# After action review (AAR) questions to ask:

These questions establish a common understanding of the real situation that occurred or for the exercise scenario presented. The facilitator should encourage and promote discussion around these questions. The differences should be explored:

1. What was supposed to happen?
2. What actually did happen?
3. Why were there differences?

These questions generate reflection about the successes and failures during the event or exercise:

1. What worked? (identify 3 successes)
2. What didn’t work? (identify 3 opportunities for improvement)
3. Why?

This question is intended to help identify specific actionable recommendations. The facilitator asks AAR participants for clear, achievable and future-oriented recommendations. Include the successes and improvements from above questions in your AAR:

1. What would you do differently next time?