

# Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Implementation Workshop

## 23-24 August 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand

The 2016 Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Implementation Workshop will be 23-24 August, in Bangkok, Thailand. CAP Workshops focus on emergency alerting as enabled by the CAP standard, ITU-T Recommendation X.1303. At the Workshops, CAP implementers and associated organizations typically discuss common issues and how best to expand adoption of CAP.



Persons interested in emergency alerting are welcome: managers, technical staff, media, etc., including commercial organizations, governments, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). There is no charge to participate in the Workshop.

The hosts of the 2016 CAP Implementation Workshop are the [Asian Institute of Technology](#) and the [Sahana Software Foundation](#).



There are likely to be about 30 presentations at the Workshop, on a wide range of topics and presented by experts from every part of the world.

Sahana Software Foundation will present on how it teamed with the AIT Geoinformatics Centre under a project funded by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). The objective is that countries in the Asia and the Pacific region get [software](#) and procedures to more effectively manage their [Situational Awareness](#). Situational Awareness helps disaster managers to be aware of and map every significant emergency incident or risk in the country, and to share such information across multiple agencies with disparate information systems. Sahana tools for this purpose (common operating picture, warning, first-response) will be the focus in a [training session](#) offered in the same venue on 22 August. Also, experts from the Maldives, Myanmar, and the Philippines will present at the Workshop on using the Sahana situational awareness tools.

Unattended messaging of CAP alerts over broadcast radio and TV, streaming, and digital signage will be presented by [OpenBroadcaster](#), an open source provider used extensively through-out Canada.



Selex ES GmbH of Germany, will present CAP enabled meteorological services and situational awareness using weather radar networks.

The Asian Disaster Preparedness Center will give a presentation on their experiences in the region on strengthening "End-to-End Early Warning Systems", which includes promoting the CAP standard. ITU will note the outcomes of the [2016 Global Forum on Emergency Telecommunications](#).

A fire captain from Italy will present on CAP for Emergency Management in Italy and Europe. The Thai Meteorological Department will present on its CAP Implementation. Emergency Management Australia will present about CAP implementation in that country and Canada will present on its nation-wide, multi-hazard CAP implementation as well. Also, the United States will present on its CAP-based "Integrated Public Alert and Warning System" which aggregates 500+ CAP sources throughout the country. Mexico will also make a presentation about its National Alert System, now being implemented.

A presentation by the World Health Organization (WHO) will shed light on the work of WHO in regard to early warning for biological/infectious disease hazards.

WMO will present on its role in enabling its Members to adopt the CAP standard and explain how it is focusing on its Public-Private Partnership approach to help WMO Members engage with private companies that are CAP players. It will also describe how it is supporting training in CAP through its CAP Jump-Start initiative, as well its efforts to develop a WMO Alert Hub.

CAP "alert hubs" will be discussed. An alert hub simplifies access to copies of alerts by aggregating alerts from many different feeds into one URL. Such an alert hub, when operated on a cloud infrastructure, offers high levels of responsiveness, availability, reliability, authenticity, and security. To maximize alerting speed, an alert hub typically also allows alerts to be pushed immediately to the hub from alert sources, and from the hub to subscribers.

A "Filtered Alert Hub" under development will be presented to the Workshop. This free facility on the Internet will be useful to access copies of alerts filtered by location and/or any other content of the aggregated CAP alerts. For example, one can filter just those feeds that are in the [Register of Alerting Authorities](#) maintained by WMO, to serve as an "Official Alerts Hub". Or, one can filter just highest priority alerts for "broadcast intrusive" applications such as the [Hazards App](#) now being implemented in countries worldwide.

The Hazards App is a product of the IFRC Global Disaster Preparedness Center (GDPC). At this Workshop, GDPC will also describe the proposed CAP-based warning source focused on the possibility of a failure of the Mosul Dam in Iraq, which would be a disaster of epic scale.

Across the world, there is a growing appreciation of the need to improve alerting. For instance, the Paris Agreement on climate change, signed by 195 nations in Paris on 12 December 2015, pledges financial support to developing countries to help them confront the threats from climate change, and it cites improved early warning systems specifically. This has led already to the [Climate Risk Early Warning System](#) (CREWS) initiative. Canada and several other countries are contributing the funding for CREWS.



A survey of other CAP implementations now underway or newly launched, as well as new developments in some of the existing CAP implementations will be presented as well (see report: [CAP Implementation by Country](#)).

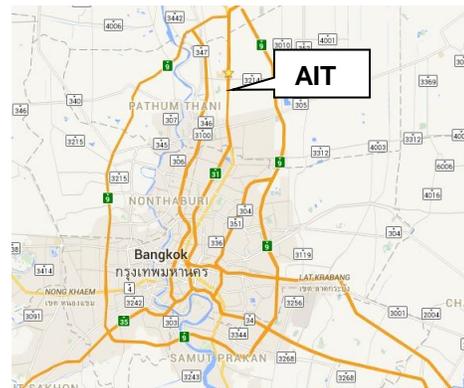
Participants will hear from the [OASIS Emergency Management Technical Committee \(EM TC\)](#) about efforts to seek consensus on how to code those highest priority CAP alerts that should be sent immediately to all people in an affected area. This priority level of public alerting is known in the U.S. as an "imminent threat", in Canada as "broadcast immediate", and in China as a "red alert". Here it is especially important to converge on a common scheme for coding the type of event (e.g, tornado, tsunami, typhoon).

The chair of the OASIS EM TC will conduct at the Workshop a discussion focusing on "Questions of Specific CAP Usage". There will also be a presentation on activities of the OASIS EM TC, including the family of Emergency Data Exchange Language (EDXL) Standards. Immediately after the CAP Workshop, the OASIS EM TC will have a meeting, with its usual call-in arrangements.

The CAP Workshops are technical meetings conducted in English without interpretation. These meetings do not set policy; they are intended solely for information sharing among experts. Accordingly, participants represent themselves and need not be formally associated with organizations. However, completing [this simple registration form](#) is strongly encouraged.



The 2016 CAP Implementation Workshop will be on the AIT campus in Rangsit, just north of metropolitan Bangkok, Thailand (see map below).



Further information will be posted, as it becomes available, to the [2016 CAP Implementation Workshop website](#). Materials from previous CAP Workshops (co-sponsored variously by IFRC, ITU, OASIS, and WMO) can be found at these links:

- [2015 Rome, Italy](#)
- [2014 Negombo, Sri Lanka](#)
- [2013 Geneva, Switzerland](#)
- [2012 Montréal, Canada](#)
- [2011 Geneva, Switzerland](#)
- [2009 Geneva, Switzerland](#)
- [2008 Geneva, Switzerland](#)
- [2006 Geneva, Switzerland](#)

The Program Committee of the 2016 CAP Implementation Workshop:

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