



NEEDS

Policy Recommendations

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Policy Recommendations

IO8.3 Policy brief to Directors General of Civil Protection

The 'Needs-based education and studies in societal security' (NEEDS) project

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Intellectual Output 8 (IO8) Policy Recommendations

Task 8.3

Compiled by:

NEEDS project

Project note

NEEDS – Needs-based education and studies in societal security was an innovative project aiming to strengthen the quality, attractiveness and scope of education in societal security through tackling the mismatches between the focus of education, and the knowledge needs in the field. As an EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region's Flagship project under Policy Area Secure, NEEDS was exemplary for cross-sectoral, multi-level and transnational cooperation on the joint approach for the education of future professionals in the field of societal security.

For further information on NEEDS, see: <https://cbss.org/projects-cbss/needs/>

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At the occasion of their 21st Annual Meeting, the NEEDS project consortium kindly brings to the attention of the CBSS Civil Protection Network's Directors General:

the NEEDS project's Policy Recommendations

After careful research, project implementation and analysis of project results (- taking input from students, teachers, researchers, experts, practitioners etc. into consideration) the following actions are strongly recommended for application in the respective CPN countries across the Baltic Sea Region:

1. *Initiate more, regular international opportunities for Higher Education Institutions (HEI) & practitioners to get together.*

Besides the existing **BEP**, the umbrella of the network's CBSS presidency could include:

- an annual **Summer University** (and potentially upcoming a Summer School) utilising the NEEDS course
- annual Erasmus+/ Exchange of Experts **exchanges**
- online seminars and workshops utilising the NEEDS outputs

2. *Promote the NEEDS Online Course and Community and encourage staff to complete the course and join the community.*
3. *With the aim to initiate the establishment of security themed school curricula, conduct policy dialogues with Educational Ministries and other relevant stakeholders in respective countries.*

This can be carried out using national resources or facilitated by external funding through initiatives and projects such as NEEDS.

4. *Acknowledge the need for a common online platform for societal security education and collaboration and initiate an interagency discussion on a suitable platform.*

Based on NEEDS project research, the project uses the CMiNE and TUOVI platforms for its own purposes and makes thereby use of existing structures which could be used further.

5. *Designate resources (people, funding, internship opportunities) and provide educational opportunities in the respective agencies to create a basis for common BSR education on societal security.*



Partners

Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS) Secretariat – **Lead Partner**

Hamburg Fire and Rescue Service (Germany)

Laurea University of Applied Sciences (Finland)

Main School of Fire Service (Poland)

Riga Technical University (Latvia)

Swedish Defence University

UiT The Arctic University Norway

Union of the Baltic Cities, Safe Cities Commission (represented by the Liepaja Municipal Police - Latvia).

More information on www.cbss.org/projects-cbss/needs/

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