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Public Warning Europe / Germany



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Welcome address on behalf of ISO 223 - WG 3

- Dear Participants
- Dear Hosting Committee
- Dear Speakers



Starting point

- What is ISO TC 223
- Scope of TC 223 - WG 3
- Workshop perspectives
- There is always a story to tell....



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Public Warning in the Scope of ISO 223 (WG 3)

- Effective emergency management needs structured command and control, coordination and cooperation.
- These are necessary to establish and carry out all command processes, facilitate information flows and coordination and cooperation of involved organizations, agencies and other involved parties.
- Cross organization, cross regional or cross border assistance in incident response are expected to be culturally acceptable and appropriate to the needs of the affected population.
- Community participation in the development and implementation of response measures is essential.
- The acting organizations will require the ability to share a common framework across geographical and organizational boundaries.
- Public Warning is an essential part of Emergency Management to protect population from the harmful effects of disasters.

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Why Standardization on Public Warning ?



What does this mean ?
Official sign?



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Official Sign by IAEO and ISO

- International Atom Energy Organization -15.February 2007
- The new symbol is being launched by the IAEA and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) to help reduce needless deaths and serious injuries from accidental exposure to large radioactive sources.
- It will serve as a supplementary warning to the trefoil, which has no intuitive meaning and little recognition beyond those educated in its significance.
- The symbol is to be placed on the device housing the source, as a warning not to dismantle the device or to get any closer. It will not be visible under normal use, only if someone attempts to disassemble the device.
- The symbol will not be located on building access doors, transportation packages or containers.

There are different players



- ITU standardization activities on telecommunications for disaster relief and early warning



- Early Warning – From concept to action



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Early Warning Summary

- To be effective, early warning systems must be people-centered and must integrate four elements –
- knowledge of the risks faced; technical monitoring and warning service;
- dissemination of meaningful warnings to those at risk; and public awareness and preparedness to act.

Early Warning Recommendations

1. Develop a globally comprehensive early warning system, rooted in existing early warning systems and capacities
2. Build national people-centered early warning systems
3. **Fill the main gaps in global early warning capacities**
4. Strengthen the scientific and data foundations for early warning
5. Develop the institutional foundations for a global early warning system



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<http://www.incident.com/blog/>

- Public warnings are urgent communications issued from time to time by various entities in an attempt to reduce preventable injuries or deaths.
- Need for a Standard of Practice for Public Warning



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Key questions on the website:

- When should a public warning be issued?
- By whom should a public warning be issued?
- To whom should a public warning be issued?
- What should be the content of a public warning?
- How should public warnings be disseminated?

Are these also key questions for us?



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Public warning in Europe - Historical background



- World War II – Air Strikes 1939 - 1945
- Cold War 1949 – 1985
- Development Civil Defense – Disaster management 1985 - 2000
- Updating / Upgrading technology for public warning (1985 – today)
- New approach of threats (natural, terrorism and technology) (1986-2001-today)



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Disasters in Europe

- Earthquake
- Forest Fires
- River flooding
- Sea flooding
- Heavy Storm
- Chemical, Nuclear and other technical Incident
- Failure of critical infrastructure e.g. Electrical power failure
- (Threats by terrorism)

These are typical risks in Europe with warning needs



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Chernobyl 1986





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Earthquake Italy 2009



Enschede (Netherlands) Firework Industry 2000



22 victims, 947 people injured



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Buncefield oil fire UK 2007





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Forest Fires Greece 2009



River flooding Germany, UK



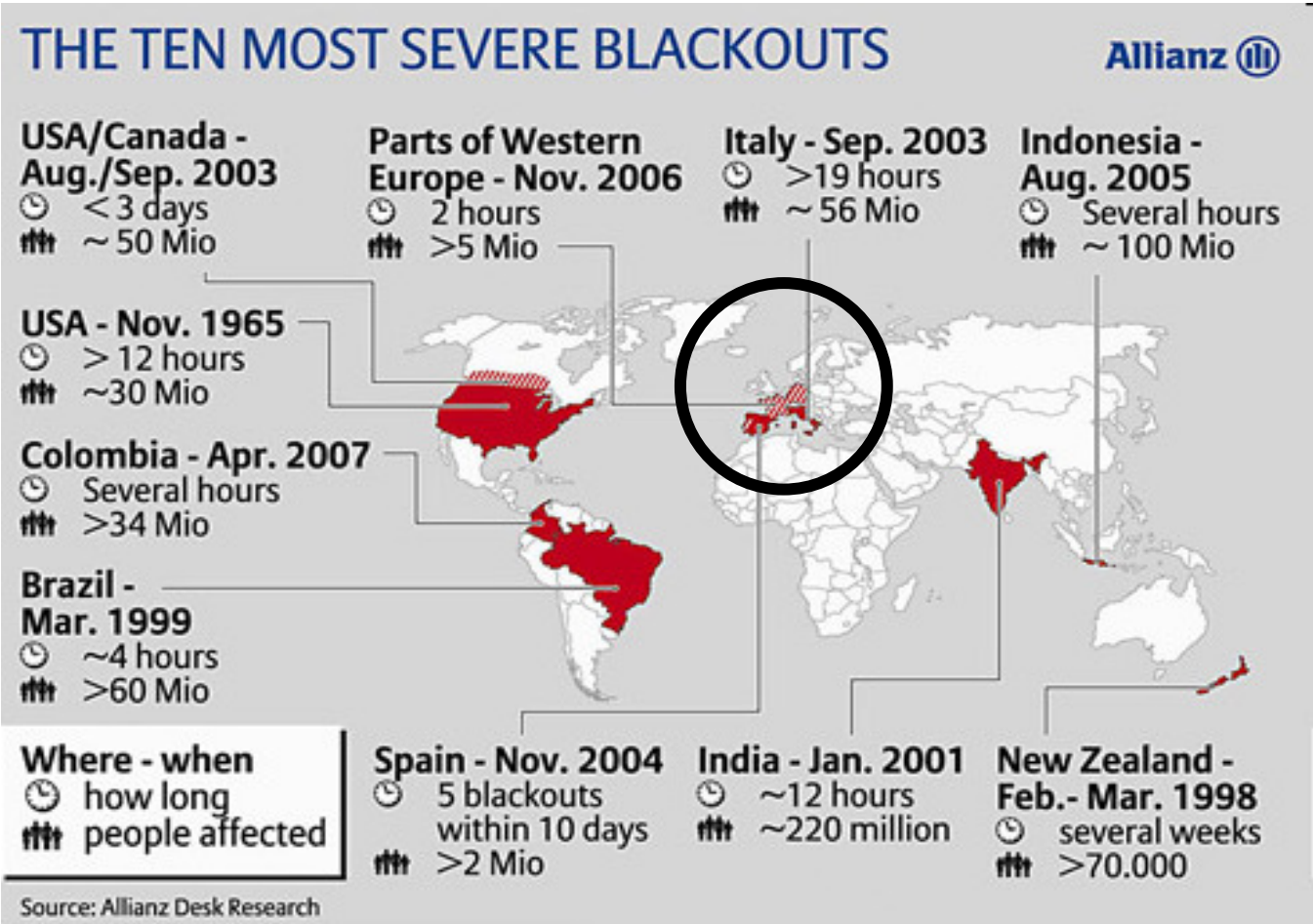
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Power Blackouts



European actors in Public Warning



- European Commission
- States / Public Authorities
National, regional, communal
- Emergency Services
- Industry (Critical Infrastructure)
- Consumer Associations
- Standardization bodies



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European Union Objective: Every Citizen of EU should live in the same level of safety

- Every EU country implements a minimum safety standard for work safety, safety at home and traffic safety.

Key questions

- Can we create safety for a traveler traveling from northern to southern Europe ?
- Will people understand a public warning everywhere in EU and react in best way following the signs and key terms without perfect knowledge of the local language?

Warning devices - Analysis Europe 2002

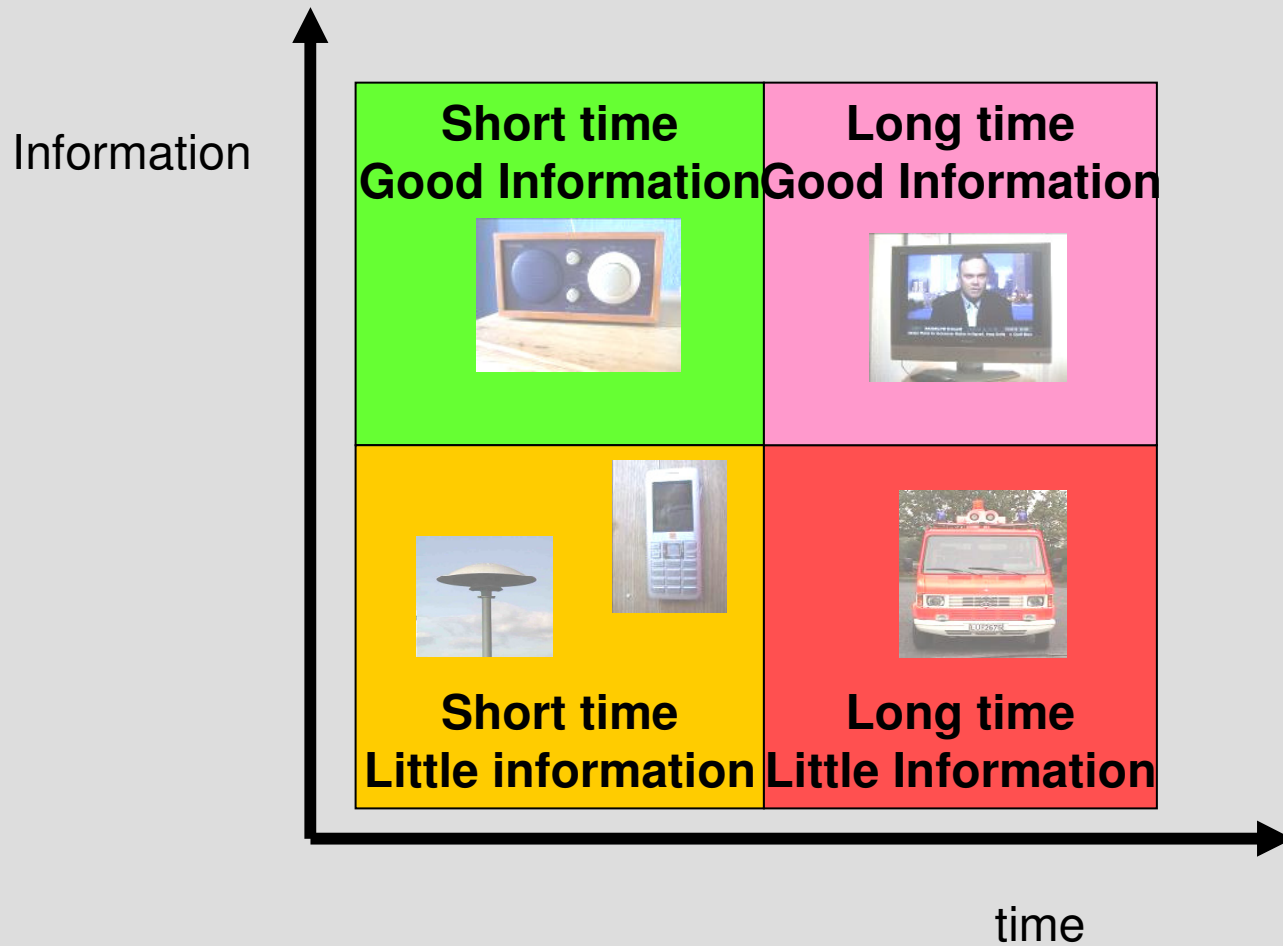
- Sirens
- Broadcast messages (Radio-TV)
- Stationary or mobile loudspeakers
- House to House notification
- Written information (leaflets-handouts)
- Internet publication
- Automatic telephone message systems
- Automatic telephone answering systems
- Telephone information provided by emergency call centres
- Short Message System messages (SMS)



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Warning Devices

How long it takes....?
How much Information....?



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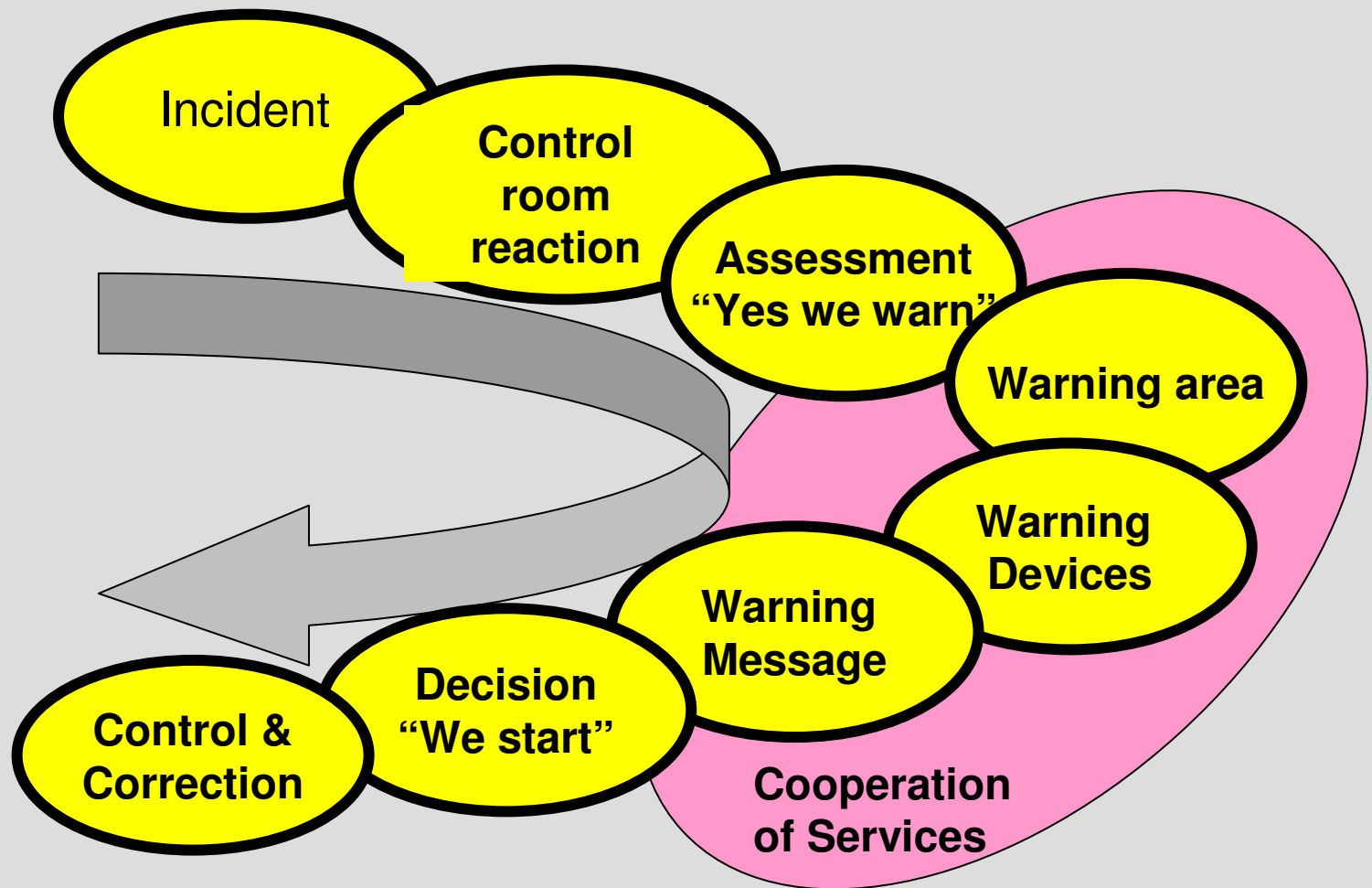
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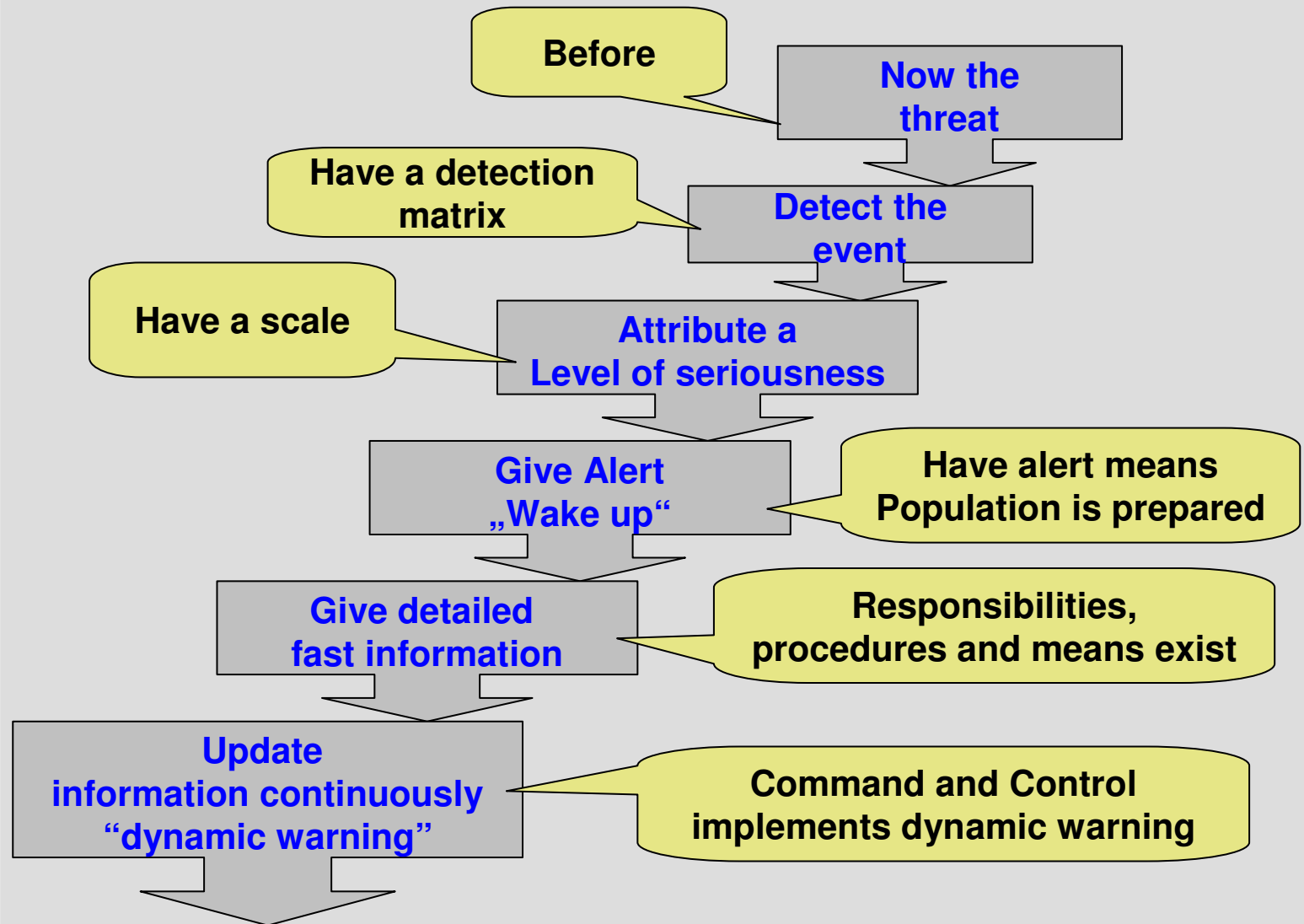
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Public Warning Decision making process



Example of decision making procedure

Public warning process



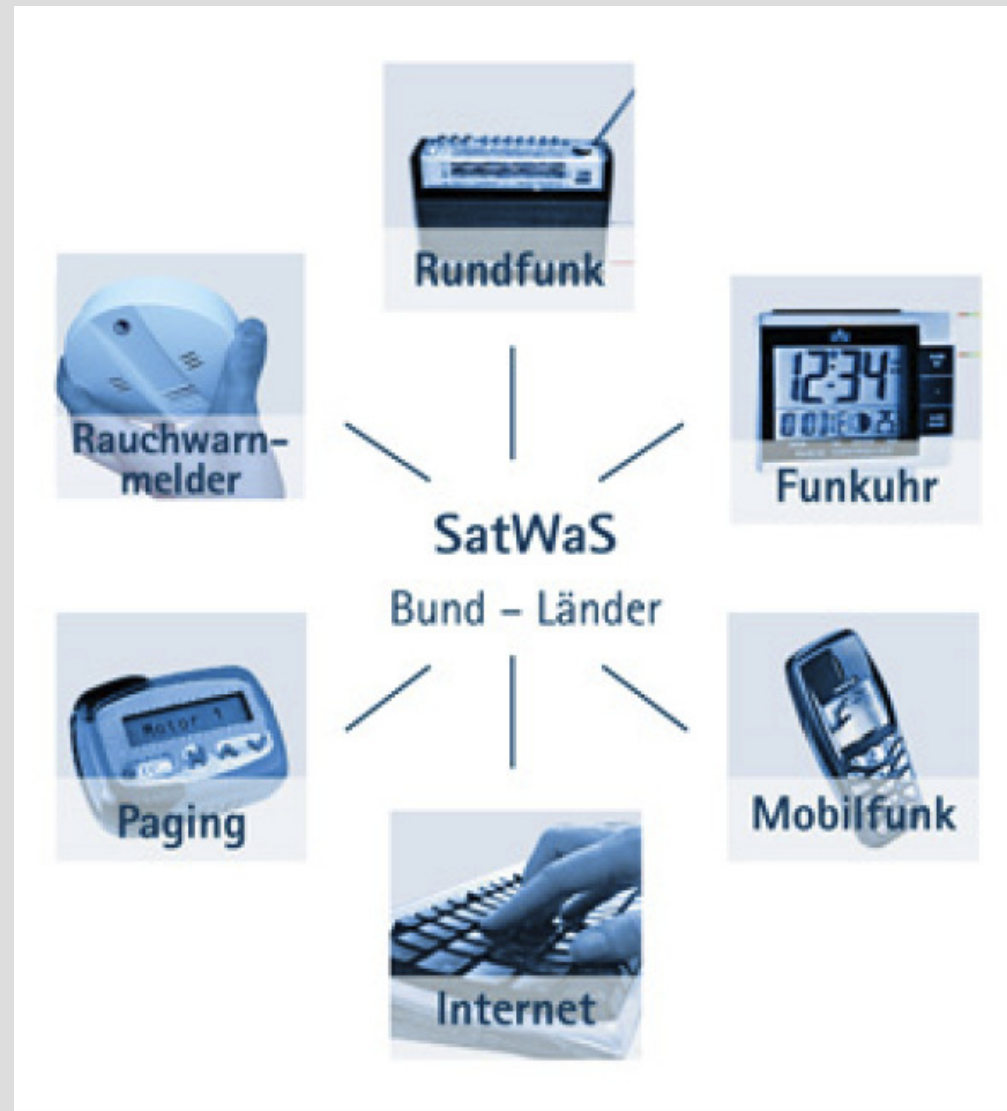
Preparedness

- Procedures describe its different applicable warning means and criteria for selecting the best combination of means for potential emergency situations.
- The decision making procedure is implemented includes alternatives or bypasses to ensure the decision process under emergency conditions.
- For each component of the warning system, an intervention plan is available and regularly updated.
- The interoperability between different implicated authorities contributing to a public alert is prepared.
- The population is educated and informed about the principal conduct in emergencies and the measures to be taken in case of a public alert.



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Sat(alite) Wa(rning) S(ystem) German Project



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Public Warning - Conclusion

- Alert the population
- Use multiple warning methods
- Induce a certain behavior
- Give a maximum of information
- Show competence and credibility
- Avoid panic but tell always the truth

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