



The role of the Permanent Coordination Group at the National Institute of Public Health

Nuška Čakš Jager, M.D., PH Specialist
National Institute of Public Health
Slovenia

9.5.2014

The Republic of Slovenia

Area: 20,273 km²

Population: 2.100.000

Capital city: Ljubljana

Language: Slovene; in nationally mixed areas
also Italian and Hungarian

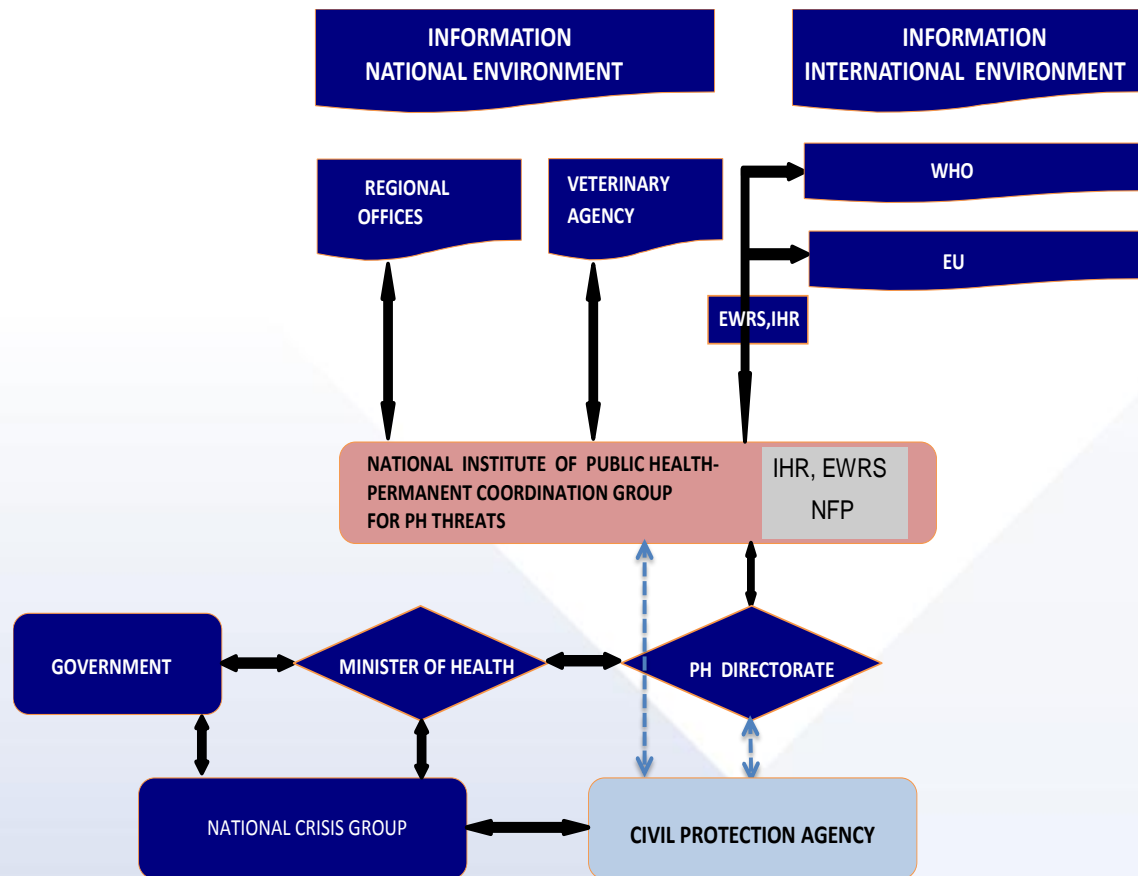
Currency: Euro (EUR)

Important dates:

- Independence – 25th June 1991
- Member of EU – 1st May 2004

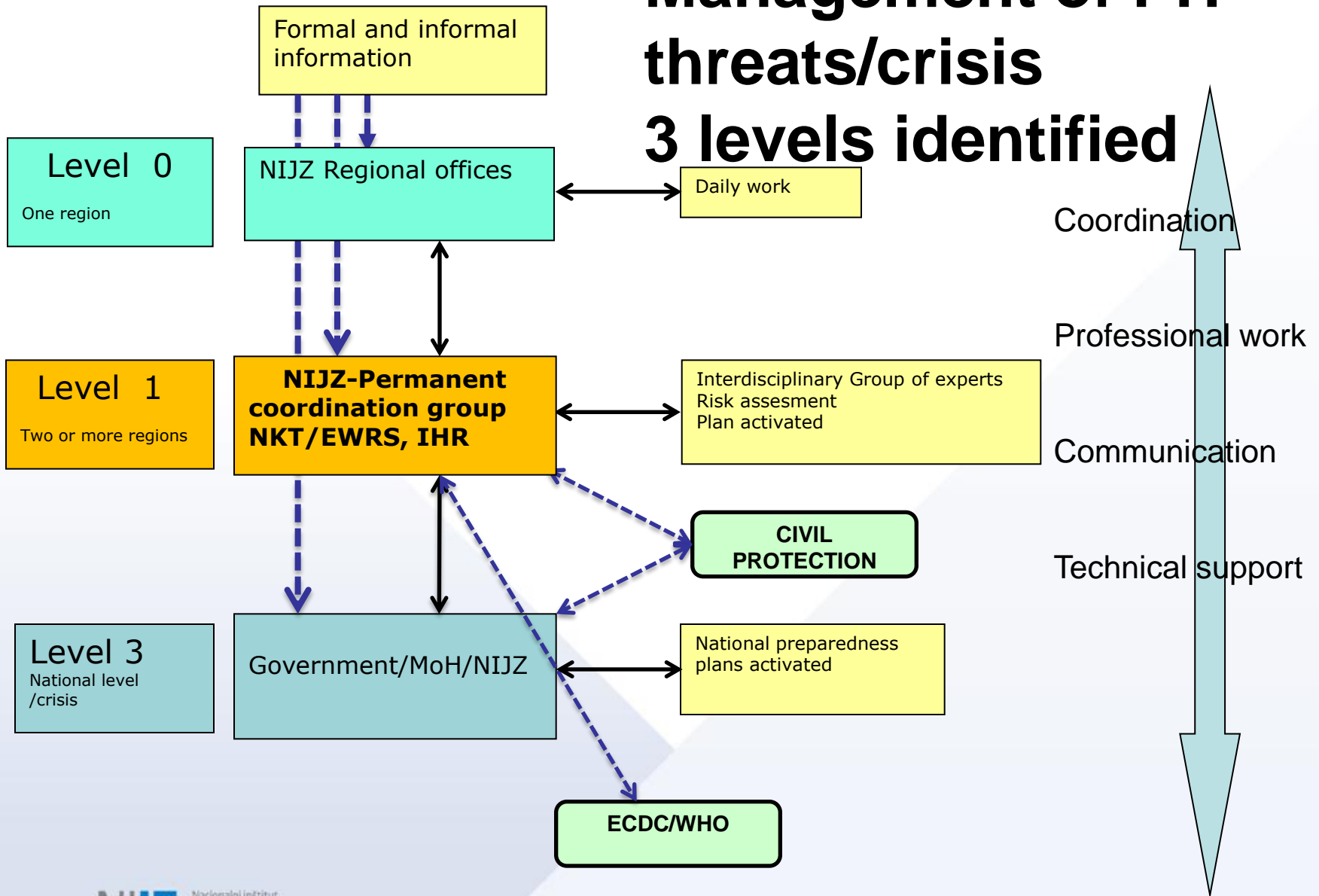


PH threats/crisis - Management and Information flow



Management of PH threats/crisis

3 levels identified



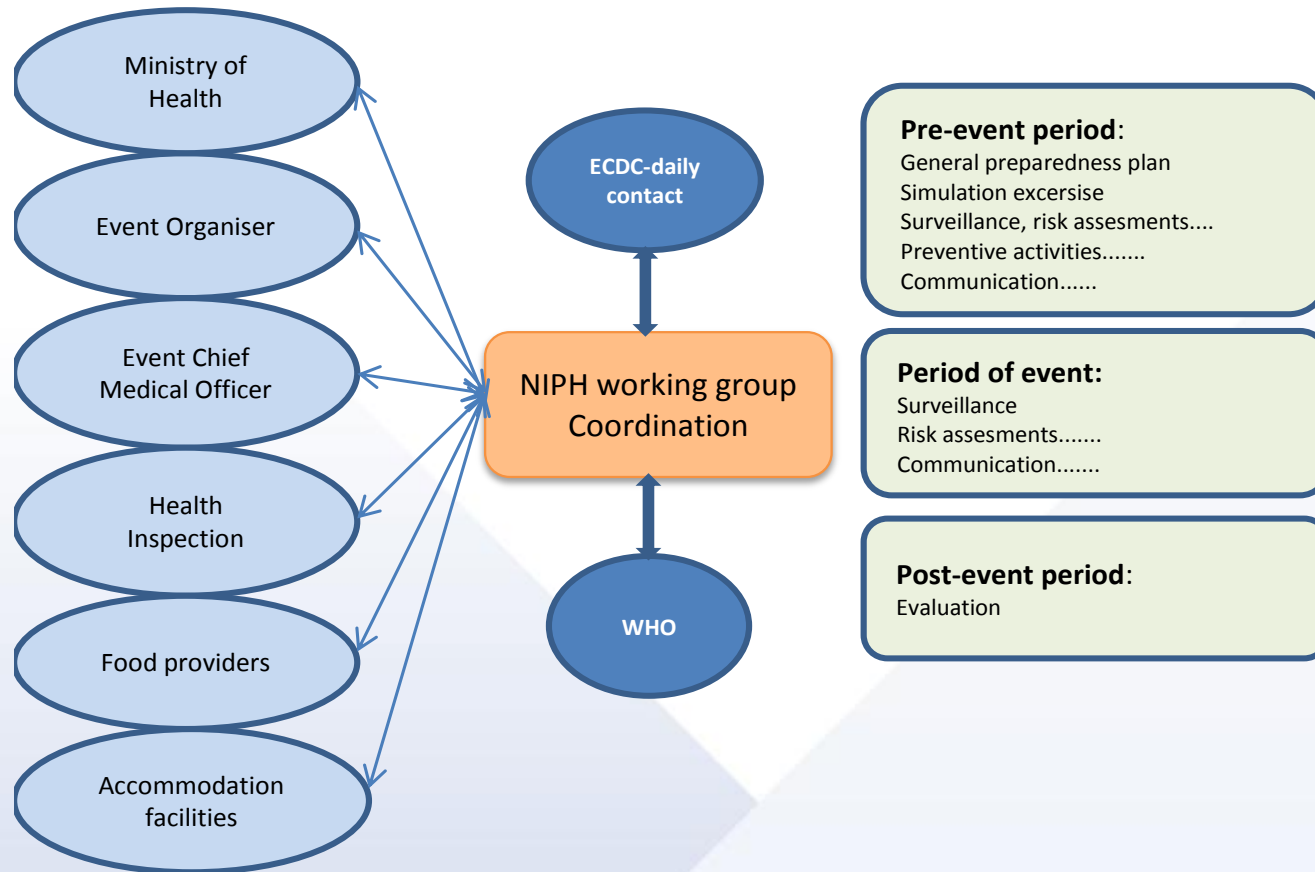
NIJZ-Permanent Coordination group- public health professional work

- PH and PR experts;
- Epidemic intelligence, review, assess PH risks;
- Mobilize, inform and coordinate interdisciplinary teams to manage the risks -if necessary;
- Establish the network and communication channels;
- Coordinate drafting the forms, documents, guidelines needed for response in situations that pose a risk to human health;
- Coordinate activities during a crisis situation or major PH risks-linked with MoH and/ or Civil protection;

Basis for stable organization— better preparedness

- Regular meetings;
- Interdisciplinary professional group;
- IHR, EWRS NFP- part of the group;
- 24/7/365 availability;
- Network established;
- EOC available at NIPH;
- Guidelines for contingency and continuity plans prepared;
- Legal basis;
- Regular communication with regional PH Units;

System tested at MG event– Eurobasket 2013



Ministry of Health-“management“

- Activates and directs the implementation of measures in the field of health;
- Coordinates the activities linked with other ministries, government departments and Civil protection Agency;

Civil protection Agency – the major „player“ in crisis

- General and specific crisis plans (for biological, chemical, nuclear and radiological threats);
- Centralised coordination;
- Experienced staff, included in central and regional units;
- Funded by government, part of Ministry of Defence;
- Well recognised institution and respected by all;
- EOC+ 24/7/365 capacities available;
- The network established (contracts with army, police, firemen, medical services...);

Key issues



- Permanent coordination group provides better preparedness and response to PH threats;
- Centralised coordination and communication;
- Intersectoral and interdisciplinary approach;
- Supported by well organised Civil Protection Agency;
- Regular/existing operations and capacities are used as a basis for all activities;