# **NCEMA 7000**

## Self-Assessment Checklist





### NCEMA 7000 SELF-ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

By law, it is mandatory to implement Business Continuity Management (BCM) in the UAE. This is equally applicable to all entities. NCEMA (National Emergency Crisis and Disaster Management Authority) has developed the AE/SCNS/NCEMA 7000:2015 standard (known as NCEMA 7000 in short). NCEMA has also developed training courses around this standard and the organisational certifications can also be achieved.

This document has been provided to you as complimentary input from Continuity & Resilience (CORE) as your starting point to see your maturity and conduct a self-assessment.

The checklist contains 86 major questions, 209 total questions in 22 sections/categories.



	Section A: Mandatory Documents			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
1		The following 17 documents are mandatory as defined in the NCEMA 7001. Do you have these:		
	A	Understanding the organization (also includes context)?	Yes No	
	В	Objectives and Policy of BCM?	Yes No	
	С	Roles and Responsibilities? (good to take care of roles, responsibilities, and authorities).	Yes No	
	D	External and internal issues and interested parties? (good to have the processes to establish these issues and interested parties)	Yes No	
	Е	Competency of personnel?	Yes No No	
	F	Business Impact Analysis:  a. Business Impact Analysis Methodology?  b. Business Impact Analysis Report?	Yes No Yes No	
	G	Risk Assessment:  a. Risk Assessment Methodology? b. Risk Assessment Report?	Yes No Yes No	
	Н	Business Continuity Strategy?	Yes No	
	I	Incident Response plan? (this may include Crisis Management Plan also)	Yes No	
	J	Business Continuity Plan?	Yes No	
	K	Media Response Plan?	Yes No	
	L	Awareness and Training records?	Yes No	
	М	Test and Exercises records? (including plans and reports)	Yes No	
	N	Internal Audit records? (including plans and reports)	Yes No	
	О	Management Review records?	Yes No	
	P	Corrections and corrective actions?	Yes No	
	Q	Regulatory requirements?	Yes No	



	Section A: Mandatory Documents			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
The fir	rst basic ch	eck you can do is to see whether you have all the abo	ove documents.	
2		Second basic check is that having a document means – written, reviewed, approved, published, used and current as well. Do all your BCM documents meet this requirement?	Yes No	
3		Your organisation most likely has a QMS (Quality Management System), which would have a Document Management Process – this is third basic check that all documents are developed and maintained according to that process. Do all your BCM documents meet this requirement?	Yes No	

	Section B: Scope			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
4		Have you defined the scope of your Business Continuity Capabilities? (this may include deliverables, outputs, activities, services, and functions that fall within the scope)	Yes 🗌 No 🗍	
5		Have you ensured any prioritised activity/ process has not been excluded from the scope? (this is linked to a later question on BIA that helps to establish the prioritised activities/ processes).	Yes No	
6		Have you identified all Interested Parties (known as stakeholders in the past) relevant to your business? (also linked to question 1D above. Some organisations have this process, but the identification of Interested Parties is not done according to this).	Yes No	
7		Have you established the Business Continuity requirements of these Interested Parties? (it will be good to have a documented process for doing this).	Yes No	



	Section B: Scope			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
		(some organisations have this process, but the actual identification of Interested Parties and their BC requirements is not done according to this).		
8		Have you identified all applicable legislative, regulatory, international, local and contractual requirements? (it will be good to have a documented process for this identification). (some organisations have this process, but the actual identification of these requirements is not done according to this).	Yes No	
9		Have you identified any internal issues, which might influence your business continuity capabilities?	Yes No	

		Section C: Understanding the Organisation	
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response
10		Does your top management participate in the BCM Program:	
	a	In implementation?	Yes No
	b	In on-going maintenance?	Yes No
	С	In testing?	Yes No
	d	In reviewing?	Yes No
	e	In continual improvement?	Yes No
	wherever	nind that you would have to produce the evidence for you say 'Yes'. There will be more checks on Top ent Commitment in the later section).	
11		Have you understood the context of your organisation with respect to:	
	a	Identification of all processes?	Yes No
	b	Identification of all relationships (including partners and suppliers)?	Yes No No



	Section C: Understanding the Organisation				
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response		
12		Have you established the overall risk which your organization is willing to undertake? (this is also known as Risk Appetite. Also, it will be good to have a documented process to establish the same).	Yes No		
13		Have you established the external and internal issues that may affect the outcome of implementing business continuity management program?	Yes No No		

	Section D: Top Management Commitment				
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response		
14		Has the top management defined the objectives of the BCM Program:			
	a	In alignment with the organizational strategic objectives?	Yes No		
	b	Established the Minimum Business Continuity Objective (MBCO)? (this is linked to BIA related questions in a later section).	Yes No		
	С	Are these objectives SMART?	Yes No		
	d	Are these used in evaluating the performance of the BCM program?	Yes No		
15		Do you have a Business continuity policy approved by the top management?	Yes No		
16		Does the BC policy include BCM objectives and risk appetite?	Yes No		
17		Is the BC policy published to relevant interested parties?	Yes No		
18		Has the policy been reviewed in the past year?	Yes No No		
19		Do you have sufficient resources for the BCM Program:			
	a	In number?	Yes No		
	b	By competencies?  (do not forget the associated evidences e.g. the competencies requirement document – also known as Training Needs Analysis document, and the competencies document).	Yes No		



		Section D: Top Management Commitment	
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response
20		Have the roles & responsibilities been defined for:	
	a	Business Continuity Manager?	Yes No
	b	Incident Response Manager?	Yes No
	С	Business Continuity Team?	Yes No No
	d	Internal sectors/ departments representatives?	Yes No
	e	Other relevant interested parties?	Yes No
	and compl	be more or less roles depending upon the size, nature lexity of the organisation. Be prepared to justify your Good to take care of roles, responsibilities, and	
21		Have these roles and responsibilities been communicated to relevant interested parties? (what evidence will you show? Good to take care of roles, responsibilities, and authorities).	Yes No
22		Do you have an approved governance framework:	
	a	How the BCM program will be managed?	Yes No
	b	The reporting structure for the purpose of its effective implementation, maintenance and continual improvement?	Yes No
	С	Is the governance framework in line with the organizational structure?	Yes No

	Section E: Business Continuity Capability			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
23		Is your business continuity capability 'fit for purpose' - Will it ensure performance of prioritized activities and services during emergencies, crises and disasters? (this will be linked with your BC tests later).	Yes No	



	Section F: Required Documents				
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response		
24		Do you have all the documents as defined in question1 above?	Yes No No		

	Section G: Controlling BCM Documentation and Records			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
25		Is your document management process capable of the following:		
	a	The documents are easily understandable, identifiable and accessible especially in times of emergency, crisis or disaster?	Yes No	
	b	The documents have the identification needed to store, protect and easily retrieve them?	Yes No	
	С	The documents are approved for compliance with the standard prior to issuance?	Yes No	
	d	The documents are reviewed, updated, and reapproved if need be, in addition to documenting all updates?	Yes No	
	e	Up to date copies are available where needed (for instance, alternative sites and other points of use)?	Yes No	
	f	Identifies documents received from external sources, if any?	Yes No	
	g	Distribution and change control are monitored?	Yes No	

	Section H: Business Impact Analysis				
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response		
26		Do you have a BIA methodology (process) that:			
	a	Identifies all activities/ processes?	Yes No		
	b	Identifies prioritized functions, activities and services?	Yes No		
	С	Identifies impact categories (e.g. financial, reputational etc.) that are fit to the nature of the organization?	Yes No		
	d	Identifies disruption impacts on the organization based on predefined impact categories?	Yes No		



	Section H: Business Impact Analysis			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
	e	Identifies Recovery Time Objective (RTO) of each activity disruption?	Yes No	
	f	Identifies Maximum Acceptable Outage (MAO)?	Yes No	
	g	Identifies actions required to support prioritized functions, activities and services? (this may be covered in Strategies and BC Plans stages later).	Yes No	
	h	Identifies activities deemed paramount to the continuity of prioritized activities?	Yes No	
	i	Prioritizes activities and services according to their recoverability priority?	Yes No	
	j	Identifies internal and external bodies, which an organization relies on for continual performance of main/ essential activities and services, including support by suppliers and service providers?	Yes No	
	k	Verifies the capability of vendors, suppliers and service providers to support and maintain minimum service levels for prioritized activities during disruptive incidents? (this may be covered separately through supplier contract management and review of their BC capabilities which need to be in sync with your BC needs).	Yes No	
	1	Identifies the indispensable resources for each prioritized activity, function or service to ensure business continuity? (these resources may include people, space/ desk, IT infrastructure, phones, printers, other equipment and supplies etc.)	Yes 🗌 No 🗍	
	m	Is approved by the top management?	Yes No	
	n	Is reviewed at regular intervals and at significant changes in the organisation?	Yes No	
	_	nisations have this process, but the actual BIA is not according to this. It is good to establish RPOs also BIA).		



	Section I: Risk Assessment				
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response		
27		Do you have a RA methodology (process) that:			
	a	Identifies risk parameters?	Yes No		
	b	Identifies the risks that can disrupt the performance of prioritized activities?	Yes No		
	С	Analyzes the risks against predefined evaluation criteria?	Yes No		
	d	Evaluates the impact of the addressed risk?	Yes No		
	e	Takes into account interdependencies related to the performance of prioritized activities? (this may be part of BIA also)	Yes No		
	f	Is approved by the top management?	Yes No		
	g	Is reviewed at regular intervals and at significant changes in the organisation?	Yes No		
		anisations have this process, but the actual RA is not according to this).			

	Section J: Business Continuity Strategy			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
28		Have you developed BCM strategies?	Yes No No	
29		Are these approved by the top management?	Yes No	
30		Are these covering all prioritized activities/ processes and services?	Yes No	
31		Are these strategies covering establishing stability, resumption and recovery of prioritized activities? (this may be linked with your tests later).	Yes No	
32		Do you have a process to analyze the BCM capability of your suppliers?	Yes No	
33		Has this process been executed on regular basis?	Yes No	
34		Have these strategies been implemented?	Yes No	
35		Are these strategies capable of achieving defined RTO's for the prioritized activities?	Yes No	



	Section J: Business Continuity Strategy			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
36		Have you allocated required resources to achieve desired RTO's? (these resources may include People, Buildings and facilities, Information and communication infrastructure, Budget allocation, Suppliers and service providers etc.).	Yes No	
37		Have you used your risk appetite in selecting these strategies? (this is also used in RA)	Yes No	

Section K: Incident Response Plan			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response
38		Have you developed an incident response plan? (keep in mind – this means written, reviewed, approved, published and used. Maintenance and testing portions will also be covered in later sections).	Yes No
39		Does the incident response plan take care of:	
	a	Life safety of personnel?	Yes No
	b	Safety of organisational assets?	Yes No No
40		Does the incident response include:	
	a	Incident response structure:	
		i. To monitor incidents on a regular basis?	Yes No No
		ii. Enable early detection of any incident causing disruption?	Yes No No
		iii. Incident's impact?	Yes No No
		iv. Criterion for invoking business continuity response?	Yes No No
	b	Assigned roles and responsibilities for relevant interested parties? (good to take care of roles, responsibilities, and authorities).	Yes No
	С	Incident detecting and warning procedures?	Yes No No
	d	Activation criteria?	Yes No No



	Section K: Incident Response Plan			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
	e	Escalation process?	Yes No	
	f	Recovery procedures?	Yes No	
	g	Communication to the relevant interested parties?	Yes No	
41		Do you maintain an incident log covering:		
	a	Post-incident review?	Yes No	
	b	Key lessons learned?	Yes No	
	С	Activation of emergency, crisis or disaster management plan or business continuity plan?	Yes No	
	d	Approved by top management?	Yes No	

	Section L: Business Continuity Plan			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
42		Have you developed Business Continuity plan (or plans) supporting the approved strategies? (remember this means written, reviewed, approved, published and used. Maintenance and testing portions will be covered in later sections).	Yes No	
43		Is it covering all prioritised activities/ processes?	Yes No	
44		Is it taking care of recovery requirements established in BIA i.e. MAO, RTO, RPO, MBCO etc.?	Yes No	
45		Does the BC Plan include:		
	a	Purpose and scope?	Yes No	
	b	Key obligations and reference information?	Yes No	
	С	Identification of people who have the authority to invoke each plan under any given circumstances?	Yes No	
	d	Criteria for invoking the plan and the method whereby the plan is invoked?	Yes No	
	e	Details of primary and alternative locations as applicable?	Yes No	
	f	Contact and other details including service level agreement for the key suppliers, vendors and service providers?	Yes No	



	Section L: Business Continuity Plan			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
	g	Impact of disruption on prioritized activities over pre-determined timeframes? (this information would have come from BIA).	Yes No	
	h	List of procedures and actions that need to be performed?	Yes No	
	i	List of the resources required for recovery? (this information would have come from BIA).	Yes No	
	j	Prioritized objectives in terms of prioritized activities to be recovered, recovery timescale and recovery levels needed for each main activity? (this information would have come from BIA).	Yes No	
	k	Recovery procedures to be followed to return to normal post emergency, and after minimum business continuity objectives have been met? (keep in mind that return to normalcy is more than BCM).	Yes 🗌 No 🗍	
	1	"Stand down procedure" once incident is over and organization personnel need to return to their normal duties?	Yes No	
46		Is it communicated to all relevant interested parties that have role, responsibility and authority defined within this?	Yes No	
47		Is it in line with the BCM strategy and incident response plan, capabilities and requirements of interested parties?	Yes No	
48		Is the BC Plan accessible to and understood by all relevant interested parties? (some of these are based on observations and may not have a documented evidence).	Yes No	
49		Have you developed Crisis Communication Plan:		
	a	With identified lines of communications?	Yes No	
	b	With details of who is authorized to communicate?	Yes No	
	С	With details of what to communicate?	Yes No No	
	d	With details of whom to communicate with?	Yes No	
	e	With details of how to communicate?	Yes No	
	f	With details of when to communicate?	Yes No	
	g	Covering all interested parties? (including relevant internal and external parties).	Yes No	



	Section M: Media Response Continuity Plan			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
50		Have you developed a Media Response Plan? (this means written, reviewed, approved, published and used. Maintenance and testing portions will be covered in later sections).	Yes No	
51		Have you identified a spokesperson? (be prepared to answer questions about his/ her capabilities/ competence also).	Yes No	
52		Have spokesperson's details been communicated with all in the organisation?	Yes No No	
53		Does this include procedures to receive, acknowledge and respond to any queries related to the organization?	Yes No	
54		Does it have capability to integrate with national/regional/global communication systems?	Yes No	
55		Does it include early warning procedures?	Yes No	
56		Does your test program include testing of media response plan also?	Yes No	
57		Does your media response plan include:		
	a	Media Contact list including its update frequency?	Yes No No	
	b	Media Templates?	Yes No	
	С	Legal procedures prior to issuing a media statement?	Yes No	

	Section N: Awareness and Training			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
58		Have you developed a training and awareness program covering required competence? (this means written, reviewed, approved, published and used document. A supporting question may be about conducting Training Needs Analysis).	Yes No	
59		Does this include awareness/ training on:		
	a	BCM policy and objectives?	Yes No	
	b	Procedure and parameters to evaluating its effectiveness?	Yes No	



	Section N: Awareness and Training			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
	С	Staff's roles and responsibilities in BCM program? (good to include authorities also).	Yes No	
60		Does your awareness and training program take care of other relevant interested parties also (e.g. suppliers and vendors)?	Yes No	
61		Does your awareness and training program feed into continual improvement of your BCM Program?	Yes No	
62		Do the awareness and trainings provided to various interested parties match their roles and responsibilities in BCM Program? (good to include authorities also).	Yes No	

	Section O: Tests and Exercises			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
63		Have you developed a 'Test and Exercise Plan'? (this means written, reviewed, approved, published and used).	Yes No	
64		Do you write test plan for each test, covering assessment of readiness, usability and adequacy of the tools, technology, facilities, and infrastructure required to implement the organization's BCM plans?	Yes No	
65		Do the test plans cover:		
	a	Aims and objectives?	Yes No	
	b	Scope and scenarios?	Yes No	
	С	Least impact on business operations?	Yes No	
66		Do you write Post-Test reports covering:		
	a	Whether the objectives of the test have been achieved?	Yes No	
	b	Corrective actions, where necessary?	Yes No	
	С	Opportunities for continual improvement? (there can be additional questions about review and approval of each test plan/ test report).	Yes No	



Section P: Annual BCM Review				
Question Sub- No. Question Series		Question	Response	
67		Do you conduct the reviews of your BCM capability covering:		
	a	Policy and objectives?	Yes No No	
	b	BCM framework and documentation?	Yes No No	
	С	Exercise reports?	Yes No	
	d	Audit Reports?	Yes No No	
	e	Changes to the business and risks that can result in business disruption?	Yes No No	
	f	Risk appetite?	Yes No No	
	g	Business continuity strategy?	Yes No	
	h	All plans?	Yes No	
68		Do you follow change management process for carrying out any changes in your BCM Program?	Yes No No	
69		Do you develop Annual BCM Evaluation Report on the BCM program status?	Yes No No	
70		Is this report approved by top management?	Yes No No	

Section Q: Review of Suppliers and Service Providers			
Question No.			
71		Do you conduct review of suppliers and service providers on their BCM capability?	Yes No
72		Are you satisfied that they are capable of meeting the identified BIA requirements and agreements?	Yes No
73		Do you assess this through:	
	a	Joint tests and exercises?	Yes No
	b	Organization review of the extent of supplier's compliance with this Standard?	Yes No No
	С	Submission of supplier's BCP test report?	Yes No No



Section R: Compliance and Internal Audit			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response
74		Do you have an internal audit program? (this means written, reviewed, approved, published and used).	Yes No
75		Do you conduct internal audit of the BCM Program at least once in a year?	Yes No
76		Does it cover all requirements of this standard?	Yes No No
77		Have you developed Internal Audit procedures for BCM Program identifying the responsibilities, competencies, and requirements for:	
	a	Planning and conducting audits?	Yes No No
	b	Reporting results and maintaining related records?	Yes No
	С	Audit criteria, scope, frequency and methods?	Yes No
78		Do you write Internal Audit Report containing:	
	a	Audit results?	Yes No
	b	Recommendations for improvement?	Yes No No
	С	Non-conformities?	Yes No
79		Is the Internal Audit report communicated to relevant interested parties?	Yes No No
80		Is the Internal Audit report approved by the top management?	Yes No

Section S: Management Review			
Question No.	estion Sub- Question Question Series Resp		Response
81		Does your Management conduct review of the organization's BC capability at least once a year or whenever significant changes happen in the organisation, covering the following:	
	a	Results of BCM audits?	Yes No
	b	Post emergency, crisis or disaster reviews?	Yes No No
	С	Level of remaining and acceptable risks?	Yes No



Section S: Management Review			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response
	d	Inadequately managed risks, including those identified in the organization's previous risk assessment?	Yes No
	e	Internal or external changes likely to affect the organization's BCM capability?	Yes No
	f	Results of tests and exercises?	Yes No No
	g	Accomplishments of awareness and training programs?	Yes No
	h	BCM status of key suppliers and service providers, if applicable?	Yes No No
	i	Follow-up procedures based on previous management reviews?	Yes No
	j	Proposed recommendations for development of the organization's BC capability?	Yes No
		not have all of these evidences first time or every time. ood to have a Management Review Process covering ints.)	
82		Do you maintain the outcome of this review covering the following:	
	a	Deficiencies in the organization's BCM capability?	Yes No No
	b	Recommendation to enhance the effectiveness of organization's BC capability?	Yes No
	С	Change in the organization's:	
		i. Strategies and procedures to respond to internal or external incidents likely to impact its BC capability?	Yes No
		ii. Need for resources required for BCM?	Yes No

Section T: BCM Program Continual Improvement			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response
83		Does your top management ensure continual improvement of its plans, performance and documentation?	Yes No No



Section U: Non-Conformities				
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response	
84		Do you address BC capability's non-conformities with this Standard, through corrective actions?	Yes No	
85		Are these actions aligned with the Business Continuity Policy and objectives?	Yes No	

Section V: Corrective Actions			
Question No.	Sub- Question Series	Question	Response
86		Do you develop corrective actions report containing: (there may be a related question on the effectiveness of the corrective and preventive actions taken by the organisation).	
	a	Root cause analysis for each non-conformity?	Yes No No
	b	Required action to eliminate the causes of non-conformity?	Yes No
	С	Required action to prevent their recurrence?	Yes No

**Note**: Having answered most questions as 'yes' does not necessarily mean that it's meeting all requirements of the NCEMA 7000 standard. All sections and questions do not carry equal weightage. Each 'yes' needs to be supported with an evidence (which may be one or more documents and/or records/observations). Please submit your 'self-assessment' report to us. We invite you to our **Complimentary 'Resilience OPD'**, where or consultants will conduct a diagnosis and will recommend next steps for you to further improve your BCM Program.



#### The following NCEMA courses are available:

#### NCEMA COURSES (NCEMA 7000:2015)

Course	Duration	Audience	Course Description
BCM Awareness Training	1 Day	Senior Management and others where a high level understanding would be enough	Provides a high-level understanding of why all organizations in the UAE (public and private) must implement BCM. Covers the importance of BCM, the NCEMA BCM Action Model, and how BCM can assist in ensuring the welfare and stability of the nation. No certification.
BCM Introduction Training	1-2 Days	Department Heads who would need to oversee the BCM implementation with their teams	Provides a fundamental understanding of why all organizations in the UAE (public and private) must implement BCM. Covers the importance of BCM and how BCM can assist in ensuring the welfare and stability of the nation. The NCEMA BCM Action Model is explained in considerable detail. Certification issued to those who pass the exam.
BCM Implementation Training (or Implementer)	5 Day	The team that would perform the BCM implementation within the organisation	Provides a very detailed and comprehensive training. Along with hands-on exercises, covers in detail the steps involved for the organization to implement BCM, and be able to perform its prioritized activities during an emergency or disruptive event. Certification issued to those who pass the exam.
BCM Exercising Training	2 Day	The team that would design and perform the BCM Exercises and Tests	Provides training in how to perform BCM tests and exercise the Business Continuity Plans. Covers exercise design, planning, execution, reporting and improvement. Certification issued to those who pass the exam.
BCM Lead Auditor Training	5 Day	The team that would audit the BCM Program	Provides very detailed and comprehensive training in how to audit the BCM Program. Covers BCM audit design, planning, execution, reporting and continual improvement. Certification issued to those who pass the exam.

All these courses are developed by NCEMA, and taught only by NCEMA approved training providers An NCEMA certification is available to all thoses who pass the examination (open book)

NCEMA sessions are taught by CORE Consultants, in partnership with GCAS (Gulf Center for Aviation Studies), which is officially approved by NCEMA to deliver the NCEMA trainings.

For any guidance with respect to BCM Implementation according to NCEMA 7000 or NCEMA 7000 based trainings, please feel free to write to us at <a href="mailto:info@continuity&resilience.com">info@continuity&resilience.com</a> and our advisor will be happy to get back to you.

It will be helpful to have your filled in response to this checklist to provide you our initial assessment and guidance for way forward for your organisation.

All information will be kept confidential.

Completed By:	
Organisation:	
Emailid:	
<b>Designation:</b>	
Phone number (direct):	
Phone number (cell):	



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