2024 CAP Implementation Workshop
Speakers
(Updated as of 12 June 2024)

For the provisional Programme, see Programme
For the provisional list of participants, see Participants
For details about the venue and logistics, see Information Note

1.1 Welcome from Traveller Information Services Association (TISA)

Stephanie Leonard is Chairwoman of TISA. She has spent over a decade working from all corners of the transportation and technology sectors. After finishing her university studies in Scotland and Canada, Stephanie first entered the industry by specializing in electric vehicles. She has thrived in the male-dominated transportation industry by becoming a voice and role model for young women in transportation. She has extensive experience in both the governmental and private sector and is skilled at bringing people together in order to drive innovation and push for progress, focusing mainly on road safety. Having spoken across the globe about technology to politicians and business leaders alike, Stephanie Leonard is an exciting voice bringing new ideas and fresh thinking into the automotive and mobility world. Since 2018, she has been the Head of Government and Regulatory Affairs at TomTom.

1.2 Welcome from 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.

1.3 Welcome from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Fred Branski Fred Branski currently is an International Affairs Analyst with the U.S. National Weather Service (NWS) where he is responsible for various WMO matters including the WMO Technical Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (INFCOM). Fred served eight years as President of the WMO Commission for Basic Systems, the predecessor of INFCOM, which included the Public Weather Services group that brought CAP into the WMO system of recommended practices. Fred is also the Co-Chair for the WMO Technical Commission for Weather, Climate, Hydrological, Marine and Related Environmental Services and Applications (SERCOM) Expert Team on Early Warnings for All under the Standing Committee for DRR. Fred has more than 30 years of experience working with the WMO and other international agencies and previously served as the NWS, Chief of Data Management and Head of the NWS Operations Support Branch.
1.4 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.

1.5 Welcome from OASIS (standards organization)

Francis Beland is the OASIS Executive Director, responsible for overall operation, in addition to helping define strategies and policies to deliver the best value to its members. Throughout his career, Francis has served as a partner at Global Accelerated Ventures and Oceans.Studio, E-TRON Technologies, and Deloitte/Monitor Group, and he was vice president at XPRIZE Foundation. A global thought leader with a passion for disruptive technology, he has led corporate innovation across industry sectors, including breakthroughs in electron beam process technology, grid-scale energy storage, tuberculosis diagnostics, space exploration, healthcare, and brain-computer interface technology. Francis was an open innovation advisor to the European Commission, an Entrepreneur in Residence for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and a White House Advisor to develop new innovation pathways in the medical technology sector. He holds a Masters of Applied Management and a Bachelors of Oceanography & Pure Physics from McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

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).
3.nn CAP in the SAFERS Forest Fire Platform

Claudio Rossi is a program manager at LINKS Foundation, where he leads the research program “AI 4 industry and Security”. He was the project manager and technical lead of the H2020 I-REACT project, which aimed to exploit advanced cyber technologies to increase resilience to disasters caused by climate-induced natural hazards, including wildfires. Currently, he is the project coordinator of SAFERS, an H2020 project on wildfire management. He authored more than 30 peer-reviewed publications, co-authored the Global Assessment Report 2019 by UNDRR, the "Science for Disaster Risk Management" flagship series, published by the Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre (DRMKC).

3.nn 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.

3.nn The RODEO project and Updates on MeteoAlarm

Johannes Fleisch is the Programme Manager of MeteoAlarm at GeoSphere Austria, working on behalf of EUMETNET. In this capacity, he manages the dissemination of hydrometeorological warnings from 38 European National Meteorological and Hydrological Services through MeteoAlarm. Within the RODEO Project, Johannes leads the work package concerning warnings, bridging APIs developed under RODEO with existing MeteoAlarm services. Within the project, his primary focus is on enhancing the quality and harmonisation of warnings through close coordination with the MeteoAlarm Members, particularly with regard to the Common Alerting Protocol. Concurrently, he is in the final stages of completing his master’s degree in meteorology at the University of Vienna.
3.nn In-vehicle Map alerts via TPEG2 Emergency Alerts and Warnings Standard

**Teun Hendriks** has a master's degree in Aerospace Technology from TU Delft. Since 2008, Teun has been the Joint-chair of the TISA Technical and Standards Committee, and a member of the TISA Steering Board. TISA is a non-profit association with worldwide membership and scope, with focus on proactive implementation of traffic and travel information services and standards such as RDS-TMC and TPEG. Teun has a long track record in navigation, ITS, and deploying traffic services, including HD-Radio based TPEG services across the continental USA. Within TISA and in partnership with the German Federal Office for Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance, Teun has led the development and field trial of TPEG2 Emergency Alerts and Warnings, a protocol to distribute Common Alerting Protocol based emergency warnings into the vehicle to inform drivers timely and re-route vehicles around the danger areas. He is keen to further support its uptake.

3.nn Use of CAP in France

**Patrick Mignotte** is the IT coordinator for the FR-ALERT program at the French Ministry of the Interior. He is the project's technical manager, liaising between the publisher and CAP alert broadcasters. He has extensive experience in telecommunications and transmissions, and leads an interministerial working group on information systems interoperability. He took part in the French experimentation of the Stellar project piloted by the European Commission for the Galileo satellite-based population alert service (EWSS- Emergency Warning Satellite Service). He is starting work on CAP interconnection with traditional media broadcasters such as Radio France, with the leitmotiv: CAP at the center of exchanges.