

# CBRNE Strategy of the Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI)

CBRNE fact box:

The acronym "CBRNE" is a collective term for Chemical (C), Biological (B), Radiological (R), Nuclear (N) and Explosive (E) materials that are extremely hazardous and that may cause loss of life or damage to health, the environment, tangible assets or other societal interests.

This is a summary version of the strategy for FFI's CBRNE defence and CBRNE emergency preparedness efforts. The strategy forms the normative basis for FFI's research on societal security.

The strategy is based on Ministry of Defence guidelines, the defence sector's R&D strategy and the Armed Forces' and civil society's need to prevent, protect against and manage CBRNE-related incidents. NATO and EU action plans have also been used as a basis for the strategy.

FFI's R&D activities and work on CBRNE protection are based on different types of CBRNE threats and apply to the entire spectrum of crises from peacetime through security policy crises to armed conflict. This may include:

- other nations' military forces in armed conflict with our forces and against civil society
- threats connected to the use of weapons, simpler delivery systems or primitive methods on the part of non-state actors and terrorists that can impact military forces and civil society
- undesirable events, mishaps, accidents and intentional acts.

## FFI's vision for CBRNE

FFI's vision is to become the primary national supplier of CBRNE research and knowledge-based services. FFI will be an emergency preparedness resource and assist in solving challenges for the Armed Forces and civil society, including through military-civilian cooperation. In addition, FFI will be an international supplier in certain areas of CBRNE research.

FFI strives continuously and determinedly to understand the threats posed by CBRNE, irrespective of cause and scope. This is a key premise for carrying out R&D activities that will come in useful for the Armed Forces, the defence sector and civil society. The institute will apply its expertise to assist the civil authorities in their efforts to prevent CBRNE incidents.

FFI hones in on the user's needs in order to build the required knowledge base that will contribute to solving the challenges the user is facing. FFI collaborates with the military establishment, civil authorities and relevant actors at a strategic, operational and tactical level to be able to provide advice and promote the best solutions for CBRNE preparedness and CBRNE protection.

## Main objectives of the strategy

FFI will be an emergency preparedness resource for the Armed Forces, the defence sector and civil society by providing the best advice and recommendations on capability development and on preparedness and protection measures during CBRNE incidents. This applies irrespective of the cause and scope, and whether weapons or CBRNE means and threat materials have been used.

FFI will help to strengthen the Armed Forces' and civil society's knowledge of and ability to prevent, protect against and manage intended and unintended incidents involving CBRNE means or weapons,

and contribute towards the normalisation of communities after such incidents. This applies to the entire spectrum of crises from peacetime through security policy crises to armed conflict.

FFI's research will underpin the work of further developing the Armed Forces' CBRNE defence. FFI is highly proficient in countermeasures for chemical weapons and supports the Armed Forces and civil society with advice and recommendations on medical treatment for exposure to such materials. Further development of the Armed Forces' CBRNE defence will also bolster the Armed Forces' ability to assist civil authorities during CBRNE incidents and crises.

FFI will contribute research-based knowledge to resolve any issues and challenges that the Armed Forces, the defence sector, the justice and public security sector, national authorities, agencies and other users may have within the CBRNE field.

### Subsidiary objectives of the strategy

FFI's subsidiary objectives for CBRNE work are:

- FFI will be a leading research institute within CBRNE defence for the Armed Forces and civil society.
- FFI will be an emergency preparedness resource for the Armed Forces, the defence sector and civil society in the event of CBRNE incidents.
- FFI will contribute towards the industrial development of CBRNE defence capabilities.
- FFI will have a systems understanding of CBRNE.
- FFI will have "user understanding".

FFI's CBRNE work and deliverables include research and development, "technology watch", testing and evaluation, operational support, knowledge-based advice and recommendations, teaching, training and courses, investigations and reports, assignments, innovation and business development, in addition to representation and participation in councils, committees and national and international fora.

#### **FFI will conduct high-quality research**

FFI's advice and recommendations will meet the needs of all relevant actors and will be based on knowledge and research that is backed up by a wide range of measures, including publication in peer-reviewed journals.

#### **FFI will engage in national and international cooperation**

FFI will engage in broad cooperation with international partners within NATO, the EDA, the EU, ANNCPC and SMART, and cooperation via bilateral agreements with individual countries. In particular, the USA, the UK, the Netherlands, Sweden and Canada are considered the most important countries for this collaboration.

#### **FFI will have "user understanding"**

There are many actors with responsibilities and roles within CBRNE preparedness at the national and international level. FFI will have an understanding of the various actors' roles, responsibilities, organisation and cooperative relationships, including civil-military cooperation applicable before, during and after a CBRNE incident. In addition, FFI will contribute to creating sound national CBRNE collaboration, including supporting the justice and public security sector in their areas of responsibility.

Kjeller, 1 January 2016  
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Director General