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# **Benchmarking, implementation of WP1 and WP2 for other border areas**

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## 1 Introduction

South Karelian Rescue Department (SKRD) and Kymenlaakso Rescue Department (KYRD) had a significant role in implementation of WP1 and WP2 results. The Rescue Act in Finland consists of 22 rescue departments. Rescue Departments have several regional and national networks, which were utilized in implementation of the results. Departments have national expert networks in different matters such as safety communication and housing security. In South Karelia and Kymenlaakso there is also a committees for preparedness and safety. Rescue departments cooperate with other authorities and with local residents and communities in the prevention of accidents and maintenance of security.

Here is list of all the events, that Rescue Departments participated during the project and in which they implemented WP1 and/or WP2 results.

- Lahti Science Day 18.11.2021
- Dissemination seminar 13.4.2022
- National Safety event in Porvoo 19.-20.5.2022
- National Research and Development days in Kuopio 8.-9.6.2022
- ROV-practices in Rescue Departments
  - 25.5.2022 ROV presentation/training for KYRD staff
  - 2.6.2022 ROV presentation/training for KYRD staff
  - 22.6.2022 ROV presentation/training for KYRD staff
  - 21.7.2022 ROV training for SKRD staff
  - 30.8.2022 ROV presentation in Savitaipale
  - 7.9.2022 ROV presentation in Saimaa Canal (accident drill)
  - 8.9.2022 ROV training with WP2 (VR-HYPO team)
  - 14.9.2022 ROV training in Taipalsaari
- VR-HYPO tour in South Karelia Rescue Department
  - 27.-30.9.2022 in Luumäki, Simpele, Armila, Lavola, Ratakatu, Imatra fire stations

- VR-HYPO presentation in Kymenlaakso Rescue Department 2.11.2022
- Final Seminar 16.11.2022

How the implementation was done in practice is described in the next chapter. Due to COVID-19, budget amendments and other situational factors, trips and visits to other border areas were not made during the project.

## 2 Implementation of results

WP3 staff interviewed in 2021 five different rescue departments, that all have border lines. Also Ministry of the Interior, The Finnish Border Guard in southeast, Finnish Custom and Emergency response centre Agency were interviewed. In the Dissemination Seminar 13th of April all the interviewed organizations got information about WP1 and WP2. The parties were informed about the videos for travellers, the purchases of ROV and UAS, simulation in virtual environment and CDE system.

WP2 results were also shared in two seminars held in Porvoo and Kuopio. Seminars were national and directed to the Rescue Act as whole and key partners. Participants were around Finland also from the other border areas. Seminars and events like these has been one of the key channels to share information about CB Safe. The information sharing started already in the first year of the project, when project team participated to Lahti Science Day.

SKRD staff had their own opportunity to try VR-HYPO in five different fire stations around South Karelia. The tour had approximately 40 participants. KYRD organized VR-HYPO presentation for their staff on 2nd of November.

ROV-practices and presentations reached in total approximately 50 people in 4 different occasions in SKRD, as listed in the introduction. ROV-device was also taken into one public event, Imatra Day, to reach local citizens interest. KYRD estimated that atleast 20 mebers of theri staff were reached in ROV presentations and trainings.

WP1 safety videos were published in SKRD and KYRD Youtube-accounts. Videos will be integrated to annual wheel in communication plans in both organizations. Material was also send for utilization to border officials.

SKRD & KYRD assembled a newsletter (Annex 1.) of WP1 and WP2 main results. Newsletter was send to all Rescue Departments on 24th of October. Newsletter had three key points about ROV, VR-HYPO and safety videos and was one of the most important channel to implement results. There was also a mention in the letter that all Rescue Departments have the opportunity to get VR-HYPO to their use by contacting the project manager Tarja Kovalev. In the beginning of November, one rescue deparment showed their interest.

The invitation for the final seminar in November was shared in the newsletter and several emails to different officials, also in Karelia and Kolarctic areas. The invitation was send to the following parties:

- County associations (South Karelia, Kolarctic and North Karelia)
- All rescue departments
- Customs
- Border security (Kainuu, North Karelia, Lapland, South East)
- Emergency center
- Association of Finnish Municipalities
- Representative of Ministry of the Interior
- Emergency services college

Other rescue departments were reached also by social media, with several posts in Instagram and project staffs own accounts.

### 3 Conclusions

SKRD and KYRD implemented CB Safe project results in various ways; in social media, national events and local networks. WP3-staff organized practices, created user manuals and programmes and shared a newsletter to ensure the implementation of results. The focus in implementation of results were intentionally directed to South-Karelia and Kymenlaakso border-areas since the project consisted of new, unfamiliar themes for Rescue Departments in this project.

Other border areas did not have any similar projects in progress during CB Safe. For example SKRD and KYRD were the first Rescue Departments in Finland to have ROV-equipment. Other officials, such as Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency, police and The Finnish Defense Forces, were also really interested of the new technology. Also VR-HYPO simulation is a new way to train management and operative leadership in accident situations. Emergency Services college has similar programs in development and the plan is in the future to co-operate in the matter. SKRD and KYRD were in key role in promoting VR HYPO for other Rescue Departments.

What comes to safety videos for travellers, we have lived exceptional times in the southeast border area and elsewhere in Finland. The implementation of videos for tourists has not been as affective as it would have been without any worldwide crises. The plan for future is to share safety videos even further and use them yearly in Rescue Departments communication and social media. Traffic in border area still continues and sharing safety information is relevant no matter the state of affairs.

The safety videos created in this project were different from other safety information and videos since the purpose was to keep the videos short, informative and without a narrator. Travellers have not been taking into special consideration previously in video production of Rescue Departments.

In CB Safe-project Rescue Departments had the opportunity to get professional knowledge from other fields and disciplines into development of risk management and accident prevention. Thanks to the project SKRD and KYRD can act as reference for others in many new, innovative matters in the future. The project has also generated new ways to co-operate with officials in the border areas.



## Annex 1. Newsletter of WP1 and WP2 results for Rescue Departments

# CB SAFE – UUTISKIRJE

*Cross Border Safety -hanke (2021-2022) on LAB-ammattikorkeakoulun, Etelä-Karjalan pelastuslaitoksen sekä Kymenlaakson pelastuslaitoksen yhteinen projekti, jonka tavoitteena on lisätä rajaa ylittävien ihmisten tietoutta ja taitoja turvallisuusasioissa sekä parantaa raja-alueilla tehtävää yhteistyötä. Tällä uutiskirjeellä jaamme tietoa hankkeessa saavutetuista tuloksista.*



## ROV - SUKELLUSDRONE

Etelä-Karjalan ja Kymenlaakson pelastuslaitosten kalusto täydentyi kesällä 2022 sukellusdroneilla. Laitetta voidaan käyttää etsintä- ja tarkastus- ja tiedustelutehtävillä esimerkiksi alus- tai ympäristövahinkojen sattuessa. Lisäksi ROVilla voidaan kuvata vedenalaisia rakenteita ennakoivasti riskienhallinnan tueksi.

Sukellusdronea ohjataan peliohjaimella ja sen kaapeli ulottuu 150 m syvyyteen. Tehokkaat LED-valot lisäävät näkyvyyttä syvissä vesissä.

## VR-HYPO

LAB-ammattikorkeakoulun tieto- ja viestintätekniikan opiskelijat ovat kehittäneet hankkeessa virtuaalisen harjoitteluympäristön pelastustoimen operatiiviseen johtamiseen.

Ympäristö mahdollistaa tulevaisuudessa erilaisten onnettomuuskenaarioiden muokkaamisen ja kehittämisen sekä monipaikkaisen harjoittelun.

VR-HYPOa jaetaan myös muiden pelastuslaitosten käyttöön. Mikäli haluat ohjelmiston työpaicallesi, ota yhteys projektipäällikkö Tarja Kovaleviin marraskuun 2022 aikana.

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## VIDEOT MATKUSTAJILLE

Hankepartnerit ovat työstäneet yhteistyössä turvallisuusvideoita matkustajille ja muulle yleisölle. Turvallisuusaiheiksi valikoituivat muun muassa heikot jäät ja veneilyn turvallisuus. Videot tulevat jakoon vuoden 2022 aikana. Tästä pääset lukemaan, miten turvallisuusvideoita ideoitii LABilla yhdessä sosionomiopiskelijoiden kanssa.

## Tervetuloa hankkeen loppuseminaariin

16.11. klo 12:15-15:15 Lappeenrantaan,  
LUT-yliopistoon (Yliopistonkatu 34).

Ilmoittaudu loppuseminaariin  
8.11. mennessä tästä.