

## Switzerland helps Estonian Emergency Response Centre develop communications and information technology

**Estonian Emergency Response Centre project “Development of Communication and Information Technology”, or shortly “GIS-112” is funded within framework cooperation between Estonia and Switzerland. The project’s aim is to reduce the responding time from answering 112 calls to the time when an emergency service reaches the scene. One of the main goals of the project is to reduce the number of deaths during fire accidents, guarantee a faster help to the injured, that way increasing the number of patients who are reanimated in emergency and minimizing possible damage resulting from the environmental and property accidents.**

Although the Estonia Response Centre, the Rescue Services and Ambulances directly do not prevent accidents, they can significantly reduce the severity of the consequences. This will take place in situations when emergency services respond to emergency calls as quickly as possible and minimize the time necessary. The project is targeted at reducing the time from emergency call to Estonia Response Centre to the time when rescue teams arrive at the scene.

For that purpose, Emergency Response Centre procured for their own needs, as well for Rescue Teams and Ambulance services the operational digital map, which includes the necessary equipment for allocated cars positions. The digital map plus the necessary software simplifies emergency services to find the fastest way to the scene. This saves driving time and minimum necessary time before giving first aid or rescue people or start fire fighting. The caller's location is also shown on the map as closely as possible. This enables to find the location of the accident, especially in rural areas, much quickly and easily.

The system will be built up with a development potential. If the current project application has been realized and reached it’s full to a logistical and coordination functions, it will enable comprehensive monitoring of events and activities. Then in the future after developing the system, it can be used as base of the scene management software. In addition to all that it helps to prepare statistical and quality analysis.

The project budget is 2 369 405 CHF, which is approximately 23.5 million Estonian croons, 15% of which is financed by the Estonian Government and 85% by the Government of Switzerland. The project comes to an end in 2012.

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