2023 CAP Implementation Workshop
Speakers
(Updated as of 31 August 2023)

The set of available presentations can be downloaded from here.
For the provisional Programme, see Programme
For the provisional list of participants, see Participants
For details about the venue and logistics, see Information Note

Training - Overview of CAP
Training - A Free, Cloud-based Tool for Creating and Publishing CAP Alerts
Training - Common Policies and Practices of CAP Services
2 Organization of the Workshop

Eliot Christian is a pro bono consultant to various organizations. He leads the Filtered Alert Hub initiative on behalf of the U.S. NOAA. He consults on CAP and conducts CAP training for IFRC, ITU, UNDRR and the US Agency for International Development. He is also a pro bono consultant to, and retired from, WMO. He was a chief architect of the WMO Information System and the Global Earth Observations System of Systems. Eliot is also retired from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) where for many years he helped lead broad programs for environmental data sharing. Eliot is also CEO of the non-profit Alert-Hub.Org CIC (Community Interest Company).

Training - IFRC CAP Editor: Design Preview
Paola Yela is the Information Management and Data Science Officer at the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in Geneva. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Management Engineering from the National University in Colombia and a master's in Digital Humanities from the EPFL in Switzerland. She worked for the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) program in Turkey, supporting Information Management processes for delivering cash to more than 1.7 million refugees. Currently, she is working on the implementation of the IFRC AlertHub Initiative, ideating solutions to effectively advocate for the use of the Common Alerting Protocol, and in the proposal of a roadmap for using Machine Learning at IFRC, collaborating in Red Cross Movement-wide initiatives like the Data Playbook and GO. Her professional vision is to become a bridge-builder between the data-science field and the humanitarian sector.

Training - IFRC CAP Editor: Design Preview
Jessica Ports Robbins is the Technical Advisor, Preparedness ICTs for the Global Disaster Preparedness Center (GDPC). She has worked with the American Red Cross since 2001. In her role with GDPC she manages the Center’s digital tools, including the Universal App Program, the WhatNow Service, and Atlas: Ready for Business preparedness app, and she provides technical guidance to partner Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies. Her education includes a BA in History from Elon College, an MS in History & Sociology of Technology & Science from Georgia Institute of Technology, and a Ph.D. in international development, also from Tulane. Areas of expertise include information and communication technology for development (ICT4D), mobiles for development (M4D), disaster risk reduction, shelter operations, pet evacuation and sheltering, volunteer management, international humanitarian law, and community disaster preparedness.
Eddie Wasswa Jjemba is a Senior Urban Resilience Advisor at the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre. Over the last 14 years, Eddie has been supporting various resilience building projects focusing on Eastern and Southern Africa. Eddie’s work is informed by a Master’s degree from Columbia University that grounded him in climate science. At the Red Cross Climate Centre, Eddie coordinates projects that enhance disaster preparedness including setting up Anticipatory Action systems at national and sub-national levels. Recently, Eddie has been coordinating the implementation of IFRC’s Alert Hub initiative seeking to promote CAP and contextualized Public Awareness and Public Education for disaster preparedness in seven African countries.

Training - CAP Over Mobile Networks

1.4 Welcome from OASIS (standards organization)

3.15 OASIS Emergency Management Technical Committee

Elysa Jones is an internationally recognized expert in Emergency Interoperability Communications via Data Messaging. She is Chair of the OASIS Emergency Management Technical Committee since 2004. Her committee developed and maintains the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Standard, also known as ITU Recommendation X.1303. Additional Standards for message distribution, resource messaging, hospital availability, tracking of emergency patients and clients and situation reporting are products of her committee. She is an Emergency Communication Expert for the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Chief Technology Officer and Advisor for various Companies, Organizations and Countries providing guidance on the development of systems that utilize data messaging standards. She holds a Baccalaureate Degree in Economics, and a Master’s Degree in Computer Science from the University of Alabama in Huntsville. Elysa is a tireless advocate for the use of open standards in support of emergency communications.

Training - CAP Over Mobile Networks

Thomas Wood

3.15 Updates from OASIS Emergency Management Technical Committee and OASIS Mobile Alerting Practices

Mark Wood Mark Wood serves as a Lecturer in Instrumentation and Control at the Gen2 Technical training center in Cumbria. He has a BSc degree in IT and a MSc in Advanced Networking. He has spent over 45 years in Telecom and Emergency/Disaster relief, with half of that time as a Lecturer or trainer. Mark was twice honoured for his work on Humanitarian Telecommunications projects and has previously served the UN office for the Co-Ordination of Humanitarian Affairs as an Expert advisor and as Disaster Coordinator, and the ITU as convener of Cell Broadcast harmonization. Mark is active in the areas of Public Safety communications. Representing his non-profit organization Disaster Relief Communications Foundation (DRCF), Mark is a member of OASIS and the CAP-Subcommittee. He works with the committee to develop and edit an OASIS Committee Note for the purpose of documenting Mobile Alerting Practices (MAP) around the world.
Training - CAP Over Mobile Networks

**Mike Gerber** is a Meteorologist for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) National Weather Service (NWS) in Silver Spring, MD. He joined the NWS in 1992. Mr. Gerber is the NWS lead for Wireless Emergency Alerts and related efforts with Common Alerting Protocol (CAP). He works to foster the integration of NWS alert information across a wide range of warning systems and consumer electronic devices in order to better save lives, protect property, and enhance the national economy. Mr. Gerber was a finalist for the 2015 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal, a recipient of the U.S. Department of Commerce Gold Medal, and a finalist for the 2013 NextGov Bold Awards for his life-saving achievements in mobile alerting. He is a Senior Fellow of the Council for Excellence in Government. Mr. Gerber earned a Bachelor Degree in Atmospheric Science from the University of Arizona.

Training - Esri CAP Connector: Making GIS Features from CAP Alerts

**Ian Ibbotson** is owner and Director of Knowledge Integration Limited, a company in Sheffield, United Kingdom, primarily specializing in distributed information indexing and retrieval architectures. Ian also volunteers as principal designer and developer on the Filtered Alert Hub initiative, part of the NOAA Big Data Project. This cloud-based, free resource is a global-scale aggregator of Internet news feeds that link to emergency alerts in the CAP standard format. This Alert Hub aggregates 184 national-scale CAP news feeds from 118 countries and it is growing steadily. Ian migrated the Filtered Alert Hub to use Rabbit Message Queue as its base technology.

1.1 Welcome from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

**Sezin Tokar** is the Senior Hydrometeorological Hazard Advisor at USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), the lead federal office responsible for coordinating the U.S. government’s response to international disasters. She oversees BHA’s programs on hydrometeorological early warning systems, such as drought and cyclone monitoring, flood forecasting, and community-based preparedness. She developed and has overseen the implementation of Global Flash Flood Guidance initiative and many other initiatives to improve capacity on hydrometeorological early warning, globally. She also serves as BHA’s technical lead on disaster risk reduction (DRR) and has represented the U.S. government in various global platforms and high-level working groups. Sezin was the principal negotiator for the Sendai Framework on behalf of the US government and she serves on the World Bank’s Global Facility for Disaster Response and Recovery. Prior to joining BHA, she was a hydrological advisor to the National Weather Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

1.2 Welcome from the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM)

**Beth Armstrong** is Executive Director of IAEM, a non-profit educational organization dedicated to promoting the goals of saving lives and protecting property during emergencies and disasters. Beth is a recognized leader in the United States representing local emergency management programs in national policy discussions. She developed and is responsible for supervising the Certified Emergency Manager Program. Her education includes a Bachelor of Business Administration, Marketing, from The College of William and Mary, and a Master of Association Management from George Washington University. She has expertise with federal grants procurement and management, certification program development and administration, non-profit governance issues, and the entire scope of successful non-profit operations.
1.3 Welcome from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

3.1.8 Update on CAP and ITU

**Vanessa Gray** is responsible for developing and overseeing projects and technical assistance on disaster preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. This includes the development of national emergency telecommunication plans (NETPs), the organization of regional and national workshops, and capacity building exercises for disaster management. Vanessa oversees the work on the Disaster Connectivity Maps (DCM) and the deployment of emergency telecommunication equipment to countries hit by disasters. She is the ITU focal point for the UN’s Early Warning for All (EW4all) initiative and coordinates the initiative’s pillar on Warning Dissemination and Communication, to ensure that alerts reach people at risk. She is responsible for the organization of the Global Forum on Emergency Telecommunication (GET) and for specific ICT-for-disaster-management tools and publications, for example in the area of disruptive technologies, gender, and ICT simulation exercises. She holds a master’s degree in political science and economics from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies.

1.5 Welcome from the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

**Adanna Robertson-Quimby** is a Programme Officer at the Disaster Risk Reduction and Public Services Branch (DPS) at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Secretariat. Her work focuses on the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP), Impact-based Forecasting Warning Services (IBFWS) and public weather service delivery. She is an expert in aeronautical meteorology and forecasting focusing on early warning decision support for hydro-meteorological hazards. She is an experienced instructor who worked at the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH), a WMO Centre of Excellence for Training and Regional Climate Centre.

3.1 The Use of Artificial Intelligence (Chatbot) for Emergency Warning

**Jumanah Al Awfi** is a Software Engineer Trainee at Everbridge in the Netherlands, studies software engineering at Saxion University of applied sciences, she worked on two CAP projects, namely an Alert Publishing Website for the government of Spain and an Everbridge Public Warning Chatbot under the EU HORIZON ENGAGE project. She previously worked as a professional horse rider for the Royal Oman Equestrian and as a Project Manager Assistant at KONE.

3.2 CAP Implementation at the Egyptian Meteorological Authority

**Mohamed Tawfik**

3.3 Use of CAP Tools in Timor-Leste

**Angelina Freitas**
3.4 R&D of the Comprehensive ICT systems for Disaster Management

**Yasuji Sakaguchi** is an expert in digital broadcasting. He has been contributing to the overseas diffusion of the Japanese terrestrial digital broadcasting system (ISDB-T) over the years. Based on his experience in supporting use of the Emergency Warning Broadcast System (one of the functions of ISDB-T) for disaster management in Latin America, he originated "EWBS-CAP Hybrid transmission". This approach leverages the usefulness of CAP and maximizes utilization of existing broadcasting networks. These are both relevant to the National Emergency Telecommunication Plans in developing countries. The Japanese Study Group commissioned by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan established the R&D project of the "Comprehensive ICT for Disaster Management". As a project leader, he is working on technology development in cooperation with other countries, aiming for practical deployment in developing countries.

3.5 CAP and Environment Canada

**Pongsakorn (Focus) Rahman** is an Alerting Systems Analyst with Environment and Climate Change Canada and one of the main Subject Matter Experts of the Environment Canada Alerting system and CAP Canadian Profile. He has years of experience with modelling, designing, and maintenance of the Environment Canada alerting system to ensure its continuous performance. Over the last 5 years, Focus was involved in the implementation of the UpdateX Service improvement to the Environment Canada Emergency Alert System, where the use of the Canadian UpdateX cell broadcasting feature has significantly reduced the number of repeat emergency alert messages received by cellular device users. Focus will also help with further Service improvements that will involve the use of threat based polygons, instead of county based polygons, thereby helping to reduce the areal over-reach of emergency alert signals.

3.5 CAP and Environment Canada

**Norm Paulsen** is a senior meteorologist with Environment Canada and one of the principle architects of the CAP Canadian Profile. He has over 25 years of experience in alert information modelling and alerting systems design. During this time, Norm has contributed to the advancement of CAP - both in Canada and the WMO - as an active participant in OASIS CAP sub-committee working groups, and is currently the chair of the CAP Canadian Profile Standards Working Group. His current position involves the strategic planning of the Environment Canada alerting Program and how that Program interfaces with radio, television, and wireless public alerting. Norm is also a consultant to many Federal Government departments engaged in Public Alerting in Canada.

3.6 Prioritising Emergency Messaging Needs for Women Farming Communities

**Lizzy Nneka Igbine** was born 1963 in Onitsha, Anambra State, Nigeria. She attended primary and secondary schools in Onitsha and earned a BA in Business Administration and Professional Studies at the Association of Business Executives in London. She is a Fellow at the Institute of Management Consultants, Nigeria. She worked with a bank before joining Lagos Agriculture Development Authority as a business development officer. She is a climate smart food producer. She has good experience working with UNDP writing for water, and participated in writing Nigeria agriculture policy documents. She was a member of Nigerian Vision 20:2020 (2009), Nigerian River Basin Master Plan (2010), National Integrated Infrastructure Master Plan (2012), and Economic Reconstruction and Growth Plan LAB (2018). She is a member of Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition in Nigeria, supporting communities during Covid-19 vaccine uptake. She is the current National President and Steering Committee Chair in the Nigerian Women Agro Allied Farmers Association.
3.6 Prioritising Emergency Messaging Needs for Women Farming Communities

**James Ali lijampy Adamu** is the Chief Agricultural Meteorologist of the Nigerian Meteorological Agency. He is the team Lead of the Seasonal Climate Prediction also the Focal Point for the WMO METAGRI project in Nigeria. He is engaged in the integration of Climate Services to agricultural activity, Climate change adaptation in Agriculture and the down scaling of Seasonal Climate Outlook to rural communities. In striving to improve relationships and connections between meteorologist, users and decision-makers, Mr. Adamu is also part of the Multi-disciplinary Working Group (MWG) in Nigeria, a core member of the Food Security Cluster of Nigeria and the West Africa Seasonal Climate Outlook PRESASS and PRESAGG. He has trained over 75,000 rural farmers and agricultural extension agents in his career in Nigeria, mainly in areas of the application of weather and climate information in climate risk management in agriculture.

3.7 NCDR Alert Platform: One-Stop Alert Information Services (Mei-Chun Kuo)

**Mei-Chun Kuo** holds a degree in Civil Engineering. Her expertise lies in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and her roles include GIS Spatial Analyst, Alert Warning Information System Analyst, Designer, and Project Manager. She is a senior research assistant and serves as the main coordinator of the team responsible for developing and maintaining the CAP Warning System. She integrates various types of CAP data, such as weather, hydrology, transportation, and civilian information, totalling 60 categories. She also promotes the application of alert data across various sectors, including industry, government, and academia, with nearly 2,000 users benefiting from the system.

3.8 SWIC Alert Hub and the Common Policies and Practices document

**Armstrong Cheng** is a senior scientific officer of the Service Delivery Division in Hong Kong Observatory (HKO), responsible for weather information dissemination, weather information services development, weather observation and reporting, and automation of operations. He led his team to develop a fully automatic dissemination system, allowing weather information including CAP warnings to deliver from forecasters directly to end users through various channels including mobile apps and social media platforms. The highly popular weather app MyObservatory, staying as the most popular app under weather category in app stores, also won at WMO’s first international weather apps competition. He also led a team to develop the first weather-specific chatbot specialized in answering questions about Hong Kong weather. He has been the coordinator of WMO projects Severe Weather Information Centre and World Weather Information Service since 2012. He now serves as the vice-chairperson of the WMO’s Expert Team of Global Multi-hazard Alert System.

3.9 Update on IFRC’s Alert Hub Initiative and CAP engagement

**Karin Metz** serves as the project management consultant for the IFRC in support of the IFRC Alert Hub Initiative to strengthen early warning and emergency alerting by promoting CAP. Previously, Karin worked for both the Global Disaster Preparedness Center (GDPC)/American Red Cross and IFRC Asia regional office as Knowledge Management and Research Officer. Karin holds a Master Degree in Geography from the Humboldt University in Berlin, Germany and Universidad de Oviedo, Spain.
3.10 Zimbabwe Experience with CAP  
**James Ngoma** is a Manager in Public Weather Services of the Zimbabwe Meteorological Service Department.

3.11 CAP in Zambia  
**Peggy Thole** is a Senior Meteorologist and weather forecaster at the Zambia Meteorological Department (ZMD). She has a wide experience in the service delivery area of Meteorology and has been a weather presenter on the national television and various radio stations for over 20 years. She is in charge of weather studio and dissemination of weather alerts and advisories to various sectors of society and is proficient at networks and partnerships building, community engagement and facilitation with skills in public speaking.

3.12 How to Build a Solid Infosec Security Awareness for the Community  
**Maged Roshdy** is an experienced professional with a background in Digital Transformation, IT, and InfoSec consultancy. Currently serving as the Manager of Information and Technology Security Management at the American University in Cairo, he also holds critical roles as a DT & IT Consultant/Advisor at the Egyptian Red Crescent/IFRC and a UN-DP IT/DTD Consultant. As a dedicated ISACA Cairo Chapter's Board of Directors member, Maged Roshdy brings expertise in various domains, including CISA, CISM, ITIL, PRINCE2/Agile, and CIW certifications. Beyond his business focus, he is committed to influencing InfoSec awareness for the safety and security of humanity.

3.13 TBD (speaker TBD)

3.14 TPEG2-EAW and the Benefits  
**Stéphanie Chaufton** has a degree in international business, Trade and Commerce from the University of Orléans, France. Before joining Traveller Information Services Association (TISA,) she gained experience in the coordination and implementation of projects in the field of Intelligent Transport Solutions, as well as in communication and events organisation at the pan-European organisation ERTICO-ITS Europe. She has more than 10 years of experience in leading and coordinating all activities for the international public-private-membership association TISA and currently holds the position of TISA’s Senior Coordinator.
3.16 The Humanitarian Connectivity Charter: Engaging the mobile industry in disaster resilience (Bryce Hartley)

**Bryce Hartley** is a Senior Strategic Partnerships Manager in the GSMA’s Mobile for Humanitarian Innovation (M4H) programme. He leads the M4H strategic partnerships team’s work on the Humanitarian Connectivity Charter (HCC) and the UN’s Early Warning for All (EW4A) initiative. Previously, Bryce worked on the Mobile Coverage Maps and the Mobile Internet Skills Training Toolkit (MISTT) in the GSMA’s Connect Society and Connected Women programmes. Before joining the GSMA, Bryce spent a decade in the Asia-Pacific region working in both the public and private sector. He has an academic background in machine learning and international relations.

3.17 China’s National Early Warning Releasing System (NEWRES)

**Zhiyu Cao** is Director of the Warning Division at the National Early Warning Center, China. Mr. Cao has more than 10 years of experience as an expert in issuing early warnings, since construction of China’s National Early Warning Release System started. He graduated from the Mathematics Department of Harbin Institute of Technology, and subsequently worked at product and system development in the National Meteorological Center, part of China Meteorological Administration. In 2007 he was one of the founders of Weather China, the top-ranked Chinese web site for weather, where he focused on database development, and on web operation and maintenance. He transferred to CMA Public Meteorological Service Center in 2008. He is currently doing research on early warning systems and comprehensive capabilities of disaster prevention and reduction.

3.18 Update on CAP and WMO

**Maritza Delgado** is a Program Officer of the Environment and Emergency Telecommunications Division within the International Telecommunication Union’s (ITU) Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT). Maritza is responsible in the context of emergency telecommunications for supporting countries in the use of information and communication technologies for disaster management, the development of National Emergency Telecommunication Plans and their regulatory, policy and legal frameworks, in the design and implementation of early warning and alerting systems, as well as in the development of projects, guidelines and reports for the inclusion and use of digital technologies for disaster risk reduction. She holds a university degree in Electronic Engineering and Telecommunications and has over 15 years of experience in the field of disaster management.

3.19 Update on CAP and WMO

**Vicente Vasquez**

*Picture not yet received*
3.20 CAP in India: SACHET System

Smriti Sachdev

3.21 CAP Warning Dissemination in Germany

Mandy Best has been directing the fortunes of mecom Medien-Communications-Gesellschaft mbH in Hamburg (Germany) as a Co-Managing Director since 2022. mecom develops and operates the Modular Warning System (MoWaS) for the Federal Republic of Germany. This unique technical alerting infrastructure ensures that German citizens are warned about hazardous situations via different channels in due time. Prior to joining mecom, Mandy Best was in charge of IT and product management at Internationaler Medien Service GmbH & Co. KG. After the company was acquired by A. Stein'sche Mediengruppe GmbH, Best headed the product management of all subsidiaries of the media group. Before that, she was Chief Information Officer (CIO) at Safebridge GmbH in Berlin and Hamburg from 2007 to 2016. During this period, she served, among other positions, as a Speaker of the CIO and as a Senior Project Manager. Mandy Best studied Business Informatics at the Elmshorn University of Applied Sciences.

3.22 CAP in Italy and Cell Broadcast

Umberto Rossini works in Rome as Manager of the Information System Service of the Italian Civil Protection Department within the Presidency of the Council of Ministers. Among his activities, he coordinates the alert system for the population in emergency, “IT-Alert”, the definition of the Italian profile of CAP, and the Italian Alert Message Hub. After years of experience in the private sector working as a developer, IT-architect and security, in 2009 he joined the Public Administration. From 2016, he worked at AgID, Agency for Digital Italy, holding the role of technical manager of the Public Digital Identity System “SPID” and other related projects, data and interoperability. He also worked as Technical Project Manager at the Civil Protection Department and, later, he worked at PagoPA S.p.A., a government company that deals with digital payments. He also works as an associate professor in master's degree on data and IT security.