EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2016 Yellow Command Full-Scale Exercise (FSE) was conducted to test the Regional Catastrophic Earthquake Logistics Response Plan. Eight Bay Area counties, nine cities, and more than 30 local, state, federal and private agencies including the City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, and Federal Emergency Management Agency Region IX chose to exercise and evaluate operational coordination while building capabilities to execute distribution of life saving commodities in a disaster.

The exercise tested six core capabilities and evaluated 10 objectives as summarized in this section.

Supply Chain Security and Integrity	
1. Exercise and evaluate the Regional Catastrophic Earthquake Logistics Response Plan.	
2. Activate and operate at least three full scale commodity point of distribution (C-POD) sites in the Bay Area while ensuring security of each site and its associated resources.	

Strengths	Improvement Recommendations
• Participants validated the Bay Area's logistics response plan materials as best practices for local government operations. • Pedestrian and vehicular C-POD operations were effectively performed at three full scale sites per their activation guides.	• Establish best practices for connecting C-POD operations with emergency operations centers to clarify reporting and communications streams. • Integrate access and functional needs accommodations into C-POD site activation guides.

Infrastructure Systems	
3. Conduct a coordinated response effort between local governments and water utilities to restore disabled water systems and/or identify backup water systems or water commodity distribution processes.	

Strengths	Improvement Recommendations
Public private partnerships enabled coordinated decision making within the EOC through: • Development of a water service outage map by East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) • Integration of an EBMUD public information officer (PIO) in the Alameda County Joint Information Center (JIC)	Develop pre-disaster mission requests for intra and inter-state water utility mutual aid to expedite support to the Bay Area region.

Operational Coordination

4. Conduct resource ordering and coordination of resources with Cal OES and FEMA IX.
5. Test the request and deployment of Emergency Management Mutual Aid (EMMA) staff between two major cities and two operational areas (OAs).
6. Test the use of C-POD activation guides as standardized materials used in LA City, LA County and the Bay Area counties and major cities.

Strengths	Improvement Recommendations
• A fuel request successfully submitted by EBMUD was approved by Cal OES and coordinated with assistance by the California Utilities Emergency Association (CUEA) Utility Desk in the simulated Joint Field Office (JFO). • The simulated JFO practiced good communication and collaboration resulting in rapid solutions and deployment of resources. • EMMA responders were successfully requested, received, and employed in both the emergency operations center and field environments. • Participants confirmed interoperability of C-POD activation guides between northern and southern CA.	• Train OA logistics personnel to ensure resource requests go through Cal OES rather than directly to various state agencies. • Continue developing detailed C-POD site activation guides for potential sites throughout the Bay Area region. • Establish supply caches or plans for supply procurement to support C-POD operations.

Situational Assessment

7. Evaluate regional information sharing and management processes including but not limited to the use of WebEOC, CalEOC, Cal COP and Mutualink technology for maintaining a regional common operating picture and situational awareness.

Strengths	Improvement Recommendations
• Participants developed a common operating picture and shared situation status through two regional coordination teleconferences, two public information officer coordination calls, and use of emergency information management tools such as WebEOC and Cal COP. • The Northern California Regional Intelligence Center raised local government awareness of their role in cyber security information and prevention protocols during a cyber-attack in the Bay Area.	• Consolidate and standardize statewide all-hazards essential elements of information independent of any specific information sharing platform. • Codify consistent and coordinated use of information management systems through development of a Bay Area information management plan or policy.

Operational Communications

8. Test alternative communication paths and interoperability across operational areas utilizing radio and satellite phone technologies.

Strengths	Improvement Recommendations
• Radio programming procedures and mutual aid channel/talk group assignments experienced an 82% calling success rate. • Participants validated the region is capable of providing acceptable levels of interoperability and mutual aid support for the region.	• Develop a specific list of interoperable capabilities gaps (addressing the technical, programming and operational deficiencies identified in these tests). • Train and exercise appropriate personnel on the use of current interoperable communications technology.

Public Information and Warning

9. Exercise and evaluate the Regional Joint Information System (JIS).

10. Conduct the coordinated use of Mass Notification and Warning systems.

Strengths	Improvement Recommendations
• PIOs effectively shared trending topics, misinformation, social media rumors, and ground truth information through the coordinated Bay Area JIS. • Participants successfully integrated the virtual coordination tool, Slack, to coordinate public messaging across agencies.	• Develop a Bay Area JIS framework that defines the roles and responsibilities of a JIS Coordinator and details how to perform interagency coordination of public information. • Continue to use and train regional JIS members on a selected virtual coordination platform (such as Slack) to support regional coordination of public information before and during emergencies.

For questions or for more information contact:

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