MA - Methodology Areas | Abstract (and subsequent Paper)

OC - (26134) - THE RISK-BASED APPROACH TO DIMENSIONING OF ARCTIC EMERGENCY RESPONSE – REAL AND PERCEIVED EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN GREENLAND AND SVALBARD

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There are specific hazards in the Arctic that challenge everyday activities, emergency response, and rescue operations. Both Greenland and Svalbard face challenges in emergency preparedness, but have significantly different opportunities to address them. While the Arctic hazards they confront are similar, there are significant differences in the approaches and effectiveness of their responses. Many countries, including those in the Arctic, are adopting a risk-based approach to emergency preparedness and response planning. Risk-based dimensioning aims to ensure consistency between available emergency response resources and the local economic reality, matching identified risks. Many factors influence decision-making on preparedness, such as context-specific hazards, available resources, experiences with previous events, overall activity, and the need to prioritise different public goods. The chapter aims to examine the specific emergency preparedness structures established in Greenland and Svalbard to address these risks and the extent to which we can characterise the approaches as risk-based. The findings in this study stem from data collected during emergency response, discussions with key stakeholders in emergency preparedness in the two regions, and the author's own observations in Svalbard and Greenland. The chapter introduces the two contexts, Greenland and Svalbard, and then presents their experiences with emergency response activity using two cases to illustrate the difference in approach. The paper briefly explains available rescue resources in the two regions, followed by our conceptual risk and emergency response framework. It then discusses the practical applicability of a risk-based approach to dimensioning in Arctic emergency response.

Palavras-chave : risk-based dimensioning, Arctic, Prepardness