RESPONSE

Response to Radiological and Nuclear Incidents Training

This training course is designed for investigators and other relevant personnel with responsibility for the initial operational management of crime scenes involving nuclear or other radiological materials.

The course helps participants understand the risks and challenges associated with working in a radiological crime scene environment. Understanding the roles and responsibilities involved, and working with radiation detection and personal protection equipment is practised. Participants are also trained to recover and properly manage contaminated evidence.

INVESTIGATION

Cross-Border Radiological and Nuclear Investigations and Coordination Workshop

Conducting international investigations presents unique challenges such as variations in legislation and lack of communication. This workshop aims to identify, assess and address areas for improvement in a country’s ability to coordinate investigations into the smuggling of nuclear or other radioactive materials. It includes modules on scientific support, case studies, and uses tabletop exercises to enhance law enforcement’s ability to coordinate investigations internationally.

RESOURCES

Videos

- INTERPOL CBRNE video
- INTERPOL Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism Prevention Unit video

Publications

- CBRNE First Responders Awareness Card
- Public messages to be used in the immediate response to a CBRN attack
- E-learning module - Radiological & Nuclear Terrorism Prevention & Response Course
ABOUT INTERPOL

Connecting police for a safer world

INTERPOL is the world’s largest international police organization, with 192 member countries. Our role is to enable police around the world to work together to make the world a safer place. Our high-tech infrastructure of technical and operational support helps meet the growing challenges of fighting crime in the 21st century.

Only through international cooperation can police hope to tackle today’s criminals. We work to ensure that police around the world can instantly share and access the relevant data necessary to assist their investigations through secure communications channels. We facilitate police cooperation even when diplomatic relations do not exist between particular countries, in line with INTERPOL’s objective of political neutrality.

The targeted training, expert investigative support and global networks offered by INTERPOL help police on the ground to coordinate their efforts to make the world a safer place.
RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR TERRORISM

MARCH 2018
THE THREAT OF RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR TERRORISM

Nuclear and other radioactive materials have benefited society in areas of medicine, agriculture, industry and the provision of energy. There is a risk, however, that nuclear or other radioactive materials could be used in terrorism or other criminal acts.

The detonation of an improvised nuclear device (IND), radiological dispersal device (RDD), or the placing of a radiological exposure device (RED) would lead to devastating consequences. Such incidents would damage human health and the environment, create panic, and affect economic and political stability.

What INTERPOL is doing

INTERPOL has established the Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosives and Vulnerable Targets (CBRNE & VT) sub-directorate, supported by an analytical unit that produces country and regional assessments, compiles reports and provides information that offers direction for targeted activities.

The Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism Prevention Unit (RNTPU) within the CBRNE & VT sub-directorate focuses on the development and delivery of projects designed to raise awareness on the availability and vulnerability of radiological and nuclear materials, and in turn improve the capability and capacity of member countries to prevent, detect, respond and investigate terrorist and criminal acts involving these materials.

Using a multi-agency approach, the RNTPU activities promote relationship-building, information sharing, and encourages the development of joint agency response plans. This goal is achieved by bringing together representatives from police, customs, border security agencies, science, academia, regulatory bodies, government ministries and other relevant organizations.
TARGETED SUPPORT

GEIGER ANALYTICAL DATABASE

The Geiger database collates law enforcement data collected by INTERPOL from various sources of information. It is an invaluable resource for analyzing patterns and trends, potential risks and threats, routes, methods, weaknesses, and vulnerabilities.

INTERPOL can help member countries investigate terrorist or criminal acts involving radiological and nuclear materials through conducting searches of the Geiger database, INTERPOL's Criminal Information System (ICIS) database or issuing INTERPOL notices. Moreover, it contributes to the publication of the CBRNE Bi-Monthly Digest that informs countries on the current threats and trends in CBRNE incidents.

As part of the expansion of the Geiger analytical database, INTERPOL is establishing Geiger working groups, aimed at bringing together law enforcement, counter terrorism specialists, crime analysts, border police and other relevant representatives to identify information gaps in nuclear and radiological crime. By hosting regional working groups to present analytical reports, share case studies, and identify common areas of concern, they can help facilitate coordination between countries to investigate crime, identify trends, detect and prevent future nuclear or other radiological incidents. Information shared from these working groups contributes to the data in the Geiger analytical database.
TABLETOP EXERCISE

A tabletop exercise is developed to test a country’s current capabilities and identify areas for improvement. The exercise tests multi-agency coordination mechanisms, identifies requirements for scientific support, validates practices to share information, and use of INTERPOL’s policing capabilities. After identification of a country’s capability gaps, the following additional training courses can be delivered in areas of prevention, detection, response and investigation.

PREVENTION

Risk Identification and Mitigation Workshop

In order to prevent terrorists from acquiring radiological materials, it is crucial that law enforcement work together with nuclear regulators and operators, representatives from health, academia and other relevant personnel with responsibility for the storage, use, transport and disposal of radiological and nuclear material within their country.

This workshop establishes a multi-agency threat and risk assessment process, resulting in a law enforcement-led, countermeasures programme designed to detect, deter and disrupt access to materials by non-state actors.

Mitigating Insider Threat and Enhancing Security of Materials

This course focuses on developing awareness of the threat from disenfranchised or radicalised employees or insiders. Understanding employee access to an organization’s critical infrastructure, such as IT, energy and equipment is central to the security of nuclear sites and radioactive materials. It provides participants strategies for pre-employment screening, behavioural assessments and helps develop strong security cultures.

DETECTION

Counter Nuclear Smuggling Workshop

This three-day workshop develops the capacity of law enforcement officials to work with key stakeholders to establish a structure to counter nuclear smuggling in country. This includes instructive modules on threats, strategies and investigations, as well as practical exercises, including demonstration and use of mobile detection systems.

Detection of Radiological and Nuclear Materials: Cross-border Training

This training focuses on the detection of radiological and nuclear materials at international border crossing points (land, sea and air). The objective is to improve the capability of law enforcement to detect and intercept the smuggling of radiological and nuclear materials as they are moved across international borders.

It provides participants with an understanding of the agencies involved in the detection of smuggling of radiological and nuclear materials, and explains their roles and responsibilities. This training also provides an opportunity to use radiation detection equipment and practice techniques.

Detection of Radiological and Nuclear Materials: Cross-border Operation

This activity is organized for law enforcement, customs officers, immigration officials, border police and other relevant organizations to apply their knowledge of radiation detection equipment in an operational environment at international border crossing points.

This activity exposes participants to operational challenges and supports their understanding of the multiple roles involved.