



# RC3 Long Night of Research, 1st Edition: Volunteer and Volunteerism Development

23 - 24 March 2023 , online



## Kind reminder:

### During the session:

- Mute your microphone
- Keep your video on. Switch off if low connectivity
- Menti will be used.

### If you have questions to the speakers:

- **Ideally:** Use the Q&A feature to ask your question
- **Second option:** put them in the chatbox

### If you have IT questions:

- Ask your question in the chat, an administrator will help you.

### Confidentiality statement and data protection

- Sessions will be recorded
- Participants commit not taking pictures of the screen or other participants without permission
- If slides are posted on the shared screen, the speaker should inform the participants if they will receive the slides.



## INSTITUTT FOR SAMFUNNS- FORSKNING

Looking ahead: understanding future needs and conditions for volunteerism in disaster management and search and rescue

In Norway, various events are changing the landscape of emergency preparedness and response, including government reform, changes in how Norwegian volunteer, climate change and an aging population. These changes are affecting the need for and implementation of disaster management and search and rescue by the Red Cross and other expertise.

The Norwegian Institute for Social Research and NorCross have undertaken a research project to improve our understanding of future crisis scenarios, resource demands and preparedness needs within Norway. The views and experiences of various actors within the field of crisis and disaster management have been captured. This workshop will outline the research process and illustrate how the mixed methods approach was harnessed to gain a comprehensive understanding of the research problem.

# **What is *The needs of future voluntary emergency response ?***

- Research collaboration over 2 years
- Purpose: strengthen the evidence basis for emergency response and preparedness
- Evaluates likely incidents and societal trends towards 2050 and their consequences for risks and emergency response organization
- Output:
  - Two scientific reports pages
  - Accessible «main findings and recommendations» report
  - Research article(s)

# Research Design

- Register data, crisis scenarios, projections, foresight
- Combination of qualitative and quantitative data
  - Survey to all volunteers
  - Survey to local leaders (branch presidents and SAR unit heads)
  - Group interviews of Norwegian Red Cross stakeholders (both volunteers, district employees and national office)
  - Interviews of stakeholders within the county governors and the police
  - Collaboration project funded by the Norwegian Research Council: Interviews in six case municipalities spanning three police districts

# Roles and collaboration

- ISF: assigned project manager and researchers
- Red Cross:
  - Cross-departmental reference group
  - Regular orientations and consultations with RC national level governance bodies (SAR, Care, Youth)
  - Day to day follow up from NorCross analysts

# Key questions



How is the current situation with regards to preparedness and response capacity in voluntary emergency response in Norway?



How can we better prepare for the future given the challenges identified today?



How can societal trends affect local and national emergency response in the future?

# Subreport 1 –

## An analysis of the risk for serious incidents and crises

- Here we investigate the probability for and extent of emergency response in the future in Norway.
- We do this by combining register data on emergency response in Norway for the period 2010–2021 with projections of crisis scenarios, population growth and climate change.
- We also discuss how societal trends and development affect the extent of local emergency response and preparedness as well as the future role of voluntary actors in local emergency response and rescue work.





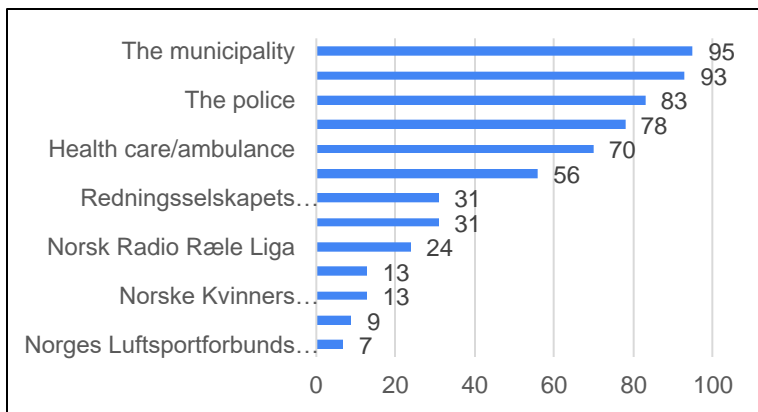
## Subreport 2 –

# Today and future preparedness and response capacity

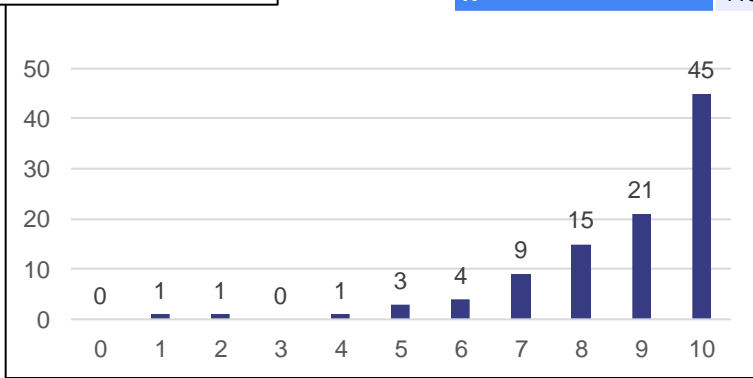
- Here we look at how the trends in demand (from subreport 1) affect the supply-side (preparedness and response capacity) in Norway.
- We do this by combining cross-sectional interview and survey data with strategic foresight and existing literature in the field.
- Taken together, we analyze and discuss the needs of future local emergency response and preparedness as well as the future role of voluntary actors in local emergency response and rescue work.



# What kind of knowledge did subreport 2 give us?



	First period (march 2020–june 2020)	Second period (august 2020–december 2020)	Third period (january 2021–june 2021)	Fourth period (july 2021–december 2021)
Really easy	20	17	15	17
Quite easy	37	33	35	27
Not easy nor difficult	29	38	36	38
Quite difficult	10	10	13	15
Really difficult	3	2	1	2
N	115	115	117	117



# NorCross– Concluding Report

- **Demographic change**
- **Urbanization**
- **Communication** – diversity of languages
- **Climate change** – less predictable, more extreme weather
- **Households**
- **Centralization of public services** – distances to rural communities
- Changes in **volunteering preferences** – short term, practical engagement



# Red Cross - conclusion

Agreement that the Norwegian cooperative model for emergency preparedness works. Volunteers play an important role locally. Looking ahead to 2050 however, we do face significant challenges:

- A significant increase in the number of unwanted incidents
- More unwanted incidents and emergencies which disproportionately affect vulnerable groups
- Lack of local government capacities and resources for preparedness work now and looking ahead
- Risk of decline in number of people willing and able to volunteer due to changes in volunteering preferences
- Exhaustion in preparedness, SAR and emergency volunteers' motivation and energy due to need for fund-raising



# Let us know what you think

<https://www.rc3events.org/>



## Contact us:

Andreas Aksnes Karmhus

Email:  
andreas.karmhus@redcross.no

Vibeke Wøien Hansen

Email:  
v.w.hansen@samfunnsforskning.no