

2020 Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Training and Implementation Workshop 28-30 September via video call-in

The [International Telecommunication Union](#) (ITU) in Geneva, Switzerland, will host the 2020 Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Implementation Workshop on 29-30 September, from 12:30 to 17:30 CEST (Geneva time)



each day. On 28 September 13:30-16:30 CEST ITU will host a "CAP Train the Trainers" session. All sessions will be conducted using Zoom video conference. The Zoom call-in password will be sent to registered participants only.

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.

Other co-sponsors of this Workshop are: the [International Association of Emergency Managers \(IAEM\)](#), the [International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies \(IFRC\)](#), the [OASIS](#) standards organization and the [World Meteorological Organization \(WMO\)](#)

CAP Implementation 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. At this 2020 Workshop, 21 presentations will address a wide range of topics, presented by experts from around the world.

ITU Development Bureau (ITU-D) will describe its Emergency Telecommunications roles. This includes ITU guidance that calls on each nation to address CAP as part of its National Emergency Telecommunications Plan (NETP).

IFRC will present on its "IFRC Alert Hub" initiative, introduced in the 2020 CAP Workshop. IFRC might also update on its collaboration with Google on its 'What Now' service. This service uses the [IFRC Public Awareness and Public Education \(PAPE\) messaging](#) to better inform people on what actions to take during an emergency. IFRC will also likely provide updates on its free [Universal App Program](#), which includes the CAP-based Hazards App for disseminating public alerts.

WMO will likely present on incorporation of CAP into WMO Technical Regulations. These Regulations apply to all WMO Member states as signatories to the WMO treaty. The addition of CAP would be helpful to countries that need an external incentive to justify their CAP investments. WMO's Global Multi-hazard Alerting System (GMAS) is likely to be a topic as well. A major component of GMAS is the WMO Alert Hub

that aggregates CAP alerts issued by WMO Members. This Alert Hub uses the Filtered Alert Hub freeware, which is also the basis of the [Severe Weather Information Center \(SWIC 2.0\)](#) operated by WMO's Hong Kong Observatory (HKO).

The Workshop will hear multiple presentations focusing on national systems. One will describe the impressive CAP system in India that is now becoming operational. Another will describe China's National Early Warning Release System, a very large-scale CAP-based multi-hazards warning system. Another presentation will describe developments in the United States Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS), which is evolving a second generation. There will also be a presentation on CAP in Italy and a presentation on CAP in Mexico.

Among international systems, there will be a presentation about the new MeteoAlarm system plus a new CAP-enabled system funded by ITU that is being developed for the Caribbean. A separate presentation in that region will focus on the Climate and Weather Ready Nations Programme. This will discuss how this CAP-enabled system also leverages Impact-based Forecasting (IBF) techniques, featured among Weather Ready Nations initiatives. IBF has been a trending topic among weather agencies in various nations and has been advocated by WMO.

AccuWeather will present on its use of CAP.

An Earthquake Early Warning System developed in China will be presented.

There will be a CAP presentation by Everbridge, a company that sells communications services for notification of emergencies.

The Hydrologic Research Center will present how its Flash Flood Guidance system supports the generation of CAP alerts.

Google will likely present an update on its CAP-enabled [Public Alerts](#) initiative. The newest CAP features are Android Notifications and alerts showing on Google Maps. Google may also describe its advanced system for flood forecasting.

IBM/The Weather Company will present how CAP is leveraged in its systems.

Another presentation will describe the [MetcapPlus](#) freeware for meteorological forecasting. This facility is now capable of publishing CAP alerts.

The Pacific Disaster Center will give a presentation on how CAP is woven into its products and services.

Another topic will be OpenBroadcaster for messaging CAP alerts over broadcast radio and TV, including its new capabilities for audio in different voices.

There will be an update on the [Filtered Alert Hub](#) (FAH). The FAH Team includes AccuWeather, Amazon Web Services, Brazil/INMET, Facebook, Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System (GDACS), Hong Kong Observatory, IBM/The Weather Company, Knowledge Integration Ltd, the Open Commons Consortium MeteoAlarm, OASIS EM TC, and USAID/OFDA. In addition to the WMO Alert Hub and the IFRC Alert Hub mentioned above, the FAH design might be used in WMO's GMAS-Asia and in a South America Alert Hub proposed by Brazil.

FAH also hosts the free CAP Editor tool for creating and publishing CAP alerts launched in January 2019. That tool, available at <https://cap.alert-hub.org/>, is now initialized for use by hundreds of the world's alerting authorities. Anyone can use this free tool as a "Guest", but actual publishing of alerts requires an authorized user to set his/her password.

The CAP Editor tool will be used in a hands-on exercise as part of a lesson in the CAP [Train the Trainers sessions](#) on 28 September. Those sessions will also cover: 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. Also included is a survey of some CAP implementations .operating or now being developed. It is notable that 68% of the world's population now lives in a country with at least one national CAP feed operating. Implementation of CAP by country is depicted in the map below, and is further detailed in the [CAP Implementation by Country](#) status report.

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 necessary to receive the required password for the video conference. Participants from any WMO Member agency should follow guidance in [this announcement Letter](#) from WMO Secretariat.

Material from previous CAP Workshops is available at these links:

- [2019 Mexico City, Mexico](#)
- [2018 Hong Kong, China](#)
- [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 2020 CAP Implementation Workshop:

IAEM	Beth Armstrong
IFRC	Jessica Ports Robbins
ITU	Maritza Delgado
OASIS	Elysa Jones
WMO	Miriam Andrioli

Contact the Program Committee by e-mail to Eliot.J.Christian@gmail.com

