HYBRID TRAINING OF FIRST RESPONDERS FOR NUCLEAR OR RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE IN LITHUANIA

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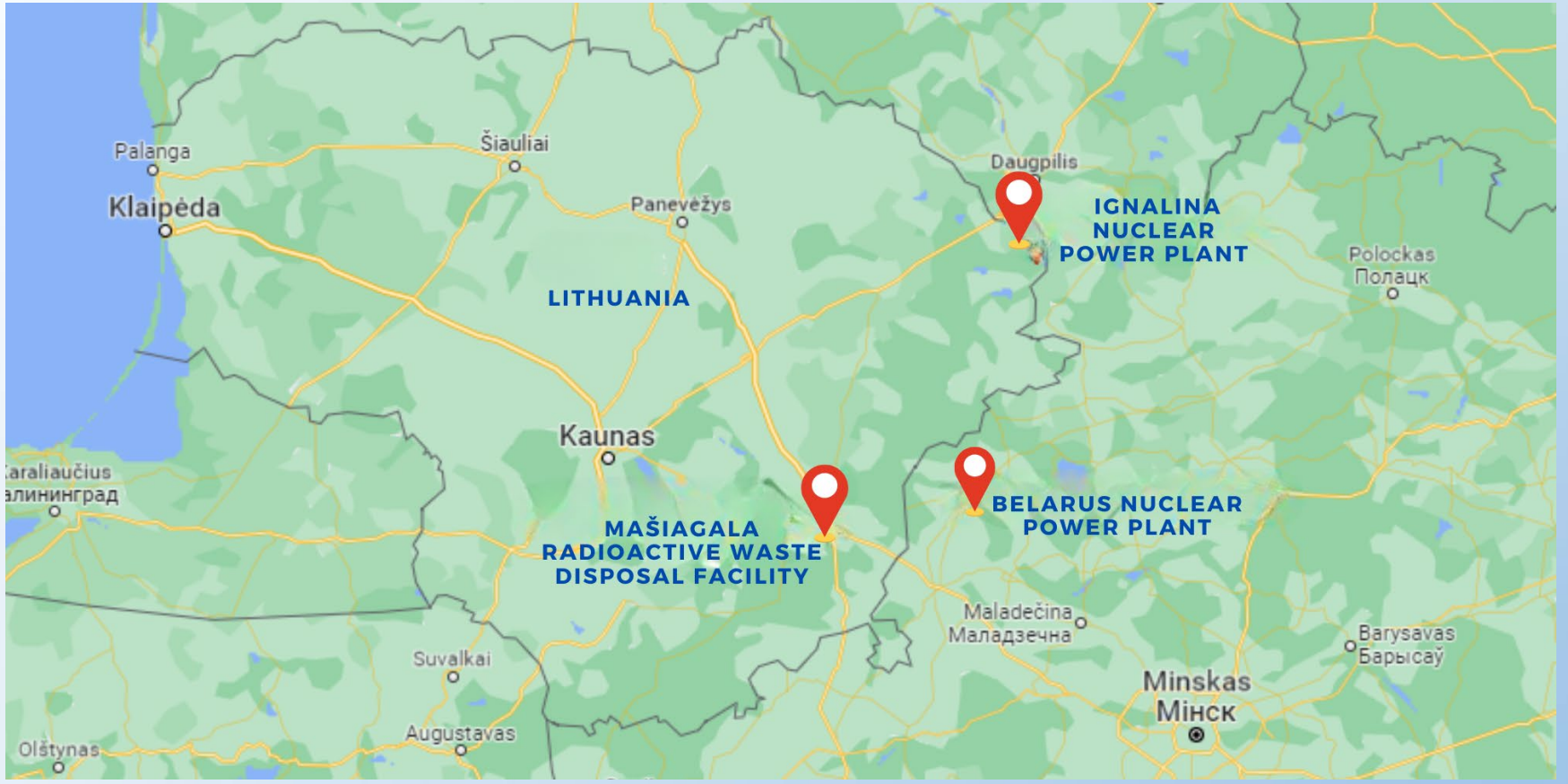
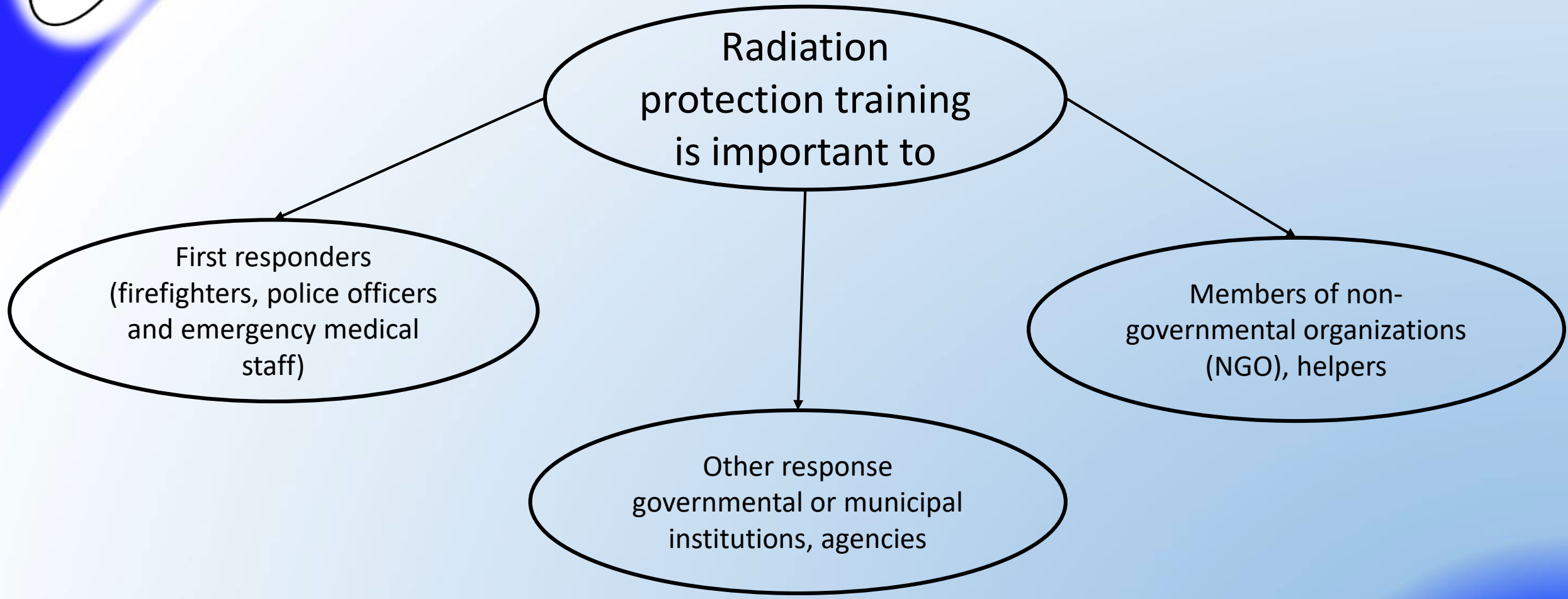
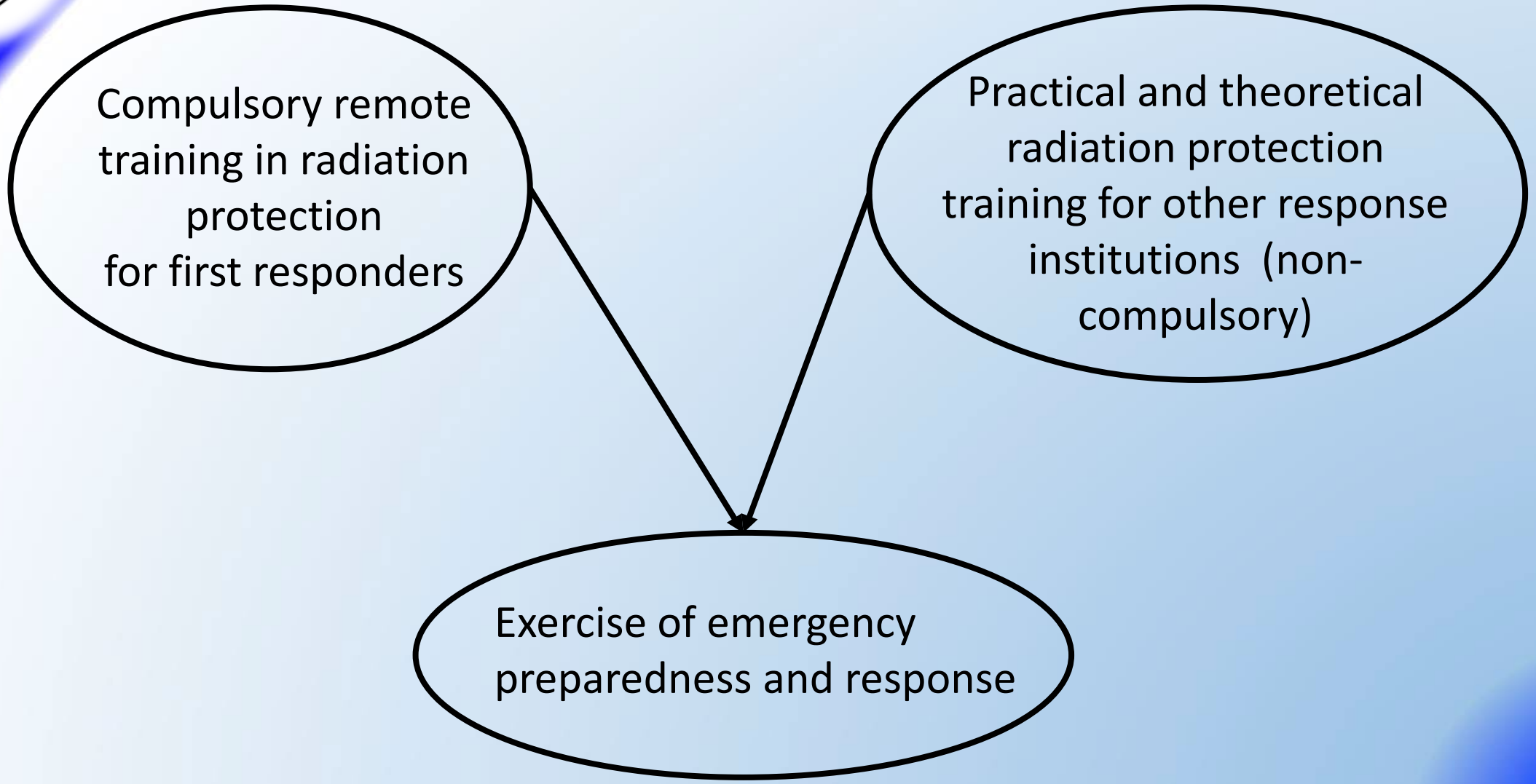
Why is Radiation Protection Training Important?



To Whom Radiation Protection Training is Important?



Radiation Protection Hybrid Training Consist of such methods



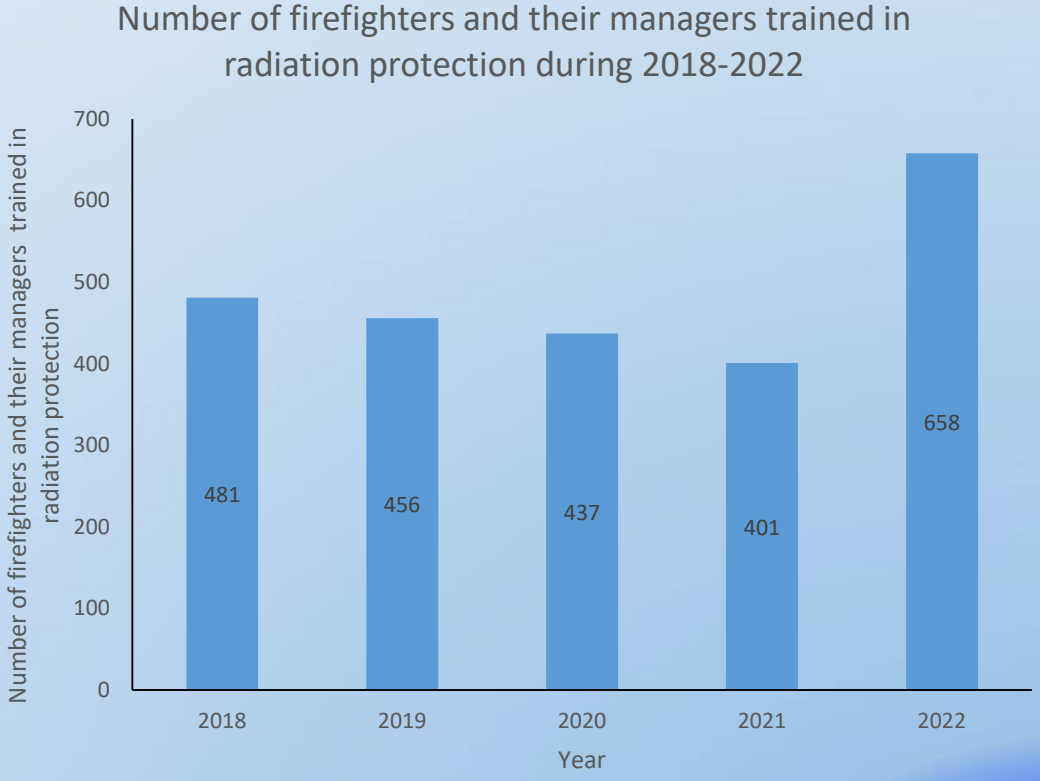
Legal Basis of Compulsory Radiation Protection Training

- Law on Radiation Protection of the Republic of Lithuania.
- The Radiation Protection and Physical Protection of Radioactive Sources Training and Instruction Procedure, approved by the Order No V-1001 of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania on 2011 November 22.

Compulsory training in radiation protection

Compulsory Radiation Protection Training for Firefighters

- Radiation protection training is an integral part of a firefighter's general training programme.
- They are self-trained through the Firefighters' School's remote training system, using pre-developed methodological material.
- Radiation protection training for firefighters and their managers is different.



Compulsory Radiation Protection Training for Police Officers

- Police officers receive radiation protection training remotely by studying on their own using pre-prepared methodological material.
- Police officers have less functions in the case of nuclear or radiological emergency than firefighters.
- In terms of content and duration, radiation protection training for police officers is less extensive.

Assessment of Compulsory Radiation Protection Training

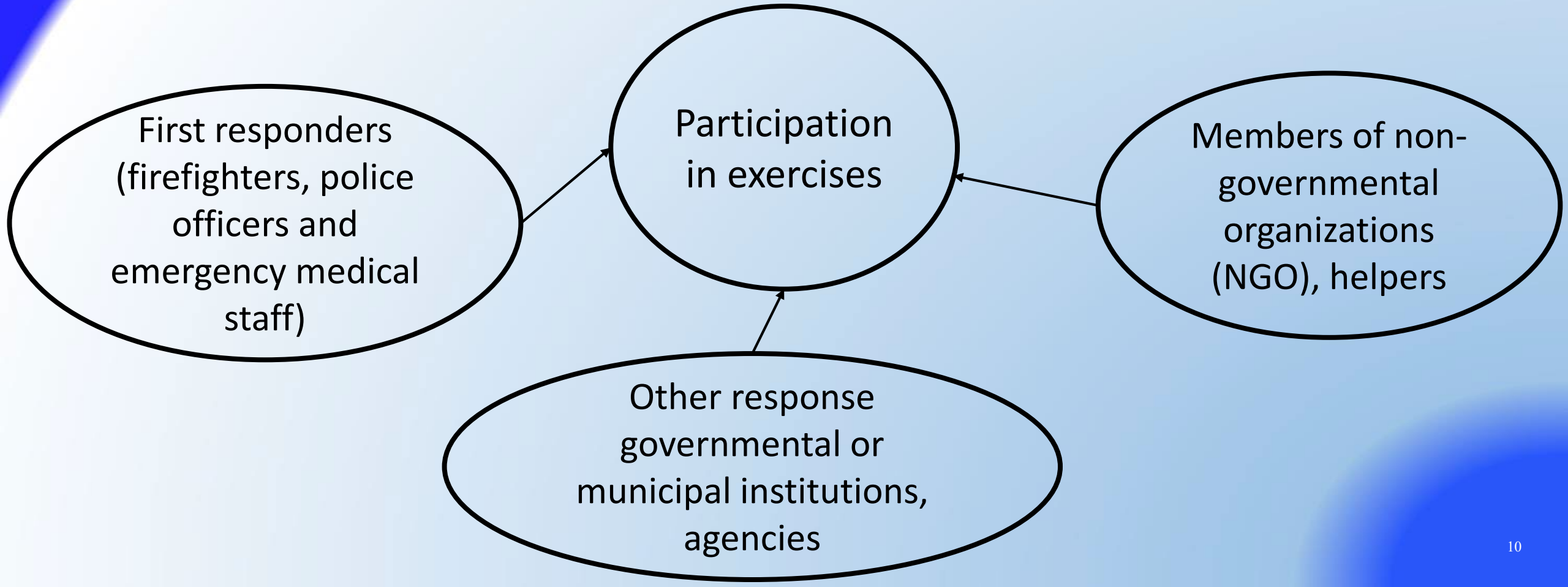
- Test to be taken in the Distance Radiation Protection Training Knowledge Assessment System.
- The test consists of 30 questions.
- The test is considered to be passed when 21 questions are answered correctly.

Practical and Theoretical Radiation Protection Training Data (Non-compulsory)

- First responders (firefighters, police officers and emergency medical staff).
- Other response governmental or municipal institutions, agencies.
- Members of non-governmental organizations (NGO), helpers.

Exercises of Emergency Preparedness and Response (1)

- Different types of exercises (institutional, municipal, national) are organized annually in Lithuania.

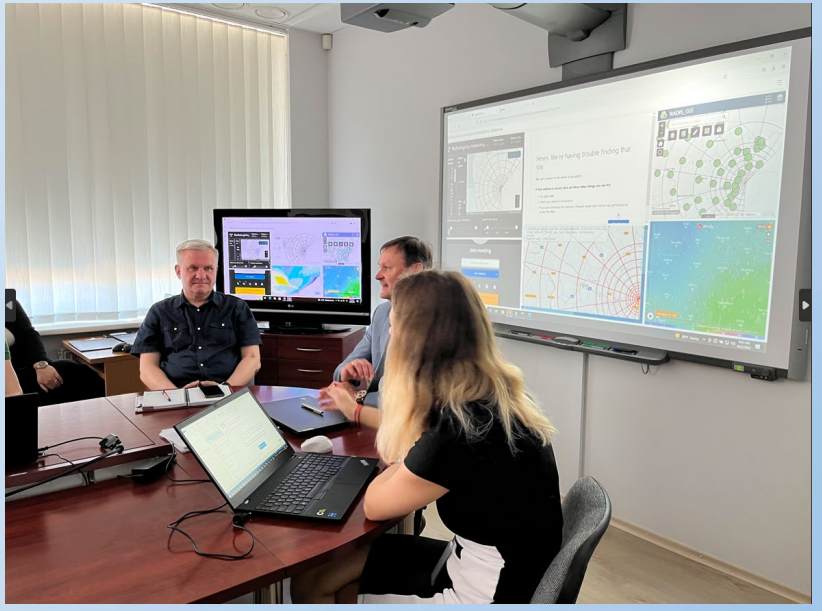


Exercises of Emergency Preparedness and Response (2)

- The Minister of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania approves the State-level exercises plan for 3 years.
- Annual exercises on preparedness and response to the nuclear or radiological emergency are conducted in Lithuania which vary both in scenario and type.
- The exercises are followed by an assessment, which identifies best practices and gaps to be corrected within a deadline set by the Minister of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania.
- Lessons learned are also reinforced in other exercises.

Exercises of Emergency Preparedness and Response (3)

- The results of previous exercises showed that first responders, other response institutions and members of NGOs are well prepared.
- The hybrid training is effective.



Advantages and Disadvantages of Hybrid Radiation Protection Training

Advantages of hybrid radiation protection training	Disadvantages of hybrid radiation protection training
Theoretical knowledge of radiation protection can be delivered to dozens of first responders from different geographical areas at the same time.	Not all learners thoroughly analyze all the methodological material provided to them.
Due to their busy schedules, first responders are able to attend mandatory radiation protection training at their convenience.	Limited opportunity to question the lecturer on any uncertainties.
Trainees have access to the prepared methodological material and can repeat it when needed.	Not all learners take the test over remote in good faith.
Hybrid training requires a relatively small number of competent lecturers.	

Conclusions

- Lithuania has an effective radiation protection training infrastructure for first responders, other response institutions and NGOs.
- The radiation protection training infrastructure consists of legal basis, competent lecturers and chosen training methods.
- Hybrid radiation protection training of first responders in preparedness and response to nuclear or radiological emergencies has more advantages than disadvantages and is the most appropriate radiation protection training method in Lithuania.
- The effectiveness of the hybrid radiation protection training is also verified by the results of the post-compulsory radiation protection training and various exercises.

Thank You for Attention!