



# **eNOTICE**

## **European Network Of CBRN Training Centres**

### **D3.16 - Links to other CBRN networks and platforms, integration and interface functions on the eNOTICE information and communication platform Report 2**

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6	Fire Department Dortmund (FDDO)	
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12	War Studies University, CBRN Defence Training Centre (WSU)	
13	Scientific and Research Centre for Fire Protection (CNBOP-PIB)	
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## Executive Summary

This document is the Deliverable 3.16 – “Links to other CBRN networks and platforms, integration and interface functions on the eNOTICE information and communication platform Report 2” and builds on the results of Report 1 (D3.15), published in June 2019.

This deliverable presents a methodology for monitoring similar projects and identifying potential synergies. This is followed by a description of the collaborations already initiated with other projects and initiatives and a presentation of the interfaces provided by the eNOTICE website for technical integration.

An update on further collaborations and technical interfaces will be provided in the follow-up to this deliverable, D3.17 in June 2021.

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## Abbreviations

CBRN	Chemical, Biological, Radioactive and Nuclear
CoU	Community of Users
D	Deliverable
DG	Directorate-General
ECC	eNOTICE Community Center
EU	European Union
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
RN	Radiological and Nuclear
R&D	Research & Development
TC	Training Center
WP	Work Package

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### 1 Introduction

This chapter will present a short overview of the context of this deliverable, the objectives it wants to achieve, its relationship to other tasks and the approach used.

#### 1.1 Context

The eNOTICE web-based information and communication platform, which is called “eNOTICE Community Center” (ECC), is an essential tool for the eNOTICE community. It enables the community to increase the visibility of individual training professionals, practitioners involved in CBRN training, and Training Centers (TCs) with their facilities and capabilities, and allows users to communicate and share information, using only a web browser.

This deliverable is the second deliverable of Task 3.4 on the integration of platforms and interfaces.

#### 1.2 Motivation and Objective

As eNOTICE is by design a networking project, linking to other projects and initiatives is of the critically important. Therefore, this deliverable will identify potential technical and organizational links to other CBRN networks and platforms with the goal of creating synergies between the different networks. This will lead to less overhead due to similar networks performing duplicate work and a more structured and coherent network-landscape for individual practitioners.

#### 1.3 Relation to other tasks

##### 1.3.1 Task 2.3 - Identification of barriers, levers, Key Performance Indicators and good practices for a CBRN network”)

Task 2.3 identified “interesting websites with identical, similar or complementary goals and with identical, similar or complementary target groups”. This provided a first list of related projects and websites which could be analyzed and monitored.

##### 1.3.2 Task 3.4 - Further development and maintenance of the web-based platform

Task 3.4 performs the technical implementation of the interfaces presented in this deliverable and monitors their usage.

##### 1.3.3 Task 4.3 - Identification of opportunities to strengthen policies and recommendations for R&D

While Task 4.3 is not directly related to this task, many of the collaborations presented here originate from work done in the context of Task 4.3.

##### 1.3.4 Task 5.1 - Consortium management

One part of Task 5.1 “Consortium management” is to organize contacts between eNOTICE and other CBRN networks, communities, platforms, and on-going projects. These other entities provide a pool of information which can be useful for the implementation of technical interfaces.



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#### 1.4 Approach

To achieve this deliverable's objective, first a monitoring methodology to stay up-to-date on related projects and initiatives will be presented in Chapter 2. This will be followed by a short description of the concrete collaborations initiated in Chapter 3. In Chapter 0, the already implemented interfaces will be presented and compared to the results of the preceding deliverable (D3.15). A short summary and outlook on future work will be provided in Chapter 5.

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### 2 Monitoring of similar projects

This chapter will provide an overview of the monitoring methodology established in D3.15, how this monitoring scheme was implemented, and which results we gathered.

#### 2.1 Monitoring methodology

To identify potential chances for collaboration and integrating interfaces, the ongoing process in related projects had to be monitored. It became apparent that one person monitoring all the related projects and initiatives was not effective or efficient, as there were too many related projects and understanding the developments in each project required some degree of experience in the subject matter. Therefore, the following monitoring methodology was developed

1. All relevant related projects are identified
2. Each eNOTICE partner is assigned 2-3 related projects based on their own interests and other factors (e.g. being a partner in the other project)
3. A monitoring template is hosted on the ECC Cloud and can be edited collaboratively
4. Each eNOTICE partner periodically (typically every few months) fills out the monitoring template for their assigned projects
5. At Joint Activities, each eNOTICE partner presents the most interesting developments in “their” projects to the other eNOTICE partners.

This methodology allows all eNOTICE partners to stay up to date on all related projects while minimizing the effort required to do so.

#### 2.2 Implementation of the monitoring

An excerpt of the monitoring template used can be found in Table 1. This table (in the form of an Excel sheet) was hosted on the ECC Cloud for collaborative editing and filled in by the eNOTICE partners in accordance with the monitoring methodology.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Project 1</b>	<b>Project 2</b>
<b>eNOTICE Partner</b>	eNOTICE Partner A	eNOTICE Partner B
<b>Past relevant events</b>		
<b>Upcoming relevant events</b>		
<b>Relevant publications (Deliverable, Newsletter, ...)</b>		

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<b>Interesting or new features</b>		
<b>Potentials for collaboration or synergies</b>		
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		

Table 1: The project monitoring template

### 2.3 Results

The monitoring methodology has shown to be an effective tool at documenting the progress made in other projects and identifying potentials for collaboration. Step 5 of the process was found to be especially important, as it allows everyone involved in the eNOTICE project to use their experience and knowledge to discuss ongoing developments in all projects. This provides a broad view of the different perspectives without everyone having to follow every project.

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### 3 Collaborations with other projects and initiatives

This chapter will provide an overview of the interfaces and collaborations implemented so far.

#### 3.1 SEC-21 Networks of Practitioners

eNOTICE has established and keeps close collaboration with other networks of practitioners that are most relevant for the field of eNOTICE activities. The closest collaboration ties target mainly exchange of experience, good and best practices between practitioners at each other's events – eNOTICE Joint Activities invite other projects representatives, and eNOTICE attends all sorts of workshops, conferences, seminars, and webinars hosted by other networks:

- FIRE-IN - The first European Fire and Rescue Innovation Network, that has CBRN component in its objectives, and other non-CBRN partners are also extremely interested in eNOTICE.
- NO FEAR - Network Of practitioners For Emergency medicAl systems and cRitical care. Again, besides the salient CBRN component in NO FEAR that mainly addresses CBRN victims triage and clinical treatment, both network partners have lots of mutually interesting activities. Currently the NO FEAR focus on the clinical practices and training for COVID-19 largely intersects with the experience and practices of eNOTICE partners SDIS77, FDDO, WMP and others actively involved in the pandemic crisis response.
- INCLUDING – Innovative Cluster for Radiological and Nuclear Emergencies. Its objectives on building a cluster of RN stakeholders, including RN training centers, to a large extent are similar to more general CBRN field of eNOTICE. Thus, naturally, both projects decided to avoid duplication of efforts for the purpose of contacting RN training centers, but to maximize the desired outcome for both networks by joining the efforts together. The main goal is to ensure that RN training centers are approached in a coordinated way, and not every project approaches them individually. This centralized approach guarantees that training centers keep clear idea of what added value they can have from joining EU-funded networks, and do not get lost among saturated requests from numerous individual projects.

INCLUDING developed a block of questions to be inserted in the eNOTICE questionnaire for training centers – these INCLUDING questions do not repeat the existing contents of eNOTICE questions but are complementary. The block of INCLUDING questions dedicated to RN facilities specifically, with INCLUDING project logo, and a small intro has been inserted into the eNOTICE questionnaire. And this modified questionnaire is already published online. Both projects now start to (re)-contact R and N training centers together – using the contacts from eNOTICE database of training centers, and INCLUDING new contacts added to the database. This truly joint effort aims at revitalization of eNOTICE work on contacting training centers that have not joined the network yet, and explain to new training centers the benefits of joining both the eNOTICE network of CBRN training centers and the INCLUDING federation of RN centers specifically, both projects consider this synergistic effort as win-win.

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### 3.2 Joint Dissemination Workshop at INTERSCHUTZ 2021 and Joint webinar in June 2020

As the INTERSCHUTZ Fair planned in Hannover, Germany in June 2020 was cancelled due to the restrictions related to COVID-19 crisis, the big joint dissemination workshop planned by five EU networks of practitioners eNOTICE, FIRE-IN, NO FEAR, DAREnet and MEDEA, will take place at INTERSCHUTZ in June 2021.

This year 2020 the five networks decided to keep the plan on the joint event and hold it on the same planned date June 18, 2020 in the form of a webinar. The topic of the webinar is “Just-in-time-training: best practices and methodology”. This topic was selected by the five networks of practitioners as being highly relevant for all, especially at the time of crisis. By just-in-time training we mean training that is generally delivered to allow for the rapid acquisition of specific skills or knowledge when the need arises. I.e. it is quick training of first responders for sudden, unexpected, unforeseen situations response, such as for instance rapid training of clinical doctors and nurses of various specialties for work with infectious diseases and corresponding procedures that they were never normally trained before – to compensate for shortage of dedicated specialists in times of crisis such as COVID-19. Of course, besides pandemics, there are many other examples, in CBRN field as well. A speaker from eNOTICE – from West Midlands Police, national CBRN training center in the UK – will speak about recent practices of online training for first responders as a method of just-in-time training in times of crisis. Other speakers are from NO FEAR – on the subject of clinical just-in-time training and procedures for COVID-19, from DAREnet about training in response to conventional threats such as floods. The webinar will host around 150 participants – practitioners from all five networks and external invitees.

### 3.3 H2020 ENCIRCLE

ENCIRCLE – European Innovation for the Market Cluster is a complementary project to eNOTICE, coordinated by the same institution UCL, and benefiting from strong links between the ENCIRCLE CBRN industrial and technological community, tools, identified R&D priorities all integrated into a dynamic catalogue of technologies, and the community of practitioners having access to the current state-of-the-art technologies, and providing feedback to the technologies developers to timely improve their solutions. Besides ENCIRCLE – CBRN Cluster part a), eNOTICE collaborates with CBRN Cluster part b) projects, such as TERRIFFIC that was invited to demonstrate and test their technology at an early stage of development at the eNOTICE Joint Activity in Gurcy on May 22-23, 2019.

### 3.4 PROACTIVE project

The H2020 project PROACTIVE - PReparedness against CBRNE threats through cOmmon Approaches between security praCTitioners and the VuleranBLE civil society is a strategic collaboration project for eNOTICE. WMP is a partner in both projects. PROACTIVE is the project that will hold all of its three demonstrations with eNOTICE partner training centers. The first PROACTIVE tests and demonstration was planned for October 26-30, 2020 at the eNOTICE

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Joint Activity in Rieti, Italy but has been postponed due to the COVID-19 crisis. The second PROACTIVE exercise will be held together with eNOTICE Joint Activity in Dortmund, Germany in April 2021, and the last and final one – together with the eNOTICE Final Joint Activity in Campus Vesta in June 2022.

#### 3.5 ISF projects MELODY and BULLSEYE

Both projects MELODY - A harmonised CBRN training curriculum for first responders and medical staff and BULLSEYE - Harmonised procedures and awareness of all agencies involved in the response of a chemical or a biological terrorist attack: education- training and train the trainer, look into CBRN training from different angles, and thus are directly related to the area of activities of eNOTICE. eNOTICE partners are systematically invited to MELODY and BULLSEYE workshops and provide valuable feedback from a practitioner's point of view. Representatives of both projects are always invited to eNOTICE events, and side meetings are held with each of them on the current progress and developments.

#### 3.6 DG HOME Community of Users and CIRCABC

eNOTICE coordinator and partners are active members of the DG HOME Community of Users for Secure, Safe and Resilient Societies (CoU). The CoU brings together all categories of security stakeholders – policy makers, practitioners, industry, research and academia, military, current R&D projects. eNOTICE plays a visible role in the CoU.

As all current networks of practitioners, eNOTICE is part of the joint information space organized at CIRCABC<sup>5</sup> - a collaborative solution developed by the European Commission services for exchange of information in EU projects. It contains the features for shared calendar of events, documents storage and exchange and a discussion forum. Membership is based upon invitations and requires an ECAS login. The shared information between all networks of practitioners is run and maintained by DG HOME. It includes discussions at the forum, shared calendar of events, announcements of projects events and workshops for all networks of practitioners which are mostly held side-by-side with CoU events.

#### 3.7 DG DEVCO CBRN Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence Initiative

eNOTICE concluded an agreement with DG DEVCO on using the eNOTICE questionnaire to be distributed by DG DEVCO to training centers of their countries outside the EU. From this collaboration eNOTICE was approached by the project CBRN TRAINING NET - a network of training and research centers dealing with training and education on CBRN safety and security in the South East and Eastern Europe. The training centers and institutions identified in CBRN TRAINING NET will be encouraged and trained to fill the eNOTICE survey questionnaire. This effort will allow them to become visible to the European CBRN community (training centers, training professionals, practitioners, industry, academia, policy-makers) with the training capacities every institution may offer, and European training centers will have access to wider audience for their training activities should they be interested. As one practical example for

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<sup>5</sup> <https://circabc.europa.eu/faces/jsp/extension/wai/login.jsp>

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this cooperation might serve that one of the eNOTICE consortium partners provides CBRN defence related training to Morocco. CBRN TRAINING NET training centers and other stakeholders will have a possibility to attend the Joint Activities organized and hosted by eNOTICE training centers in Europe (if invited by the eNOTICE training centers) – for the purpose of networking, exchanging of best practice in CBRN training, establishing bilateral links with European training centers. Invitations to training activities and funding to attend these events will be subject to the willingness of the host institution to invite and availability of budget. In the long run this initiative will help members of its network to facilitate bi-lateral interactions between CBRN Training Centers, improve multi-agency procedures, cross-border procedures, enhance civil-military cooperation, promote and enhance training capability, exchange training practices, trainers, trainees from inside and outside the European Union. eNOTICE is invited to provide explanation and training for CBRN TRAINING NET on correct filling of the survey for training centers.

#### 3.8 Social Media

eNOTICE also links with other projects on social media (mainly Twitter) with the purpose of collaboration, cooperation and using synergies to increase the reach of each project's posts. eNOTICE currently has 317 followers on Twitter and follows 24 other accounts, mainly of related projects. eNOTICE periodically shares relevant posts from related projects to improve the reach and vice-versa.

#### 3.9 Other

Other collaborations of eNOTICE with various initiatives, projects and conferences can be found in the periodic progress reports (D5.2, D5.4, D5.5 and D5.7) in the sections on progress in Task 3.1.

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### 4 Technical interfaces provided and implemented

This chapter provides an overview of the technical interfaces implemented in the ECC.

#### 4.1 Calendar

Functionality to import and export calendar entries is provided via the ical protocol. This allows users to embed the eNOTICE calendar (containing e.g. Joint Activities and other project activities) into their own calendar program (e.g. Outlook or Google Calendar) without having to access the ECC. The calendar interface also enables the importing of calendars into the ECC, meaning that the ECC can display calendars of other projects or initiatives if they provide an ical based interface.

#### 4.2 File Storage

As file storage functionality is provided by Nextcloud (see D3.8), a variety of options for importing and exporting files is available.

Users can directly access their files via the WebDAV protocol. This allows them to embed the file storage directly into their operating system by mounting it as a network drive. This is a comfortable option for accessing the storage, as it provides the look and feel of a native drive.

Another option for file sharing interfaces are Nextcloud Federations<sup>6</sup>, which allow the ECC Cloud to connect to other Nextcloud instances (hosted e.g. by other projects) and allows the users to share files and documents across projects without having to create multiple accounts.

#### 4.3 Social Networking

With networking being a fundamental aspect of the eNOTICE project, different options for implementing social networking features on the ECC were explored. One option considered was a decentralized, open social networking software such as diaspora\*<sup>7</sup> with accompanying protocols such as ActivityPub<sup>8</sup>. However, all software evaluated did not seem mature enough to be used in the ECC or lacked required functionality. Social Networking aspects are therefore implemented using a Discourse<sup>9</sup> forum, which provides many external interfaces and messaging integrations, such as email and browser notifications. Although Discourse provides additional interfaces (i.e. for extracting content), it is currently not planned to make them available to 3<sup>rd</sup> parties. An integration of Discourse with e.g. the Catalogue of Training Centers is however planned.

#### 4.4 Training Center Profiles

As mentioned in Chapter 3, eNOTICE cooperated with various other project on the questionnaire on the capabilities of Training Centers. Therefore, an interface was required to

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<sup>6</sup> <https://nextcloud.com/federation/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://diasporafoundation.org/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.w3.org/TR/activitypub/>

<sup>9</sup> <https://discourse.org/>



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transfer the gathered data to the different organizations while keeping data protection aspects in mind.

Data on TC profiles is therefore transferred using two different methods. XML exports are used to provide the cooperating partners with answers to their questions while filtering out data to which cannot be shared (i.e. if a TC has opted out of publication). TC data that is to be published in the Catalogue of Training Centers on the eNOTICE website is first filtered to only contain data which can be publicly shared and then transformed to a JSON file for usage in the web application.

## 5 Summary and future work

This chapter contains a short summary and an outlook on the work performed in the next year.

### 5.1 Summary

After a brief introduction, the monitoring methodology developed by eNOTICE to monitor similar projects and identify opportunities for collaboration was presented. This was followed by a description of the links already established with other CBRN networks and platforms. In the third step, an overview of the technical interfaces available for integration was given.

### 5.2 Future Work

The monitoring of similar projects will continue to identify new potentials for collaboration. These will then be used to find new synergies and establish new cooperation's while maintaining the existing ones. Additionally, the technical interfaces will be extended with the goal of linking them with similar interfaces of other CBRN networks.