



G-7 FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTS OF CYBER EXERCISE PROGRAMMES

The financial sector is increasingly reliant on information technology services and their interdependencies to deliver most financial services. Disruption to those services, maliciously, inadvertently or otherwise, can cause significant impact on an organization’s ability to deliver critical services. The G-7 Cyber Expert Group (‘CEG’) recognizes that in order to better understand these dependencies and the ability of organizations to respond to and recover from incidents, it is important that both public and private financial sector entities regularly exercise their cyber incident response and recovery plans. To facilitate the financial sector’s incident preparedness, the CEG published the Fundamental Elements of Cyber Exercise Programmes, a set of non-binding elements which encapsulate effective practices for developing a cyber exercise program for public and private financial sector entities.

The Fundamental Elements of Cyber Exercise Programmes set out non-binding, high-level building blocks that serve as tools to guide the establishment of cyber exercise programmes with internal and external stakeholders. They may also serve as a guide for establishing cyber exercise programmes across jurisdictions and sectors. Through the publication of the document, the CEG aims to improve upon the G-7 jurisdiction’s ability to conduct cyber exercises in the financial sector that test their incident management capabilities. Furthermore, the publication is meant to encourage individual financial sector organizations and jurisdictions outside of the G-7 to build upon this work to enhance the resilience of the international financial sector.

While legally non-binding, the Fundamental Elements of Cyber Exercise Programmes set out a clear, effective practices for developing and running an exercise programme, which can be applied by financial institutions and authorities alike. The guidance is designed to be tailored to different jurisdictions and to firms of different sizes and levels of maturity.