

Integrated Consortium of Laboratory Networks (ICLN)

Brief to the NPNDN National Meeting

January 30, 2007



Agenda

- ICLN Background Information
- Network Coordinating Group Accomplishments
 - Responsible Federal Agencies (RFAs)
 - ICLN Capability Assessment
 - Subgroup activities
- Target Key Outcomes for 2007

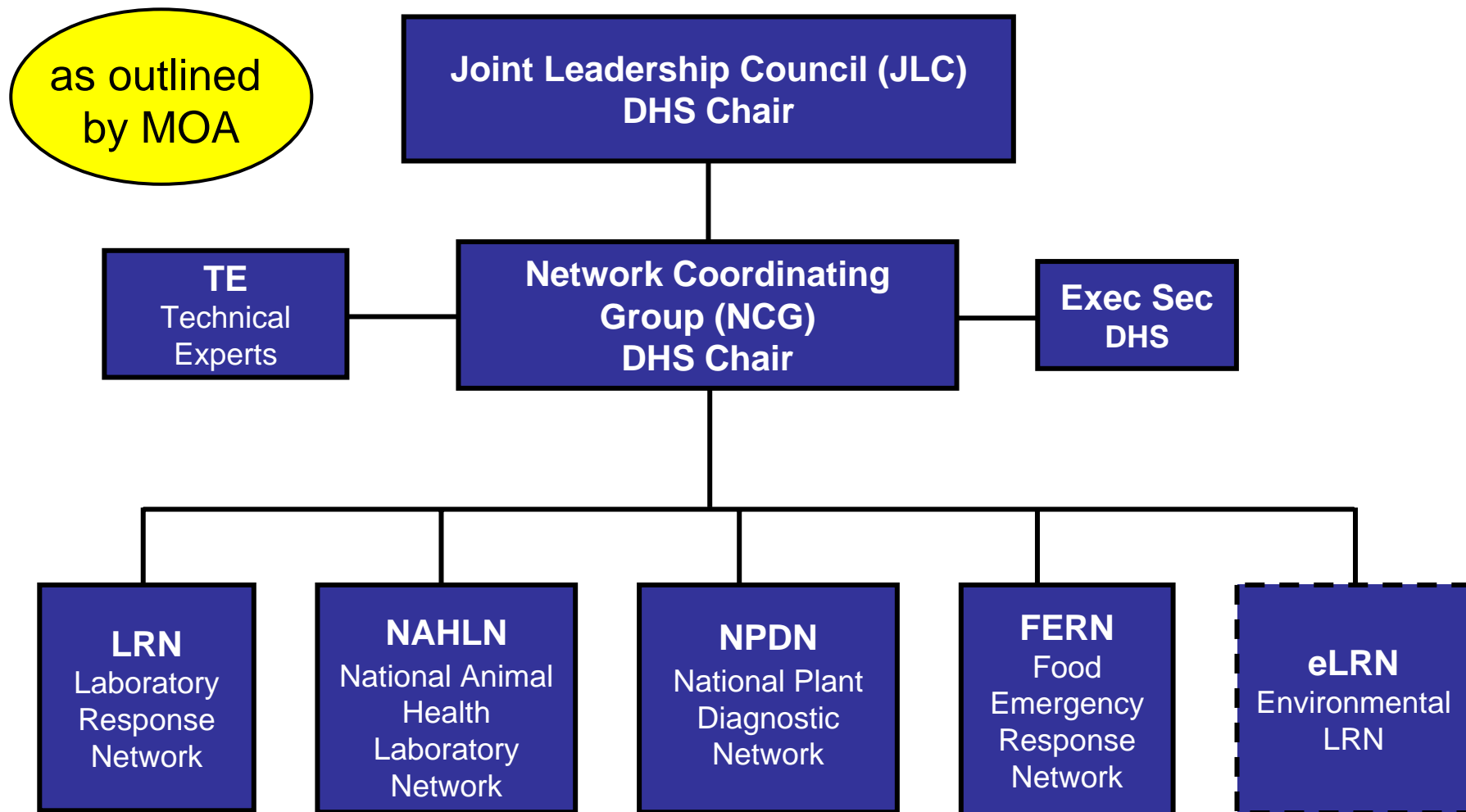
ICLN History

- Homeland Security Council involvement began in November 2004
 - Gathered agencies involved, endorsed independent networks involvement, and recognized the benefits gained from creating a collaborative alliance.
- Vision: A U.S. homeland security infrastructure with a coordinated and operational system of laboratory networks that provide **timely, high quality, and interpretable results** for early detection and effective consequence management of acts of terrorism and other events requiring an integrated laboratory response.
- ICLN was established by a Memorandum of Agreement among ten Federal Departments/Agencies in June 2005.
 - Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Energy, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Interior, Justice, State, Environmental Protection Agency

ICLN Functions and Motivators

- Signatories agree to work cooperatively to optimize national laboratory preparedness by improving coordination of laboratory response to incidents
- Promote common standards of performance across all lab response assets to ensure data supporting homeland security decisions is best quality and defensible
- Assess, fill gaps in coverage across multiple sample types, potential victim groups (human, animal, plant), all WMD weapons, all response phases
- Rationalize/enhance relevant interagency budgets
- Recognizes Responsible Federal Agencies' role in assuring capability of networks

ICLN Organizational Structure



ICLN Roles and Responsibilities

ICLN	Main Function
JLC	Promotes coordinated initiatives. Meets to review ICLN strategic plans and to support coordinated Federal budget development.
NCG	Develop and propose policy and procedures. Establishes the common operating procedures of the ICLN (e.g., notification and reporting guidance for timely, high quality, and interpretable results).
NCG Subgroups	Functional element of the NCG formed to address high priority elements which are the basis for best-quality lab results supporting Homeland Security decisions. (Methods, Accreditation and QC, Proficiency Testing, Training, Scenarios Dev., and IT Communication and Coordination).
Responsible Federal Agency (RFA)	In its assigned response role, responsible for ensuring the required capability is achieved and maintained.

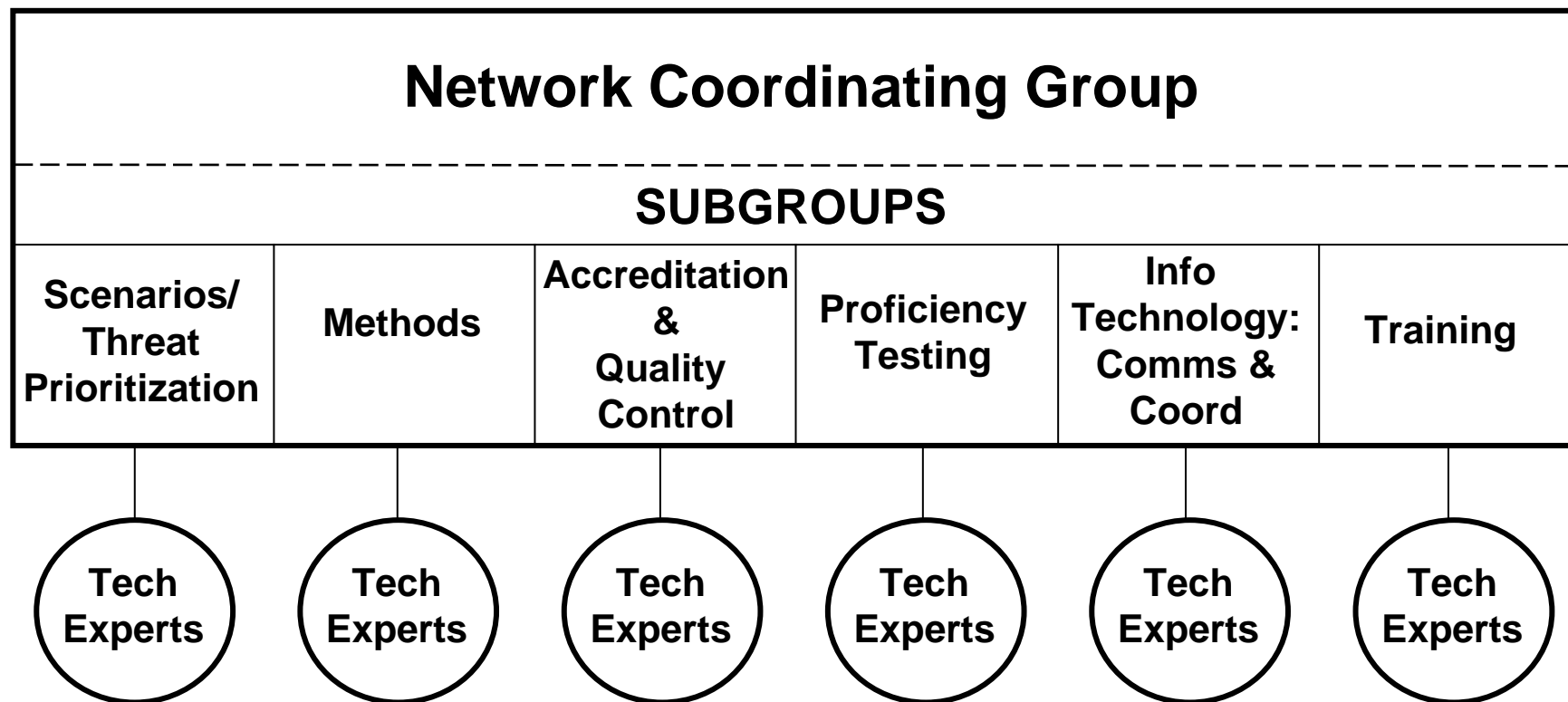
NCG Major Accomplishments

- Identified Responsible Federal Agencies by examining network roles across response spectrum
- Conducted quantitative lab capability assessment based on nine scenarios across all hazards
- NCG subgroups were established and have made progress addressing identified common technical objectives
- Continued work within the interagency working groups for Environmental Chemical and Environmental Radiological Laboratory Response
- Collaborating with the interagency working group building a strategy toward validated sampling for environmental biological samples

ICLN Scenario Based Capability Assessment

- DHS contracted Homeland Security Institute (HSI) to leverage the National Planning Scenarios and other established scenarios.
 - **Scenarios chosen challenge all ICLN networks**
 - Chemical CWA
 - Chemical TIC
 - Chemical in Food
 - Biological aerosol attack
 - Pandemic outbreak
 - Biological in Food
 - Biological Foreign Animal Disease
 - Biological Plant Infestation
 - Radiological/Nuclear Event
- Final report targeted for February 2007

NCG Subgroups Established



- Subgroups are functional elements of NCG
- Access to Technical Experts occurs via Subgroups
- Technical Experts can be subject matter experts from govt, academia, professional organizations, or industry.

Target Key Outcomes for Near-Term

- List of prioritized analysis gaps derived from risk-based assessment
- Interoperability in key areas (methods sharing, information management and flow)
- Interagency agreed strategies toward validated sampling plans for chemical and radiological contamination
- Development of a 5 year strategic plan

Back-up slides

JLC Approved ICLN Response Matrix

	Chemical					Biological			
	Lab Support to Phase of Response					Lab Support to Phase of Response			
	Monitoring/ surveillance	Incident Response	Remediation	Forensics		Monitoring/ surveillance	Incident Response	Remediation	Forensics
Human Clinical	HHS	HHS	HHS	FBI	Human Clinical	HHS	HHS	HHS	FBI
Environmental	EPA	EPA	EPA	FBI	Environmental	HHS	HHS	EPA	FBI
Food	USDA/ HHS	USDA/ HHS	USDA/ HHS	FBI	Food	USDA/ HHS	HHS/ USDA	USDA/ HHS	FBI
Animal	USDA	USDA	USDA	FBI	Animal	USDA	USDA	USDA	FBI
Plant	USDA	USDA	USDA	FBI	Plant	USDA	USDA	USDA	FBI
Drinking Water	EPA	EPA	EPA	FBI	Drinking Water	EPA	EPA	EPA	FBI

JLC Approved ICLN Response Matrix

continued

	Radiological			
	Lab Support to Phase of Response			
	Monitoring/ surveillance	Incident Response	Remediation	Forensics
Human Clinical	HHS	HHS	HHS	FBI
Environmental	EPA	DOE/ EPA	EPA	FBI
Food	USDA/ HHS	USDA/ HHS	USDA/ HHS	FBI
Animal	USDA	USDA	USDA	FBI
Plant	USDA	USDA	USDA	FBI
Drinking Water	EPA	EPA	EPA	FBI

- RFAs have been identified at Dept level
- Identified agency responsible for ensuring capability exists, though actual capability may exist in another Dept
- Filling a cell on this chart does NOT mean the capability really needs to exist under current prevailing threat conditions
- *MOAs/MOUs will be required to clarify supporting agency roles and commitments to RFAs*

NCG Subgroups: Accomplishments

- The technical subgroups have been working toward fulfilling near-term objectives to identify and catalog current capabilities and protocols.
- Gap analyses have been completed for some subgroups by comparing the current laboratory network capabilities with an end state goal.
- Accomplishments
 - Methods: Repository of methods for high priority CBR threats, Standard Chain of Custody form, and Standard Guidelines for validating methods
 - PT and Training repositories: Collected all current laboratory PT and Training programs
 - ICLN Quality Assurance Checklist: Developed and proposed standard metrics toward minimum level of quality assurance
 - Scenarios and Threat Prioritization: Recommended ICLN Analyte List
 - Info Technology: Planning avian flu tabletop exercise for spring 07