International Life Saving Federation of Europe

ILSE

Risk Assessment System

Edition 2018

The ILSE Rescue Commission has therefore developed a strategic approach to Risk Assessments, which will make a significant contribution to the safety of European bathing areas. This model has been developed specifically for ILSE accredited Risk Assessors who will carry out the assessments on the designated bathing areas within the European region.

Accredited Risk Assessors are active in ILSE Member Associations in 23 countries in Europe: Austria, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey.

A properly implemented programme of Risk Assessment will assist greatly in the prevention of drowning fatalities and bathing related injuries. Such a programme will fix the necessary number of lifeguards and equipment, assist effective beach management and would therefore be beneficial to Beach Managers, Lifeguards and Local Authorities/Beach Operators in general.

The Risk Assessment is divided into eight sections, which cover the following areas:

- The area surveyed – The extent and description of the area surveyed
- Area usage and Activities – To include any areas to be zoned
- Emergency Service Access – Ease of access for emergency services
- Public Rescue Equipment – Any available rescue equipment for use by the public
- Signage – Availability of appropriate signage
- Safety Information Board – Availability and location of safety information
- Hazards and Risks – Identify, classify, remove or minimise
- Lifeguard Provision – Where necessary, appropriate provision, equipment, facilities and location

All Risk Assessors must have successfully undergone training and assessment courses conducted and approved by ILSE.