

[PRACTICE]

D8.10 TESTING AND VALIDATION

PRACTICE WP8 deliverable

Lead organisation: KCL

Dissemination level: Public

Nature: Other (Report)

UNCLAS

Title:	D8.10 Testing and Validation		
Date:	July 5, 2012		
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This project has received funding from the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme. The views expressed in this document are purely those of the writer and may not in any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of the European Community.

Summary Work Package 8

The objective of WP8 is to improve public knowledge and awareness of CBRN incidents by providing a toolbox of information, procedures and processes to understand the human and societal factors that influence the impact of, and response to, CBRN incidents, as well as reduce the impact of CBRN incidents on society and individuals. The effectiveness of the 'human and societal' toolbox will be tested (via WP6) with members of the public and professional responders in an exercise at a conference/shopping centre in Birmingham in August 2013.

The output will include tools and measures (i) to inform, educate and prepare the mindset of the EU citizen for a CBRN event, (ii) to provide guidance about protective behaviour and to aid the identification of relevant information sources during events, (iii) to mitigate the societal impact on communities and individuals post event, and (iv) to identify solutions aimed at recovery.

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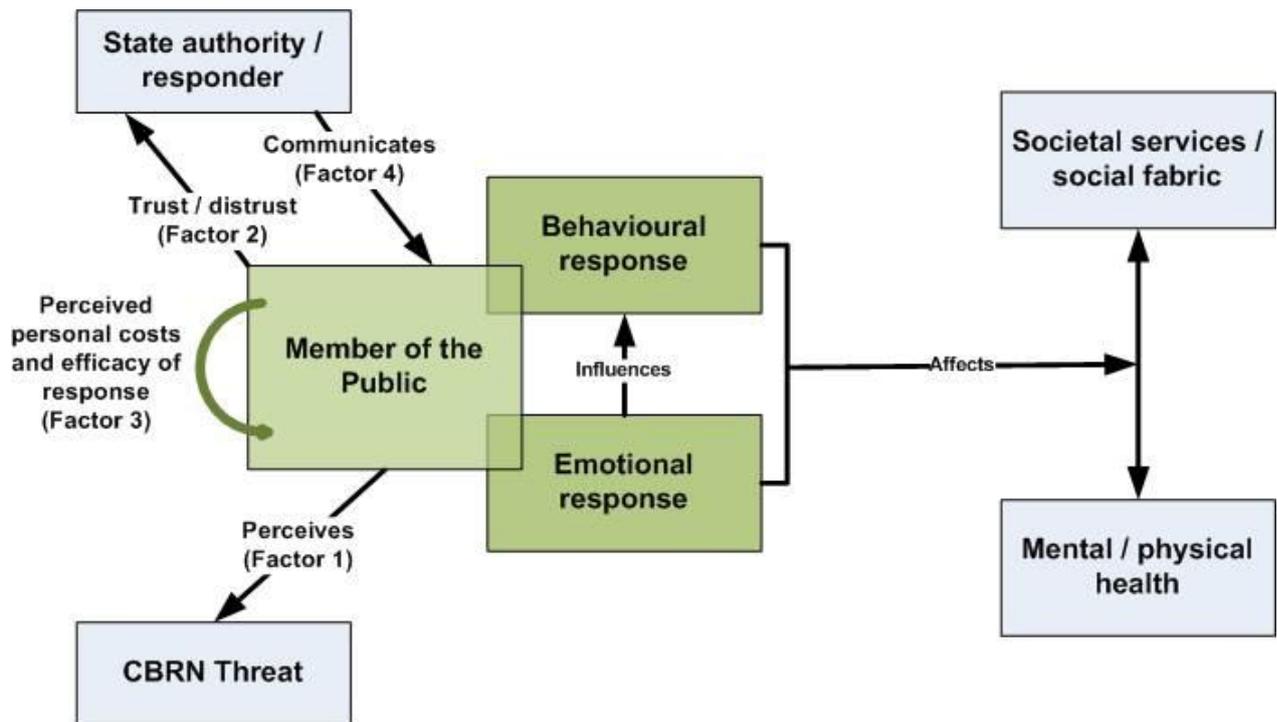
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1. Executive Summary

This report evaluates the extent to which analysis of existing findings on the psycho-socially informed principles of CBRN impact and management can be verified empirically. The empirical testing of *this report* will only be two-fold but the principles identified within this and the D8.8 report will also be tested during the three PRACTICE project field exercises, in particular the UK exercise (D6.5). Practitioners must manage and consider four sets of human and social factors that affect the impact and effective management of CBRN incidents. The following figure (Krieger and Rogers, 2012) provides an overview of these factors:



For the purpose of this report, the testing and validation of factors 1-4 will be undertaken on the basis of

1. Data collected through the stakeholder workshop focus groups (D8.4)
2. Empirical insights from the discussion of real world case studies (D8.9)

This process confirms that all four factors influence the impact and the ability to effectively manage CBRN incidents. However, different social, cultural and political contexts in which the members of the public are embedded, as well as the dynamic interactions between the four factor sets imply that not all factors have equal weight at all times. For this reason, it is important to produce tailored CBRN management measures that reflect possible variations across countries, social groups and phases of CBRN incident response.

While these findings are supported by the empirical data, it is important to take into account the methodological and conceptual limitations (limited number of focus groups; limited cross-country research; limited cross-agent research; limited reflection of socio-demographic factors in focus groups; etc.) of the testing/validation exercises.

If you are interested in obtaining the full report please contact Ms. Rogers via brooke.rogers@kcl.ac.uk or Mr. Krieger via kristian.1.krieger@kcl.ac.uk