

Application of the WHO JEE Assessment Tool in Finland (and experiences as a JEE Assessment Mission team member)

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Content

- Finland and the JEE process
- JEE in Finland
 - Roles and responsibilities
 - Challenges, lessons learned
 - JEE recommendations
- Personal reflections from JEE missions

Finland's contribution to Joint External Evaluation

- Finland has supported the external evaluation process through political, technical and financial means (in GHSA, now also in JEE Alliance)
- Emphasis on multisectoral collaboration
- Several technical experts participated in >15 missions
 - Three myself (team member in Ethiopia, Armenia and Lao PDR)



HOW WE ORGANISED OUR JEE?

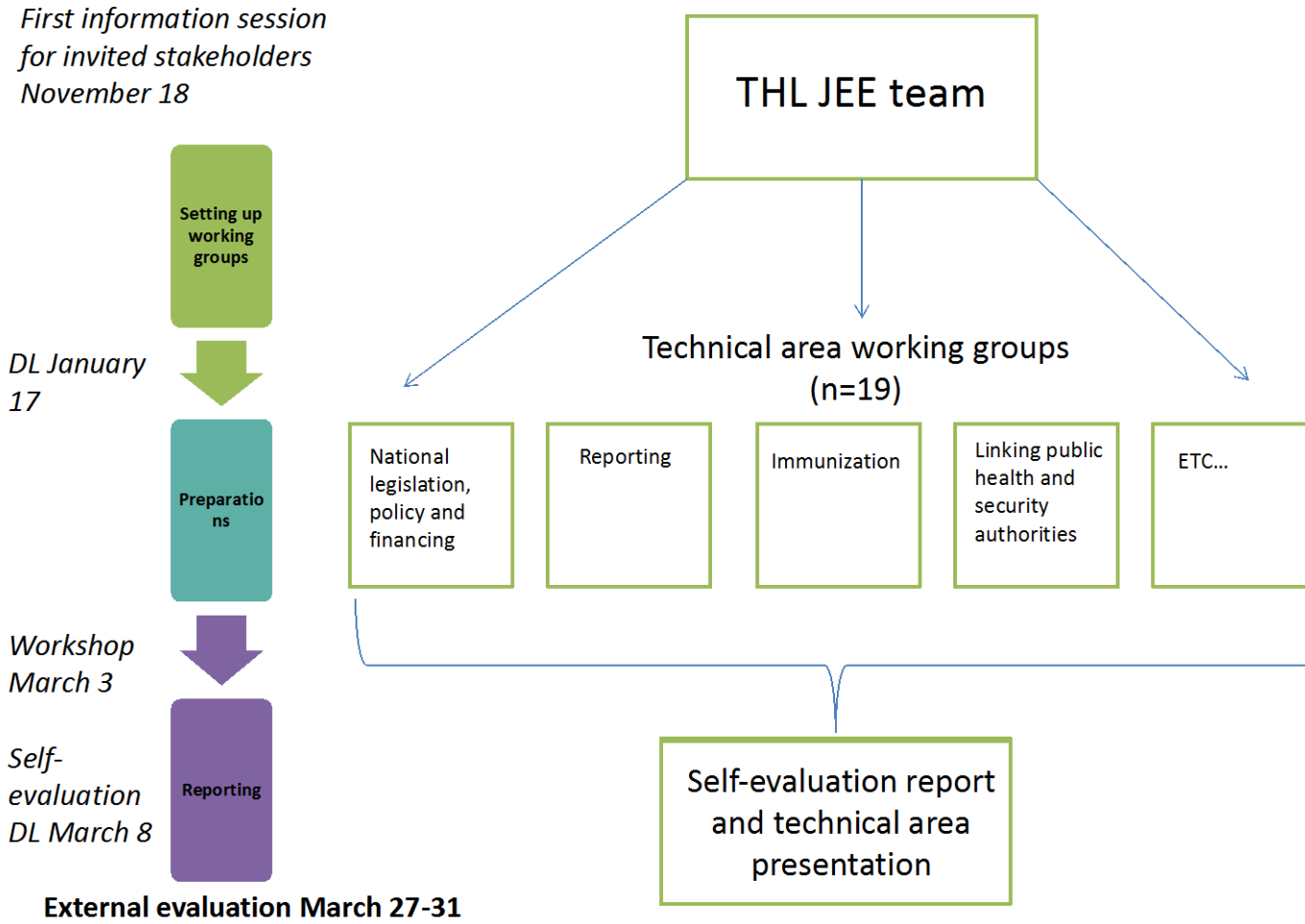
Roles and responsibilities

The national Security Committee
High-level oversight

Multisectoral Point of Contact team
Ministry-level coordination, support

THL JEE team
Technical coordination, self-evaluation process

Coordination of the self-evaluation



Challenges in the beginning

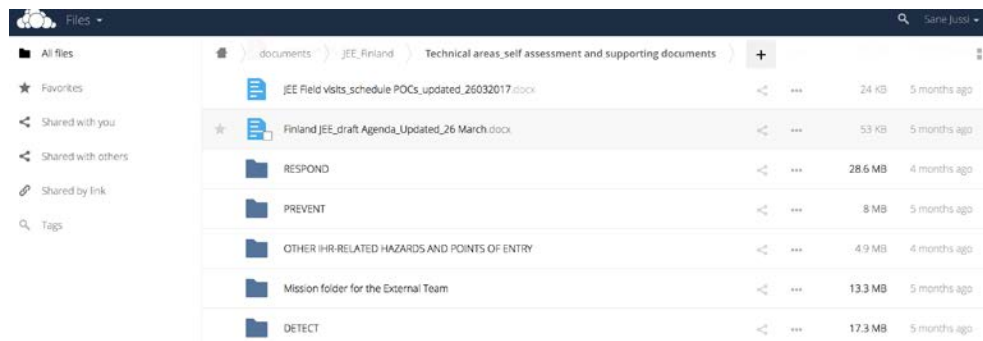
- Understanding of the IHR
 - “Isn’t this your (health sector) thing?”
- Motivation when several other assessments are done regularly/busy people
- Forming of the working groups
 - Involvement of leadership from all sectors

What helped?

- Support from those of us who have been on missions
- Clear templates, guidelines for working (WHO)
- Detailed schedule with deadlines, start early!
- Common goals

Some technical and operational aspects

- We used cloud service for document sharing and management
- Preparatory Workshop a month before the mission, WHO EURO invited
 - To check multisectoral coherence of actions, scoring and possible overlapping areas
 - Groups went through self-evaluation answers, cross-checked when necessary, discussed findings, and developed the respective power point templates



Notes from the self-evaluation process

- After the first confusion, most national experts found the process very useful
- In certain technical areas, gaps in capacity were quickly detected by going through the questions with a diverse group of experts (multisectoral view)
- Network building

And then, Finland JEE March 2017



- Ten experts reviewed Finland's capacity to prevent, detect and respond to health threats (experts from WHO, FAO, Sweden, Germany, Estonia, US, Israel, European Centre for Disease Control and Prevention)
- Technical area discussions as defined in the WHO agenda
- External evaluators did field visits to laboratories (human and animal), points of entries (Helsinki airport, harbor), hospital, Radiation Safety Agency, Emergency Operations Centre (Helsinki city)

JEE recommendations in a nutshell

- Finland has a high level of preparedness for large-scale health threats, such as influenza pandemic and antimicrobial resistance
- The evaluation group commended Finland's horizontal, broad-based collaboration between authorities
- However, there is also room for improvement
 - Challenges created by the forthcoming health, social services and regional government reform
 - How to get more done with limited human resources



The way forward

- National Action Plan
- Technical recommendations and political will
- New JEE in future, assessment of recommendations from the first one

Personal reflections from JEE missions (from both sides of the table)

- Great experiences
- Learning opportunity, sharing ideas both ways
- Scores discussions and priority actions
 - What really matters
- Transparency is key
 - The mission is for the benefit of the host country, not for the team, not an audit
- Capacity building in health security
 - It's not only about money

KIITOS!

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