



Mountain Safety Knowledge Base

Timeline 1 of 6

- 2014 – Lake Tahoe
Genswein / Dür – Standardisation of Avalanche Rescue Curriculum
D. Letang / AVACOM -> Setup a Workgroup -> Interested People can participate
- 2015 – Killarney
AVACOM Report -> Update Working Group“ – Database of standardized avalanche rescue illustrations and key instructional text's
- 23.08.2016 – Mail from M. Genswein to ICAR Board
(5 days before the board meeting) – Mail includes the Mountain Safety Knowledge Base Concept - 30 pages.
This mail also includes some important points:

„Within the last two years it comes more and more obvious that the approach taken by this workgroup may and should be extrapolated to other topics of mountain safety!“

„It was obvious to me to welcome and include equally the UIAA and IFMGA in this project!“
- 26.08.2016 –ICAR Boardmeeting
Decision by the ICAR Board at their meeting – „Topic 15.2: The ICAR Executive Board decides unanimously to approve general support, without any financial obligations.“



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- 2016 Borovets
First presentation as MSKB on the joint meeting with terms like „*Standardization*“ or „*Recommended Strategies*“

Comments:
 - Common Project ICAR, IFMGA... – hosted by UIAA
 - no new or additional recommendation platform – distribution of the given recommendations
ICAR Board decided, that the technical committee from ICAR should discuss this topic and find a solution for the relationship ICAR <-> MSKB. Gebhard invited UIAA (Marc Beverly, Melchiori, Custer) into this workinggroup.
- 01/2017 – First Draft MSKB – Goals and Limitations
- 13. – 14.01.2017 – ICAR – Board Meeting
Topic 12 – Decision
 - Gebhard and his workgroup shall collect more opinions
 - Issue to be put on the agenda of the Technical Committee (TC) in August
- 04/2017 – Comments from Marc B.
MSKB should be housed under UIAA
- 08.06.2016 – UIAA Board Meeting

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Timeline 3 of 6

- 20.06.2017 – Consensus with Marc B. (by Skype)
 - > MSKB should work under the umbrella of UIAA
 - > UIAA constitute a committee – ICAR is part of this committee
 - > This committee should handle the following topics:
 - discuss Goals and limitations for the MSKB
 - Input of knowledge into the MSKB
 - discuss financial issues
 - Control function to MSKB related topics and outputs
 -
- until 10.07.2017 – Proposal from Marc and Gebhard was given to the ICAR Technical Committee
 - Positive feedback from Fidel, Pat and Marcel
 - no feedback from Dominique
- 10.07.2017 – Meeting with Manuel G. and Fidel E.
 - UIAA and IFMG is on board
 - 3 Scientific partners (SLF, ANENA, ?)
 - under the umbrella of UIAA
 - new legal body was founded (?)
 - money is running

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Timeline 4 of 6

- 16.07.2017 – Mail to Manuel G. asking for the current MSKB Concept version
- 18.07.2017 – Proposal from the Technical Committee was sent to the board – as a topic for the boardmeeting in August
- 20.07.2017 – Mail from Jürg Schweizer to all directors of UIAA / ICAR / IFMGA „as the MSK initiative gains momentum and as it seems that we are representing the "founding members", ***I think it would be good to make sure that we are on common ground.***”
- 25.07.2017 – Mail from Dominique L. – ask for feedback for Logo and Name until the 4th of August
- 25.07.2017 – Mail to Manuel G. – Remember my mail from 16.7. – current concept version is needed
- 28.07.2017 – Mail from Manuel – Finalisation of the new Concept Version – will be ready within the next days

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Timeline 5 of 6

- 10.08.2017 – Mail from Manuel G. – Meeting for founding the MSKB including Doodle for finding a date, location Bern
- 10.08.2017 – ICAR/Franz – Mail to Jürg Schweizer – we agree to his mail and we will also participate at a meeting after our board meeting.
- 20.08.2017 – Structure for working together ICAR and MSKB – agreed by the Technical Committee – send out to the Board Members
- 20.08.2017 – Structure for working together - agreed also from Marc Beverly UIAA
- 24.08.2017 – MSKB Concept from 30.12.2016 was send out for discussion on 25./26.08.2017!

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Timeline 5 of 6

- 25.-26.08.2017 – Discussion within ICAR Board and Conclusion about a possible structure for working together ICAR and MSKB.
Structure for working together was accepted by the board. Jürg Schweizer's question about common ground should be discussed between all presidents (IFMGA, UIAA, ICAR, SLF, ANENA, ENSA) in front of the meeting in Bern in September.
- Sept. 2017 – Meeting of all organizations which should be part of MSKB in Bern – Result is a

„Memorandum of Understanding on establishing „MountainSafety.Info“ MSI

Mountain Safety Knowledge Base

Organizational Structure of MSKB



Mountain Safety Knowledge Base

Organizational Structure of MSKB

Task of the Managing Director of the Mountain Safety Knowledgebase

Coordination of all organizational, legal, structural and technical aspects of the database and its content

Technical aspects:

- Data format
- Data structure
- Data hosting

Access management:

- Access rights

Legal:

- IPR management with IP providers
- IPR management with IP users

Content:

- Design criteria for illustrations
- Design criteria for presentations
- Design criteria for video and other media formats
- Formal criteria on the quality of the knowledgebase content, incl. scalability of content across user groups, application types and application environments
- Support and consistency assurance for translation and glossary issues

Coordination and Support for Topic-Specific Workgroups

Initiating new topic-specific workgroups:

- Evaluation of suitable workgroup leaders and participants.
- Start-up support for the workgroup in all aspects of the formal criteria as mentioned in "Content".

Taking care of all IPR agreements with IP providers in order to separate workgroup-internal discussions on content from legal IPR discussions. Ensuring a neutral and equal treatment of authors and developers.

Evaluate the potential and necessity for research projects in topic-specific workgroups. Coordinate required resources and applications for external funding.

Research Projects and Funding

- Application for funding for research projects and Alpine Safety Knowledgebase funding
- Evaluation of partnerships for research projects and funding in close collaboration with strategic board and the member organizations of the Alpine Safety Knowledgebase.

Administration and Finances

- Documentation and reports of all Mountain Safety Knowledgebase activities
- Organizational and logistical support for all board and workgroup meetings
- Bookkeeping for the Alpine Safety Knowledgebase
- Communication and PR on behalf of the Alpine Safety Knowledgebase
- Marketing for the Alpine Safety Knowledgebase subscriptions and licenses for the various target groups

Mountain Safety Knowledge Base

Organizational Structure of MSKB

Task of the Workgroups of the Mountain Safety Knowledgebase

The workgroups apply the following rules when evaluating existing materials to be added to the knowledgebase or when developing new content:

- In order to become a procedure, technique, method, strategy or system of the "Mountain Safety Knowledgebase", quantitative proof of efficiency should be given whenever possible.
- "Best-Practice" based on expert-consensus is a possible, but not the preferred way of proof.
- The "Mountain Safety Knowledgebase" shall promote and make resources available for quantitative field studies in order to reach the quality goals
- Compatibility of system, procedures, techniques and strategies within the same topic is mandatory and across topics highly recommended
- Scalability of system, procedures, techniques and strategies across user groups and user levels within the same topic is highly recommended

Translations, terminology standardization and glossary:

Translations, terminology standardization and glossary efforts are considered a general interest and responsibility of the Mountain Safety Knowledgebase and thus are a workgroup effort paid by the workgroup account.

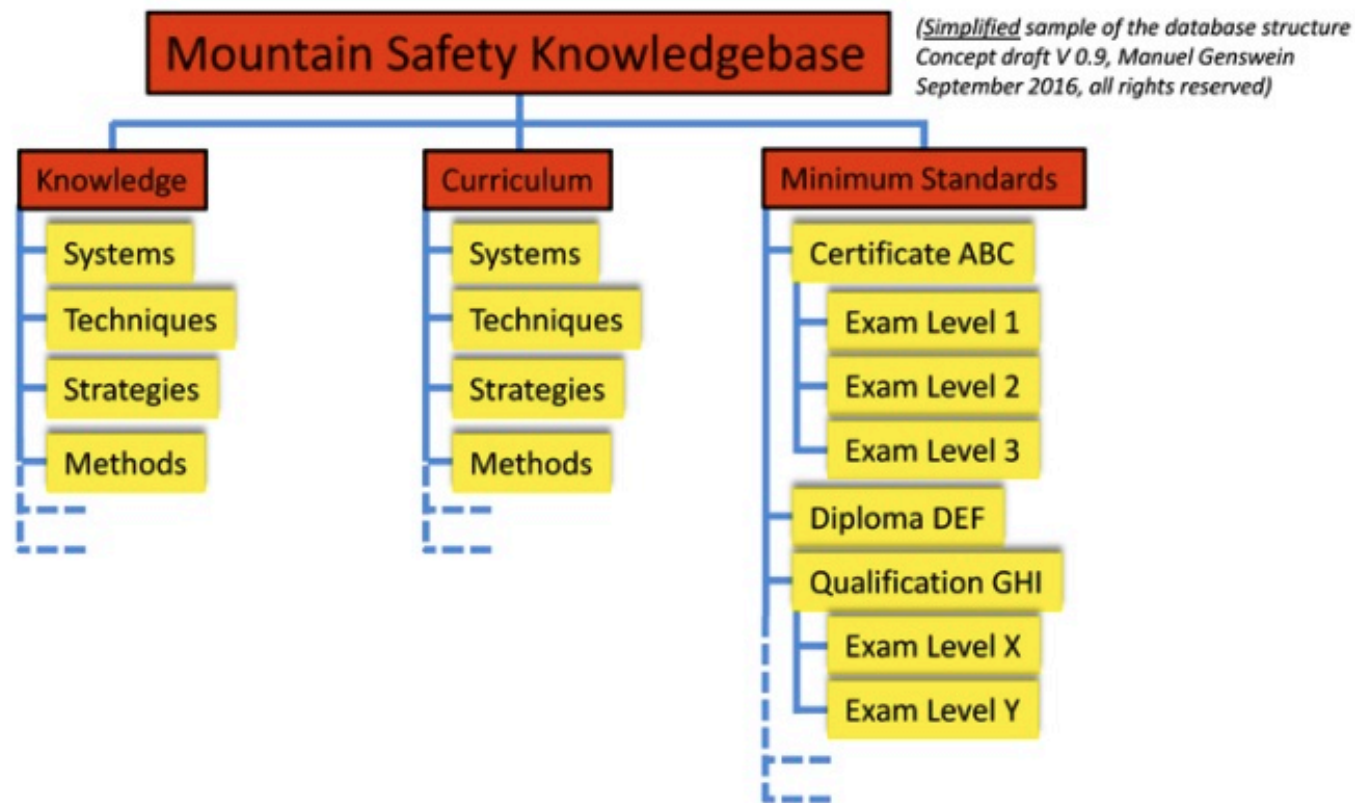
The managing director of the Mountain Safety Knowledgebase may assist the workgroup to find the necessary translation resources and coordinate terminology standardization between different topics of the Mountain Safety Knowledgebase.

R&D Projects

The workgroup identifies where further research and development projects are required and coordinates R&D projects between authors, developers and the workgroup. R&D is one of the key task of a workgroup and support for such projects should be coordinated with the managing director of the Mountain Safety Knowledgebase.

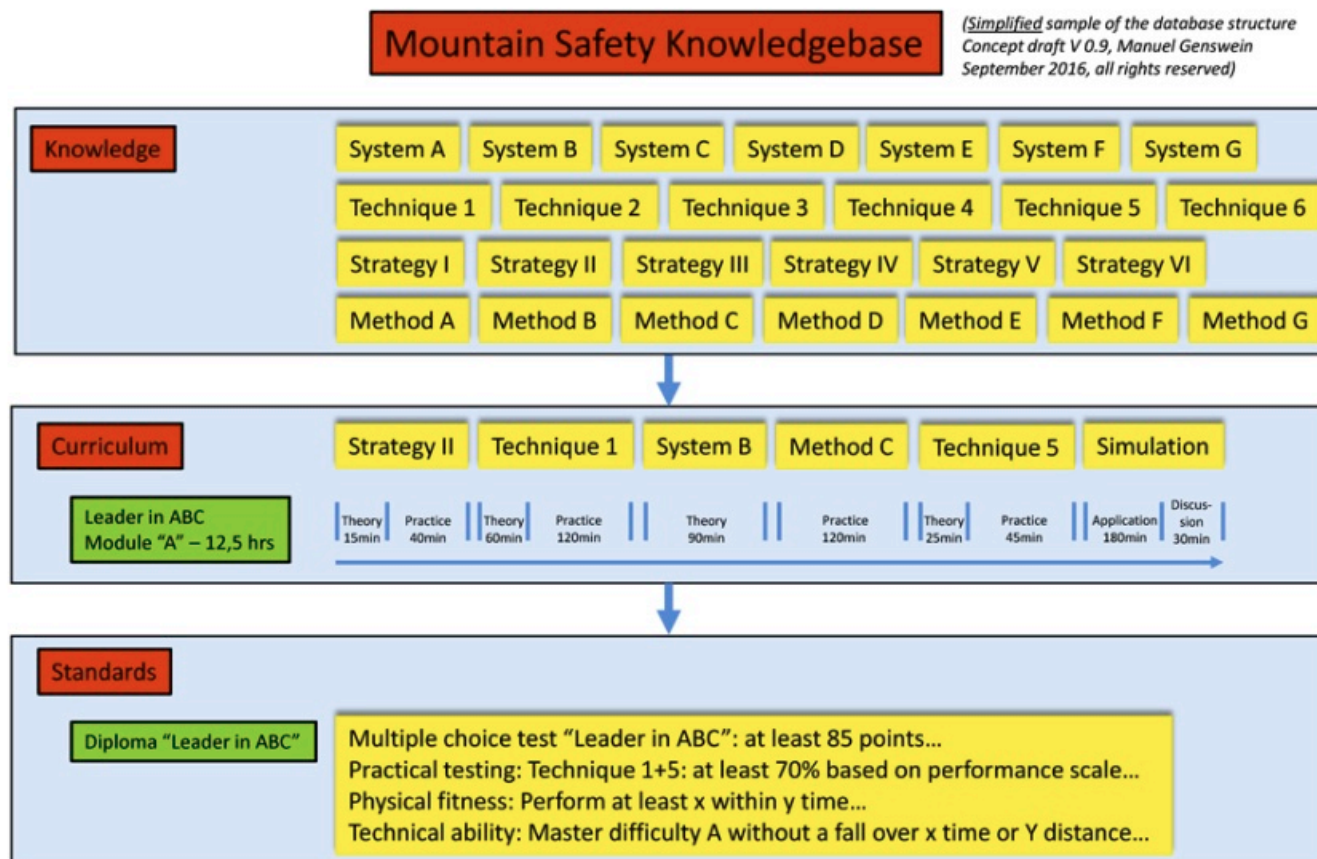
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Three towers of MSKB



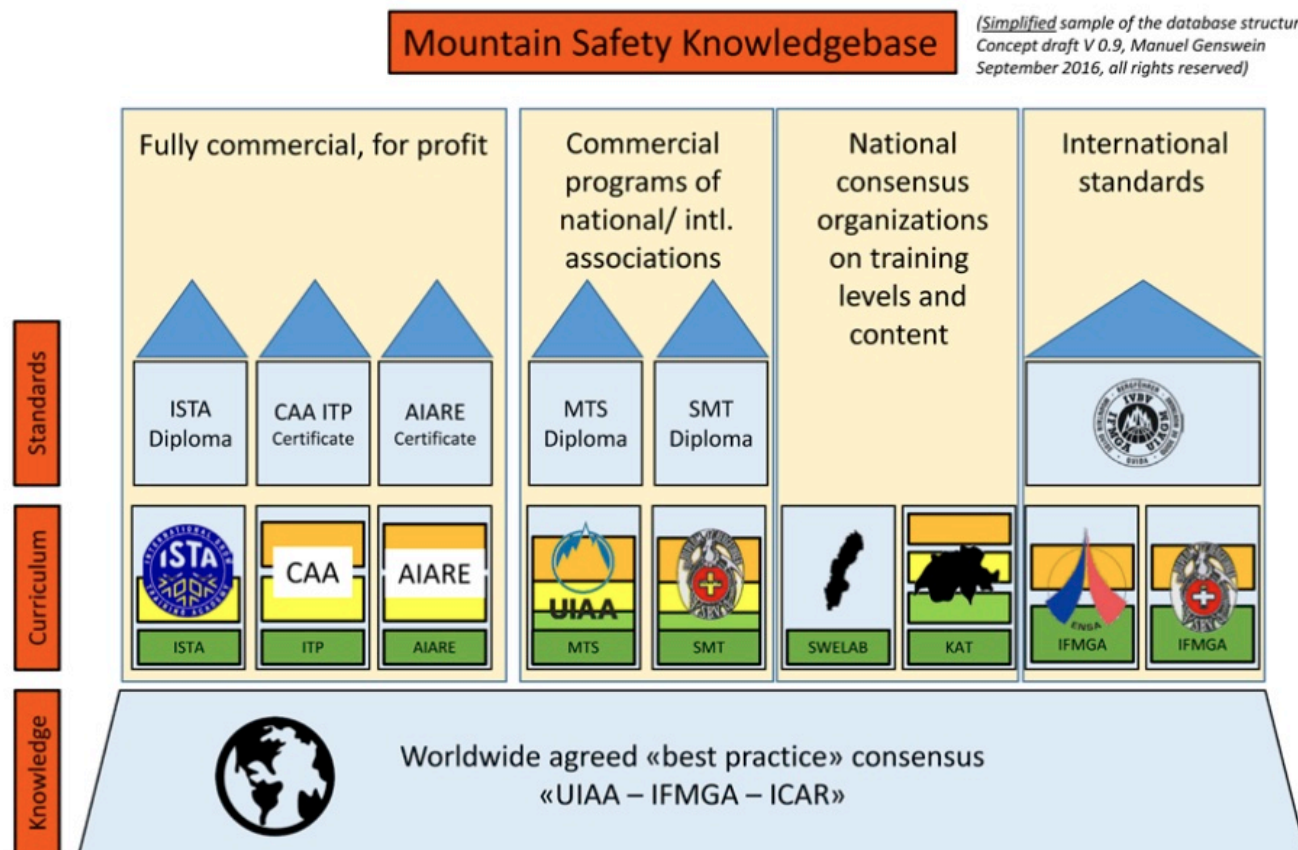
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Three towers of MSKB – more Details



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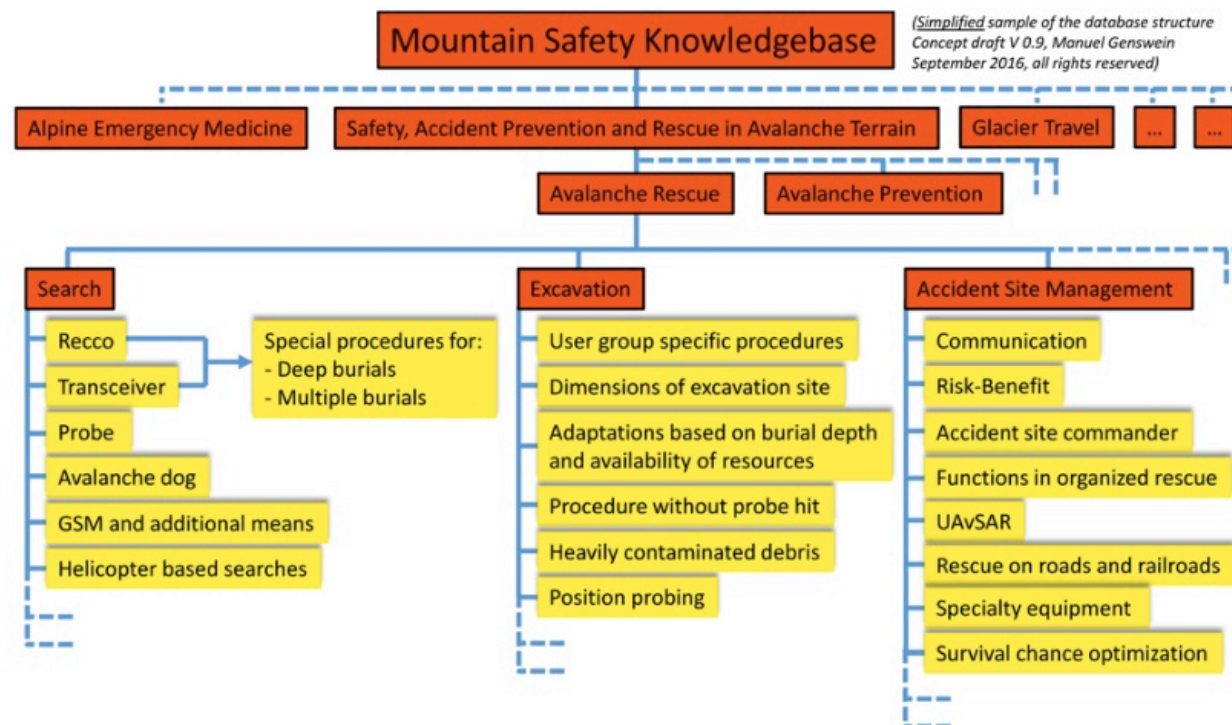
Three towers of MSKB – more Details



Mountain Safety Knowledge Base

Current structure of the database

Current structure of the database: (simplified sample)



Concept Mountain Safety Knowledgebase - Manuel Genswein - Draft V 0.9 - All rights reserved



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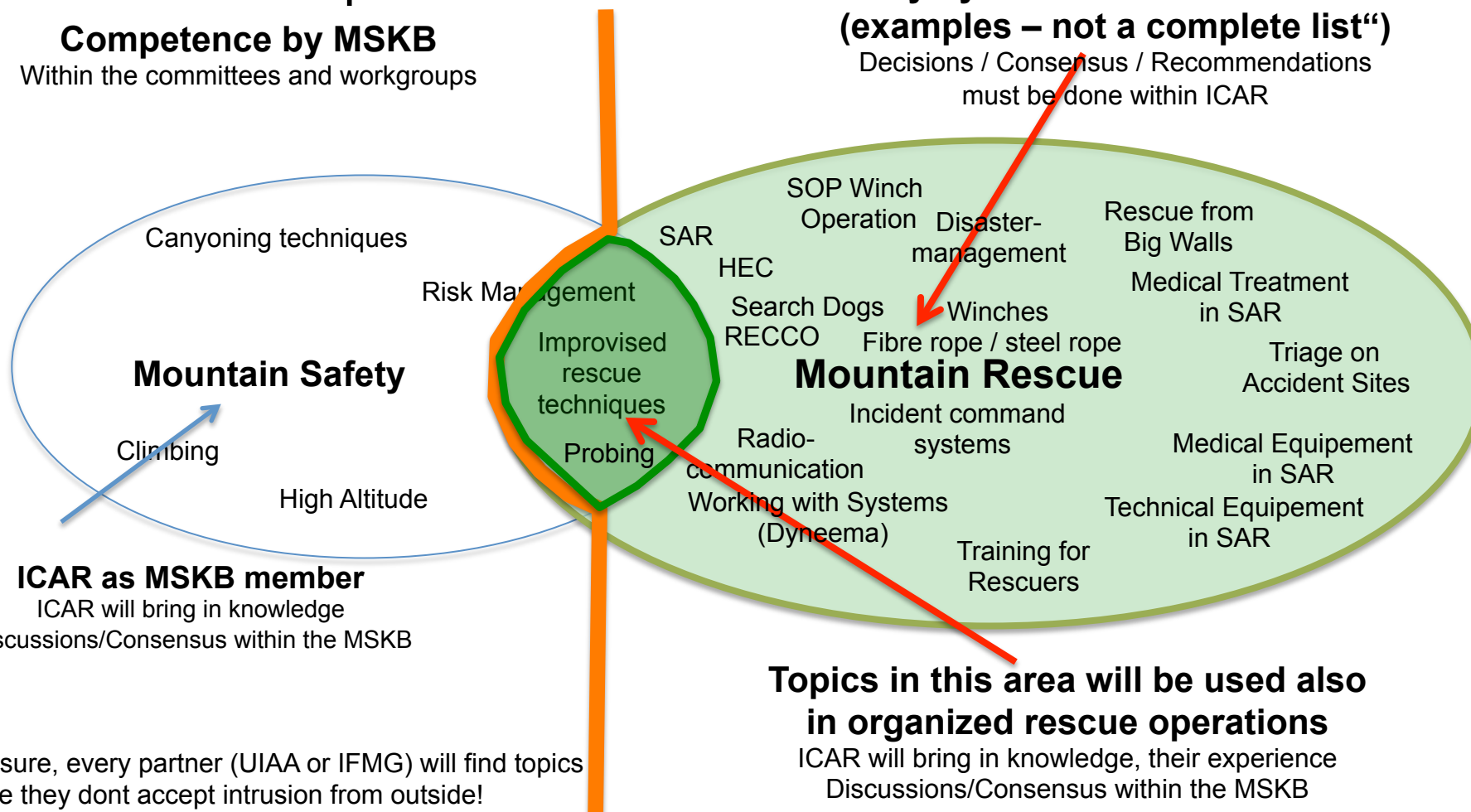
Structure – possible for ICAR?

Competence by MSKB

Within the committees and workgroups

Competence for those subjects only by ICAR and his members (examples – not a complete list“)

Decisions / Consensus / Recommendations must be done within ICAR



I am sure, every partner (UIAA or IFMG) will find topics where they dont accept intrusion from outside!



Mountain Safety Knowledge Base

Key-Topics of the Memorandum of Understanding -> MSI

General Values

- All partners value the freedom of practice
 - MSI does not seek to establish formal regulations on best practices in mountain safety
 - MSI content will respect cultural diversity and refer to recommendations of MSI member organizations
- MSI is a non-commercial organization, acting in the general public interest as a non profit organization, to provide up to date, peer reviewed information on best practice in mountain safety from experts in the field.
- MSI is a self-sustaining entity, working in collaboration with other organizations to provide practical and usefull informaton for use in the mountains



Mountain Safety Knowledge Base

Key-Topics of the Memorandum of Understanding -> MSI

Setup and Governance

- MSI shall established as a non-profit association governed by the provisions of the Swiss Civil Code (such as are UIAA, ICAR, IFMGA)
- MSI Membership is limited to organizations and scientific institutions with global impact in mountain safety
- MSI will exclusively be governed by the MSI members. Potential members are UIAA, IFMGA, ICAR, ENSA, SLF and others within the above defined scope



Mountain Safety Knowledge Base

Key-Topics of the Memorandum of Understanding -> MSI

Organization and Participation in Workgroups

- MSI content will be elaborated by working groups. For each topic to be covered one working group will be established; each group will include experts from MSI members as well as additional subject matter experts.
- Working group members are selected based on appropriate representation and qualifications.
 - Each MSI member may nominate an expert in the respective field who fulfills the prerequisites so that each MSI member can contribute in a timely and pro-active approach.
- Proposal and Initiative Right
 - Anybody has the right to propose a topic for discussion or make a specific suggestion on content by written proposal to a MSI working group



Mountain Safety Knowledge Base

Key-Topics of the Memorandum of Understanding -> MSI

Objectives

- Develop an international knowledgebase containing best practice in mountain safety
- Take advantage on existing knowhow
- Include existing and further develop content based on evidence
- Promote standardization across user groups and application cases
- Provide the data in as many languages as possible using standardized terminology
- Respect intellectual property rights in all use of data
- Support a sustainable future development of the knowledge



Mountain Safety Knowledge Base

Key-Topics of the Memorandum of Understanding -> MSI

Access to the Knowledgebase of MountainSafety.Info

- Access to the data is based on yearly subscription model and on a volume base license model, depending on type of use of the data
- Fair pricing is ensured by including the number of users in an organization as well as the GPD of the respective country
- Fees are used for author's compensation, workgroup expenses, operation costs of MSI and in particular for future development of its content
- Users can freely choose based on their requirements which content of the MSI knowledgebase they want use

Question's and Discussion