

**TIEMS**

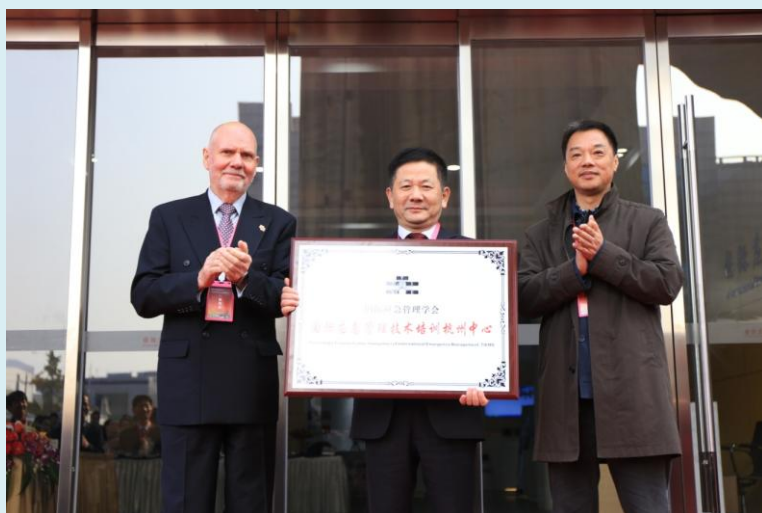
The International Emergency Management Society



THE INTERNATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SOCIETY

Newsletter - ISSUE 22 - November 2014

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TIEMS President opens International Emergency
Rescue Equipment Center in Hangzhou, China

The International Emergency Management Society

TIEMS continues its international development, and is spreading out its activity more and more worldwide, with members and chapters. New members and chapters add valuable expertise and cultural diversity to the TIEMS international network, which comprises of users, planners, researchers, industry, managers, response personnel, practitioners, social scientists, and other interested parties within emergency and disaster management. This network constitutes a large international multidisciplinary group of experts, with different educational backgrounds and various experiences. Read more about this network and its activities in this newsletter.

Alex Fullick
TIEMS Newsletter Editor

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Message from TIEMS President

The TIEMS 2015 Annual Conference took place in Niigata in Japan in late October with more than 500 attendees from 14 countries. It was an excellent conference with a good scientific program, an important panel debate, which looked into the past to see how this could guide us into tomorrow, relaxing social events with excellent networking opportunities, and an insightful tour to the Chuestu 2004 disaster site at the end of the conference.

The symbol of the conference, OnkoChishin, can be viewed and is explained below:



- An attempt to discover new things (truths) by studying the past through scrutiny of the old
- Try to find a guide into tomorrow by taking lessons from the past.

This was also the topic of the panel debate, where I had the opportunity to join with the Mayor of Niigata, the Governor of Niigata, the Niigata University President and a Professor from Kansai University. We were asked to address three main topics:

1. Lessons learned from the past experiences from disasters
2. Try to find a guide into tomorrow
3. How can Niigata contribute to World Risk Management?

These topics are important all around the world, and show that global communication on these issues is very important, so we can

learn from each other and also understand how different cultures impact this learning process. We need to understand cultural differences in order to communicate better and to be better prepared for future disasters. I made the same observation during the social events, where Japanese experts and international experts networked in a relaxed atmosphere where local food and drinks gave a delicious flavor to this global communication.



Oslo 16th November 2014

K. Harald Drager

TIEMS President

The tour to the Chuestu 2004 earthquake site on the 10th anniversary memorial-day 23rd October, gave the participants an understanding of what happened the day of the earthquake, which was followed by several landslides, causing 46 fatalities and 4801 injured persons and serious economic damage. Seeing past disaster sites and learning from them, is also very important in the global communication, in order to improve global preparedness.

The week after the TIEMS Niigata event, the 28th - 31st October, TIEMS China Chapter 2014 Annual Conference and Training took place in Chengdu in China with more than 650 participants. The main topic of the Chengdu conference was: «How to improve the public safety system and boost the emergency

The International Emergency Management Society (www.tiems.org)

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management capacity ». This led to an engaged discussion of natural disasters, sudden accidents, public health and social safety.

Furthermore, the roundtable discussion on *«The most difficult problems in the development of the emergency industry, the current situation and the pressing problems of the emergency transportation and the urgent problems in the development of the emergency industry in rural areas, respectively»* awakened the participants' awareness and passion in considering the development of emergency management in China.

Then on 1st November 2014, the second Conference of The International Emergency Rescue Equipment Center (IEREC) was arranged in Hangzhou in China, with representatives from TIEMS China chapter present. The main purposes of the Conference were to review one year of achievements at the Center, plan the future and prepare the opening ceremony of The International Emergency Rescue Equipment Center (IEREC) in Hangzhou on 20th, November 2014. As TIEMS President I was present, together with representatives from the TIEMS China chapter, for the official opening of the center, and the report from the event is found in the newsletter below. This International Emergency Rescue Equipment Center (IEREC) will be an important base and communication platform for TIEMS in China in the future. The main tasks of IEREC are:

- 1 IEREC will be a comprehensive base for emergency and rescue product research, training and exercise, including TIEMS Education Training and Certification Programs
- 2 IEREC will be a center for international and local emergency industry companies and institutions to display their high-tech emergency and rescue equipment and products for end users
- 3 IEREC will be a service center for emergency response activities.

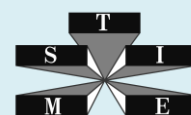
Moving from the past into TIEMS events and activities planned for 2015, the following

international events and activities are confirmed:

1. TIEMS 2015 Workshop in Croatia is planned for the end of March 2015
2. TIEMS Workshop in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 7th - 11th April 2015
3. International Disaster Reduction and Emergency Preparedness Conference and Technology Expo in Chengdu, China 16 - 18 April, 2015
4. TIEMS USA Chapter 2015 Conference in Seattle, 19 - 21 May 2015
5. TIEMS 2015 Annual Conference in Rome, 30th September - 2nd October 2015
6. TIEMS Finland Chapter 2015 Workshop, in February and June 2015
7. TIEMS Nigeria & West Africa Chapter 2015 Conference, dates TBD
8. TIEMS China Chapter 2015 Annual Conference in Qingdao, dates TBD.

Some of the above events for 2015 are already detailed on TIEMS website and described in this newsletter, and the others will be posted on TIEMS website and announced when details are provided by the local chapter host and organizer.

As can be seen from above report of recent 2014 activities and events and plans for 2015, TIEMS lives up to its slogan of Think Globally and Act Locally. TIEMS is providing an international communication platform for all stakeholders involved in emergency management and disaster response. TIEMS chapters play an important role, as a network of experts and local TIEMS activity, and they allow cultural differences to be understood and included in the society's events, education and research programs.



Editor's Message

Hello once again good readers!

Welcome to the 2014 fall edition of the TIEMS Newsletter. I'm sure many of you are preparing for the cold blast of winter and making plans to enjoy the wonderland that only snow creates.

In this edition we formally announce the location of the 2015 TIEMS Annual Conference: Rome, Italy! We also have a couple of other exciting education opportunities in Venice and Saudi Arabia; both look exciting based on their agenda.

As always, we try to keep all submissions in your voice to truly adhere to the global feel of TIEMS, amending only where absolutely necessary.

Don't forget to keep checking out the TIEMS website for further details on upcoming events and initiatives that sometimes don't make it into the newsletter, as TIEMS is a busy bunch (www.tiems.org).

Continuing with our spotlight on TIEMS board members, we introduce a new member to the Board of Directors, Tom Robertson, who has recently been appointed the Regional Director for North America.

We are always looking for interesting articles and announcements to provide to you - our readers. If you have an article you would like to contribute on topics related to Emergency and Disaster Management, Business Continuity or Crisis Communications - or anything else you feel would suit the newsletter - feel free to send them to my attention at the email below.

In the meantime, we hope you like the latest edition.

Sincerely,

A. Alex Fullick, MBCI, CBCP, CBRA, v3ITIL

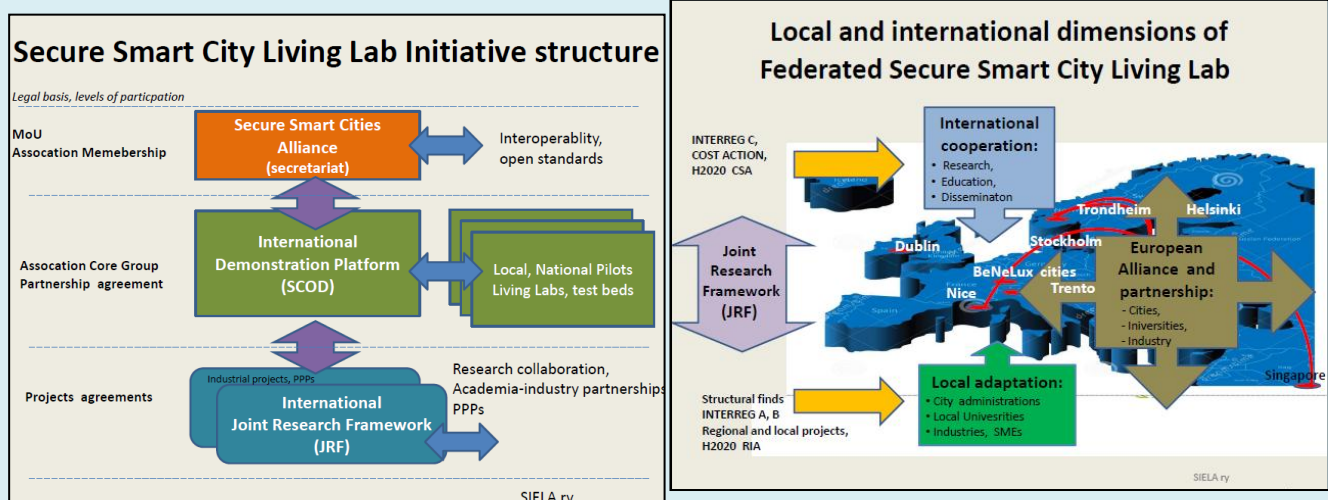
Editor, TIEMS Advisory Board

Email: alex@stone-road.com

Pre-announcement of Interregional Secure Smart City Living Lab Conference (SSC-2015), Helsinki-Vantaa, Finland

Background information. Secure Smart City Living Lab Initiative

Secure Smart City is a new emerging topic in urban and regional development, ICT system and digital services design, and security management. It has tremendous potential for innovation, business and regional development. Secure Smart Cities promise to provide a substantial improvement in societal security by using advanced smart ICT systems in everyday life of urban population and city management operations. The application of [Living Lab](#) methods and concepts in the design of Secure Smart Cities will facilitate the development of new business ecosystems, services, Public Private Partnerships (PPP), and will provide an innovation platform and empower citizens to create new services. The **federated** concept of [Secure Smart City Living Lab](#) provides a broad range of opportunities for the regional developments and adaptations of Secure Smart City Living Lab by establishing local pilots and test beds that will be integrated with local business ecosystems and will be built with the participation of local companies and public authorities. It will consolidate the ongoing national efforts in [Digital Services](#) and [Open Data](#) innovations development and will add international dimension to these activities. The [Secure Smart City Living Lab initiative](#) is aimed at facilitating the implementation of Secure Smart Cities, to promote the use of open data, Internet technologies and interoperable standards. It provides an international forum for discussions, exchange of best practices and experiences.

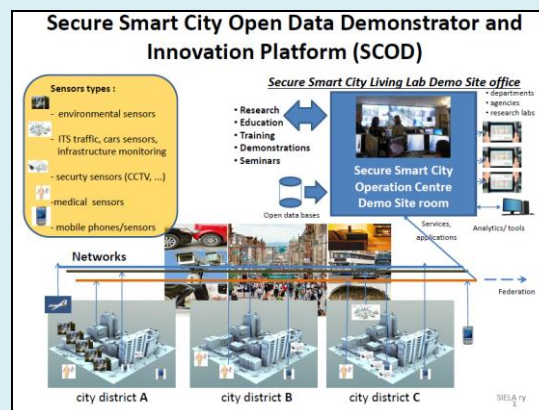


Alliance for Secure Smart Cities and Living Lab

The initiative started to materialize as Alliance for Secure Smart Cities and Living Lab (www.laurea.fi/en/TIEMS/europeanalliance) that was proposed by participants of the 10th ITS Congress international Secure Smart Cities workshop in June 2014 organized by TIEMS Finland SIELA association (www.itsineurope.com/its10/index.php/programme/special-events/ancillary-events).

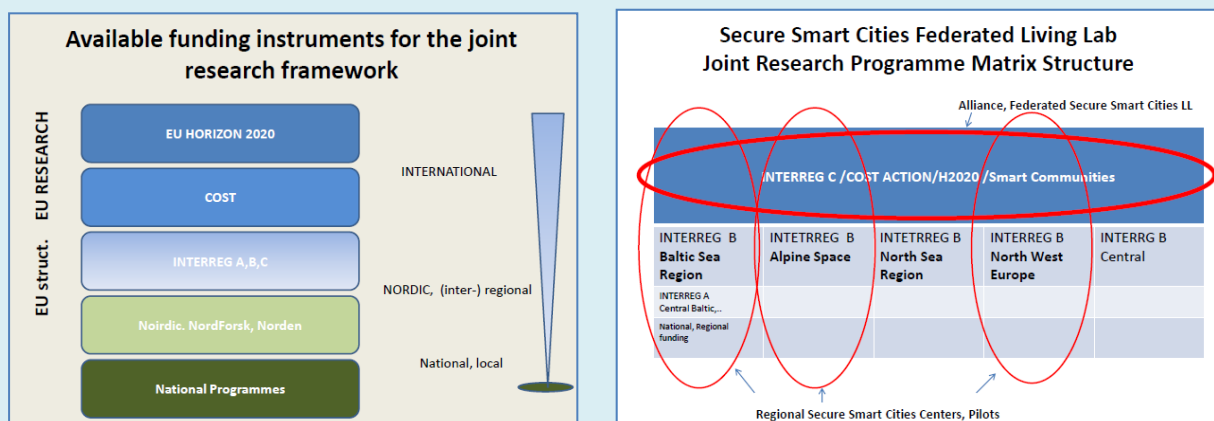
Secure Smart City Digital Services and Open Data Demonstrator and Innovation Platform (SCOD)

The Alliance includes **Secure Smart City Digital Services and Open Data Demonstrator and Innovation Platform (SCOD)** that is a federated open architecture internet based demonstrator for Secure Smart City Living Lab.



Secure Smart City Joint Research Framework (JRF)

Secure Smart City Joint Research Framework (JRF) is introduced to consolidate the necessary critical mass of expertise and competences that is necessary for such complex and multidisciplinary topic, to start Pilots developments and to contribute to the international coordination of research efforts in this field. JRF provides technology multidisciplinary research input into SCOD and collaborate with Alliance conferences and workshops.



JRF consolidates the results and inputs of complimentary research funding instruments available nationally and internationally. It stimulates the establishing of new high quality R&D projects in the relevant research areas. The JRF provides a platform for exchange of knowledge, experiences and best practices between projects and initiatives of different programmes such as INTERREG, ERDF, ESF and Horizon 2020.

The launch of new INTERREG programmes in 2015 opens up new opportunities for consolidation of regional efforts in Europe and for the federation of SCOD. The JRF module structure allows participating organizations to choose the research project topics and modalities of their participation that best match their interests and strategies.

Secure Smart City Living Lab Interregional Conference (SSC-2015)

The concept of the Living Lab has been previously discussed at national and international workshops in Finland in 2013 and 2014. The **SSC-2015** conference will continue the discussions, building the network and forum that has been started at the previous events.

The **SSC-2015** conference has interregional focus. It provides a multidisciplinary discussion panel for city management, public authorities, industrial and research communities of participating regions. It discusses priorities, requirements, technologies and applicable methods. It includes the presentations of ongoing initiatives, research projects, pilots and Living Labs. The research session discusses the consolidation of research projects results and the research agenda development. It includes the presentations of INTERREG, H2020 and COST programmes projects ideas and proposals. The conference ad hoc meetings discusses the Secure Smart Cities Living Lab implementation elements such as Alliance, Open Data Demonstrator and partnership.

Conference objectives:

- To present the latest Smart Cities technologies and the examples of concrete implementations to city authorities, user organizations, general public. They will include but will not be limited to: Intelligent Cities Operation Centers, smart ICT systems, applications domains solutions for security, eHealth, environmental monitoring, ITS; critical infrastructure.
- To hear the opinions and views of City Administrations and Public Authorities about their interests and needs, visions of future Smart Cities, new services and applications.
- To identify the relevant experiences and approaches applicable for development of **Secure Smart Cities Living Lab Alliance** and **partnership programme** based on the experiences of participating innovation organizations, Living Labs, Private Public Partnerships (PPP).
- To present activities and results of relevant research projects, pilots and test beds and to discuss their interests to participate and to contribute the Living Lab and the **Smart City Digital Services and Open Data Demonstrator and Innovation Platform (SCOD)**. To discuss and to identify the general rules and guidelines for the SCOD operations including testing and demonstration activities.
- To discuss how national and interregional research programmes, projects and their results could be consolidated to contribute the development of Secure Smart Cities multidisciplinary research agenda. The discussion topics include: research topics prioritization, the establishing of regular exchange of information and best practices at workshops and seminars, new proposals and research initiatives developments.
- To discuss the interregional collaboration between **Open Data, Living Labs, Public Digital Services** initiatives that are aimed at stimulating new services and business developments in the participating regions. To identify the priorities and the main interest areas for future interregional cooperation.

- To identify the needs of **Education and Training activities** that could improve the understanding of new technologies and the new opportunities provided by Smart Cities.
- To discuss the needs in Secure Smart Cities Open Data and interoperability. To identify the necessary international standardization and harmonization activities to be developed in the future.
- To develop further the Alliance association mission statement, participation rules, management bodies and partnership agreement.

Conference sessions:

Day1 Public authorities and Industrial sessions

- Smart Cities implementations and demonstrations (*morning session*).
- Public authorities presentations, Living Labs, Public Private partnerships, Digital Services and Open Data Innovation activities (*afternoon session*).
- Round table discussion. Alliance day 1 meeting.

Target audience: city/regional administrations, innovation organizations, safety and security authorities, city planning, traffic-, health-, environment responsible authorities, industry and SMEs.

Session objectives: to present and to discuss the needs and interests of public authorities, the implementation solutions offered by industry, the Living Labs, innovation and public private partnerships implementations and experiences. To define a feasible format and the next steps for development of Secure Smart City Living Lab and the federated demonstration platform.

Day 2 Research and industry session

- Research programmes presentations. Universities-Industry cooperation. Experiences and best practices (*morning session*).
- Research projects and pilots, new projects ideas. Educational activities proposal (*afternoon session*).
- Round table discussion. Research advisory group meeting. COST ACTION project proposal meeting

Target audience: research and innovation authorities, research organizations and universities, industry and SMEs, users.

Session objectives: to present projects and pilots, new projects proposal ideas, to discuss the consolidation of research and development efforts to support the Secure Smart City

Living Lab initiative and the open data demonstrator. To indentify topics for education and training activities.

- The conference will take place in Vantaa-Helsinki, Finland in February 2015. There might be organized another conference or workshop in Finland on this topic in June 2015. The conference announcement with the timing and venue information will be available soon on the TIEMS International and TIEMS Finland web sites: times.org and www.laurea.fi/en/TIEMS/.
- The organizations and experts interested to provide inputs to the conference, to participate in the Alliance, Demonstrator partnership or to propose or participate in JRF research projects are invited to send an e-mail to siela@nic.fi.
- The organizations interested to participate in **research projects** are invited to fill in doodle poles at www.laurea.fi/en/TIEMS/participation_poles by indicating the calls and objectives they would like to participate.
- More information at www.laurea.fi/en/TIEMS/

RESCUER Project: Reliable and Smart Crowdsourcing Solution for Emergency and Crisis Management



The reaction to unexpected situations during major events, but also to serious incidents in industrial plants, requires good coordination. The right information at the right place at the right time will determine the proportions that such a catastrophe can take on. It contributes to the emergency dispatch center and the emergency service personnel making the right decisions at the right time. Eyewitnesses, residents, as well as society at large also want to be informed about the situation and potential dangers as fast as possible. The goal of the European-Brazilian partnership project RESCUER (“Reliable and smart crowdsourcing solution for emergency and crisis management”) is thus the development of an innovative, interoperable, computer-based solution for the optimal support of crisis and emergency management. The basis for this shall be mobile technologies, which almost everybody carries with them these days in the form of smartphones or tablets. This is how the project leaders of RESCUER intend to support a “mobile crowdsourcing solution” with first responders and eyewitnesses at the place of an incident.

The players in the occurrence of a critical situation are:

- **Eyewitnesses:** people in the place of the incident who are shocked, frightened, and uncertain.
- **Operational Forces:** organizational units in charge of security and safety in the area where the incident occurred, e.g., police, fire fighters, and rescue forces.
- **First responders:** members of the operational forces or volunteers at the place of the incident who have little time for reports.
- **Command center:** group of people assigned to evaluating risks and making decisions in an emergency and/or crisis, based on information provided by eyewitnesses and first responders.
- **Affected community:** people close to the place of the incident who will most likely suffer from its impact.
- **General public:** informed by public communication means.

The RESCUER solution will be composed of four main components (Figure 1):

- 1) **Mobile Crowdsourcing Solution**, to support eyewitnesses and first responders in providing the command center with information about an emergency situation, taking into account the different smartphones that might be used and how people interact with smartphones under stress.
- 2) **Data Analysis Solutions**, which include approaches for integrating data from

different operational forces as well as for combining, filtering, and analyzing crowdsourcing information mashed up with open data.

- 3) **Emergency Response Toolkit**, to provide the command center with the relevant information in the appropriate format and time to support decision-making in the different phases of an emergency.
- 4) **Communication Infrastructure**, to support the information flow between the crowd and the command center even when the traditional communication infrastructure is overloaded.

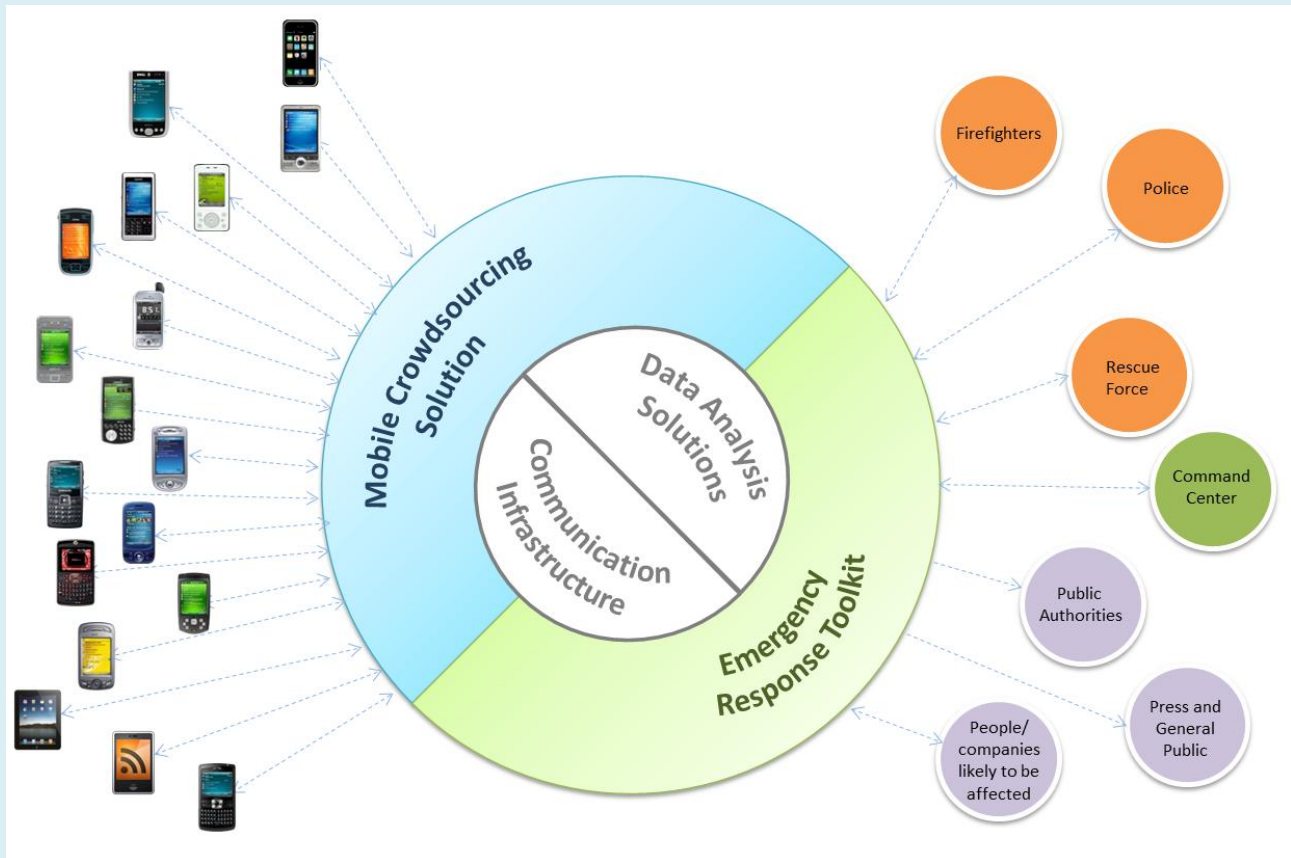


Figure 1: Rescuer Components

The scientific challenges of the RESCUER project are:

- Design of a user interface and interaction model that support's the safe and efficient provision of information and results in a positive user experience.
- (Semi-)automatic fusion, aggregation, and analysis of multimedia data, which will mostly consist of user-generated videos/photos taken from multiple points with variable content and image quality.
- Optimized aggregation of intuitive metaphors for visualization and manipulation of information. The challenge is to improve situation awareness while only providing information that is relevant for the decision to be made.
- Customized communication of the incident to the targeted audience through the semi-automated derivation of messages.
- Development of a peer-to-peer communication method to support ad-hoc

communication between people in the crowd.

The RESCUER project is funded by the European Commission (Grant: 614154) and by the Brazilian National Council for Scientific and Technological Development CNPq/MCTI (Grant: 490084/2013-3). The partners of the RESCUER consortium on the European side are: Fraunhofer Institute for Experimental Software Engineering IESE, German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI), Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, VOMATEC International GmbH, and FireServ e.U. On the Brazilian side, the partners are: Universidade Federal de Bahia, Universidade de São Paulo, MTM Serviços de Informática Ltda, and Comitê de Fomento Industrial de Camaçari.

Project Details:

Website: <http://www.rescuer-project.org/>

Starting Date: 1/10/2013

Duration: 30 months



<https://www.facebook.com/therescuerproject>



@RescuerProject

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**The International Emergency Management Forum -
2014 (Chengdu)
- in conjunction with -
The 5th Annual Conference of the International
Emergency Management Society (TIEMS) China Chapter**

From 30th to 31st October 2014, the International Emergency Management Forum-2014 (Chengdu) in conjunction with the 5th Annual Conference of the International Emergency Management Society (TIEMS) China Chapter opened successfully at Chengdu Institute of Public Administration. This forum and conference was hosted by the International Emergency Management Society (TIEMS) China Chapter together with the Emergency Management Office of Chengdu Municipal People's Government, undertaken by National Emergency Transportation Equipment Engineering Research Center, Chengdu Institute of Public Administration and Chengdu International Security Association, organized jointly by Emergency Management Training Center of China National School of Administration, Military Transportation University of PLA, Xinxing Cathay International Group and so forth. Over 500 participants from the emergency related departments and companies all over the country participated at this event.

This forum and conference set the theme as *improve the public safety system, boost the emergency management capacity*. All the presented experts communicated thoroughly around the area of natural disasters, sudden accidents, public health and social safety.

The whole meeting consisted of two parts: the training from 28th to 29th, the conference on 30th October and the round-table forum on 31st October.

The meeting also collected 158 dissertations from all over the countries, achieving a new peak.

Six famous experts from different departments in emergency industry were invited to give a training program on emergency management and accidents and disaster response, scenario building, rescuing and the development of the equipment, introducing a lot of precious theories and experiences to about 120 trainees.

The ceremony on 30th October was hosted by Mr Chang Xiaoyang, the director of the Emergency Management Office of Chengdu Municipal People's Government. Mr Shan Chunchang, the president of the China Chapter, Mr Chen Sheng, the deputy director of the Emergency Management Office of the State Council, Mr Zhao Heping, the deputy director of China Earthquake Administration gave speeches on the ceremony. Other famous experts and important leaders also had reports in the following meeting.

The round-table conference was held on 31st October. Three groups of leaders had profound discussion and communication on the subject of *the most difficult problems in the development of the emergency industry, the current situation and the pressing*

problems of the emergency transportation and the urgent problems in the development of the emergency industry in rural areas, respectively.

The whole forum and conference achieved a huge success in generating participant awareness and passion in considering the development of the emergency management in China.



Training Program of TIEMS China Chapter before the Annual Conference



Opening Ceremony of 5th Annual Conference of TIEMS China Chapter and Chairman



Opening Ceremony of 5th Annual Conference of TIEMS China Chapter and Chairman



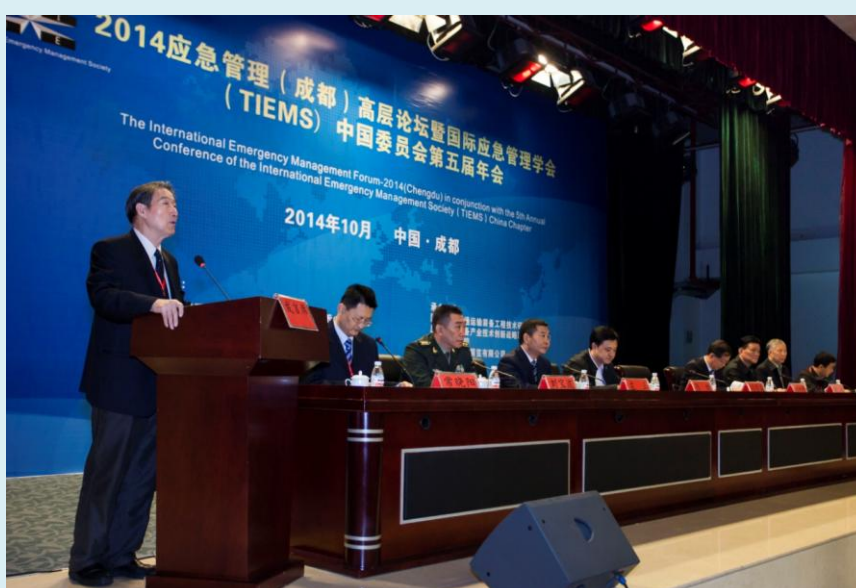
Total Participants of about 650 at the 5th Annual Conference of TIEMS China Chapter



QU Guosheng with Chen Sheng (Deputy Director of EMA of State Council), Chang Xiaoyang



Shan Cunchang (President of TIEMS China Chapter), QU Guosheng (TIEMS Vice President)





Second Conference of The International Emergency Rescue Equipment Center (IEREC) was held in Hangzhou in 1st November, 2014. TIEMS Vice President QU Guosheng, Director of TIEMS Asia and Pacific Area Office, YANG Wenlong, and the president of Xianheng International Mr. WANG Laixing held the conference.

The main aims of the Conference were to conclude one year achievements, new planning and preparing the opening ceremony of The International Emergency Rescue Equipment Center (IEREC), Hangzhou in 20th November, 2014.

The International Emergency Rescue Equipment Center (IEREC) will be the base and communicating platform of TIEMS in the future. The main tasks of IEREC are:

1. IEREC will be the comprehensive base for emergency and rescue product research, equipment exhibition, technique spread, practice of disaster scenario, solutions on on-site

disaster emergency and rescue, training and exercise, and awareness transmission of disaster preparedness and reduction.

2. IEREC will accumulate many emergency industry companies and institutions to display and supply whole of the emergency and rescue high-tech equipments and products for the users and will have the training, exercise and practice programs on emergency management, SAR, and new techniques (products and technology, including disaster emergency preparedness, risk assessment, disaster monitoring and early warning technology, disaster scenario simulation and contingency plan compiled technology, disaster response and decision-making technology, on-site search and rescue equipments (life detectors, rescue tools, robots, audio and video rescue monitoring equipment), emergency medical care and technique supports technology, logistic support equipments and technology for USAR teams, UXV (UAV, UGV, USV, UUV etc), emergency engineering equipments for disaster recovery and relief, remote sensing technology, high-rise building escape devices, household emergency equipments, equipments for the public emergency response and SAR as well as self response and rescue, emergency communication network system, and ICS and EOC related equipments, training and exercise equipments etc.).

3. IEREC will service for the emergency response of electric power supply and rail way and express highway; earthquake, geological, meteorological, oceanic, agriculture, and forest disasters response and SAR, flooding, fire-fighters, civil air defence and supply the whole solutions of disaster preparedness, monitoring, response and SAR, and disaster recovery, so to enhance the resilience of the disaster SAR.

“Workshop on New Approaches of International Emergency Rescue Equipment Exhibition, Training, Exercise, Practice and Certification” will be held during the opening ceremony of International Emergency Rescue Equipment Center in Hangzhou, on November 20th, 2015.



2015 Chengdu International Disaster Reduction and Emergency Preparedness Conference and Technology Expo

April 16 - 18, 2015

Chengdu Century City New International Convention and Exhibition Centre

Sponsors

The International Emergency Management Society (TIEMS)
United Nation Development Program (UNDP) China
Research Center for Digital Disaster Reduction and Emergency Management, Institute of Digital China (IDC), Peking University
Recovery and Reconstruction College of Sichuan University
Emergency Management Agency of Chengdu Municipal Government (EMACDG)
Deyang Municipal Government DMG)

Organizer

Chengdu Security Association (CSA)
International Emergency Industrial Innovation Strategy Alliance (IEIISA)
Chengdu Shengshi Qianqiu Exhibition Co., Ltd.

Background

In recent years, various types of major emergencies (natural disasters, accidents, and public health and social security problems) have frequently occurred. As a consequence, our survival environment has suffered varying degrees of damage and even destruction. Catastrophes including the Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami in 2004, the United States Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the Pakistan earthquake, hurricane hitting Bay of Bengal in 2008 and the South China snow disaster, Wenchuan earthquake, Haiti and Yushu earthquake in 2010, 2011 East Japan earthquake and tsunami, and mine production safety accidents, urban high-rise building fires, public health and social security emergency, not only caused serious casualties, but also had a profound impact on regional economic and social development, with economic downturn and social turmoil. Preparation before disaster, emergency response and effective disposal during disaster and rapid recovery and sustainable development after disaster have become the focus of attention of governments all over the world and the public. To carry out scientific emergency management, develop sunrise industry of emergency response, and to create safe homes have become a common goal of the international community development.

To improve emergency management in southwest China, especially in Asia area, update emergency rescue equipment and promote technical emergency response, the sponsors will invite software and hardware device manufacturers of disaster prevention and mitigation, emergency preparedness, monitoring and early warning, emergency response, emergency relief, post-disaster resettlement and reconstruction of various aspects of disaster response with the "most sincere service concept and the constant pursuit of the

spirit of innovation", and deliverance of "high-tech, new products, new technologies, new programs, new ideas" innovative ideas; will simultaneously organize display of scientific knowledge concerning four emergencies, training class of improving emergency ability and exercises concerning emergency response and rescue. The purpose is to enhance public awareness in disaster response, to improve disaster prevention and emergency management efficiency, to improve the disposal ability of government and emergency officials and to promote healthy development of emergency industry.

Exhibits Lists will include: outdoor exhibition of large equipment, indoor professional equipment exhibition, pictures and text exhibition area, the image exhibition area, a typical rescue demonstration and public experience and interaction area. Exhibition will involve: Emergency Preparedness, Monitoring & Warning, Emergency Response, Life Rescue, Medical Rescue, Rescue Protection, Engineering Rescue, Emergency Emplacement, Security Protection, Training and Exercises, Public used emergency equipments.

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Conference Announcement: Jeddha, Saudi Arabia



We caught up with the organizers of the upcoming TIEMS Jeddah, Saudi Arabia conference and asked them for some details on what will be happening at the conference. Here's what Dr. Ayman Fidel and Dr. Naill Momani had to say.

1) Can you give us some details on the conference? When? Where? Dates?

Conference Chair: Prince Megren Chair for Crises and Disasters Management

Location: King AbdulAziz University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Date: April 7 - 11, 2015

2) What topics are going to be covered in the conference? Can you name any key speakers and their topics?

(Ed Note: We've provided a separate document outlining the schedule, topics and speakers so take a look for a detailed account of what will be presented at this conference.)

3) With regards to the conference itself, is there anything in particular you're looking forward to or excited about?

We are looking to have world known speakers participate in the 1st workshop for Prince Megren Chair for Crises Management at King AbdulAziz University in collaboration with TIEMS president Herraldr Dragger, as well as to start the 1st campaign to establish TIEMS-Middle East chapter with support of Prince Megren Chair with the intention to start joint research activities in the near future.

4) Who would benefit from attending the conference?

All community will benefit from the conference participation since topic are chosen with global perspective that have local applications and needs to manage natural and manmade

disasters that could increase awareness that will lead to future preparedness. This will help in reducing future losses through better preparedness. We think this event will be start future activities that Prince Megren Chair will support in the future such as training, workshop, awareness and researches. Therefore, researchers, higher education students, practitioners, local officials and private sector will benefit from participation.

5) What's the one key thought or idea would you like attendees to walk away with after attending the conference?

We could reduce human and monetary losses from future natural and man-made disasters through better awareness that could lead to future preparedness

6) Is there a website people can go to for more information if they have more questions?

Prince Megren Chair for Crises and Disasters Management/ Faculty of Economics and Administration King Abdulaziz University

http://fea.kau.edu.sa/Default.aspx?Site_ID=120&Lng=AR

7) If people want direct contact, who can they approach?

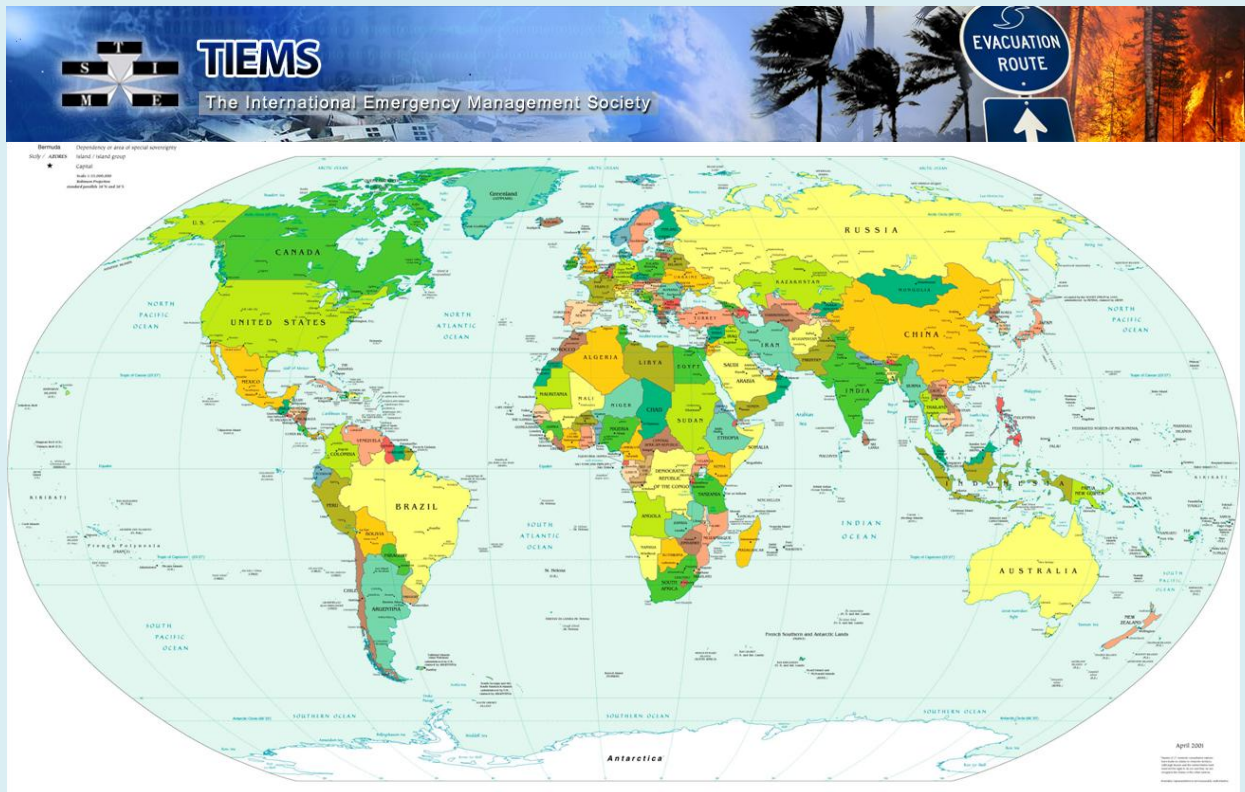
Dr. Ayman S. Fadil, Dean of Faculty of Economics and Administration and Prince Megren Chair for Crises and Disaster Management Director

Phone: +966505606107

E-mail: badr.i.f@hotmail.com



Thanks for taking the time to speak with us. All the best on your conference!!



TIEMS INTERNATIONAL SAUDI ARABIA WORKSHOP PRELIMINARY PROGRAM AND KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Jeddah, 7 – 11 April 2015 | International Emergency
Management and Disaster Response

The International Emergency Management Society (www.tiems.org)
Rue Des Deux Eglises 39, B - 1000 Brussels, Belgium, Tel: +32 2 286 80 38, Fax: +32 2 286 80 39
E-mail: r.miskuf@squaris.com,

Preliminary Program Day 1 – Tuesday 7th April 2015			
Time	Presentation Title	Speaker	Country
09:00 - 10:00	Welcome and Opening	Saudi Arabia Officials and University Representatives	Saudi Arabia
10:00 - 10:45	TIEMS – An International NGO Network Focusing on How to Establish more Resilient Societies Worldwide	<u>K. HARALD DRAGER</u> President of The International Emergency Management Society - TIEMS	Norway
10:45 – 11:15 Coffee Break			
11:15 - 12:00	Disaster Risk Management in Middle East and North Africa - Status, Gaps and Remedial Actions	<u>ANDREA ZANON</u> World Bank Regional Coordinator for Risk Management in Middle East and North Africa	Italy
12:00 – 12:45	Disaster Management: Capacity Building for Disaster Preparedness	<u>MARTIN THOMSEN</u> Lieutenant Colonel of Ministry of Defence, Danish Emergency Management Agency Chairman of the Board of Sahana Software Foundation	Denmark
12:45 - 13:30	Early Warning and Decisions Support Systems An All-hazards Approach	<u>CHRIS CHIESA</u> Deputy Executive Director Pacific Disaster Centre	USA
13:30 – 15:00 Lunch Break			
15:00 - 15:45	Disaster Response Search and Rescue Activities	<u>GUOSHENG QU</u> Professor & Deputy Director of S&T Committee of the National Earthquake Response Support Service (NERSS) in China Deputy General Team Leader of China International Search and Rescue Team (CISAR) Director of Digital Disaster Mitigation and Emergency Management Research Centre, Peking University Vice President of TIEMS	China
15:45 - 16:30	EU Civil Protection System and UN Disaster Management System Focusing on Emergency Response and Preparedness Activities	<u>DUSAN ZUPKA</u> Coordinator, Disaster Risk Management, University of Geneva, Switzerland and International UN/EU Expert in Crisis/Disaster Management	Slovakia
16:30 – 17:00 Coffee Break with QUESTIONS & ANSWERS & DISCUSSION			
19:00 – 22:00 Social Event			

Preliminary Program Day 2 – Wednesday 8 th April 2015			
Time	Presentation Title	Speaker	Country
09:00 – 09:45	Use of Virtual Simulation for Emergency Preparedness	<u>THOMAS ROBERTSON</u> Principal of Thinking Teams TIEMS Regional Director for North America	USA
09:45 – 10:30	Crisis Management – The use of Virtual Training for Marine Pollution	<u>GILLES DUSSERRE</u> Head of Risk Institute – Technical University of Ales (member of French Mines-Telecom Network) Ecole des Mines d’Alès	France
10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break			
11:00 – 11:45	Cooperation between Experts and Decision Makers during Nuclear and Industrial Emergencies	<u>JEAN-LUC WYBO</u> Senior Researcher at MINES ParisTech Guest Professor at TONGJI University (Shanghai, CHINA) Editor--in--Chief of “Safety Science” (Elsevier) Editor--in--Chief of “International Journal of Emergency Management” (Inderscience Ltd.)	France
11:45 – 12:30	Thailand's National Capacity on Flood Early Warning and Mitigation System	<u>CHERDSAK VIRAPAT</u> Director General, Network of Aquaculture Centers in Asia-Pacific (NACA), Bangkok, Thailand	Thailand
12:30 – 14:00 Lunch Break			
14:00 – 14:45	Mass Casualty Management - Disasters Dealing with Mass Gathering such as Al Haj - Pilgrimage	<u>MEEN BAHADUR POUDYAL CHHETRI</u> President of Nepal Centre for Disaster Management (NCDM) Adjunct Professor Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Brisbane, Australia	Nepal
14:45 – 15:30	Pandemic, a Question of Bugs, Barriers and Borders	<u>CARL W. TAYLOR</u> Founding Partner of Fraser Institute for Health Risk	USA
15:30 – 16:00 Coffee Break			
16:00 – 17:00	QUESTION & ANSWERS & DISCUSSION		
19:00 – 22:00	Social Event		

Presentation of Keynote Speaker K. Harald Drager

Name: *K. Harald Drager*

Position: *TIEMS President, Belgium*
Professor Chair, King Abdulaziz
University
Saudi Arabia



Date of Birth: *12.05.1942*

Nationality: *Norwegian*

Biography:

K. Harald Drager, Oslo, Norway, is the founding member of the worldwide acting society **TIEMS** (The International Emergency Management Society - www.tiems.org), which he took the initiative to establish in 1993. He has been the International Vice President of TIEMS since its inauguration until 2002, when he took over as TIEMS President, a position he was re-elected to for the 5th time in 2013. He has brought in new ideas and new people in TIEMS and succeeded in expanding the organization worldwide. TIEMS has under his leadership become a well recognized organization with growing activities in Asia and Europe and now TIEMS activity in Americas, Africa and Oceania is emerging. TIEMS has developed into a global well known organization with local chapters in many regions/countries, and TIEMS arranges each year workshops and conferences all over the world with focus on disaster risk reduction. TIEMS has also initiated development of a global education, training and certification program and a research coordination service for its members, and recently several Task Force Groups.

He has extensive experience from industry and research activity, especially in emergency and risk management and he acts as the Managing Director of **QUASAR Invest AS** in Norway, a consultancy in global safety, emergency and disaster management. He has a Master's degree in control engineering from the **Norwegian Technical University** in 1966 and a Master's degree from **Purdue University** in USA in industrial engineering in 1973. His specializations are international organizational development, emergency, disaster and risk management and project management. He has done consultancy work for numerous clients internationally amongst others the **World Bank/International Finance Corporation**, **NATO** and the **European Commission**, and he has been project manager of several international research and development projects for methods and software development in risk, emergency and disaster management. He was employed by **Det norske Veritas**, <http://www.dnv.com/> in 1967 and a member of the Board of Directors of the company for 5 years until he left the company in 1983 and founded his own consultancy, **AS QUASAR Consultants** and later **QUASAR Invest AS**. He has published numerous papers internationally on emergency, risk and disaster management.

He was appointed Professor Chair in 2014 at King Abdulaziz University in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

Workshop Keynote: TIEMS – An International NGO Network Focusing on How to Establish more Resilient Societies Worldwide

The world is becoming increasingly vulnerable to disasters. As a result of climate change, extreme events will happen every five years instead of every 20. The world population is aging and becoming more concentrated in cities and other vulnerable areas. Resources are available worldwide, at local and international levels, to address this challenge, but improvements are needed in coordination and community involvement, and we need an increased focus on preparedness. TIEMS is an international NGO network focusing on how to establish more resilient societies worldwide, and we propose a three-pronged approach to better prepare the emergency management community to meet these challenges: (1) international education and certification; (2) communication across borders; and (3) community engagement. The International Emergency Management Society (TIEMS) is addressing these needs through an initiative, Disaster Resilience Establishment in Vulnerable Societies (DREVS). We invite the international emergency management community to work with us toward these goals, making risk management and disaster preparedness a part of cultures throughout the world.

Presentation of Keynote Speaker Cherdasak Virapat

Name: *Dr. Cherdasak Virapat*

Position: *Director General, Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA), Bangkok, Thailand*

Date of Birth: *25.07.1958*

Nationality: *Thai*



Biography:

Cherdasak Virapat is currently Director-General of Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA). Before joining NACA, Mr. Virapat was the Executive Director of International Ocean Institute Headquarters (IOI HQ) in Malta during 2008-2014. He previously served as an officer of the Royal Thai Government for 27 years. He worked as a Fishery Biologist for the Department of Fisheries (DOF), Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperatives during 1981-1999. He was Chief of Small-Hold Aquaculture Development and Royal Initiatives Project Sub-Division, Fishery Engineering Division, DOF from 1999- 2002. He was appointed Director of IOI-Thailand Operational Centre by the Office of the Thai Marine Policy and Restoration Committee, Office of the Prime Minister, and worked voluntarily in this position during 2000-2008. He was also Head of the Public Sector Development Group, Ministry of Natural Resources & Environment, during 2003-2005 and Chief of International Coordination and Assistant Executive Director of Thailand's National Disaster Warning Center, Office of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Information & Communication Technology, during 2005-2008. He holds a B.Sc. in Fishery Management from Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand; an M.Sc. in Fishery Science from the University of Helsinki, Finland; and a Ph.D. in Fisheries Management from Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. While serving the Government of Thailand, he received the decoration, namely; the Most Exalted Order of the White Elephant and the Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand. He was awarded the Elisabeth Mann Borgese Medal in 2014 in recognition of his leadership of the IOI throughout his term of office, during which the IOI capacity development programme was further developed and expanded regionally, globally, and at post graduate level, and for his unfailing support to the mission of the IOI and the legacy of the IOI Founder, Prof. Elisabeth Mann Borgese.

Workshop Keynote: Thailand's National Capacity on Flood Early Warning and Mitigation Systems

Floods occurred in the Central Plains of Thailand in 2011 and were described as the worst flooding yet in terms of the amount of water and people affected. It caused damage and affected a large number of the population of more than 13.6 million people, 621,355 families in 65 provinces. There were 815 casualties. The World Bank has estimated the economic loss of the amount of \$ US 45.7 billion and is classified as the fourth among the most damaging disasters in the world surpassed only by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan, 1995 Kobe earthquake, and Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Causes of the floods were due to the occurrences of a series of tropical storms and typhoons from June to October 2011. Assessment on Thailand's national capacity on flood early warning and mitigation systems were carried out through questionnaire analysis by a Consulting Team from the International Ocean Institute (IOI) and the Institute of Earth Systems (IES), University of Malta from January to October 2012. The questionnaire was sent out to 24 institutional stakeholders where 16 were obtained. The analysis was carried out and presented on 20 November 2012 in seven sections, namely, decision-making, responsibility and coordination; flood dynamics - assessment & monitoring; mitigation, preparedness and response; public awareness & preparedness & community-level actions; international & regional cooperation; investment in flood management infrastructure; and key conclusions.

Presentation of Keynote Speaker Jean-Luc Wybo

Name: *Jean-Luc Wybo*

Position: *Senior Researcher, Mines Paristech (France)*
Guest Professor, Tongji University (China)
Editor in chief, Safety Science (Elsevier)
IJEM (Inderscience)



Date of Birth: *14.06.1950*

Nationality: *French*

Biography:

Dr. Jean-Luc Wybo received a Master in engineering from INSA Lyon, a Master in computer science and a Ph.D. from Nice University, and the Professor grade from University of Compiègne. He is Senior Researcher at Mines Paristech (France) and Guest Professor at Tongji University (China). He was President of TIEMS from 1995 to 1996. He is currently the Editor-in-Chief of two scientific publications: Safety Science (Elsevier) and the International Journal of Emergency Management (Inderscience). He is member of the Scientific Committees of the French School of Police Chiefs (ENSP) and the French National Research Agency (ANR). Dr. Wybo research activities concern the management of risky situations, from routine work to crisis. These research studies are achieved in cooperation with companies and public bodies. Current studies are related to:

- Management of weak signals and awareness;
- Perception of risks and behaviour in front of hazardous situations;
- Learning from experience and pedagogy of risk management;
- Organizational patterns of industrial risk management;
- Organization and analysis of emergency and crisis simulations.

Dr. Wybo supervised so far seventeen Ph.D. students and published a number of scientific publications in the domains of engineering, decision support, risk management and crisis prevention.

Full list of publications is available on: <http://scholar.google.fr/citations?user=rspXfY4AAAAJ&hl=fr>

Workshop Keynote: Cooperation between Experts and Decision Makers during Nuclear and Industrial Emergencies and crises

Industrial emergencies and crises linked to the atmospheric release of hazardous materials, such as Nuclear Power Plant or chemical accidents, are well known for their potential large-scale damages. A number of numerical models have been developed to support evaluation of toxic material dispersion in the environment. Among those tools, Atmospheric Dispersion and Impact Modelling systems allow studying the spreading of hazardous materials and its potential health impacts. Such tools constitute an element of decision support for the assessment of impacted areas leading to decision about countermeasures to protect populations.

During this presentation, we'll discuss the cooperation of scientific experts and decision makers during emergencies and crisis situations and the role of experts and tools providing scientific information in the decision process. To study this cooperation, we propose to identify three episodes in the development of an emergency or a crisis: from the initial event until the arrival of experts; from the arrival of experts to the assessment of countermeasures; from the assessment of countermeasures until the situation gets back to control. Each of those episodes corresponds to a specific organizational pattern: reactive decisions when the event occurs, anticipation supported by expertise and simulations, and finally assessment of human and environmental consequences using sophisticated models. Finally, we'll address some trends to prevent an emergency situation to turn into a crisis: efficient flow of information among the network of stakeholders, collective sense-making and management of uncertainty.

Presentation of Keynote Speaker Carl W. Taylor

Name: *Carl W. Taylor JD*

Position: *Executive Director Fraser
Institute for Health and Risk
Analytics
Former Director NCDMR, CEO
CEDAR GLOBAL*

Date of Birth: *26.12.49*

Nationality: *USA*



Biography:

He is the founding partner of the Fraser Institute for Health Risk and Analytics, a Princeton, New Jersey based think tank. Their work focuses on emerging trends in risk, uncertainty, market dynamics and innovation. He also serves as the CEO of CEDAR GLOBAL, a company focused on the development and deployment of tools to enhance situational awareness and disaster response during naturally occurring outbreaks.

Carl is the former Assistant Dean of the University Of South Alabama College Of Medicine, as well as the Director of the Centre for Strategic Health Innovation (CSHI) and the Executive Director for the National Center for Disaster Medical Response.

Carl is the creator of AIMS the incident management system for disaster response now used in over 1,000 healthcare facilities. He was a member of the New Zealand Health Challenge, a broadband ambassador to the Internet Innovation Alliance in Washington and an advisor to the European Union funded SAVE ME project. Carl provided testimony and guidance on the topics of risk and disaster response to committees of the United States Senate, House of Representatives, the Institute of Medicine, and the World Bank. He is a frequent author and speaker on the topic of improving disaster response.

He holds an undergraduate degree from Marshall University and a Juris Doctor from the University of Miami. He is also a Fellow in the Royal Society of Medicine.

Workshop Keynote: Pandemics, Bugs, Barriers and Borders

This presentation draws on recent and historical experiences about naturally occurring outbreaks. The topic is particularly timely as the world responds to the Ebola crisis in West Africa. We will focus our time on key points including a recognition that a virus can travel at the speed of an airplane to anywhere in the world. Unlike geographically confined natural disasters, outbreaks are boundary-less. In addition governments and responders will be challenged by wrong information, even from “experts”, a public concerned about response, and an economic impact, which may be greater than the disease burden. Against this backdrop of uncertainty is the challenge of overcoming communication barriers (local, national and international) and creating a system in which knowledge is shared and response-ability is enhanced. We will close the session with specific recommendations on dealing with an unseen enemy, drawn from Ebola, Marburg, E-68 and MERS responses.

Presentation of Keynote Speaker Guosheng Qu

Name: *QU Guosheng*

Position: *TIEMS Vice President, Belgium*

Date of Birth: *12.02.1961*

Nationality: *P. R. China*



Biography:

Mr. QU Guosheng, Deputy Director and Chief Engineer (2004-2012), Dr. and Prof. of Earth Sciences, National Earthquake Response Support Service (NERSS), China Earthquake Administration (CEA) (2004-now). Deputy General Team Leader of China International SAR Team (CISAR) (2009-now), Director, Research Centre of Digital Disaster Mitigation and Emergency Management, IDC, Peking University. TIEMS vice president (2011-now), Regional Director of Asia and Pacific (2007-2011), The International Emergency Management Society (TIEMS) and Vice president of TIEMS China Chapter, The International Emergency Management Society (TIEMS) (2009-now). Expert of disaster mitigation group of IAP and Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) program, ICSU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. Standing Committee Member, Special Committee for Risk Analysis and Crisis Management under China Disaster Prevention and Mitigation. Global Expert of UNDP in Emergency Management. Expert of SAR team capacity buildings of Nepal. Expert of Comprehensive Disaster Research Group supervised by Ministry of Science & Technology since 1993. To help TIEMS president to build up several Task Force Groups.

He has an extensive experience from research activity and operation of USAR teams, especially in emergency and risk management, earthquake disaster on-site SAR as the Deputy Director and Chief Engineer (2004-2012) of NERSS and Deputy General Team Leader of China International SAR Team (2009-now) for many times (Pakistan, Indonesia, Wenchuan, Yushu, Lushan of China), and as decision-maker for many disaster coordination and commanding. As Deputy General Team Leader of China International SAR, he has lead the team to pass the INSARAG External Certification (IEC) as heavy USAR team in 2009 and IER INSARAG External Recertification (IER) as heavy USAR team in 2014. 1989-2004, Dr. and assistant Prof., associated Prof. full Prof. of Earth Sciences, director of Department of Science and Technology and Department Regional Seismotectonics and Tectonomachanics, Institute of Geology, China Earthquake Administration (CEA). 1995—2002, Five times works (total one year) in Lab. of Geology, Paul Sabatier University in Toulouse, France as invited Prof. of earth science. 2004.12-2012, Deputy Director and Chief Engineer, Dr. and Prof. of Earth Sciences, National Earthquake Response Support Service (NERSS), China Earthquake Administration (CEA). He has published more than 100 papers in earth science, earthquake risk analysis, emergency response and SAR of earthquake disasters.

Workshop Keynote: Analysis on the Recent Earthquake Catastrophes in developing countries and Capacity Buildings of Disaster Preparedness in Developing Countries

Many disasters occur in Asia-Pacific and Middle-East areas, but most of the huge catastrophes have happened in developing countries in recent years. The analysis shows that the same events of natural disaster occurred both in developing and developed countries, the disaster degree and casualties are different. The main reasons for the small events but with big disasters in the third world countries are the lower resilience and no disaster preparedness with poor living conditions. By the analysis of the following disaster events with the parameters of earthquake, types of seismic tectonics, topography and population, buildings resistance of earthquake, transportation situation after the events, landslides and relative secondary disasters of earthquake, economic and society situation of the disaster area, casualties of recent year earthquake, it is founded that main reasons of the casualties of the earthquake are mainly: the magnitude of earthquake, types and resistant standards of local buildings, the scales of landslides and quake-lakes, population of the disaster area.

Presentation of Keynote Speaker Tom Robertson

Name: *Thomas V. Robertson*

Position: *Director, TIEMS North America*
Principal, Thinking Teams

Date of Birth: *04.24.1947*

Nationality: *USA*



Biography:

Tom Robertson directs North America operations of The International Emergency Management Society (*TIEMS*), where he founded the TIEMS USA local chapter. He is Technical Manager for TIEMS in the European Union ASSET Program, which is developing improved, participatory approaches to pandemic response. He is also leading the TIEMS initiative, Disaster Resilience Establishment in Vulnerable Societies (DREVS).

Tom is Founder and Principal at [*Thinking Teams*](#), an international consultancy to leaders and organizations seeking high performance teams dealing with complexity, uncertainty, and risk. His clients include BAE Systems, The European Commission Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, and The Oregon Built Environment and Sustainable Technologies. He is active in the Oregon Organizational Development Network's Community Consulting Program, which specializes in making not-for-profit organizations more effective.

Tom earned a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from *Purdue University*, where he did research in bioengineering, communications, and artificial intelligence. At *Bell Laboratories* he developed new techniques for monitoring and trouble-shooting system failures. He performed and led advanced research and development in simulation, image processing, advanced computing, artificial intelligence, and systems engineering in roles including Associate Technical Group Director, *BAE Systems*; Director, Advanced Information Sciences Division at *The Analytic Sciences Corporation*; Director of Engineering and Chief Scientist at *Lockheed Martin* Advanced Simulation Centre; and Vice President/General Manager at *Atlantic Aerospace*.

Workshop Keynote: Use of Virtual Simulation for Emergency Preparedness

Well-prepared people are at the core of emergency preparedness, professionals as well as the general public. Being well-prepared requires a combination of specialized and practical knowledge and experience that give a person the awareness and tools they need to be ready. Simulation offers a means to immerse a participant in realistic emergency situations that would be too costly, time-consuming, or dangerous to rehearse "for real". Simulation can also make information more accessible, and lead to increased public interest through entertainment and social interaction. The technologies to support virtual simulations have continuously improved since work in the 1980's at the Defence Advanced Projects Agency (DARPA) showed their effectiveness for training. Simulated virtual realities are being used today to train and prepare for emergency management in organizations such as the US Department of Homeland Security, the Los Angeles Police Department, and the New York City Office of Emergency Management. Emergency simulations are also being used throughout the world to inform and entertain the public. Recent advances in graphical processors, mobile computing, and social networking allows broader and more creative use of simulation. This paper illustrates with examples how simulation contributes to emergency preparedness in five key areas: specialized knowledge, experiential learning, psychological acclimation, team building, and complex planning. We also examine the operational, economic, and technical factors that drive effective use of virtual simulation in emergency management, and suggest how potential users might take better advantage of the technology, and how developers of simulation technology might make it more useful.

Presentation of Keynote Speaker Christopher C. Chiesa

Name: *Christopher C. Chiesa*

Position: *Deputy Executive Director,
Pacific Disaster Center
Maui, Hawaii, U.S.A.*

Date of Birth: *02.06.1963*

Nationality: *American*



Biography:

Mr. Chiesa specializes in the application of geospatial information, science, and technologies to disaster risk reduction and natural resource management activities. His responsibilities span business development, program management, and line management duties with an emphasis on PDC's customer-supporting services and operations. He has been involved in geospatial information technologies including remote sensing and geographic information systems (GIS) more than 25 years. During this time he has participated in developing, implementing and managing programs based within the U.S. and internationally and with regional organizations including ASEAN and APEC.

Most recently Mr. Chiesa has been Project Director for the Center's Biosurveillance Information Service ("BioServ") project. The primary objectives of this project are to: 1) establish automated procedures to actively populate and maintain a central repository for global open source health surveillance data; 2) incorporate human, animal, and environmental data from open sources along with key infrastructure data into the information service; and 3) use PDC's DisasterAWARE for display, assessment, and alerting of disparate disease and biosurveillance data (both automated and manual) in humans, animals, and vectors.

Workshop Keynote: Pacific Disaster Center – Applying Information, Science and Technology for Hazard and Risk Monitoring and Early Warning

PDC is an applied science, information, and technology center established by the U.S. Government in 1996. The Center has been managed by the University of Hawaii since 2006. PDC's online interactive GIS application, "DisasterAWARE," is an automated decision support system for disaster management professionals, providing near real-time, multi-hazard monitoring using trusted data sources for hazard warnings around the world. The system currently integrates impact modeling, risk exposure, and mapping technologies to deliver web-accessible graphics and information to users. It also provides a platform for information sharing, from early warnings for at-risk populations to files and messages at various levels of restricted access. This platform, in a number of iterations, is used around the world.

DisasterAWARE is constantly being expanded and upgraded to ingest new data resources and to meet the ever-growing needs of disaster managers. Today, resources that support biomedical monitoring and response are among the most needed tools, and PDC has responded with enhancements to DisasterAWARE.

Maintaining an up-to-date picture of health status and disease outbreaks around the globe is a challenge for public health professionals and their colleagues in closely related fields including disaster preparedness and response. To address this challenge PDC and its partners have developed the Biosurveillance Information Service (BioServ). This initiative brings in health and disease reporting from carefully vetted global, regional and national/local sources. In addition to visualizing and reporting these data, BioServ integrates the resulting health and disease awareness into DisasterAWARE. To date, more than 20 information sources have been incorporated within BioServ. Their use for public health emergency monitoring will be explored in this presentation.

Presentation of Keynote Speaker Dusan Zupka

Name: *DUSAN ZUPKA*

Position: *Coordinator, Disaster Risk Management at University of Geneva, Switzerland
Senior International Advisor, United Nations Development Program, New York and Geneva*

Date of Birth: *26.04.1951*

Nationality: *Slovak Republic*



Biography:

Dusan Zupka was born in Slovakia and works now in Geneva, Switzerland. He started his professional career in the diplomatic service of Czechoslovakia. He is now university professor and lecturer in crisis and disaster risk management at University Geneva, Switzerland University of Copenhagen, Denmark and European Academy Berlin, Germany. At the same time he acts as Senior International Expert of UNDP and European Union in the same field. Before he worked 25 years in the United Nations Disaster Management system in several managerial positions, mainly in UN OCHA. He was working as Head of the UN Disaster Risk management projects in several countries affected by natural disasters, technological emergencies or armed conflicts in 4 continents and carried out field mission to crisis situation on behalf of the UN to some 60 countries around the globe. He was also involved in disaster risk management activities in Abu Dhabi and Kuwait.

He holds a Master in international economics and development and made post-graduate studies in disaster risk management in Disaster Preparedness Centre of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA.

He has acted as chairman, key-note speaker and/or lecturer in more than 150 international conferences and seminars dealing with disaster management, crisis response and humanitarian assistance in more than 50 countries. He wrote several publications and articles dealing with disaster and crisis management.

Workshop Keynote: EU Civil Protection System and UN Disaster Management System Focusing on Emergency Response and Preparedness Activities

Since 1990, disasters have killed more than 58,000 people and affected another 225 million people worldwide on average each year, according to the World Bank. Globally, the direct losses from natural disasters only reached on average figures of the past ten years at 184 billion with insured losses at USD 56 billion. The negative consequences of natural disasters, both in human life, economic and political terms can be devastating and deserve serious attention. The world is becoming increasingly vulnerable to disasters. These negative trends require all major international systems, including the United Nations and European Union to develop and constantly improve effective and comprehensive disaster and crisis management systems to mitigate devastating impact of disasters.

The lecture outlines main trends affecting human and economic vulnerability of our societies to natural and technological hazards. It continues by describing main services, tools and activities of the EU civil protection system and the UN disaster management system. Main focus of the presentation is emergency response and preparedness with some references to disaster risk reduction.

Presentation of Keynote Speaker Gilles Dusserre

Name: *DUSSERRE Gilles*

Position: *Head of Risk department,
Ecole des Mines d'Alès*

Date of Birth: *14.08.1967*

Nationality: *French*



Biography:

He holds a Doctorate of Pharmacy (1987-1993), a Master in Industrial Safety and Environment issued by the Conference des Grandes Ecoles (1994), a Master degree "Chemistry of the Environment and Health - University of Marseille" (1995), a PhD (Doctorate of Science : in Chemistry, Environment and Health) and a Habilitation Research at the University Jean Monnet (St. Etienne) in 2002. From 1997 to 2014, he was leader of the Industrial and Natural Hazards Unit of the Ecole des Mines d'Ales (about 8 lecturers and 8 PhD students). From October 3rd 2014, he coordinates all the framework of Risk at the Ecole des Mines d'Alès (about 40 persons) as Head of Department.

From 2005 to 2007, he led the Group "Major industrial risks (one of the four pillars of Cluster Risk Management and Vulnerability Territories). From 2007 to 2010 he was Director of Scientific Interest Group with INERIS, ENSOSP and INHESJ on crisis management. From 2010 to 2011 he was a member of the evaluation committee of the ANR program "Concepts Systems and Tools for Global Security."

He has conducted much research in the field of risk management mainly related to risk analysis, evaluation of the consequences of technological disasters (fire, explosion and dispersion of toxic gases) and natural disasters (forest fires and floods), the mitigation means (use of water curtains) and crisis management. He managed various studies within the framework of national, European and international projects, in partnership with industry, academia and major research organizations. His current research is part of a comprehensive security approach which looks more specifically to issues of organizational learning and resilience of critical infrastructures. Author or co-author of nearly 30 publications, books and conferences in the field of risk and crisis management, he is a member of The International Emergency Management Society.

Workshop Keynote: The Interest of Virtual Training for Crisis Management

Feedbacks from the nuclear power plant accident in Fukushima (Japan, 2011) and the explosion of the chemical plant AZF in Toulouse (France, 2001) underline that strategic decision-making is taken in a complex and dynamic environment, characterized by emergency. Improving crisis management of disasters, requires more effective training sessions (i.e. by using simulation game) and methodologies allowing evaluation and debriefing. During major crisis, **collective failures can have different reasons: Cognitive:** misrepresentation of the situation, *sensemaking* collapse, loss of structuring frame, **Behavioral:** feelings, lack of understanding, block for acting, non-critical group think, disorientation, or **Organizational:** wrong execution of decisions, coordination collapse, wrong tasks' repartition, leadership deletion, lack of communication, blind support of the procedures. Our will is to emphasize various indexes (Index of trainee's ability to cope with crisis situation based on preliminary questionnaire highlighting needs and skills before the training session, Indexes of monitoring of trainees during the training session to collect real time data (non technical and technical skills, group dynamic, behavior) in order to promote the animation ability. Furthermore, we plan to individualize holistic system able to improve the global interest of the debriefing.

Presentation of Keynote Speaker Meen Chhetri

Name: *Meen B. Poudyal Chhetri*

Position: *President, Nepal Centre for Disaster Mgt.
Adjunct Professor, Queensland
University of Technology, Brisbane,
Australia*

Nationality: *Nepali*

Email: meen.chhetri@yahoo.com



Biography:

Prof. Chhetri is the President of Nepal Center for Disaster Management (NCDM) and Chairman of The International Emergency Management Society (TIEMS)'s paper Review Committee. He has been appointed as the Adjunct Professor at the Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia from 1 March 2009. He served as the Director of the Department of Disaster Management of the Government of Nepal from 2001 to 2003. In 2004 He worked as the Deputy Regional Administrator in Hetauda, Nepal. From 1995 to 1996, he was the Chief District Officer and Chairman of District Disaster Relief Committee in Dhading district of Nepal. Prof. Chhetri also held positions of Under Secretary, Investigation Officer and Special Officer in various government agencies of Nepal including the the Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Education. Prof. Chhetri authored two books namely; "Mitigation and Management of Floods in Nepal" and "Analysis of Nepalese Agriculture." He has also published a number of articles in national and international journals. Prof. Chhetri awarded with **AEI Australia Alumni Excellence Awards 2014** by the Government of Australia on 20 January 2014. Prof. Chhetri completed Post Doctorate from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Brisbane, Australia in 2011. Prof. Chhetri earned his doctorate degree in Economics from the University of Vienna, Austria in 1995. He also holds an MA and Law degree. Apart from the above, he has carried out a number of research works in various fields in Nepal and beyond.

Workshop Keynote: Mass Casualty Management - Disasters Dealing with Mass Gathering such as Al Haj-Pilgrimage

Mass gatherings is an organized or unplanned event where a serious disruption of the functioning of a community involving widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses and impacts, which exceeds the response capability of the affected community, state or nation hosting the event and requires medical services for large populations who have gathered to attain certain goal for a definite period. Mass gatherings, including scheduled events in sports facilities, air shows, rock concerts, outdoor celebrations and visits by celebrities, vary in their complexity and demand for medical services. Mass gathering events have an enormous impact and severe pressure on the local health care system and a mixture of high crowd density, limited or difficult points of access, lack of fire safety, difficulty in controlling the crowd and lack of on-site medical care that can lead to problems that results into disaster. In the context of the above situation of mass gathering incidents - a disaster is to be considered as a catastrophic event occurring suddenly and causing enormous loss of human lives and physical properties. Lessons learnt from the past overcrowding disasters indicate the need to plan ahead for the potential number of attendees, establish crowd control mechanism, form exit points, plan for fire and health safety and decrease the risk of the happening and allocate necessary resources.

Presentation of Keynote Speaker Andrea Zanon

Name: *Andrea Zanon*

Position: *Middle East and North Africa
Disaster Risk Management
Regional Coordinator,
The World Bank Group
Washington D.C. USA*

Date of Birth: *16.05.1973*

Nationality: *Italian*



Biography:

Andrea is the World Bank Middle East and North Africa Regional Coordinator for Disaster Risk Management. He has seventeen years of professional experience including eight years in the private and public sectors as a CFO, Vice President, CEO and Director of Business Development and 9 years as social entrepreneur. In this capacity as the Regional Coordinator at the World Bank, he has built risk management programs in 11 countries in the Middle East leading to US\$ 2.5 billion in risk reduction investments.

Andrea is social entrepreneur and has founded and led several award winning start-ups in the health, agribusiness, environment and financial services in Africa, Europe and Latin America. These include Jimmly-Lee Co., Aroma Consulting, Earth Council Fund, and 4Minuti. Andrea's private sector experience also includes working for the President Clinton Foundation as an energy advisor and for Secretary of State Madeline Albright as an Investment Officer.

Andrea has a bachelor and a master degree in Linguistic and History (Bologna University, 2002 and University of Granada); a Master Degree in Economics and International Development (Georgetown University, 2007) and is a candidate for the Charter Financial Analyst.

Workshop Keynote: World Bank – Disaster Risk Management

While the absolute number of disasters around the world has almost doubled since the 1980s, the average number of disaster events in MENA has almost tripled over the same period. Despite the different levels of development, between 1980 and 2012, 81 percent of disaster events in MNA were concentrated in just 6 countries: Algeria, Djibouti, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Morocco, and the Republic of Yemen. Additionally, increased frequency and intensity of adverse natural events are being recorded in the GCC countries, and Saudi Arabia is one being affected the most, especially when the effects of climate change and technological risks are accounted for in risk assessments. This short paper will provide a qualitative assessment of the socio-economic impacts of disasters globally and in MENA, including their effects on the competitiveness of cities, with special focus in the water, energy, transportation, housing and real estate, and financial sectors while providing an overview on the international successes integrating DRR into investment and development.

Presentation of Keynote Speaker Martin Thomsen

Name: *Martin Thomsen*

Position: *Chair, Sahana Software Foundation
Lieutenant Colonel, Ministry of
Defence, Danish Emergency
Management Agency (DEMA)*

Date of Birth: *01.01.1961*

Nationality: *Danish*



Biography:

Martin Thomsen, Middelfart, Denmark, is chair of the Sahana Software Foundation and Lieutenant Colonel and Deputy Head of College at the Danish Emergency Management Agency (DEMA), Emergency Services College.

Sahana software was originally developed by members of the Sri Lankan IT community in the immediate aftermath of the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake tsunami, under the stewardship of Lanka Software Foundation. Martin Thomsen served at the board of directors from the beginning, and was co-founder when the foundation in 2009 inaugurated under the name Sahana Software Foundation as a non-profit organization registered (501 C3) in the State of California. Since 2012 Martin Thomsen served as the Vice Chairman of the Foundation, until he was appointed chairman of Sahana Software Foundation in 2013.

Martin Thomsen has an extensive experience from international missions, especially in disaster response and risk management. He has graduated from the Advanced Officers Education (MSc) from **DEMA Officers Academy**. He has successfully accomplished the Advanced Fire Engineer's exam in Sweden as well as Behavioural Sciences from the faculty of Social Sciences at **Lund University**.

Martin Thomsen has furthermore served in the United Nations (UN) as Head of Department in Kosovo from 2000 to 2001 and as EU Observer on a monitoring mission to Omsk Oblast, South-western Siberia, Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic from 1991-92. He joined in May 2003 the **UN/OCHA** (UNDAC), where he has responded to incidents in Sri Lanka (Tsunami 2004) and the flooding following torrential rains in Albania (2010).

He is furthermore an EU High Level Coordinator at the European Commission within the European Civil Protection Mechanism for reinforced cooperation in Civil Protection assistance interventions (MIC) since March 2004 and an EU Multifunctional Civilian Response Team member (Civilian Crisis Management) of the Council of the European Union (CEU/CRT) since January 2006.

Workshop Keynote: Disaster Management - Capacity Building for Disaster Preparedness

Disasters have massive human and economic costs. They may cause many deaths, severe injuries, and food shortages. Most incidents of severe injuries and deaths occur during the time of impact, whereas disease outbreaks and food shortages often arise much later, depending on the nature and duration of the disaster.

Anticipating the potential consequences of disasters can help determine the actions that need to be started before the disaster strikes to minimize its effects.

Anticipating the potential consequences of disasters can help determine the actions that need to be started before the disaster strikes to minimize its effects. Over the past two decades international organisations have gone through major changes as a result of crises such as the Kobe earthquake, conflicts in Africa, the 11th September 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, the war in Afghanistan, the Indian Ocean tsunami, the earthquake in Haiti, but what about the disaster prone countries?

Congratulations to MEEN CHHETRI!!

TIEMS would like to take this opportunity to congratulate an esteemed member of the TIEMS family: Mr. Meen Chhetri for having been awarded the "DPNet-Nepal Award 2014" on October 13, 2014. This was also the occasion of IDDR Day Celebrations organized by the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Govt. of Nepal and Disaster Preparedness Network-Nepal.

The award was presented in the recognition of his contribution in the field of disaster management in Nepal.

The Award was conferred by the Chief Guest of the ceremony Honorable Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister of the Republic of Nepal Mr. Bam Dev Gautam. *(See photo below)*



Congratulations on your accomplishment Meen from all your colleagues at TIEMS. An award well deserved!

TIEMS 2015 Annual Conference

"Evolving threats and vulnerability landscape: the new challenges for the emergency management"

Organised by TIEMS Italy Chapter
Rome, 30 September - 2 October 2015



TIEMS Italy Chapter, on behalf of the TIEMS Society, is honoured to host the TIEMS 2015 Annual Conference, to be held in Rome, Italy, from 30th September until 2nd October 2015.

The conference will mainly address new challenges for effective emergency management in the context of an evolving threats and vulnerability landscape. This pertains to different aspects of organisational, social and economic sectors.

The objective of the Conference is to bring together experts, emergency managers, technology suppliers, infrastructure specialists and other stakeholders, with different cultural and scientific backgrounds, to discuss and analyse the following aspects:

- Proposing methods and tools to dynamically analyse and understand new risks and vulnerabilities, including cyber risks.
- Providing practical solutions to reduce and mitigate potentially dangerous consequences of outages.
- Identifying strategies and tools to real time support to emergency management.
- Mitigating the impacts of climate change and natural hazards on critical infrastructures.

Submission

The abstracts can be submitted using the form available at <http://www.tiems-ic.it>. PhD students' applications are particularly welcome.

Deadline for submissions is **April 15, 2015**.

The Conference Scientific Committee will review submissions and will select the papers

accepted for presentation at the TIEMS 2015 Annual Conference. Some abstracts will be selected for a poster session.

All acceptance/rejection decisions will be communicated by **June 15, 2015**. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Registration

All details about the registration procedures and related fee can be found at <http://www.tiems-ic.it>. Further inquiries should be directed to Mr Alessandro Lazzari (alessandro.lazzari@tiemsic.it).

Please visit the new TIEMS IC website <http://www.tiems-ic.it> for updates on this TIEMS 2015 Annual Conference, or www.tiems.info for information about prior editions, and for further information about the Network.



TIEMS Profile: Tom Robertson



If you're a follower of the TIEMS newsletter then you know we like to profile members of the TIEMS family. For this edition we'd like to introduce to you one of our newest board members, Tom Robertson who was recently elected to the position of TIEMS Regional Director for North America.

We wanted to get to know Tom a bit more so we posed a few questions and here's what he had to say.

1) Editor: When and how did you become involved with Emergency / Disaster Management?

Tom: My background is in engineering and technical management, and throughout my career I encountered issues and technologies related to emergency/disaster management. About a year and a half ago, I was discussing TIEMS with Harald Drager (we met at Purdue University over 40 years ago, and have kept in touch over the years), and I decided to join TIEMS and become directly involved with this important work.

2) When and how did you become involved with TIEMS?

See above.

3) What do you believe is one of the key aspects of Emergency Management/Disaster Management that everyone should know?

Preparation and response to emergencies and disasters requires participation by not only professionals in the field, but to succeed it also needs broad community involvement. Because of this, EM/DM education needs to teach not just the knowledge of experts, but also how to engage and activate the broader community.

4) What achievement are you most proud of in your Emergency / Disaster Management career?

My role in founding the new TIEMS USA Chapter and organizing our 2014 conference.

5) You have recently become the TIEMS Regional Director for North America; can you tell us about any upcoming plans?

We are very excited to be holding our TIEMS USA 2015 Conference in Seattle, WA, May 19 - 21. One theme among others is Emergency Management for Cyber Security and Critical Infrastructure, and Microsoft has offered to host us at their corporate headquarters. We are expecting involvement from a broad range of experts and practitioners, especially from US industry and academia. We are also planning an Emergency Management Summer School at the University of Southern Mississippi, and will be announcing details soon.

6) If someone wants to enter the Emergency / Disaster Management industry, what advice do you have for them based on your personal experiences and findings?

I would encourage them, because the work is important and rewarding. I would also recommend a fairly broad education, in areas as diverse as engineering and management.

7) Can you tell us something about yourself? (e.g. hobbies, interests...)

I have a wonderful partner, Linda Lee, four grown children, and three grandchildren. I am a musician (guitar) and dancer (chiefly train in jazz these days). Linda and I enjoy traveling, and we have particularly enjoyed getting to know some of the TIEMS international community. I have a management and engineering consulting practice, Thinking Teams (www.thinkingteams.net)

Thanks for taking the time to chat with us, Tom. Welcome to the TIEMS family and we look forward to working with you.

TELL ME, Tell You: Bridging Theory and Practice for Effective Communications during Infectious Disease Crises

Venice, Italy, December 4 - 5, 2014



TELL ME About the Goals of the Conference?

During this conference, we will present advances in the approach to risk communication and major infectious disease outbreaks. We will present new communication tools and strategies to better involve the public and healthcare providers in the communication process, to ensure that messages reach their target during all phases of the epidemic or pandemic.

TELL ME About the Project Objectives?

TELL ME is an EU-funded project funded, headed by a consortium of a multi-disciplinary team of experts from prestigious institutions in eight countries. The TELL ME project has a strong focus on risk and outbreak communications and population behavioral responses to messages produced by health authorities in the course of a major infectious disease outbreak. An important goal of the project has been to address the challenge of low adherence to non-pharmacological protective measures by people and increasing refusal to vaccination among different segments of the population, a growing trend which could become a major challenge in future epidemics and pandemics, as well as the .

TELL ME about the Project's Innovative Aspects?

TELL ME has proposed a new participative model for risk communication, which would help public health authorities to secure optimal preparedness for infectious disease threats. This will be achieved by increasing the resilience of all communities during epidemics and pandemics. As part of the products of the TELL ME project, we created a practical guide for outbreak communication, developed an agent-based simulation model for public health officials and decision makers, and prepared an e-learning course for primary healthcare workers.

TELL ME about Who Should be Attending This Conference?

The target audience for this conference are health policy makers, communications officials and representatives from public health authorities that operate at an international,

European, national and local level, healthcare providers, civil servants, the pharmaceutical industry, NGOs and the media.

TELL ME about What is Expected from this Conference?

We expect to present useful communication tools and products that will have an impact in the field of public health and the society at large. Secondly, we will demonstrate how these tools have practical value and potential for use by professionals in the field. Thirdly, we genuinely wish to create a community where knowledge from similar initiatives can be shared and unique viewpoints can be expressed, with the aim of refining our defenses against the continuing threats posed by infectious diseases at regional and international level. Last but not least, we aim to provide messages that will help inform people about the critical aspects of communication for both pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions during infectious disease threats.

To check out details such as accommodation and registration, check the website for details at:

<http://www.tellmeproject.eu/node/332>

(Ed. Note: TIEMS President, K. Harald Drager will be presenting at this conference, see:

<http://tellmeproject.eu/final-conference/about>

TEMC Commissioner and the Vice-Director of Yunnan Health Bureau Xu Helping Along with the Government Workgroup in LuDian Earthquake-Stricken Area

On October 3rd, 2014, 4:30 pm, a 6.3 earthquake hit the Ludian County in Yunnan Province of China. Premier Li Keqiang flew to the earthquake-stricken area the next morning and led the rescue immediately. As the front line commander of the rescue, commissioner of The International Emergency Management Society Emergency Medical Committee (TEMC) also as the vice director of Yunnan Health Bureau Xu Heping flew to the Zhaotong City with the officers led by governor Li Jiheng. It took them the risk of dangers and aftershock all the way to the center of the earthquake- the Town of LongTou Mountain, after three hours by walk, the group got to the area and start to rescue and begin to transfer the wounded.



Vice director of Yunnan Health Bureau and the commissioner of TEMC Xu Heping lead the rescue on site with the governor Li Jiheng the first time arrived.

Saving one more life means one more family

The state council of China paid high attention to the 6.3 earthquake in Ludian County of Yunnan Province. National Health and Birth Control Committee reacted to the disaster areas with great support including initiating the public health emergency plan, organizing and transferring medical resources to the front line of the earthquake center. Due to the shortage of electricity, medical equipment and medicine, the rescue group had to carry the stuff and walk inside the area. Temporary tent hospital was built for the increasing wounds and preliminary treatment, then the injured were sent to hospitals in Ludian, Zhaotong, Yibin and Kunming through a variety of transportation such as stretcher, ambulance, military helicopter and the train. The elite health resource had been gathered to meet the rescue mission and each of the severely injured patient could received one-on-one personalized treatment options, and meanwhile, the psychological intervention rehabilitation and the continually health and recovery work had been introduced to the injuries. More than 2700 medical rescuers were involved in which sent by government, province and cities, 3148 injuries were treated and 825 operations were launched in total.



In the morning on August 4th Premier Li Keqiang led the rescue in the epicenter, vice director of Yunnan provincial health Bureau, TEMC commissioner Xu Heping reported the progress of the rescue treatment

Strengthen the work on Health and Epidemic Prevention and Ensure no plague after the Earthquake

Rough and difficult health conditions exist in the earth-stricken area such as poverty, complexity of the geology, aftershocks, intensive injuries, and the transportation congestion caused by rescue group, and besides, lack of water and basic public health facilities, hot temperature, rain, poor treatment condition calls for a severe response from the health and epidemic prevention work. In accordance to the challenges, National Health and Birth Control Committee and Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention sent and organized more than 900 professional workers for the support, furthermore, experts for public health risk evaluation were organized, plans for epidemic prevention and health public education were set out. Besides, starting the regulatory environment, enhancing the monitoring of water quality, specifically sterilized in settlement points, washroom, garbage, animal bodies, and to recover the cold chain and the immunization as soon as possible and at the same time to restore the network coverage and to form a rescue leadership under the direct control of government which with the coordinate of branch department and a participation of a patriot activity involved by the whole society. Up to now, no infectious and public health emergencies incident have been found in earthquake-stricken area.



Temporary shelters and sterilization in earthquake-stricken area

Commissioner Xu said the priority for the next step would be the treatment for the severe injuries and the intervention helped in psychology and the assistance to the recovery of the wounded. One one hand attempts will be made to try to reduce the rate of disability and death, and on the other hand critical measures will be taken such as reconstruction of

the environment in the earthquake-stricken area, biological vector control, monitoring of the water quality, syndrome surveillance, emergency vaccination in target group, and the promotion of health education. Furthermore, an epidemic prevention network should cover the all earth-stricken areas, and the duties and responsibilities should be well-delivered to the officers and rescuers, and made sure no plague after the earthquake.

2014 TIEMS Annual Conference and Awards



TIEMS 2014 Annual Conference took place in Niigata Japan,
20 - 23 October 2014

See [Final Program](#)

[Conference Web-site](#)

The conference was attended by more than 500 participants and Report will be posted soon, but pictures can be viewed at

[TIEMS Japan Web-site.](#)

At its annual conference there were many great presenters, papers and poster presentations, and at each conference, attendees are asked to vote on their favourites and we're proud to announce them below. Each winner received an award certificate and 100 Euro + 100 USD generously donated by the TIEMS Chapters of Japan, China and South Korea.



***President's Outstanding Achievement Award for 2013:**

Jean - Paul Monet, France

***Best International Paper Award 2014:**

ZHOU Bojia
 SUN Gang
 ZHANG Xiaoyong
 XU Jianhua
 LAI Junyan
 DU Xiaoxia
 HOSOKAWA Masafumi
 HAYASHI Haruo
 KIMURA Reo
 SAKURADA Yukihisa

(All from China)

***Best Japanese Paper Award 2014:**

Naoki Yamashita
 Terunori Ohmoto

***Best International Student Paper Award 2014:**

J. Cuadra-Cardona
 J. Dilling
 R. Brower
 M. Samples

(All from USA)

***Best Japanese Student Paper Award 2014:**

Kota TOMOYASU
Reo KIMURA
Haruo HAYASHI

***Best Poster Award 2014:**

Tom Sugahara
Munenari Inoguchi
Keiko Tamura

(All from Japan)

Please join us in congratulating our winners! Well done!

TIEMS also recognized the dedication and two board members that are stepping away from their duties after providing years of valued contributions:

Stela Petrescu, who served as a TIEMS Director and the TIEMS Secretary from 2010 to 2014 and

James Hagen who served as the TIEMS Regional Director for North America from 2008 - 2014.

Thank you Stela and James for all you've done to help TIEMS continue to grow and prosper!

The EU Project ASSET

TIEMS is a partner in the EU project ASSET (Action plan in Science in Society in Epidemics and Total pandemics), which is a 48 month Mobilisation and Mutual Learning Action Plan (MMLAP), which aims to:

- Forge a partnership with complementary perspectives, knowledge and experiences to address affectively scientific and societal challenges raised by pandemics and associated crisis management
- Explore and map SiS (Science in Society)-related issues in global pandemics
- Define and test a participatory and inclusive strategy to succeed
- Identify necessary resources to make sustainable the action after the project completion.

ASSET combines public health, vaccine and epidemiological research, social and political sciences, law and ethics, gender studies, science communication and media, in order to develop an integrated, transdisciplinary, strategy, which will take place at different stages of the research cycle, combining local, regional and national levels.

One of TIEMS tasks in the project is to establish an ASSET High Level Policy Forum in Europe (ASSET HLPF), to which we are recruiting members from European policy-makers at regional, national and EU levels, key decision makers in health agencies, the pharmaceutical industry, and civil society organisations. An introduction and invitation to participate in ASSET HLPF is found below.

ASSET HIGH LEVEL POLICY FORUM

Introduction, Mission & Focus, Agenda and Members



Introduction

The 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic revealed a breakdown in the communication between decision makers, their scientific institutions and the European public. This communication failure led to unwanted effects, such as the failure of a large part of the population to adopt adequate preventive measures, and the scientific sector not taking into account important information coming from the population. The objective of **ASSET** (Action plan in Science in Society in Epidemics and Total pandemics) is to create the blueprint for a better response to pandemics, through improved forms of dialogue and better cooperation between science and society at various stages of the research and innovation process. **ASSET** is a four-year, European Commission funded Mobilization and Mutual Learning Action Plan (MMLAP) project, which started 1st January 2014 and will end on 31st December 2017. The perspectives developed by the **ASSET** project will flow into Horizon 2020.

The project objectives are:

1. Forge a partnership with complementary perspectives, knowledge and experiences to address scientific and societal challenges raised by pandemics and epidemics, and associated crisis management.
2. Explore and map SiS (Science in Society) related issues in pandemics and epidemics.

3. Define and test a participatory and inclusive strategy to improve bi-lateral communication aimed to succeed with crisis management.
4. Identify necessary resources to make sustainable the actions after the project completion.

ASSET combines public health, vaccine and epidemiological research, social and political sciences, law and ethics, gender studies, science communication and media. The aim is to develop an integrated, trans-disciplinary strategy, which will take place at different stages of the research cycle, combining local, regional and national levels. One of the ASSET project tasks is to establish an **ASSET High Level Policy Forum (ASSET-HLPF)**.

ASSET High Level Policy Forum

Tackling pandemics and epidemics is an intricate process, which necessitates effective interaction among many stakeholders. As this interaction must happen very quickly and under intense public scrutiny, preparedness is essential. The network of stakeholders can only be prepared well through building trust and good working relationships prior to the incident. In addition, identifying and discussing important policy issues and examining how they can be improved, can only be done comprehensively through considering the points of view of all the main stakeholders. The ASSET-HLPF is intended to provide this opportunity at the highest level in various European countries. It is a place for stakeholders to meet, learn from each other, and come up with better policy proposals.

ASSET-HLPF Mission & Focus

Mission:

The **ASSET High Level Policy Forum (ASSET-HLPF)** brings together selected European policy-makers at regional, national and EU levels, key decision makers in health agencies, the pharmaceutical industry, and civil society organisations, in a unique and interactive dialogue to promote on-going reflection on EU strategic priorities about pandemics.

Focus:

- The Forum will consider and revise specific issues related to EU strategic priorities in pandemic preparedness, including communication and other responses.
- The Forum may produce recommendations - however its primary role will be to create mutual trust, improve communication, and provide a “safe” environment to address questions which are otherwise difficult to discuss.
- The forum aims to strengthening the perception that further dialogue among the participants is going to be fruitful due to increased insights into each other’s perspectives, and the sense that conversation between the concerned parties has intrinsic value.
- The participants will not participate in any official position, but it is hoped that they might influence policy decisions in a variety of ways.

ASSET-HLPF Basic Rules

The basic rules for the forum are:

1. The forum promotes dialogue, not debate. Participants are not being asked to defend their own views or to find the weakness in others’ positions, but rather to explain their own perspectives.
2. Parties speak for themselves only and not as representatives of groups, institutions, or governments.
3. Conversation will be carried out under the Chatham House rule: “When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed”.

Questions to ASSET-HLPF

- What and how can we improve (any) systems capacities to make European citizens (and their representatives) timely informed of the next infectious disease crisis?
- How can we help them to identify trustable and accredited information sources?
- What can we do to ease citizen’ access to correct and timely information?

- What can we do to create channels to enable citizens to ask questions and receive timely answers from government officials and accredited sources?
- How can we develop a European Scientific network to promote and support such processes?
- Is it possible to draft a general strategy to pursue, in the coming years, the defined objectives through Horizon 2020?
- What is the role of the European institutions in supporting this process?

ASSET-HLPF Time Schedule

The ASSET project partners have started the recruitment process, by identifying potential participants to join the ASSET-HLPF, from all stakeholders concerned with public health, such as policy makers, decision makers, companies, civil society organizations, media and others, in order to achieve a multidimensional discussion in the forum.

The aim is to convene the first physical meeting of the ASSET-HLPF primo 2015. Further physical meetings will be scheduled on a yearly basis, while virtual meetings will then be scheduled between the physical meetings. The first physical meeting is intended to take place in Brussels.

ASSET-HLPF Agenda for the first Meeting

1. Welcome and Introduction by the ASSET project Partners
2. Mission and Focus of ASSET-HLPF
3. Form of entity for ASSET-HLPF
4. Members of ASSET-HLPF
5. Terms of Reference of ASSET-HLPF
6. Meeting plan of ASSET-HLPF
7. Budget and Financing of ASSET-HLPF
8. Any Other Business (AOB)

One of the ASSET partners will act as ASSET-HLPF Secretariat.

ASSET-HLPF Contacts

If interested in ASSET-HLPF and being a member of the forum, please, contact:

- Alberto Perra, alberto.perra@iss.it
- Valentina Possenti, valentina.possenti@iss.it
- K. Harald Drager, khdrager@online.no
- Thomas Robertson, tvrobertson@yahoo.com

PRELIMINARY LIST OF ASSET-HLPF MEMBERS

Name	Position	Organization	Country
Bjørn Guldvog https://www.linkedin.com/pub/bj%C3%B8rn-guldvog/42/35b/b1a	Director General of Health and Chief Medical Officer	The Norwegian Directorate of Health (A professional agency under the Ministry of Health In Norway)	Norway

More ASSET-HLPF members under recruitment!

Opening of the International Emergency Equipment Rescue Center in Hangzhou, China

“International Emergency Rescue Equipment Center”, supported by TIEMS, IEITISA (Industrial Technology Innovation Strategic Alliance of Emergency Rescue), Research Center of Digital Disaster Mitigation and Emergency Management, IDC, Peking University, organized and built by Xianheng International, is a comprehensive communicating platform for emergency rescue equipment and disaster prediction, detection technology exhibition, training and experiencing.



TIEMS President Mr. K. Harald Drager, CEO of Xianheng International Mr. WANG Laixing and Vice President QU Guosheng at the Center

The Center will be completed in three phases based on the strategy plan. The first phase of the project is already completed, in which there are 3000m² for emergency industry products and technology demonstration, 6 meeting rooms for all kinds of meetings and seminars and 1 dining hall with the capacity of 150 people. More than 300 world-renowned emergency equipment manufacturers have their equipment and technology displayed in the center, making the center as a unique platform for professional emergency decision-makers and rescue team.



Engineers Demonstrating Rescue Skills



UAV Demonstration



Climbing Robots Demonstration



Outdoor Emergency Drainage Vehicle Demonstration

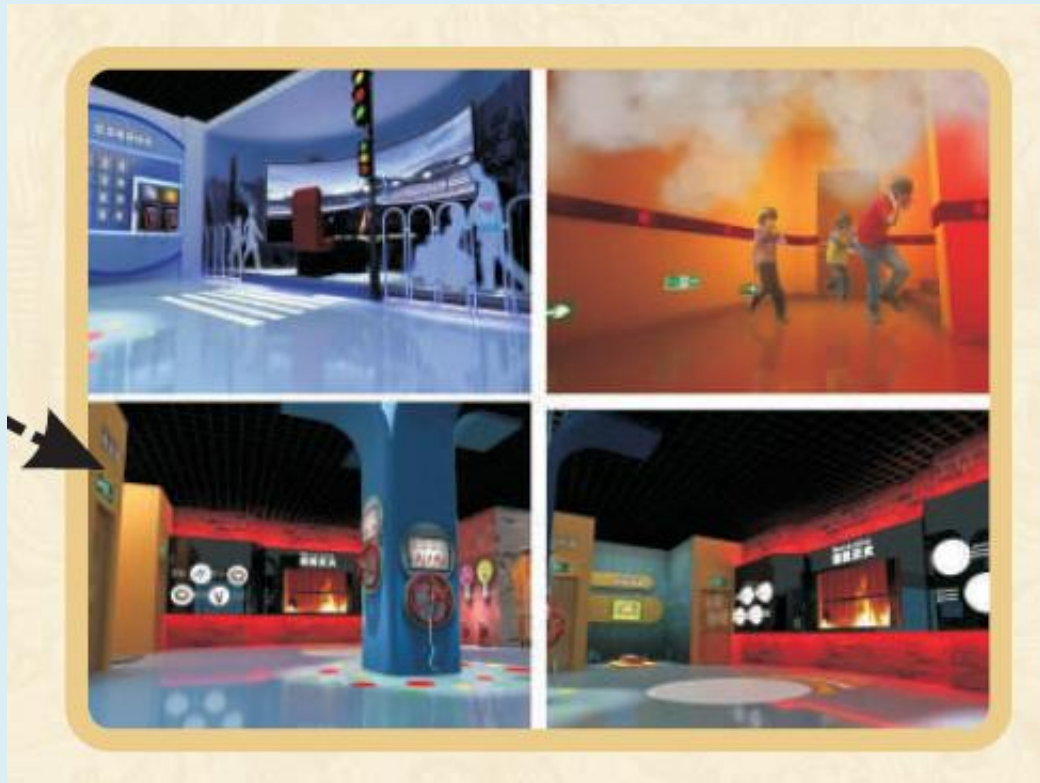


Concrete Break and Vehicle Rescue



UAV Application in Emergency Rescue

The second phase is targeted on disaster experiencing and emergency escape education, covering an area of 2500m², to be finished before oct.2015.



In the third phase, through gradual adjustment, the Hangzhou Center will be a base point to expand the network to most influential cities of china and create a golden card for China emergency rescue industry.



During the opening ceremony on 20th November 2014, about 500 participants attended, both internationals and locals of China.

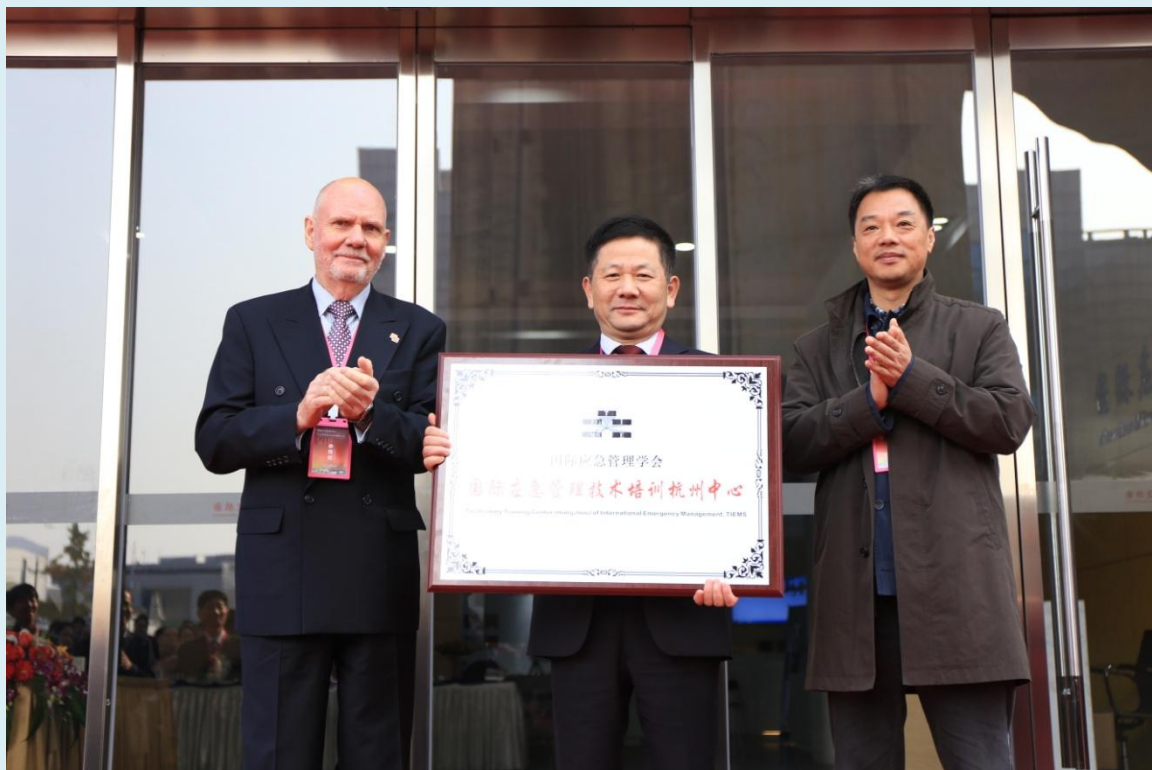
TIEMS president K. Harald Drager, TIEMS Vice president QU Guosheng, TIEMS Asia Office Director, Mr. YANG Wenlong and leaders from Emergency Management Agencies, Zhejiang Province, and local governments officers from Hangzhou City participated in the opening ceremony and the opening workshop.



Officials from both Central and local Government attending the Ceremony



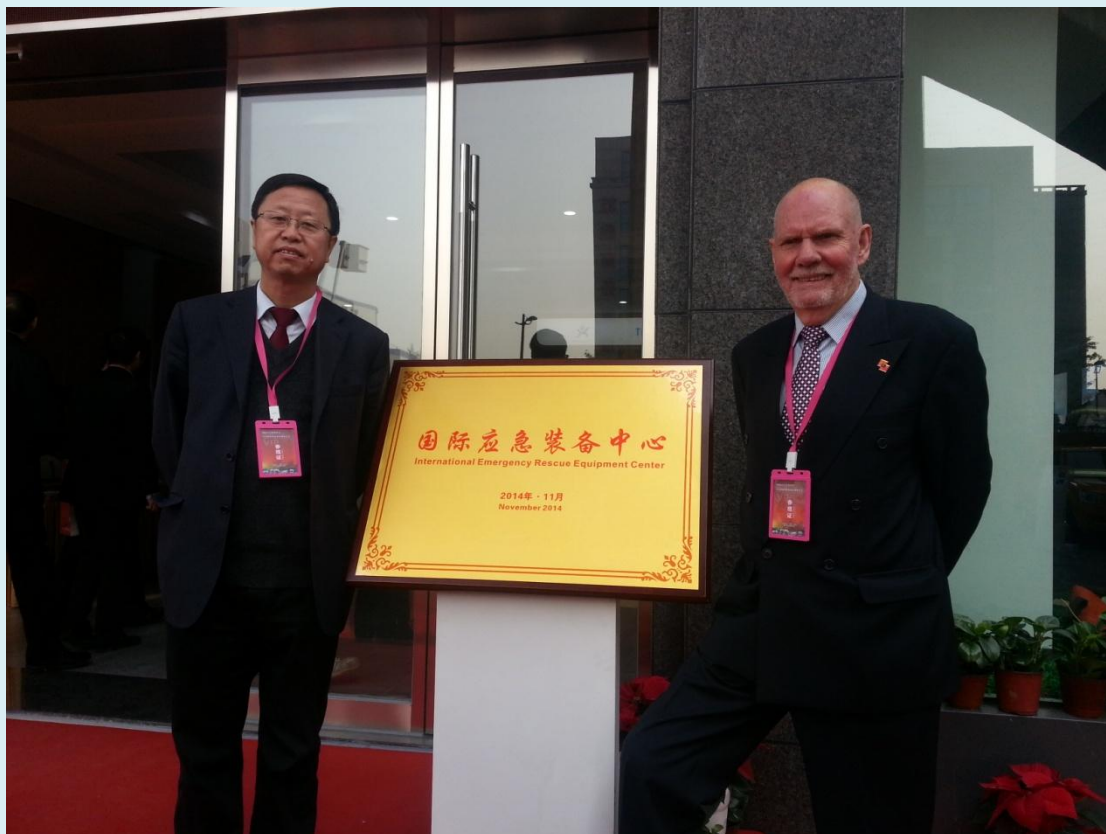
Unveiling Ceremony of the Center



The Center was authorized as TIEMS Training Center in China



Free Tour and Communication in the Center



TIEMS President and Vice President in front of the Center



TIEMS President and Vice President in the Center

The Center aims to serving the public in a win-win cooperation. In the Center, there are a dozen big display areas including search and rescue area, communication command equipment area, special emergency vehicle area, water search and rescue equipment area, electricity emergency equipment area, railway emergency equipment area, outdoor equipment area, simulated experience area etc. The Center shows the most professional emergency rescue equipment both in China and abroad, not only meeting the needs of professional users but also providing services for the public, including all weather demonstration, academic communication platform of emergency rescue management, disaster prevention training base, cultural differences of disaster prevention and reduction.



Seminar in the Center



Speech from Distinguished Guests



Speech from Distinguished Guests



Academic Communication Platform of Emergency Rescue Management



Training Base for Rescue Team



Disaster Prevention and Emergency Escape

TIEMS Nigeria / West Africa Chapter Update

Even after being unable to attend the annual TIEMS conference in Niigata, Japan, the Nigeria/West Africa Chapter members continue to move forward with its activities.

Local activities continued in the form of serious membership drive, visits to some internally displaced persons' (IDP) camps and preparations for upcoming trainings and workshops.

Although final draft for the full year 2015 activities are still to be approved by the Board, we are happy to announce that commencing from the second week of December, 2014 the Nigeria/West African Chapter will organise a two-day seminar for selected members of the Journalists Against Disaster and defence correspondents on the theme: *Media As A Tool To Stimulate Campaign To Local And Foreign Donors In Building Preparedness For Resilient Societies*. It will hold in Abuja.

During the first quarter of 2015, a conference on “Sustaining inter-Agencies’ Collaboration In Disaster Management” will also be held during a retreat for officials of relevant government and non-governmental agencies (NGO).

And in the second quarter of 2015, the chapter will organise a conference on *“Education and Training as Key Factor Towards Risk Management Culture in Vulnerable Communities.”*



Ismail Sani (TIEMS' Representative / Executive Director), AVM Mohammed Audu-Bida (Chairman), Ada Apiafi (Co-ordinator I-Nigeria Initiative) addressing defence correspondents on the activities of TIEMS Nigeria / West Africa chapter.



Ismail Sani (TIEMS Representative/Executive Director), Zanna Kamar (Representative of Shehu of Borno), Major Hamza Al-Mustapha (President/CEO APUDI) at the 1st National Conference on Community Conflicts and Youth Militancy in Northern Nigeria.



Next TIEMS Newsletter

The next TIEMS Newsletter is planned for March 2015.

TIEMS issues its electronic newsletter quarterly, and it is distributed to more than 36 000 experts worldwide, with articles on global emergency and disaster management events and activities, TIEMS news, etc.

Advertisement is possible on [these terms](#).

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Issue no. 23 is planned for March 2015 and contributions are welcome. Please, contact one of the editors or TIEMS Secretariat if you have news, an article of interest or like to list coming events of interest for the global emergency and disaster community or like to advertise in this issue.

