

# TQC Test Candidates

In order to see to it that TIEMS International Certification - TQC, is relevant and appropriate and fulfilling the needs of the emergency management and disaster response community, and that it is up-to-date and using state-of-the-art technology, TIEMS has invited experienced professionals with different backgrounds and experience and from different countries, to be test candidates of TQC before it is opened to the emergency management and disaster response community of professionals. Their role is to test the system from A to Z and give valuable feedback on the quality, operational aspects, and relevance of this certification, to allow TIEMS to tune it to the needs of community experts. The TQC Test Candidates are also asked to provide local/regional information on relevant organizations and institutions which are to be part of the required TQC Competence Framework.

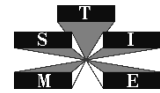
The present Test Candidates are:

1. Larry Porter, USA
2. Gbenga Morenikeji, Nigeria
3. Naill Momani, Jordan
4. Desiree Beekharry, Australia
5. Russell Dippy, Australia
6. Jack Zhang, China
7. Zukile S. Mcilongo, South Africa
8. Nothemba M. Mhlaba, South Africa
9. Thembinkosi L. Nxawe, South Africa
10. Dmytro Chalyy, Ukraine
11. Brian Holecek, Australia

The Test Candidates' brief bios with pictures are shown below. TIEMS plans to invite more TQC Test Candidates from other countries as well.



**LARRY A. PORTER, PH.D., CEM®  
COLONEL (RETIRED) USA**



Dr Porter retired in 2003 from the Army National Guard (ARNG) with just under 34 years of service, ending with 18 years of Federal Active Guard/Reserve (AGR) service. He began his military service (M-Day) as an Infantry officer in Massachusetts, changing to Combat Engineer in Maine. He went on Title 10 AGR in 1985 with duty assignments in ROTC at University of Maine; Automation Officer at ARNG HQ in Virginia; Reserve Component support at Fort Drum, NY; Senior Reserves Advisor to the Iceland Defense Force in Iceland; and deputy division chief at ARNG Operations Division at ARNG Headquarters. He was part of the standup of Joint Task Force - Civil Support (JTF-CS) in Norfolk, VA. His last duty assignment was as the first National Guard (NG) Liaison Officer to FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency), where his interest in emergency management as a follow-on career was stimulated.

He earned a Ph.D. in Engineering Management in May 2010 (concentration in Emergency Management) from The George Washington University's Institute for Crisis, Disaster, and Risk Management (ICDRM). His research focused on Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA), specifically on differences in National Guard and Department of Defense support to local emergency managers. His advisor was John R. Harrald, Ph.D. Dr. Porter was awarded Certified Emergency Manager (CEM®) by the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) in 2006, recertified in 2011 & 2016, and he has been active in several IAEM committees/caucuses: Training and Education Committee, Marketing and Membership Committee, and the Uniformed Services Caucus. He is a past chair of the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee.

He worked for the Headquarters U.S. Air Force Homeland Operations Division, Civil Support Branch, in a civilian position at Bolling AFB, as a Consequence Management Program Analyst, during June 2011 - August 2012. The branch writes, revises, and vets USAF policy, guidance, and instructions in the areas of homeland security and defense support of civil authorities. Dr Porter has been course developing and teaching master's degree courses online (Adjunct Associate Professor) for over a dozen years. He last instructed for the University of Maryland University College, and has also worked for Arkansas Tech University, Colorado Technical University, The George Washington University, and Norwich University's online School of Graduate and Continuing Studies.

Dr. Porter is currently president of the Council for the Accreditation of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Education (CAEMHSE), an organization in existence for about 15 years that has established peer-reviewed emergency management education standards, and assesses and accredits college and university emergency management education programs. Website: [www.caeme.education](http://www.caeme.education)

Dr. Porter resides in High Point, North Carolina, USA.



**GBENGA MORENIKEJI**  
**DISASTER AND ENVIRONMENTAL RISK EXPERT**  
**MINNA UNIVERSITY, NIGERIA**



Gbenga Morenikeji is a Disaster and Environmental Risk expert. He is currently a Co-coordinator for Information and Policy advocacy and Research and Development units at the Centre for Disaster Risk Management and Development Studies, and doubles as an academic staff at the department of Estate Management at the Federal University of Technology Minna.

He is a Fellow of Disaster Resilience Leadership Academy and Fellow of the Institute of Global Facilities Management. He has presented technical papers on: Community Engagement and Mainstreaming Awareness and Preparedness for Emergency at Local Levels during the APELL side event at the Environment and Emergencies Forum held at United Nation House, Kenya, in 2017; and Hazard and Risk Identification in Nigeria, delivered at the 2016 1st Africa UNEP Awareness and Preparedness for Emergency at Local Level train-the-trainers held at the United Nations house, Ethiopia, in 2016 and during the Africa-Arab platform in Tunis, 2018.

Gbenga was the Desk officer, FUT, Minna, University of Tulane, USA collaboration on Strengthening Leadership in Disaster Resilience Program. He is the current Chairman of the Committee on DRR Volunteer Club, (Minna); Secretary, Journal of Disaster Risk Management; Secretary, Niger State joint DRR School quiz committee; and Coordinator West Africa Disaster Resilience Leadership Fellows Network.

He has served as UNEP Webinar Panellist on ‘Sharing Experience on implementing APELL’; Organizing team member for the 2017 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction Plenary 1 -2016; UNEP Webinar Panellist on Typical Risk Assessment Methods: Practical way to conduct Community Risk Vulnerability Assessments, 2016; and Member of the Drafting Group (DG) for " Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction guide on technological / manmade hazards, Chaired by UNISDR/UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit from October, 2016.

He is a member of Network of Land Governance Researchers in Africa (NELGRA) and Network of Excellence for Land Governance in Africa (NELGA). Gbenga is currently the Africa Region Focal Point for the UNEP/APELL programme.



**NAILL MOMANI, PH.D,  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
JORDAN**



Dr Naill Momani is Associate Professor of Management within School of Logistic and Management at German Jordanian University in Jordan. He is a highly experienced and capable academic with an impressive track record of teaching, leadership, publication and training delivery within industry span over 15 years since 2002. Dr Naill has held the Program Chair for Integrated Emergency Management and Business Continuity Management Department at Rabdan Academy in Abu Dhabi, UAE; he was a founding member of the Prince Megrin Chair for Crisis Management and Research Unit Director at King Abul Aziz University (KAU) in Saudi Arabia, at which he was also instrumental in establishing the 1st Master's degree in Crises Management in Saudi Arabia at KAU.

Furthermore, he was Department Chair, Crisis Management Committee Chair, and member of the Academic Council at the Hashemite University (HU) in Jordan. He has developed and delivered more than 15 courses, which are currently taught at KAU, HU and RA within MBA, EMBA, and in distance learning programs. Courses include business continuity management, crises and emergency management, risk management, environmental management, total quality management, research methodologies, MIS, organizational behaviour, project management, production and operations management, amongst others. Dr Naill supervised one Ph.D. thesis and several MBA thesis during his work at KAU.

Dr Naill is also an approved and experienced Business Continuity Institute (BCI) trainer. Previous clients include the World Bank, the Arabian Gulf University in Bahrain, and Jeddah municipality and the Makkah Disaster Management Centre in Saudi Arabia; along with the Jordanian Civil Defence and Ministry of Interior. Other selected clients include General Executive Secretary Council (GESC) in Abu Dhabi, NESAs (National Electronic Security Authority), Department of Economic Development (DED) the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Dr Naill holds a BSc in Civil Engineering the University of Jordan and a PhD in Engineering Management, Crisis, Risk and Emergency Management from the George Washington University in the United States of America. He has an extensive publications record with more than 30 peer-reviewed articles to date. He has also been interviewed several times on TV and within print media and has worked with numerous international organizations, governments and agencies, most notably the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR).

Dr Naill is a frequent participant on international scientific committees and workshops and has given more than 100 talks as a guest and key-note speaker around the world. This includes active membership of the Environmental Society of Jordan, guest editor and editorial board member and reviewer for international peer reviewed journals such as The International Emergency Management Journal, selected as ADEC (Abu Dhabi Education Council) external reviewer, and Co-Chair for The International Emergency Management Society (TIEMS) Middle-East and North Africa (MENA) Chapter.



**DESIREE BEEKHARRY, DPM**  
**UTILISATION PROGRAM MANAGER FOR THE**  
**BUSHFIRE AND NATURAL HAZARDS CRC, AUSTRALIA**



Dr Desiree Beekharry is the Utilisation Program Manager for the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC. The CRC's mission is to ensure the Australian communities' resilience to natural hazards. Dr Desiree Beekharry's remit is to ensure that the high level research which are conducted in consultation with the emergency services sector are fit-for-purpose and are adopted by the various emergency services agencies. Dr Beekharry currently manages a research workforce across Australia and New Zealand of over 60 projects. She comes from a long event, project and program management career in several countries including UK, USA, France, Germany, Spain and Switzerland. Her 2 professional passions are Project Management and Disaster Management - especially Risk in Disaster Management. Dr Beekharry is also a tutor and supervisor for the Master of Project Management Program at the University of South Australia and Torrens University. She is a qualified and experienced ESOL and French teacher, Conflict Negotiations trainer and facilitator.

Mauritian born, Dr Desiree Beekharry's first 'contact' with a natural hazard was living through a Category 5 cyclone. That experience at the age of 8 has left a lasting picture in her mind of the forlorn look in people's eyes as they surveyed the aftermath of such a disaster. She has wanted to contribute to disaster resilience since.

Dr Beekharry's experience in disaster management comes from working with the UN as an Emergency Travel and Conferences Coordinator; for the South Australian Fire & Emergency Services Commission where she performed Risk Assessments, Risk Mitigation and Treatments activities on various zones for Flood, Earthquake, Heatwave, Bushfire (Wildfire), Extreme storm, escape of Hazardous Materials, Animal & Plant Disease, Urban Fire and Storm surge. Desiree was also member of the CARE team at American Airlines.

**Qualifications:**

BA in Tourism Management, Master of Project Management & Doctor of Project Management.

Professional memberships: PMI, APM & AIPM

Her Master's thesis is titled: **Risk in Emergency Management: *Decision making in low-probability, high consequence risks when faced with uncertainties***

Her doctoral thesis is titled: **Applying Agile Project Management Methodology to Natural Disaster Projects**

Desiree lives in Adelaide, SA, Australia with husband Marc, son Ricky, dog Cookie and cat Chairman Mao. Her regular activities are: Squash, badminton, running, Tai Chi, Taiko, cooking, carpentry.





## **RUSSELL DIPPY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE**



Russell DIPPY is the Emergency Management Coordinator for the South Australia Police. This Australian police agency provides policing and emergency management to a large geographical part of Australia but with a relatively small population. Russell has held this role for nearly 20 years and during that time has undertaken Operational and Strategic leadership roles through a large range of emergency management responses to emergency events. On a day to day basis he provides holistic emergency management policy, training and management across the police prevention and preparedness to emergencies and the management of response and recovery to those same emergencies. He provides extensive executive support to all agencies of government and non-government agencies to support emergency management awareness and development. He regularly provides training, advice and development to a range of executives and operational staff from government and non-government organisations to support their learning and understanding of operational emergency management. Russell is an active participant in many of Australia's national policy areas relative to emergency management.

He is a founding member of the Australian Emergency Management Assistance Team (EMAT) and was deployed to a large, complex coal mine fire to provide expert assistance. He was also deployed as part of the Australian Government Samoan Tsunami Health response in 2009 as part of the Australian Medical Assistance Team (AUSMAT). He provides regular input into National plans and doctrine to support the ongoing professional development of emergency management and emergency managers across Australia. Russell has a 35 years volunteer history with St John Ambulance in Australia (an international health organisation) and held various State leadership roles including State Superintendent and oversaw a national training initiative across the entire St John organisation as it moved to a competency based training program. He was awarded a Commander of the Order of St John (CStJ) for that work. He has provided national emergency management training at the former Australian Government Emergency Management Institute in Mt Macedon, Victoria and regularly participates in national policy development workshops. Russell holds a various Diplomas in Management, Leadership, Business, Accounting, Volunteer Management and Training and a Vocational Graduate Certificate in Management (Learning), a Masters in Emergency Management in (with Distinction) from Charles Sturt University and is currently a Doctoral Candidate for Doctor of Public Safety Program recently introduced into Charles Sturt University. Russell is also the Oceania Council Treasurer for the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) and holds the Certified Emergency Management (CEM®) accreditation issued by IAEM. Russell has undertaken the Fellowship of the Academy of Emergency Management (FAcEM) in the United States and is also a member of the Australasian Institute of Emergency Services. He has a strong passion toward the development of the emergency management profession within Australia, with an aim to recognise this role as separate to the role of managing the response agencies and their work.



**JI (JACK) ZHANG, PH.D,  
PRESIDENT OF DORAPOWER  
CHINA**



Dr. Ji (Jack) Zhang is the President of Beijing DoraPower Technologies Company and board member for several corporations in China. He has a Ph.D. of management from China Academy of Sciences, MBA from Peking University and BE of Electrical Engineering & BS of Applied Mathematics from Tsinghua University. Dr. Zhang has abundant working experiences in the industry of Emergency Management and Disaster Risk Reduction, especially in the CCDRR education for campus students in the form of arts.

Dr. Zhang is the undertaker of the Emergency Response System (ERS) research project for the State Council of China, the consulting member of Beijing Emergency Management Expert Group, the chief designer for the ERS platform of the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, the production base CEO of the Film, TV, Audio and Video Center of the China National School of Administration, and the project taker of “Future School 2030” of the Ministry of Education of PRC. He has published extensively and is a member of various leading professional and scientific organizations, including the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society, the Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards and the PSC Europe Forum. Dr. Zhang is presently the Treasurer of The International Emergency Management Society (TIEMS) and the VP of TIEMS China Chapter.

Dr. Zhang leverages international standards for children’s safety education such as CSS and PPDRR Key Messages drafted by the UNDP, UNISDR and STC into practices in China and creates “A+CCDRR” which stands for “Art + Child-Centered Disaster Risk Reduction”. It provides comprehensive children-oriented and school-based education services for disaster prevention and mitigation in the form of arts including “A+CCDRR” drama competitions, stage lectures, courses, extracurricular activities and films. “A+CCDRR” aims for resilience improvement for the 0.21 billion Chinese students of elementary and middle schools, who can take part in these activities with personal performance on safety-education stage plays and watch safety TV shows and movies. DoraPower also provides tools and practical services for campus risk assessment and student preparedness improvement.

Based on the experience of A+CCDRR, Dorapower has produced a safety-education film called “*My Great Mother*”, which is the first film on campus safety education in China and has received strong support from the Chinese Academy of Governance, Ministry of Education of PRC, Ministry of Emergency Management of PRC, Central Committee of the Communist Youth League, China National Arts Fund, UNDP, Beijing Normal University, Harvard University and others. The film is expected to be released in the movie theaters in China during summer vacation of 2019.



**ZUKILE SHADRACK MCILONGO**  
**DISASTER MANAGEMENT OFFICER**  
**EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA**



Zukile Shadrack Mcilongo was born in 1976 in South Africa. He has been employed Disaster Management Officer at the Amathole District Municipality, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa from April 2010 until present. Mr. Mcilongo obtained his National Diploma in Disaster Risk Management from the Southern Business School between 2008 and 2010. He then followed onto to complete the Bachelor of Technology (B-Tech) in Business Administration from

Walter Sisulu University from 2012 until 2013. In the period from 2015 until 2016. Mr. Mcilongo enrolled at the University of the Free State and successfully completed the Post Graduate Diploma in Disaster Management. In addition, he holds qualifications in Emergency Medical Supply & Training, Certificate in Ambulance Emergency Assistant and Certificate in Basic Ambulance Course (all completed between 2003 and 2004).

In his current position, Mr. Mcilongo is responsible for the following tasks and disaster management activities/function in the Amathole District Municipality to liaise with stakeholders and to coordinate monthly meetings in the municipality with regards to disaster management programs (Traditional Leaders, Councillors, Health Department, Fire Departments, Social Development and SAPS). Further activities include:

- Ensure invitations and agenda reaches all stake holders on time.
- Prepare minutes of the meetings for all stake holders as well as management
- Ensure minutes are circulated to management as well as stake holders
- Prepare reports on disaster management programs for stake holders as well as management
- Organize awareness campaigns for schools and communities around Amathole Municipalities
- Ensure relief is provided for communities during disasters (food, temporary Shelter and building materials where necessary)
- Conduct risk and vulnerability assessments around Amathole Municipalities
- Promote prevention and mitigation so that risk and vulnerability of Disasters can be reduced
- Manage disaster recovery so that community functions can be restored
- Set up joints operations during disasters
- Ensure high level of preparedness
- Co-ordinates Response and Recovery
- Train Disaster management assistants and trainees
- Perform Administrative duties and file documents properly

Prior to working in the disaster management field, Mr. Mcilongo was employed in the emergency Care Practitioner who is registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa. He is married and speaks English and isiXhosa.





**NOTHEMBA MIRIAM MHLABA  
DISASTER MANAGEMENT OFFICER  
EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA**



Nothemba Miriam Mhlaba was born in 1976 in South Africa. She has been employed Disaster Management Officer at the Amathole District Municipality, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa from April 2010 until present. Ms. Mhlaba obtained her Bachelor of Science from the University of Fort Hare in 2011 and the Bachelor of Science with Honours in 2013. Since 2018, Ms. Mhlaba has been enrolled at the University of the Free State and is studying towards a Master's in Development Studies. In addition, she holds the following qualifications: Higher Certificate in Management (completed in 2011) Ms. Mhlaba has expertise in Project Management, Geo-database design and analysis knowledge, Computer aided applications and in working with GIS Mobile equipment. She is registered with the South African Geomatics Council as a Geomatics Technician.

In her current position, Ms. Mhlaba is responsible for the following tasks:

- Policy analyses
- Be abreast with GIS technology developments
- Source and create spatial datasets using ArcMap and other GIS software
- Compile plans and graphic reports for planning.
- Maintain data, metadata and standards in the ArcGIS Geodatabase
- Create maps as and when requested (Local Maps, Area Maps, Ward Maps, etc.)
- Providing verbal and written correspondence to the public regarding GIS, Town Planning information, zoning, building lines and proposed new developments
- Link GIS and disaster management information and be proactive in ensuring that the data is updated and maintained
- Conduct Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (RAVA)
- Produce Technical reports and presentations
- Map production utilizing ArcGIS software, mapping high risk and disaster vulnerable areas.
- Disseminating processed data to Disaster management officers based at 6 local municipalities and other Stakeholders who request it for disaster preparedness, preventing, and disaster mitigating in the Amathole District.
- Promote decision making and enhance service delivery by collecting data, analyzing, interpreting and processing it into user friendly format.
- Liaise with Departments, Agencies and disaster management Stakeholders on technical matters



**THEMBINKOSI LENNOX NXAWE**  
**DISASTER MANAGEMENT OFFICER**  
**AMATHOLE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, SOUTH AFRICA**



Thembinkosi Lennox Nxawe obtained his Diploma in Disaster Management from the Southern Business School between 2013 and 2016. He holds the qualification in Pest Control Operations from the Pest Control Services Industries Board (P Registered - P32898) and Certificates in Emergency and Disaster Management, completed through the Cacadu District Municipality between 1998-2001. In addition, he has completed courses or gained competencies in the areas of incident management, traffic control, helicopter rescue, crowd control, radio communication procedures, evacuations procedures, Basic First Aid, HIV/AIDS counselling, Fire Fighting, Climate Change, Emergency Management, Strategic Management, Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Disaster Damage Assessment and the completion of Introduction to Incident Command System, ICS-100.

Between 2012 and 2014, Mr. Nxawe worked for the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality and the Amathole District Municipality as Vector Control Officer and/or Assistant Vector Control Officer, respectively. Since 2014, he has been employed as the Disaster Management Officer and in his current position. Mr. Nxawe is responsible for the disaster management areas in the Amathole District Municipality:

- Establishing institutional frameworks in the Disaster Management Satellite Unit/Centre in consultation and co-operation with the local municipality.
- Establishing mechanisms to gather and record data and information for relaying to the Municipal Disaster Management Centre for purposes of disaster risk reduction.
- Assessing hazards, vulnerability and capacity in the local municipality in order to determine and reduce disaster risk.
- Implementing mitigation and prevention policies and strategies which contribute to disaster risk reduction.
- Building capacity to facilitate and coordinate the application of disaster response through the use of physical and technical resources.
- Engaging in programmes which will ensure public information and communication.
- Conducting recruitment, training and capacity building of volunteers and other role-players to participate in disaster risk reduction and response.
- Sustaining effective line of communication with all relevant role-players for purposes of disaster risk reduction and response.



**DMYTRO CHALYY, PH.D., ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
LIEUTENANT COLONEL OF CIVIL PROTECTION SERVICE  
UKRAINE**



Dr Chalyy is on service of civil protection of State Emergency Service of Ukraine with just under 20 years of service. He began his civil protection service in 2000 and obtained his educational degree of Junior specialist of fire protection (EQF level 5) and a title of lieutenant of civil protection service in 2003. Started a practical work at the position of inspector of fire safety and became the chief of fire station at Main Department of Ministry of Emergency Situations in Lviv region, Ukraine. Then in 2006 he graduated from Lviv State University of Life Safety and obtained a degree of Specialist of fire safety (EQF level 7). Continued his work in Lviv State University of Life Safety at the position of senior lecturer and soon as associate professor of the Department of fire tactics and emergency-rescue operations.

He earned a Ph.D. in Technical sciences (Electronics - Solid state electronics) in 2014 in Lviv Polytechnic National University (EQF level 8). His research focused on Radiation-resistant optoelectronic temperature sensors based on chalcogenide glasses of the Ge-As-Se system for thermal fire detectors. Is an author of more than 50 scientific articles, manuscripts, books that are dedicated to fire emergency response, organization of service and professional preparedness, fire tactics. In 2018 obtained a title of associate professor (Department of fire tactics and emergency-rescue operations).

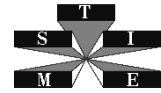
Is an active participant of international scientific and practical conferences, congresses, workshops, trainings. Among them participation in International Rescue workshop Fenix (Poland - 2016), Exchange of Experts, 9-th National Congress Fire Safety and Science (The Netherlands - 2016), Training on extinguishing fires in ecosystems at the United States Forest Service "Defender School" (United States of America - 2018), Table top and field exercises of EU-CHEM-REACT project, financed by European Civil protection and Humanitarian Aid (Ukraine 2018). OperationsAcademic mobility exchanges with Kingston University of London (United Kingdom - 2018, 2019).

Dr. Chalyy is currently Vice-rector of education at Lviv State University of Life Safety.  
Website: [en.ldubgd.edu.ua](http://en.ldubgd.edu.ua)

Dr. Chalyy resides in Lviv, Ukraine.



## BRIAN HOLECEK OAM CEM® FAIES AUSTRALIA



Brian developed his skills and knowledge into an experienced professional in multiple facets in Emergency Management, Business Continuity and Facility Management spanning 20 years. Brian is also a member of Business Continuity Institute (UK) currently the SA Chapter Lead, BCI Program Advisory Group member of the past 3 years, is a current member of IAEM, a certified CEM and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Emergency Services. Brian roles within this sector includes the Mining Industry as an Emergency Services Officer, Red Cross First Aid Trainer, then Emergency Service Coordinator South Australia (SA), State Operations Planning Officer (SA) Country Fire Service, prepared the Business Continuity Plan in 2008 and other major organisational procedures, CFS member of the State's Central Exercise Writing Team for 7 years. Brian was the Principal Officer Emergency Management and Business Continuity at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and Department of Human Services as Principal Officer Assets. Brian resides in Adelaide, South Australia.