[PRACTICE]

D1.3 ETHICS ISSUES MANAGEMENT

PRACTICE WP1 deliverable

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1. Executive Summary

In recent years the awareness for ethical issues in the field of CBRN crisis management has risen and ethics legislation and guidelines have been issued on national, European and international level. Apart from the overarching need to respect the human dignity of all who one way or the other are affected by or participate in CBRN crisis management, we mainly need to consider the challenges that are posed by guaranteeing their data privacy. These principles not only apply to all phases of crisis mitigation but also to CBRN- and Security-related research, thus they apply to project PRACTICE. Consequently, ethical review of the project is required according to Special clause 15 of the grant agreement.

The purpose of the report at hand is therefore to bundle the project's work with ethical issues. Within PRACTICE we are concerned with ethical aspects of the final project result, the PRACTICE toolbox, and with ethical aspects of the research and development leading to this result. Here, we mainly consider the exercises that are performed to validate the toolbox, and the professional personnel and healthy volunteers participating in the exercises. Thus, project PRACTICE has taken four measures, documented in detail in this report, to ensure compliance with European ethical guidelines:

1) Continuous ethical review of project activities by a project-internal Ethics Committee;

2) Official authorizations for the exercises from relevant regional or national Ethical Review Boards and Data Protection Agencies;

3) Distribution of the European commission's Ethical Guidelines and issuing of project-specific guidelines; and

4) An Ethics Issues Management Workshop on 18 April 2013 educating the consortium about ethical issues.

By implementing and completing these ethics issues management procedures the project team reaches milestone MS6 Ethical and privacy issues, which is a requirement prior to proceeding to the first validation exercise in August 2013.