



# CYBER RESILIENCY CHALLENGE 2022

Another successful initiative of USAID's partnership with USEA under the U.S.-Europe Energy Bridge.

## CYBER RESILIENCY IS ENERGY RESILIENCY

Energy operators need technology, people, and processes to strengthen their systems against cyber attacks. The Cyber Resiliency Challenge is an opportunity for energy operators to test their incident response processes, identify improvement opportunities based on their existing resources, and learn from energy industry peers and experts.

## WHAT IS THE CYBER RESILIENCY CHALLENGE?

The Cyber Resiliency Challenge is a cybersecurity incident preparedness activity that takes participants through the process of dealing with a simulated incident. During the simulation, tabletop facilitators introduce "injects," or situations based on real-world experience, to observe the organization's simulated actions and decisions in response. In 2022 USEA hosted two of these challenges.



**TABLETOP EXERCISES**  
Conducted more than 16 hours across 2 separate exercises in June and July 2022.



**REAL WORLD SCENARIOS**  
Including disinformation, lateral movement, ransomware, destructive attacks, and IT and physical compromises.



**LED BY INDUSTRY EXPERTS**  
Comprising world-class cybersecurity trainers with extensive energy and incident response experience.



**100% REMOTE DELIVERY**  
Allowed for participation despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine.

## THE IMPACT

Within 6 weeks of participation, all operators implemented at least one improvement:

FORMED INCIDENT RESPONSE TEAMS

50%

APPLIED BEST PRACTICES

25%

ESTABLISHED SECURE COMMUNICATIONS

13%

720 TRAINING HOURS DELIVERED (127% OF TARGET)

38% REVISED INCIDENT RESPONSE PLANS

13% CREATED NETWORK DIAGRAMS

13% IMPLEMENTED HONEY POTS

## WHO PARTICIPATED?

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

MONTENEGRO

KOSOVO

NORTH MACEDONIA

ALBANIA

BULGARIA

UKRAINE

MOLDOVA

GEORGIA

ARMENIA

19 EUROPEAN/ EURASIAN ENERGY OPERATORS

76 OPERATOR PERSONNEL

91% MALE  
9% FEMALE

TRANSMISSION

MIXED

DISTRIBUTION

53%

21%

26%

13%

87%

OPERATING TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERS  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERS

## FEEDBACK RECEIVED

"The training was very useful, especially the discussions and brain-storming sessions on the topics systematically organized by the cybersecurity consultants."

"We had the opportunity to compare our personal views with those of fellow participants from the operators from other countries."

"The proposed possible solutions to the given scenarios by the other participants were of great benefit and interest to our experts."

100%

WANT TO ATTEND THE NEXT ONE

