



The European Union handed over Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Protection Equipment to trained First Responders

Manila, November 14, 2014. In the framework of the European Union (EU) Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence (CoE) Initiative, 80 Philippine scene commanders and first responders have been trained by experts from France and the UK.

Personal Protective Equipment, decontamination equipment, detectors and a CBRN sampling kit were handed over at the closing ceremony also attended by Chief Superintendent Ariel Barayuga from the Bureau of Fire Protection on behalf of Peter Irving Corvera, DILG Undersecretary for Peace and Order.

The trainings were delivered under the EU CBRN CoE Project 22 entitled *Provision of specialised technical training to enhance the first responders' capabilities in case of CBRN incidents* which is one of 19 EU CBRN CoE Projects currently in implementation in South-East Asia.

The Philippine government hosts one of the eight Regional Secretariats of the EU CBRN CoE Risk Mitigation Initiative worldwide in its Malacañang Palace. Members of the Regional Secretariat for South-East Asia are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

With the support of the EU CBRN CoE Risk Mitigation Initiative, the Philippines have designated their National CBRN Focal Point, established their National CBRN Team, undergone a systematic and comprehensive CBRN needs assessment and drafted a National CBRN Action Plan.

The EU CBRN CoE Initiative is jointly implemented by the European Union and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), and entirely financed by the EU. It aims at strengthening regional security by increasing local ownership, local expertise and long-term sustainability. This includes sharing good practices and capabilities, developing guidelines as well as identifying, collecting, analysing and deploying resources to respond to the needs identified by partner countries.

For more information:

CBRN Centres of Excellence website:
<http://www.cbrn-coe.eu/>

DG Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid – Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace website:
http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sectors/human-rights-and-governance/peace-and-security/funding/instrument-contributing-stability-and_en

