THW: The Federal Agency for Technical Relief

THW - a governmental organisation based on volunteers

www.thw.de
THW

- Founded in 1950 as a public agency belonging to the Federal Ministry of the Interior
- 80,000 Volunteers
- 800 full time
- Annual budget of ~180 Mio €

Mandate:
- Local and national disaster relief on request of the local authority (e.g. Fire Department)
- International operations on behalf of the Federal Government
Structure of THW

- 80,000 volunteers, 800 staff
- 668 local sections all over Germany (volunteers only)
- 66 regional offices
- 8 state associations
- National School in Hoya (Bremen) and in Neuhausen (Stuttgart)
- Headquarters in Bonn
Technical platoon

- In every local section (668)
- Basis for all THW-units
- Standardized all over Germany
Regional units

- In all 66 regions
- Specialised units: e.g. location, water hazards, electrical infrastructure etc.
Over regional units

- In all 8 state associations
- Highly specialised units: e.g. bridge building, water supply etc.
Modular system - national

Locate  Cleaning  Vacate  Coordinate
Repairs  Pumping  Catering  Illuminate
Wire  Blast  Re-build  Purify
Modular system international
Basic training at local sections

- 75 training units, 45 min. each
- In the evening or during weekends (out of regular working hours)
- mix of lectures and practice
- common curricula, standardised examination

Basic knowledge on: THW & Civil Protection, Safety and Security, Rescue Basics, Operations in general, First Aid etc.
Advanced training at schools

Training Centre Hoya (technical training)

THW Training Centre Neuhausen (leadership training, International training)
Coordination of THW units

International and nationwide coordination by the headquarters

Supra-regional coordination by the state associations

Regional coordination by the regional offices

Local interventions by the local sections

„large scale scenario“
Thank you!

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