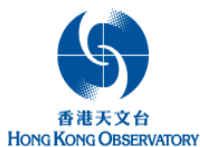


2018 Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Implementation Workshop

31 October - 1 November 2018 in Hong Kong, China

The 2018 Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Implementation Workshop will be held 31 October and 1 November, in Hong Kong, China. The Workshop is hosted by [Hong Kong Observatory](#) (HKO). In the same venue, CAP Training will be all day on 30 October and a Filtered Alert Hub Workshop will be all day on 2 November.



Everyone interested in emergency alerting is welcome: managers, technical staff, media, etc., including those in government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and commercial organizations. There is no charge to participate.

The Workshop this year is co-sponsored by the [International Association of Emergency Managers \(IAEM\)](#), the [International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies \(IFRC\)](#), the [International Telecommunication Union \(ITU\)](#), the [OASIS](#) standards organization and the [World Meteorological Organization \(WMO\)](#). These Workshops focus on emergency alerting as enabled by the CAP standard, ITU-T Recommendation X.1303. At the Workshops, implementers of CAP and other associated organizations discuss common issues and how best to leverage the expanding adoption of CAP.

There will be 20 presentations at the Workshop, on a wide range of topics and presented by experts from every part of the world.

CAP "alert hubs" have been a recurring topic. An alert hub simplifies access to copies of alerts by aggregating alerts from many different feeds into one source on the global "cloud". A free and open source example is the "Filtered Alert Hub" (see <http://alert-hub.org>). As noted above, on 2 November there will be a one-day session focused on the Filtered Alert Hub.

The Filtered Alert Hub initiative supports the WMO Alert Hub now being realized at multiple centers worldwide. This is also a feature of the new Severe Weather Information Center Website, which will be presented by HKO.

Also at international scale, MeteoAlarm is used extensively throughout Europe. The presentation on MeteoAlarm will note that it is now hosting 35 publicly-available CAP feeds at national level.

There will be also a presentation on the support of CAP in the 40-nation Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES).

A broad range of national systems will be featured. This year, India has seven participants in the Workshop, and India's Centre for Development of Telematics will present its CAP implementation work. There will also be a presentation about the United States Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS), which aggregates over 1,000 CAP alert feeds nationwide. Migration to the cloud will be among the topics discussed in the IPAWS presentation. China's National Early Warning Release System (NEWRS) is another very large-scale CAP-based multi-hazards warning system that will be a presentation topic.

There will be an update on Italy's extensive CAP system for fire fighters. There will be also presentations on CAP implementation in the Comoros Islands, in Germany (specifically, Deutscher Wetterdienst), and in the Philippines. Experiences in Canada's CAP implementation will be a presentation topic as well.

In addition to its national CAP-enabled alerting system, Mexico will present on how use of CAP in its Earthquake Early Warning system. In such a system, warnings triggered on detection of an earthquake are sent electronically to warn people before destructive ground motion arrives. With only seconds of warning time, Earthquake Early Warning messages must be pushed to user devices immediately. It is expected that CAP alerts pushed to the WMO Alert Hub can help with these and other immediate threats, such as tsunamis, tornados, and flash floods.

When even seconds of delay in alerting delay can cost lives, a key technology is "Cell Broadcast" which immediately reaches all cell phones in the alerting area. A specialist in this technology will present on Mobile Multimedia Alerting features.

Various commercial services use CAP extensively. AccuWeather, a global-scale commercial weather service will present on its experiences with CAP. AlertNetUSA will also present on applying CAP in a natural disasters context.

There will also be a presentation on techniques for issuing Indigenous Language Alerts with CAP.

IFRC will include in its presentation updates on its free [Universal App Program](#). This includes not only the CAP-enabled Hazards App but apps for finding shelters, giving first aid, and making emergency preparedness kits. IFRC will also update on its 'What Now' service which leverages the [IFRC Public Awareness and Public Education](#)

[\(PAPE\) messaging](#). Paired with CAP alerts, such trusted and field-tested messaging helps to better inform people on what actions to take.

This year, WMO will present on how Impact-Based Forecasting (IBF) systems can assure that IBF messages align with CAP, which has implications also for the "Weather Ready Nations" international initiative. WMO's proposed Global Multi-hazard Alerting System (GMAS) should be a topic of great interest, as well.

The ITU Development Bureau (ITU-D) will make a presentation on its roles in Emergency Telecommunications. This will include how CAP could be addressed in the 2019 Global Forum on Emergency Telecommunications (GET-19) planned to be held in Mauritius.

Participants will hear from the [OASIS Emergency Management Technical Committee \(EM TC\)](#) about efforts to seek consensus on common CAP "event" terms and criteria to distinguish those highest priority CAP alerts that should be sent immediately to all people in an affected area. During the CAP Workshop, the OASIS EM TC will meet with its usual call-in arrangements.

CAP Training on 30 October covers: the basics of CAP and how it serves interoperability; getting and displaying CAP alerts from alerting authorities and aggregators; making and validating CAP; and, disseminating CAP via traditional methods, the Internet, and new media. A survey of other CAP implementations now underway or newly launched, as well as new developments in some of the existing CAP implementations is included (see status report: [CAP Implementation by Country](#)). The CAP Training includes hands-on installation of the new version of "CAP Editor", freeware for creating and publishing CAP alerts.

CAP Implementation 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. Registration is strongly encouraged for administrative and planning purposes. Participants from a WMO Member agency should note the [WMO announcement Letter sent on 26 February](#).

All Workshop and associated events will be in or near the HKO Headquarters (see [Information Note](#) for details).



Further information will be posted to the [2018 CAP Implementation Workshop website](#). Material from previous CAP Workshops is at these links:

- [2017 Rome, Italy](#)
- [2016 Bangkok, Thailand](#)
- [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](#)

Program Committee of the 2018
CAP Implementation Workshop:

HKO	Armstrong Cheng
IAEM	Beth Armstrong
IFRC	Jessica Robbins
ITU	Cosmas Zavazava
OASIS	Elysa Jones
WMO	Miriam Andrioli

To contact the Program Committee,
send e-mail to the Workshop Chair:
Eliot.J.Christian@gmail.com