UD; Johan Godin, Ministry of Defence; Magnus Wallhager, Maritime Administration; Ann-Sofie Eriksson, SKL. Front row from Left: Stig Orustfjord, National Food Agency; Mette Lindahl Olsson, MSB; Per Wenner, Transport Administration; Paola Albrito, UNISDR; Åsa-Britt Karlsson, SGI; Margareta Wahlström, UNISDR; Fredrik Körner, Lantmäteriet; Helena Lindberg, MSB; Åke Svensson, MSB. Photo: Johan Eklund

The MSB presented a first draft of the Activity Report. The SG approved the aim and direction of the Activity Report and gave the Auth.Net the mandate to approve (after additions) the final version of the Activity Report at their first meeting in 2014.

Magnus Wallhagen from the Swedish Maritime Administration delivered a presentation on his authority's structure and operation, and also informed the meeting about the work on shallow waterways that is proposed to be implemented by the NP during 2014 and 2015.

The SG endorsed a proposal from the Auth.Net to invite the Swedish Maritime Administration to join the NP as a member from 2014.

The Making Cities Resilient campaign

The purpose of the campaign, which has been run by the UNISDR since 2010, is to support cities around the world in their efforts to implement HFA at local level and to prevent and reduce the effects of natural disasters. The campaign's focus areas for 2012-2015 are:

- Increased knowledge and accountability: Connect more municipalities to the campaign and promote national support for the participating municipalities.
- Invest wisely and build safer: Emphasis on partnership.
- Result: Implementation of city-to-city learning and capacity building, issue handbooks and guidelines
- Reporting: The municipalities are using the self-assessment tool LGSAT to describe their progress with HFA.

In 2013 three more Swedish cities joined the campaign, Malmö and Arvika as rolemodel cities and Jokkmokk as a participating municipality. This means that seven Swedish cities are now officially on the campaign, the other four being: Gothenburg, Jönköping, Karlstad, Kristianstad.

Swedish municipalities and other stakeholders have the opportunity to stay abreast of what is current in the Making Cities Resilient campaign. On the MSB website – <https://www.msb.se/makingcitiesresilient> – there is information about how municipalities can join the campaign, fact sheets and a link to LGSAT, a knowledge bank, conferences, exchanges and links to municipal information on DRR.

The cities included in the campaign met in Kristianstad, 20-21 March 2013 in order to learn from each other's experiences. Participants from Arvika, Gothenburg, Jönköping, Karlstad, Kristianstad, Copenhagen, Malmö, and Vellinge discussed their challenges in creating resilience. The group was taken on a town tour where flood risks, implemented measures and future needs were in focus. The Ministry of Defence's Section for Coordination of Emergency Preparedness participated with a guest lecturer. The MSB attended to inform the meeting about news from the campaign to record the wishes of the municipalities.

The second Making Cities Resilient meeting took place on 14-15 October in Copenhagen, where delegates from Arvika, Karlstad, Malmö, Gothenburg, Kristianstad and Vellinge studied climate change adaptation measures.

Studies of the effects of sea level rises using the national elevation model

During 2012-2013 the following four studies were performed on the effects of sea level rises using Lantmäteriet's new more accurate national elevation height model:

Study 1: Use during studies of the impact on vital societal functions activities.

Study 2: Use during planning, protection and the prioritizing cultural assets.

Study 3: Use during studies of beach erosion along the coast.

Study 4: Use during assessment of erosion and stability close to watercourses.

This work, funded by the MSB's 2:4 Emergency Preparedness grant, was conducted in conjunction with Lantmäteriet, the MSB, SMHI, SGI, SKL, SGU and the Swedish Transport Administration. The results of the studies have been published as PDF reports while a single main report has been published in the NP report series.

Introduction of risk inventorying using the national elevation model

The project has concentrated efforts on including the results from the pre-study and main study *Road Risk Inventorying using the National Elevation Model* and other databases. In addition, GIS data has been presented and tested in two additional areas, to clarify usability during nationwide inventorying. Continued development in the form of cartographic adaptation etc. has not been implemented to the extent planned.

Implementation has been achieved via the printing and dissemination of reports, *Road Risk Inventorying Using the National Elevation Model* (MSB624) and *Risk Inventorying and Physical Planning Supported by Accurate Elevation Data* (MSB625), directed information to personnel working with climate change adaptation and emergency preparedness at the CABs, participation in the CNDS Forum for natural disasters and targeted information to selected personnel at the Swedish Transport Administration.

The production of new analyses and testing of usability have been implemented in the Sundsvall and Norrköping operating areas.

Establishment of a geotechnical sector portal

The geotechnical sector portal was established during the year with databases at SGI, Swedish Transport Administration and in Stockholm. Activities included introduction of the portal via support from and information to users and suppliers of information to the portal. A number of presentations were made in conjunction with other organizations' meetings and in November an information day was held for, among others, authorities, municipalities

and geotechnical consultants. Cooperation was established with geotechnical industry representatives to clarify the responsibilities and rights on the time of delivery and the use of information from the portal. The system is now running and further work aims to involve additional suppliers of data and to progressively add more surveys to the portal.

Pre-study of the measurement of shallow water bottoms

About five years ago, the SGU realised that Lidar technology (Light detection and ranging) for measuring bottoms in the shallow areas of watercourses could be useful for their marine and soil geological projects. The method was first presented to the Auth.Net's members at a meeting in autumn 2012. During the meeting, the proposal received wide support.

The Auth.Net found that the need for high-resolution data over the shallow coastal zone is of importance not only for detecting and calculating erosion damage but is also a prerequisite for the creation of reliable flood and propagation modeling as well as for analysis of the climate's impact on the sea level. At the same time the Auth.Net noted that the Maritime Administration has expertise in this area and that jointly with the Swedish Armed Forces had owned their own Lidar system between 1995 and 2002. The Maritime Administration was therefore invited to an Auth.Net meeting of the agency during the autumn of 2013 for discussions prior to an application.

After the Maritime Administration presented their experiences of Lidar technology and the challenges faced in measuring shallow waters, the Auth.Net agreed that the direction of the application should be broadened to include several measuring methods.



From the left: Bengt Rydell, SGI, Mats Öberg, SGI and Stigbjörn Olovsson, Lantmäteriet have been the driving force behind the establishment of the geotechnical sector portal. The portal was presented at an information day in November to Sweden's municipalities and CABS. Photo: Åke Svensson

The purpose of the project was set also to carry out a study of methods to identify cost effective tools for measuring the shallow waters of the coastal zone as well as lakes and watercourses to a depth of about 10 metres. The Maritime Administration was asked to take part in the work along with Lantmäteriet, SGU and SGI. This cooperation resulted in an application for emergency preparedness funds from the MSB for: *Study of Methods for collection technology for the shallow waters of the Swedish coastal zone, lakes and watercourses*, to which several of the Auth.Net's members registered an interest in participating.

At the SG meeting in November 2013 the application was presented by the Maritime Administration. The SG was unanimous in its discussion that this is a key activity in ongoing efforts to create a national database with high-quality geographic data for, among other purposes, work to prevent natural disasters. With high-quality depth data from shallow areas along Swedish coasts, the large lakes and perhaps also the large rivers, national elevation data from Lantmäteriet can be bonded together with such data into a seamless national geodata sheet.

The application was granted in December 2013 and the project will be conducted during 2014 and 2015.

Pre-study of nature adapted erosion prevention

A pre-study has been initiated by the SGI in conjunction with the Agency for Marine and Water Management, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Transport Administration. A study of literature was completed to compile the level of knowledge on the subject in Sweden and internationally. A study was conducted by the Bundesanstalt für Wasserbau (BAW) in Germany, which has produced different types of vegetation protection tested along the shores of the Rhine. BAW has also conducted extensive research in the laboratory and its own testing facilities. The results will be compiled in a report in 2014 with suggestions for further work, including full-scale trials for Swedish watercourses.

Development of contingency plans for local inspection authorities

The National Food Agency in conjunction with the MSB, National Board of Health and Welfare, the CABs of Dalarna, Västra Götaland, Stockholm, and the municipalities of Sigtuna, Norrköping and Kramfors produced a basic document in support of the work of local inspection authorities to produce effective contingency plans. The data can be used for crisis management, or in a modified format to suit their own municipal contingency plans. All documents, checklists and templates are available on the National Food Agency's website. The aim is to strengthen the abilities of local inspection authorities for managing different types of crises that can affect drinking water and foodstuffs. The material is aimed primarily at operations ma-

nagers, who are responsible for implementing preparatory measures and for people and functions that will lead and coordinate work during disruptions and crises. The documents can, in many parts, also provide inspiration for the work of drinking water and foodstuff producers on their own contingency plans. The project is being run with the support of funds from the MSB.

Monitoring of the climate change adaptation task

The basis for the previously published report, *Climate Change Adaptation in Sweden - An Overview (MSB214 - August 2010)* was updated by the SMHI during autumn 2012. A quality review of the material was carried out in 2013. The examined material has since been published on the Climate Change Adaptation Portal (www.klimatanpassning.se) under the tab "Roles and responsibilities". The responsibility for keeping the information updated turns now to the National Centre for Climate Change Adaptation at the SMHI who will be responsible for updating in conjunction with the support of the Auth.Net.

Forum for Natural Disasters held

Cooperation between researchers, the private sector and practitioners at all levels is a prerequisite if we are to meet the challenges of natural emergencies and disasters effectively. The *Forum for Natural Disasters* is an annual meeting place provided by the *Centre for Natural Disaster Science (CNDS)* at Uppsala University. In 2013 the Forum was held on 16 October at the Swedish National Defence College in Stockholm, with the theme *Cooperation - for better impact in the community*. During the day about 80 participants from academia, authorities and the private sector gathered to listen to lectures, to network and to participate in group discussions. The Forum was co-arranged by the CNDS and the NP. Åke Svensson, MSB, was the moderator.

Development of NP communication

NP communication work has continued to evolve; a strategy and a plan were adopted at the Auth.Net meeting in Säfsen in May 2013. Parts of the material have been added to the Action Plan's chapter on communication. The communication plan will be continuously developed as a standing item on the agenda for Auth.Net meetings. All activities should contain planned communication and the strategy is to deliver the message via communication from NP activities, for example, through the dissemination of reports, seminars and the like. Work on an overhaul of the graphic profile and NP presentation material has begun.



The Auth.Net's annual planning days were held in Säfsen, Dalarna with field visits to Lindesberg (bottom) and Nyhammar (above left). Photo: Åke Svensson

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Cooperation in the Nordic countries

The focal points in the Nordic countries met informally in connection with the global platform (GP) meeting in Geneva and at the EFDRR meeting in Oslo. During discussions at these meetings, the format for continued Nordic cooperation was the prime topic of discussion. The issue of also adding Denmark and Iceland to the network of focal points and platforms was also on the agenda.

Sweden have had a dialogue with to Denmark and Iceland and provided information about the Nordic cooperation and the Swedish NP.

An exchange between the network for the Nordic NPs and a number of Nordic cities in the Making Cities Resilient campaign was discussed at an informal meeting at the GP meeting in Geneva. Sweden undertook to prepare a concept for such a meeting. The concept has been shared but is dormant until further notice.

Cooperation in Europe

The UNISDR is running a project funded by the EU as part of the IPA programme (Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance). Part of the project enables countries in the Balkans to make a field visit to a country in the EU that works efficiently with DRR. Mr. Predrag Maric, deputy minister and head of crisis management in Serbia, and Mr. Ivan Baras, deputy director for inter-



The MSB was visited in October by a delegation from Serbia. From the left: Mette Lindahl Olsson, MSB; Åke Svensson, MSB; Predrag Maric, Serbia; Ivan Baras, Serbia; Cecilia Nystrom, MSB.
Photo: Janet Edwards

national cooperation and HFA focal point visited the MSB on 1-3 October to learn about Swedish experience from the implementation of the HFA.

Austria's HFA focal point, Dr. Michael Staudinger - Director General of the Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie und Geodynamik (ZAMG) and several prospective NP members visited the MSB on 27-28 August.

The host for the meeting was MSB Director General Helena Lindberg, the other participants were: Karin Lundström, SGI; Anna Hedenström SGU; Åsa Sjöström and Frederick Linde, SMHI; Fredric Jonsson, Jönköping Municipality and NP secretariat. The meeting was very productive for all involved.



A delegation from Austria visited the MSB in August. The delegation was led by Dr. Michael Staudinger, director general of ZAMG (right). The visit was hosted MSB Director General Helena Lindberg (left). Photo: Åke Svensson

UNISDR visit to Sweden

The MSB contributed to the preparatory work at the Swedish Government Offices for a bilateral meeting on 13 November between the Swedish Minister for Defence Karin Enström and Margareta Wahlström, SRSG (Special Representative of the Secretary General) for DRR. The meeting discussed the importance of participation at the world conference on DRR in Sendai, Japan from 14 to 19 March 2015 and a post-2015 framework for DRR.

Margareta Wahlström was also one of the high-level speakers at the *Meeting Place Societal Safety* which was held on 13-14 November. At the conference she encouraged all stakeholders to get involved in the implementation of the HFA.

At a session about future cities at the same conference, Paola Albrito, Director of the UNISDR's European Office, informed listeners about the Global Assessment Report on DRR and the Making Cities Resilient campaign. Mette Lindahl Olsson, MSB led the session at which the Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning and Länsförsäkringar (insurance company) lectured to over 60 listeners.

EFDRR

The fourth meeting of the EFDRR was held in Oslo on 23-25 September. 67 HFA focal points and NP representatives from 28 countries attended. Sweden was represented by HFA focal point Mette Lindahl Olsson and Åke Svensson and Janet Edwards from the NP Secretariat. The new chair for the EFDRR after Norway is Spain. Patricia Pires, HFA focal point in Portugal, took over as the new chair of the working group for Implementation of the HFA at local level, in which Sweden remains involved.

Post-2015 meetings

Margareta Wahlström's advisory group for post-2015 activities (*HFA Advisory Group*), on which Sweden's focal point Mette Lindahl Olsson is included along with representatives from all continents, NGOs, researchers and the EU Commission, met in the spring to plan for their attendance at the fourth GP meeting. The HFA Advisory Group also met on 26-29 November with representatives from the private sector, MPs, researchers and UNISDR employees. The conclusions of the group's work will contribute to the formulation of a draft for a post-2015 framework.



Sweden participated in the fourth meeting of the EFDRR, held in Oslo in September. Pictured is Sweden's HFA focal point Mette Lindahl Olsson, MSB (far left). In the foreground Janet Edwards, MSB, international coordinator for Sweden's NP is talking to European colleagues on a field visit to Nansen Park in Oslo. Photo: Åke Svensson

For input to the formulation of an EU-position on Post HFA 2015 the EU Commission organized a post-2015 dialogue meeting on 16 December in Brussels. This was attended by nearly 70 people from various countries, NGOs, UN bodies and the EU Commission, among others. Mette Lindahl Olsson, MSB, represented Sweden at the meeting and presented the results from Sweden's dialogue on Post HFA 2015. Sweden was one of the first countries in Europe and as early as in December 2012 conducted the first national dialogue on what should be included in the future framework for DRR.

Cooperation in Europe - local level

International exchanges and field visits

Jönköping Municipality, Jönköping County Administrative Board and the MSB visited Austria in January to participate in an exchange of risk assessments with Lienz and Tyrol municipalities. The exchange was funded by the EU's Exchange of Experts programme.

The NP Secretariat organized two exchanges on landslides and landslide risk assessments between Ancona, Italy and Sweden (MSB, SGI, Transport Administration, Sollefteå Municipality). The Swedish experts visited Ancona on 21-25 April and the Italian experts visited the area around Göta Älv, Chalmers and Sollefteå on 27-31 May.

The EU's Exchange of Experts Programme financed both visits. In addition, the following also participated: Göran Sällfors, professor of geotechnical engineering at Chalmers University; Michael Berglund chairman of the municipal council for Ale Municipality and planners and geotechnicians from Ale.

Swedish participation at international conferences

Bjorn Gutafson, Urban Management Office, Stockholm; Jonathan Jurisso, 4C Strategies, Petra Lundberg from Malmö and Janet Edwards, MSB participated in the international conference organized by the International Conference for Local Governments for Sustainability. The conference was held in Bonn, Germany, from 31 May to 2 June.

Ulf Moback represented Gothenburg during the International Water Week in Amsterdam on 4-8 November 2013. Ulf spoke about the challenges that Gothenburg is exposed to, and the measures that have been taken and should be taken. When Making Cities Resilient municipalities are active at the international level it leads to new knowledge and networks.

In this case Gothenburg got some insight into the network Delta Cities, which among others includes: Rotterdam, Jakarta, Ho Chi Minh City, Tokyo, New Orleans, New York, Copenhagen, London, Hong Kong and Melbourne.

The newspaper *Miljöaktuellt* (Environmental News) in cooperation with SKL, SMHI, the National Food Agency and SGI arranged the conference *Climate Change Adaptation Sweden 2013*. The conference was held on 25 September in Stockholm. During the conference the 200 or so participants got the chance

to develop their knowledge and learn various strategies for climate change adaptation work. They were given an overview of the latest research findings and tools for climate change adaptation and work at the county and municipal levels. Åsa Sjöström, SMHI Director of the National Centre for Climate Change Adaptation delivered a lecture. Emilie Gullberg, SKL, led the session entitled *Resilient Cities - Experiences across city boundaries*. During this session Margareta Nisser-Larson, MSB, informed the participants about support to municipalities for natural disaster prevention and how municipalities can participate in the UN's Making Cities Resilient campaign. Ulf Moback, Göteborg Municipality and Erica Storkenfeldt, Jönköping Municipality lectured on efforts to build up resilience against natural disasters.

Therése Ehrnstén, climate change adaptation coordinator in Skåne County and her colleagues at the CAB applied for and received government funding (2:4 emergency management grant) for a field visit on the problem of flooding in Netherlands and Germany. The MSB mediated contact and more than 50 people participated in the study visit, which took place on 17-20 September 2013.



A group from Skåne County Administrative Board made a field visit to Netherlands and Germany in September to study flooding problems. The MSB mediated contact and funding for the visit.

Cooperation globally

Global Partnership for the Making Cities Resilient campaign

Janet Edwards, MSB, participated with other stakeholders who support the campaign for Making Cities Resilient (MCR) in a partner meeting held on 4 to 5 April in Barcelona. The purpose was to plan future steps of this world-wide campaign. The meeting was an excellent opportunity to make contacts with DRR experts in other regions and discuss opportunities for future exchanges at the local level.

Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GP for DRR)

The year's biggest global event was the UN's fourth GP meeting for DRR held in Geneva on 19-23 May 2013. The GP meeting in 2013 was an opportunity to discuss progress concerning adoption of the HFA 2005-2015 and to discuss the content of the post-2015 framework and the way forward to it. The meeting attracted over 3,500 participants from 173 countries. There were participants from national delegations, ambassadors, ministers, UN agencies, NGOs, academic institutions and the private sector. Over 170 official workshops and sessions were held.

The Swedish delegation

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (UD) led the Swedish delegation. The following MSB personnel participated: Helena Lindberg, director-general and chair of the SG of the Swedish NP for DRR. Mette Lindahl Olsson, MSB, Head of Natural Hazards & Critical Infrastructure Section and national HFA focal point. Janet Edwards, NP international coordinator. Åke Svensson, NP national coordinator. Anneli Bergholm Söder, MSB, Head of Coordination & Operations Dept. Frederik Frisell, operations manager for DRR and Leif Jönsson, DRR project manager.

Other participants on the Swedish delegation included: the Minister for Development Cooperation Gunilla Carlsson, who participated in the High Level Meeting and Anna Westerholm, Assistant Head of UD-MU who delivered Sweden's official speeches. Also from UD Anna Öberg, Ministry Secretary, Johan Pålsgård, First Secretary for UD in Geneva, Ameli Langby, intern at UD in Geneva. Other Swedish participants not on the official delegation included: Patrik Kratt, – Sida; Bengt Sundelius, - MSB/FHS; Åsa Sjöström, – SMHI; Sven Halldin, Klas Hjort - CNDS, Uppsala University; Fredrik Bylander - CNDS, FHS; Magnus Hagelsten, Marcus Abrahamsson - Lund University and representatives from the Swedish Red Cross; PLAN International and some consultants.

Karlstad Municipality sent its own separate delegation and also delivered an official speech and participated in the specific events for local politicians. The municipality's delegation consisted of Peter Kullgren - Councillor, Ulf Nyqvist - Assistant Municipal Manager.



From the left: Åke Svensson - MSB, participated in the planning and implementation of a workshop on information and knowledge management at the GP meeting. Responsible for the workshop were Sarah Wade Apicella and Craig Duncan, both from the ISDR.

Participation in meetings and sessions

Bilateral meetings were held between the MSB and government representatives from Japan, Austria and Serbia. Elizabeth Longworth, new Director of the UNISDR, chaired the dialogue meeting with representatives from the world's NPs. MSB Director General Helena Lindberg led the second part of the meeting and gave a speech on NPs as a hub for coordinating both horizontally and vertically to gather stakeholders. Mette Lindahl Olsson informed the meeting about the Swedish national post-2015 dialogue meeting and Janet Edwards informed the meeting about the process for the *Review of National Platforms* that was carried out during 2012-2013.

Åke Svensson, MSB, participated in the planning and implementation of a workshop on information and knowledge management in the DRR. The workshop was organized by the UNISDR and attracted over 50 participants from several countries and included representatives from government agencies, private operators and various organizations.

The workshop discussed a common framework for portals, databases and other forms of information and knowledge management. An important aspect was to provide each other with various examples and experiences and discuss common challenges. Åsa Sjöström - SMHI, was specifically invited to share experiences from Sweden's creation of *klimatanpassning.se* (climate change adaptation website) and the new knowledge centre at the SMHI. Åsa is a member of the Auth.Net of the Swedish NP and so was also able account for the support the NP gave to the SMHI during creation of the aforementioned.

Representatives for NPs and HFA focal points from Europe were invited to the planning and follow-up meeting for cooperation in the EFDRR. The meeting was chaired by the EFDRR chairman in 2013, Dag Olav Hög-vold - DSB in Norway. Paola Albrito, head of the UNISDR European Office presented the European compilation based on the national reports for the period 2011-2013. Mette Lindahl Olsson presented experiences from the Swedish National HFA consultation which was held in November 2012. Mette also lectured at a session on standards for risk management and responsibilities for business and citizens.

Sasakawa Award to Karlstad and the MSB

Two of the world's most disaster-prone countries shared the *Sasakawa Awards* first prize. These were the municipal government in the municipality of Belo Horizonte in Brazil and NARRI in Bangladesh, an organization created for risk reduction. Karlstad Municipality and the MSB received the *Sasakawa Awards Letter of Merit* for their work: *Acting as One for Disaster Risk Reduction*. Mr. Yohei Sasakawa and Margareta Wahlström presented the award for cooperation and efforts to produce decision-making data, increasing disaster awareness, particularly about flooding, use of social media and flood-plain walks.



Field visits to and from other regions

Civil Protection Director Moagi Baleseng, Director General Nkosiyabo Moyo and DRR project manager Maeletso Miles Pego from the Botswana National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) visited the MSB in Stockholm on 2-5 December.



The MSB was visited in December by a delegation from the Botswana National Disaster Management Office. The visit was hosted by Olivia Forsberg (centre) from the MSB's Coordination & Operations Department.

The exchange took place within the framework of a Sida funded capacity development project. The MSB's Coordination & Operations Department arranged the programme, which consisted of information on all phases of DRR and national and international work. The MSB also presented Sweden's work with the NP and support for prevention work at municipalities, including climate change adaptation.

International conferences and courses

From 8-10 July in Rome Erika Hedhammar from the National Heritage Board attended the international program development meeting; *Improving Capacity to Protect Cultural Heritage from Disasters*, which is part of ICCROM. The meeting resulted in, for example, that three focus areas were identified: building up knowledge, improving interaction between cultural heritage and DRR and holding more exercises.

On 3-4 December 2013 the Armenian NP held a conference in Yerevan on *Public Awareness as a Cornerstone for Disaster Risk Reduction*. Lotta Nyman and Christina Andersson, both from the MSB lectured on how risks can be reduced through practice and training in schools and the challenge of communicating risk to the public. The advantage of this event was that the MSB participants learned about work in this field ongoing in Japan, Iran, UK, Serbia, USA and others, and were able to make valuable contacts with colleagues from other countries.

Education and training are essential components of DRR as knowledge of methods is spread. The Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South-Eastern Europe (DPPI SEE) held a DRR course on 16-20 September in Tuhelj, Croatia. Janet Edwards, MSB, talked about Sweden's DRR efforts at national and local level.



Lotta Nyman and Christina Andersson from the MSB's Safety of the Individual Section lectured in December in Armenia at the Public Awareness as a Cornerstone for Disaster Risk Reduction conference, which was arranged by the Armenian NP.

REPORTING TO THE UNISDR

National reporting to the UNISDR on Sweden's implementation of the HFA, is conducted every second years. Sweden has reported in 2008, 2010 and 2012. The NPs will report in 2014 and this will be the last within the framework of HFA 2005-2015.

The UNISDR has requested a report from the local level and encouraged all model cities in the Making Cities Resilient campaign to use the Local Government Self-Assessment Tool (LGSAT). LGSAT is used to assess how work is progressing to create resilience for the negative consequences of natural events. Self-assessment tools have been translated into Swedish.

Four municipalities, Arvika, Karlstad, Gothenburg, and Malmö have during the year used the tool and answered all the questions. The UNISDR has prepared a report summarizing the progress of the municipalities in their DRR work and challenges. This has been achieved by employing a consultant, Åse Johannessen from the Stockholm Environment Institute. The report was presented during the GP meeting.

ECONOMY

The MSB has shouldered costs for the work involved in acting as Sweden's HFA focal point and also for the NP Secretariat, administration, overall information, communication and implementation of the Auth.Net's annual field visits and SG meeting. Other authorities and organisations have covered their own costs for participation.

For the financial year 2013, HFA focal point and NP operation (Secretariat and activities) were financed by the MSB to the tune of SEK 800,000. The authorities included have paid for their own time and travel costs. The authorities that hosted the Auth.Net meetings and the SG meeting have paid for the cost of refreshments at these meetings.

Activities initiated within the NP have been funded by agreements in the Auth.Net for each particular case, via cooperation with other organizations (in Sweden or internationally) or through participation fees.

Activities within the framework of the HFA that is within an authority's regular responsibilities are carried out and financed by the authority in question and are not accounted for in this Activity Report.



Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency



Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management



SGU Sveriges geologiska undersökning Geological Survey of Sweden



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