



Swedish Civil
Contingencies
Agency



The term societal safety can sound huge and limitless. But in fact it's a very personal concept. We ourselves are society. *You are society.*



We support you and society

Some accidents, emergencies and crises are small and private, whereas others envelope the whole world. Someone falling over at home doesn't perhaps entail the same extensive consequences as Storm Gudrun, but for an old person it can signify just as serious a crisis. A kitchen fire in a home with children can end just as tragically as a tsunami in south-east Asia.

It's not our job to warn you about all the terrible things that can happen to you. Our job is to support you and society, so that the various stakeholders involved in an emergency can retain their responsibilities and do the best they possibly can in a difficult situation.



We are parts of the whole

Not so very long ago accidents and emergencies were viewed as limited phenomena without any greater context. The work involved in dealing with them was therefore often directed towards individual operations to save lives and property.

That approach has changed.



Today we see the connection between many of the incidents that we want to prevent and to prepare you and the whole of society for. The connection isn't necessarily between various incidents but between our methods for dealing with them – **before, during and after they have occurred.**

Ready for crises

The more prepared we are the less severe will be the consequences of emergencies and crises. The MSB's mission is to support and develop your and society's ability to deal with them, and to strengthen that ability so that we are one step ahead.

We must ensure that we are prepared when it happens; that the right measures are taken as an incident progresses; and that we learn from it when it's over.

A visible result of being well prepared for emergencies and crises is that measures are effective and coordinated, both domestically and overseas.



Building by preventing

The first step towards a stable and robust society that can withstand severe strains and crises **is that its inhabitants should be able to prevent everyday accidents and emergencies themselves**. And if they occur anyway, you yourself should be able to deal with them, and know where to turn to for more assistance.

That is what the MSB will contribute to achieving.

Some of the tasks of the MSB (Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency) are to:

- direct, order, quality assure, and manage research and development work for civil protection (against accidents and emergencies), emergency management, and civil defence
- provide training for relevant societal bodies so that they possess up to date knowledge, good methods, functioning technical support systems, and personnel that have been trained, tried and tested for their roles
- establish standards and regulations for the handling of dangerous goods, and flammables and explosives
- establish standards for the prevention of serious chemical emergencies and fires
- develop and maintain technical systems and aids for work on societal protection and emergency preparedness
- execute operations both overseas and in Sweden, and cooperate in preparation for complex international operations
- support and stimulate all stakeholders, from individuals to society as a whole, in the work on taking preventive and vulnerability reducing measures
- follow up on and evaluate emergency preparedness, propose schemes and objectives, and provide assessments of society's needs in relation to various forms of measures for societal protection and emergency preparedness

On 1st January 2009 the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) was established. The MSB has offices in Stockholm and Karlstad, and colleges in Sandö and Revinge.

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