

TIEMS Annual Conference 2009 in Istanbul

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

No	Name	Country	Organisation	Title	Abstract
1.	Ferruccio Cerruti	Italy	Managing Director of ETEA SICUREZZA SRL	Risk Management starts from Risk Assessment and Simulation	<p>The State of the Art in the Professional risk assessment of Civil and Industrial sites allows simulating the possible development of toxic gas dispersion, fires and explosions by mean of CFD models. Such models have also legal value and are described in many standards and codes (eg. ISO, NFPA, EN).</p> <p>These CFDs are used by professional safety assessors for setting up the preventive and protective measures to be implemented in order to avoid or mitigate the effects of toxic dispersions, fires and explosions.</p> <p>As a new field of application the simulation can help the Rescue teams in the Emergency and Disaster Management as a valuable tool to describe the site, to predict the secondary events after a primary release or fire/explosion, to approach the area having a clear 3D picture of the Critical Points (on a portable PC screen like a netbook) instead of a standard 2D map, to apply the proper safety procedures.</p>
2.	Shan Chunchang	China	Director of the Expert Panel for the Emergency Management Taskforce under the General Office of the State Council of China	Brief introduction of China's Emergency Management under the construction of harmonious society	<p>Professor Shan Chunchang, consultant with the State Council of China, Director of the Expert Panel for the Emergency Management Taskforce under the General Office of the State Council, vice director of the Expert Panel of the Chinese Committee for Disaster Reduction, former director of the State Administration of Production Safety.</p> <p>This speech will briefly introduce the latest situation of China's emergency management after the lessons learned from the SARS event in 2003, the snow storm in South China and the 5-12 earthquake in Wenchuan of Sichuan province last year. Professor Shan will describe how the China government improves the ability of dealing with all kinds of catastrophes and crisis, and makes effort on the construction of emergency management system to build a harmonious society. The author also introduces major progresses in the taking shape of China's emergency management framework in terms of institutional arrangements, mechanisms, and legislation.</p>
3.	Britt-Marie Drottz Sjöberg	Norway	Professor at NTNU, Norway	Risk communication for saving health and life	<p>The field of risk communication has developed rapidly with respect to contents and importance during the last 15 years. Its strength is based on an increased awareness that instant and continuous information to people at risk in hazardous or catastrophic situations is necessary, although not sufficient, for avoiding potentially large consequences. With a basis in multidisciplinary collaborative research and practice areas, risk communication theory has developed from rather simple sender-receiver paradigms focusing on information packages to acknowledgements that good information and valid communication strategies are built on robust knowledge of the specific situation, who are involved, in what circumstances and in which larger cultural or political setting. Today there is a dawning awareness of the importance of openness and transparency of information as well as of decision making, and of the importance of dissemination of knowledge and skills for individual preparedness and robustness. Large European projects also facilitate international collaboration involving both researchers and practitioners so that experiences in the field are tested, contested and disseminated across a variety of situations and countries, thus helping to shape complementing or converging practices and management tools. Based on national as well as international experiences it is currently normal to look and plan beyond the borders of the own country or the own specific organisational responsibility in strategic planning, risk mitigation or acute rescue coordination. The presentation gives an overview of risk communication in theory and practice based on results and experiences from research and event evaluations. It is concluded that the quality and foresight reflected in strategies and structures in the risk management decision-making processes are closely interwoven with successful avoidance or mitigation of risks, as well as central for effective crisis management as recently pointed out in the broad field of risk governance.</p>

4.	Hippolyte Fofack	USA	World Bank	Overview of Emergency and Disaster Management in Africa	<p>While developing countries are generally more exposed to natural disasters and systemic risks, African countries' risk exposures are known to be even higher, particularly owing to a relatively high frequency of disasters and to the poor quality of infrastructure and disaster prevention capacity and management institutions. However, the high costs of these deficiencies have increased awareness and need for disaster prevention and management in the region. This presentation provides an overview of emergency and disaster management in Sub-Saharan Africa and discusses the challenges facing African countries, as well as variations in the management models considered by countries in the region to mitigate the growing economic and social costs of disasters in support of long-run growth and sustainable development.</p>
5.	Pierluigi Mancini / Jerome Bequignon	Italy	ESA	A User Driven Initiative to tailor Satcom Services for the benefit of Civil Protections in Europe	<p>The impact of both natural and man-made disasters is increasing dramatically, with a fourteen-fold rise in their associated costs since 1950. Prior to 1990 there had been only three disasters whose insured cost exceeded US\$1 billion; since then there have been sixteen and they have affected all regions of the world. Communications are of paramount importance in responding to disasters but terrestrial networks are often disrupted or destroyed at the onset of a major disaster. Their capacity is also often inadequate in disaster situations. A survey of civil protection authorities in 2005 revealed that they regard satellite communications as complementary to land-based technologies and useful for overcoming some of their limitations. They recognised the need for a Europe-wide approach to reap the potential benefits of satellite systems, with interoperability between legacy standards and communication technologies. Satellite communications systems can contribute to building resilient networks, largely unaffected by events on the earth's surface, adding flexibility both in coverage and capacity allocation.</p> <p>This paper will present the activities of the European space agency, driven by civil protection agencies, in order to achieve the benefits of satellite communications in emergency management. Specifically the target is to improve the effectiveness of civil protection agencies in Europe, by enhancing their communications capabilities through the use of satellite communications. Substantial economies of scale may be achieved by federating the requirements of multiple countries and agencies. This would include benefits from standardisation; reduced unit costs of equipment, services and satellite capacity; and the avoidance of unnecessary duplication of resources. It would also set civil protection agencies in a position to influence future development in satellite communications systems and services, so as to better meet their needs.</p>
6.	Gerald Epstein	USA	Center for Strategic & International Studies	The Global Forum on Biorisks: A Comprehensive, International, Multisectoral Approach	<p>The Global Forum on Biorisks is premised on the fact that many different professional communities - including not only disaster management but others such as public health, human and veterinary medicine, law enforcement, scientific research, counterterrorism, and industry - play vital roles in managing biological risks, particularly those that are deliberately induced. These communities all share two characteristics. First, addressing deliberate biological risks is not their highest priority; they all have "day jobs" that have greater claim on their time and attention. Second, they typically do not interact with one another in the course of their everyday activities. Nevertheless, they will all have to work together to reduce, mitigate, or respond to natural, accidental, or deliberate sources of disease. At the same time, health risks transcend national boundaries, and so must any efforts to plan for or respond to them.</p> <p>This Forum is a novel approach to foster and empower the partnerships among professional communities around the world that are needed to anticipate, mitigate, and respond to sources of biological risk. It offers a new model for global, "bottom-up," decentralized governance that will operate by socializing and advancing biological risk management within each of the relevant professional communities, and by creating a venue in which these communities can interact, understand each other's roles, share best practices, assess each other's progress, and pursue joint efforts. It offers an approach that is appropriate for a decentralized problem involving non-state actors as well as states, and in which there is little consensus about the magnitude or the likelihood of the problem.</p>

7.	Jesper Nielsen	Denmark	UMS Denmark	Population alert – Possibilities in the past, present and in the future	<p>A lot of time and effort has in the previous years been spend in developing safe, intelligent and secure systems in order to avoid and predict natural disasters and other catastrophes. Also a lot of money has been spent investing in new safe digital radios for the Emergency Services in order to give these authorities the best communication tool possible in case of natural disasters, terror and other emergencies. All this in the best meaning and with good results – but what about alerting the population – before, during and after a crises.</p> <p>Persons who have survived the Tsunami in 2006 often pronouns that one of the worst things after the Tsunami, was not to know nor to be informed or contacted.</p> <p>“Information and alert of citizens is just as important as food and water before, under and after emergency situations” (Red Cross, “World disaster report 2005”)</p> <p>Nowadays most countries only have sirens which were installed back in the forties. An innovative Population Alert System can apart from alerting the population and save lives, be of great value and help for the Emergency Services before, during and after a catastrophe.</p> <p>This presentation will guide you through the development within Population Alert and show the possibilities for alerting the citizens in the past, present and in the coming years via various communication channels. Also the presentation will describe things to consider when communicating with the population.</p>
8.	Martin von Bergh	Germany	Von Bergh Global Medical Consulting	New Concepts for Future Disaster Response	<p>The constant increase in the world’s population in combination with: the tendency of humans to centralize in urban areas and populate disaster prone areas, the increase of natural disasters mainly due to climate change, and of man-made disasters due to mass transportation and gatherings as well as the globalization of the threat for terrorist attacks are only some examples of a changing demand for effective disaster management. New detection technologies and early warning systems are needed just as much as new concepts and tools to respond to mass casualty events and large scale disasters. The presentation by Dr. Martin von Bergh, who is a practicing emergency physician and consultant for Emergency and Disaster Management, will give an overview of the changing demand for disaster management based on recent events and developments. To be able to meet this new demand, front-line responders and government officials worldwide have to implement and carry out new strategies in their response procedures in order to save lives. The presentation will furthermore introduce some of the latest disaster management tools and technologies that have been developed to prevent and respond to hazards and catastrophes as well as improve the safety for front-line personnel and their communication in a disaster scenario.</p>
9.	Hasan Boduroglu	Turkey	Professor at Istanbul Technical University and Chairman of the Earthquake Foundation of Turkey	A Critical Review of Emergency and Disaster Management in Turkey	<p>August 17, 1999 Kocaeli Earthquake and November 12, 1999 Düzce Earthquake were two major earthquakes causing eighteen thousands deaths and hundreds of thousands have been evacuated from their homes. Both of these disasters had social, technical, administrative, legal, economical and environmental impacts.</p> <p>Before the above mentioned earthquakes, there have been two main organizations for emergency and disaster management. in Turkey . The first one is General Directorate of Disaster Affairs of the Ministry of Public Works and Settlements and the General Directorate of Civil Defense of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. After the earthquakes another organization was established as the Turkey Emergency Management Directorate General working under the Office of the Prime Minister.</p> <p>There have continuous search for a better organization since the above mentioned earthquakes. In 2004 Ministry of Public Works and Settlements organized Earthquake Council. In this council, it has been agreed on rearranging the disaster management system in Turkey and preparing new strategic plans for seismic risk reduction. A new financially and administratively independent organization for the existing Turkey Emergency Management Directorate needs to be established working under the Prime Minister. Until now no definite action has been taken.</p> <p>In this presentation, the present disaster management system in Turkey is reviewed and is compared with the systems of United States of America and Japan. Also, suggestions have been made for the improvement of the system.</p>