Collaboration between disaster managers and scientists in emergencies

SE Europe Crisis, UNHCR Winter Operations Cell

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www.metoffice.gov.uk

Gavin Iley, Met Office - Head International Crisis Management & Resilience
Winter Operations Cell, A Unique Challenge

• Up to 9 nations
• Route of 1100km +
• 170,000 arrivals by Sea alone in 2016
• 1,000,000 arrivals by Sea in 2015
• Those requiring help over 10 nationalities
• Requirement to respond to all aspects of UNHCR from operations staff on the ground through to senior managers within UNHCR.
UNHCR - The Winter Operations Cell
What are the questions are you trying to answer?
What are the decisions that you have to make?
UNHCR - The Winter Operations Cell

Priorities

- Tactical & Strategic Planning
  - Facility Management
  - Logistics
  - ‘Route’ based planning
  - Health
  - Daily Planning
  - Diplomatic Advocacy

- Post Event Analysis
  - Wave Height v Arrivals

- Immediate Response
  - Border Closure’s
A Genuine ‘Multi-Hazard’ Partnership
Slovenia

“But anyway, For SE part (POI Dobova) we expect 10 to maybe 20 cm of snowfall from today night till Saturday noon (as we speak present weather is light rain, but we could expect some sleet of mixture of snow/rain and some snow in the next hours). Since temperature will be around 0 or just above zero and no strong wind is expected there should be no major problems on roads (and railways)”

Greece

“1. The rain we are expecting in the area of Mytilini, Chiow is able to cause floods. Of course with the help of very strong some damages are expecting.
2. All ferries stop in Greek seas at 9 Beaufort. This is going to happened for about 2 days Friday and Saturday”
Iterative approach to analysis & reporting
Detailed Analysis

Wave Height v Arrivals to enable more informed planning
Two further examples
Thank you