

2020 CAP Implementation Workshop Speakers

(Updated as of 21 April 2021)

For the provisional Programme, see [Programme](#)

For the provisional list of participants, see [Participants](#)

For details about the venue and logistics, see [Information Note](#)

1.1 Welcome from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)



Jessica Ports Robbins is the Technical Advisor, Preparedness ICTs for the Global Disaster Preparedness Center (GDPC). She has worked with the American Red Cross since 2001. In her role with GDPC she manages the Center's digital tools, including the Universal App Program, the WhatNow Service, and Atlas: Ready for Business preparedness app, and she provides technical guidance to partner Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies. Her education includes a BA in History from Elon College, an MS in History & Sociology of Technology & Science from Georgia Institute of Technology, and a Ph.D. in international development, also from Tulane. Areas of expertise include information and communication technology for development (ICT4D), mobiles for development (M4D), disaster risk reduction, shelter operations, pet evacuation and sheltering, volunteer management, international humanitarian law, and community disaster preparedness.

1.2 Welcome from the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM)



Robie Robinson is currently serving as the Global President for the IAEM, is a Past President of the IAEM-USA Council and the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). Mr. Robinson has served as the emergency manager for three Texas counties that span the spectrum from a rural, small population to the ninth most populous county in the United States. He also has extensive experience with higher education institutions. He has served as the Emergency Management Director for Tarrant County College with five campuses serving 60,000 students. In his current position with The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, he is responsible for all aspects of the police department, campus and workplace safety, risk management, environmental compliance, and emergency management for a thriving metropolitan university. Mr. Robinson is a Certified Emergency Manager®.

1.3 Welcome from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)



Vanessa Gray heads the ITU Development Sector (ITU-D) Environment and Emergency Telecommunications Division. In this role, she is responsible for studying needs, developing specific programs of assistance, and identifying ICT for Development opportunities. She also coordinates emergency telecommunications, developing ICT projects that provide assistance for disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. Her Division is responsible as well for ITU-D programs on e-waste and climate change adaptation. Prior to this position, Vanessa was in the ITU ICT Data and Statistics Division where she contributed to analytical publications, organized ICT-related meetings, and delivered national and regional training on ICT statistics. Vanessa holds a Master's degree in Political Science and Economics from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland.

1.4 Welcome from OASIS (standards organization)



Guy Martin is OASIS Executive Director, responsible for overall operation and helping define strategies and policies to deliver the best value to OASIS members. He works closely with OASIS staff and the Board of Directors to help the organization leverage the best of open standards and open source communities. Guy has a unique blend of 25+ years' experience as software engineer and open source strategist. He has built open source programs for companies like Red Hat, Samsung and Autodesk and was instrumental in founding the Academy Software Foundation while Director of the Open Source Office at Autodesk. He served for over 10 years as a volunteer with Cal Fire, California's State Fire Department, leading a team providing mobile command post and communications in support of multi-agency wildland fire responses. He is a passionate believer in open source and standards in service of emergency management and the greater public good.

1.5 Welcome from the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)



Cyrille Honoré is Director of the Disaster Risk Reduction and Public Services Branch in the Weather and Disaster Risk Reduction Services Department of the World Meteorological Organisation.

2 Organization of the Workshop



Eliot Christian is a *pro bono* consultant to various organizations. He leads the Filtered Alert Hub initiative on behalf of the U.S. NOAA. He consults on CAP and conducts CAP training for IFRC, ITU, UNDRR and the US Agency for International Development. He is also a pro bono consultant to, and retired from, WMO. He was a chief architect of the WMO Information System and the Global Earth Observations System of Systems. Eliot is retired from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) where for many years he helped lead broad programs for environmental data sharing. Since 2001, he has been active in developing and promoting CAP, especially internationally. Eliot is also CEO of the non-profit Alert-Hub.Org CIC (Community Interest Organization).

3.19 Update on OASIS Emergency Management Technical Committee Work



Elysa Jones is an internationally recognized expert in Emergency Interoperability Communications via Data Messaging. She is Chair of the OASIS Emergency Management Technical Committee since 2004. Her Committee developed and maintains the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Standard, also known as ITU Recommendation x.1303. Additional Standards for message distribution, resource messaging, hospital availability, tracking of emergency patients and clients and situation reporting are products of her committee. She is an Emergency Communication Expert for the International Telecom Union (ITU), Chief Technology Officer and Advisor for various Companies, Organizations and Countries providing guidance on the development of systems that utilize data messaging standards. She holds a Baccalaureate Degree in Economics, and a Master's Degree in Computer Science from the University of Alabama in Huntsville. Elysa is a tireless advocate for the use of open standards in support of emergency communications.