



Australian Government

DEFPH008A Coordinate environmental health operations

Release 2

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Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comments
2	DEF12V2	Layout adjusted. No changes to content.
1	DEF12V1	Primary release.

Unit Descriptor

This unit covers the competency required to coordinate environmental health operations within the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

Application of the Unit

The unit includes coordinating personnel and resources within an environmental health team to implement and monitor team tasking to provide environmental health support to a dependent organisation participating in **ADF activities**.

This unit of competency is applicable to environmental health personnel. This function is limited to the performance of tasks in accordance with organisational policies and procedures.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

Pre-Requisites

Not applicable.

Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a Unit of Competency.

Performance Criteria describe the required performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where ***bold italicised*** text is used, further information is detailed in the Required Skills and Knowledge and/or the Range Statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the Evidence Guide.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

1. Plan environmental health tasking for individuals within a team

- 1.1 Instructions for environmental health support are obtained, interpreted and where necessary, clarified with team supervisor.
- 1.2 Task objectives are identified as consistent with the identified **health threat** and the operating environment.
- 1.3 **Tasking** allocation is determined according to operational priorities and time requirements, to complete tasks in appropriate order and to minimise duplication of effort.
- 1.4 Resources are allocated within tasking allocation to ensure tasks are achievable and to make efficient use of resources.
- 1.5 Workplace safety is considered within tasking allocation to ensure tasks may be completed free from preventable injury or illness.
- 1.6 Tasking is issued to personnel in accordance with **organisational policies and procedures**.

2. Implement and monitor environmental health tasking

- 2.1 Liaison with **relevant persons** at the **dependent organisation** is undertaken to inform about and gain consent to, the occurrence of tasking.
- 2.2 Tasks are executed in accordance with plan and organisational policies and procedures.
- 2.3 Tasking is monitored to ensure progress is consistent with operational priorities, time requirements and resource allocation.
- 2.4 Actual task outcomes are identified and compared with planned objectives, task instructions, time allocations to allow adjustment of tasking as required.
- 2.5 Tasking allocation is revised as required, to meet planned objectives.
- 2.6 Tasking is modified to meet unforeseen requirements, resources are reallocated and the extent of change is communicated to team supervisor.
- 2.7 Technical advice relating to environmental health is communicated to personnel within the dependent organisation.

Required Skills and Knowledge

This describes the essential skills and knowledge and their level, required for this unit.

Required Skills

- communicate appropriately about, consult on and impart knowledge of:
 - application of the permethrin/DEET repellent system
 - causes of disease transmission
 - causes of manpower wastage
 - control measures of disease transmission
 - food storage and distribution standards
 - risk management principles
 - water quality assurance measures
- establish and maintain administrative systems
- manage workplace issues and problems
- prioritise tasking

Required Knowledge

- administrative systems
- application of the permethrin/DEET repellent system
- best use of available resources
- causes of disease transmission
- causes of manpower wastage
- control measures of disease transmission
- documentation processes relevant to own workplace
- food storage and distribution standards including the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) approach to food control
- health surveillance system
- legal rights and responsibilities
- methods of establishing field hygiene and waste facilities
- organisational policies and procedures
- pathophysiology of common communicable diseases
- planning and control systems
- process of disease
- risk management principles
- role and capabilities of other health care providers including environmental health team
- team leadership management principles
- time management strategies to set priorities
- water quality assurance measures

Evidence Guide

Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit

Assessment must confirm the ability to:

- determine a tasking plan which is achievable and make best use of available resources
- coordinate tasking of at least two team members to achieve desired outcomes
- Consistency in performance

Competency should be demonstrated on a minimum of two occasions.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Context of assessment

Competency should be assessed in an actual workplace situation or in a simulated situation or scenario.

Specific resources for assessment

Access is required to:

- appropriate equipment and stores
- range of notional health threats based on recent and historical experience, to tailor tasking
- dependent personnel
- relevant organisational policies and procedures

Range Statement

The Range Statement relates to the Unit of Competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. ***Bold italicised*** wording in the Performance Criteria is detailed below.

<i>ADF activities</i> may include:	• ADF exercises in Australia or overseas • ADF operational deployment • Civil aid to the community task • In a field or urban setting • Training activities
<i>Health threats</i> may include:	• Environment health threats: • animal • disease • terrain • vegetation • weather • Occupational health threats: • road traffic accident • industrial injury • Operational health threats: • chemical/biological injury • combat injury • psychiatric injury
<i>Tasking</i> may include:	• Applying the permethrin protection system • Assisting in the ongoing health threat assessment and health surveillance • Collecting water samples for laboratory analysis • Contributing to epidemiologic quick assessment of disease • Contributing to organisational compliance with work health and safety and industrial hygiene policy/procedures • Coordinating field waste management • Implementing strategies to control the transmission of disease • Inspecting and monitoring water distribution for safe water handling practices • Monitoring food hygiene and preventing the transmission of disease via ingested sources • Operating pesticide dispersal equipment • Performing a water quality survey of an established water distribution point

	• Performing chlorine dosing of water at the point of supply
Organisational policies and procedures may include:	• Clinical standards (state/territory and national) • Codes of ethics • Codes of practice • Environmental health policy • Health and hygiene guidelines • Health surveillance policy documents • Industry professional body standards • Industry standards (state/territory and national) • Organisational health policy directives • Pesticides manual • Relevant Australian Standards • Relevant Commonwealth Acts • Workplace safety guidelines
Relevant persons may include:	• Area commander • Coordinating personnel • Organisational commander • Section commander • Team leaders
Dependent organisation may include:	• Company sized group • Deployed ADF team • Own organic organisation

Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.