

EMA Update

Emergency Management Australia provides national leadership in the development of measures to reduce risk to communities and manage the consequences of disasters. EMA Update keeps AJEM readers abreast of the courses and activities that assist in this aim.

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT & BUSINESS

Community Awareness

The flood advice booklet, *What to do Before, During and After a Flood*, has been revised and reprinted.

For further information contact Cate Moore
Phone: 03 5421 5296; email: cate.moore@ema.gov.au

EMA Library

In order to improve remote client access to library resources the EMA library website has been enhanced to include a selection of topical bibliographies as well as online library membership application and information request forms. Free access to full text databases is also available to Australian library members through the website. The online library catalogue now contains complete records of library journal holdings and key websites have also been added. Access to the library catalogue and a full range of library services can be found at www.ema.gov.au/library.

For further information please contact the library
Phone 03 5421 5246; email ema.library@ema.gov.au

AusDIN Portal

The AusDIN Portal is now at prototype stage and refinements are being made to usability, navigation and audience types. Arrangements for collecting links

are well under way. It is envisaged that Stage 1 will go live around October 2005. Further information on this multi-jurisdictional initiative is available from www.ema.gov.au/AusDIN.

Disasters Database

The first phase of the EMA Disasters Database enhancement project is now complete and the report on the design of an all-hazards data framework will be published on the website shortly. A significant review and validation of data has taken place, along with some minor changes to the interface. A scoping project to add a GIS type interface to the database search and reporting functions is also under way.

For further information contact John Haydock
Phone: 03 5421 5297; email: john.haydock@ema.gov.au

e-learning

EMA's flexible delivery program has taken another step forward with the use of IBM's *QuickPlace* in the *Business Continuity Management* course and the *Graduate Certificate in Emergency Management*.

For further information contact John Haydock
Phone: 03 5421 5297; email: john.haydock@ema.gov.au

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Graduate Certificate in Emergency Management

The EMA Graduate Certificate in Emergency Management is specifically designed to provide professional development at postgraduate level for people across the emergency management function. This would include people from areas such as emergency services, health, local government land management agencies, education and human services. The program has a strong conceptual and analytical focus and is comprised of four modules over two years.

The Graduate Certificate is recognised by a number of universities as a pathway into Graduate Diploma and Masters programs.

Applications are being called for people who want to enrol in this program for 2006. Please refer to the EMA website under Education and Training for the details.

For more information contact Mike Tarrant
Phone 03 5421 5219; e-mail michael.tarrant@ema.gov.au

EDUCATION & TRAINING CONTINUED

Advanced Diploma in Public Safety (Emergency Management)

The first enrolment of participants in EMA's Advanced Diploma program is well underway. We are about to call for nominations for the next intake. In this program there is an emphasis on keeping the cohort together to enhance the learning experience. As such the group commits to stay together for two years to complete the 11 competencies required for qualification. These competency units are encompassed within five themes, entailing six separate weeks of on-campus attendance and two units covered through distance mode. Our target group are people working full time as emergency management officers but who do not have sufficient field experience to achieve the qualification through RPL. Please monitor our Education and Training website for the call to nominate.

*For more information contact Dianne Cooper
Phone 03 5421 5274; e-mail dianne.cooper@ema.gov.au*

Remote Indigenous Communities Advisory Council (RICAC)

The needs of Australia's indigenous communities have received increased recognition by the emergency management sector in recent years. Remote indigenous community needs were identified as a key issue by the Council of Australian Government's (COAG) review of Natural Disaster Mitigation, Relief and Recovery Arrangements. Given the importance of this area

the Australian Emergency Management Committee (AEMC) considered it appropriate to formalise the current Remote Indigenous Communities Steering Committee into the AEMC Remote Indigenous Communities Advisory Council (RICAC) in mid-2003.

The membership of RICAC is made up of two representatives from each State and Territory including indigenous representatives, a representative from the Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination (OIPC) and an EMA representative. The role of the Council is to provide advice to the AEMC on issues relating to remote indigenous communities.

Over the next six months the RICAC is focussing on progressing the Ministerial Council's resolution to develop a national strategy addressing emergency management in remote Indigenous communities.

Consultations are occurring with key stakeholders at both Government and community level, in a range of locations throughout five State/Territory jurisdictions. The outcomes of the consultation process will be incorporated into the development of the national strategy. Consultations in July and August were held in diverse locations including Horn Island, Ceduna, Derby, Darwin, Perth and Sydney.

*For more information contact Andrew Coghlan
Phone 03 5421 5240; e-mail andrew.coghlan@ema.gov.au*

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LIAISON GROUP

Bushfire Awareness And Preparedness Day Initiative

Since the Prime Minister's announcement of the Bushfire Awareness and Preparedness Day initiative, EMA has consulted extensively with State, Territory and Australian Government agencies as well as peak bodies such as the Australasian Fire Authorities Council and the Bushfire CRC.

These consultations have highlighted the importance of community education and awareness, which is a key issue raised in both the McLeod and Esplin reports, and in the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) National Inquiry on Bushfire Mitigation and Management, 2005. Agreement was reached that due to geographic and climatic factors, a single national day of bushfire awareness and preparedness would not be feasible or effective. Instead, a decision was

taken to enhance community bushfire awareness and preparedness by aligning with bushfire seasons to complement current State and Territory bushfire awareness programs.

*For further information contact Li Peng Monroe
Phone 02 6256 4610; email lipeng.monroe@ema.gov.au*

Australian Emergency Management Committee

The Australian Emergency Management Committee (AEMC) met on 4 August 2005.

The AEMC has responsibility for managing national strategic emergency management issues and policies. AEMC is the peak group supporting the Augmented Australasian Police Ministers Council (A/APMC) on emergency management issues.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LIAISON GROUP CONTINUED

In encouraging effective national emergency management the AEMC considered arrangements for co-ordination of national security and consequence management. New opportunities for improved emergency preparedness, response, recovery and co-ordination are emerging with the development of technology and innovation. Reports on the collection and use of spatial and non spatial data and strategic directions were considered.

A number of mitigation arrangements were deliberated on including progress by the Catastrophic Disasters Emergency Management Capability Work Group and receiving an update on progress with COAG Natural Disaster Mitigation Programme. Reports on both flood and bushfire mitigation and management were considered.

In recognition of the importance of volunteers the AEMC are perusing a number of options to provide tangible support to both volunteers and employers of volunteers. A report was provided on the second Emergency Management Volunteer Sector Summit held in April 2005.

Reports were also received on the Working Together to Manage Emergencies Program and implementation process. AEMC considered indigenous service delivery and capacity through the important work of the AEMC Remote Indigenous Communities Advisory Committee (RICAC).

The *Urban Search and Rescue Concept of Operations* (USAR) concept of operations report was considered. This report was developed by EMA in close consultation with the States and Territories to further enhance USAR capability.

Exercises are an important element of preparedness and two multi-jurisdictional national exercises were noted. *Exercise Eleusis* will concentrate on management of an outbreak of zoonotic disease. *Exercise Mercury '05* is a counter-terrorism strategic exercise, with a focus on consequence management contributing to co-ordination between NCTC and AEMC responsibilities.

*For further information contact Scott Milne
Phone 02 6256 4691; email scott.milne@ema.gov.au*

DEVELOPMENT

Research and Innovation Program

The EMA Research and Innovation Program aims to facilitate the capture and transfer on innovative practice and disaster research outcomes across the emergency management sector. Eighty-nine applications for funding in 2005–2006 were received this year and, following panel assessment, four were offered funding. These include:

- Project 01/2005 – Development of a model for civilian disaster medical assistance teams.
- Project 02/2005 – Cultural Diversity – To establish guidelines on understanding of the cultures, strengths and needs of non-Christian faith communities.

- Project 03/2005 – The development of clinical practice guidelines for acute stress disorder and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder.
- Project 04/2005 – What is recovery and what helps people recover? An investigation into medium and long-term community recovery after disaster.

*For further information contact Sue Collins
Phone 02 6256 4616; email sue.collins@ema.gov.au*

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Working Together to Manage Emergencies

The Australian Government policy initiative, "Working Together to Manage Emergencies", announced in September 2004, recognises the need to develop self-reliance at both the community and local government levels to build national preparedness for disasters of all types by providing practical support and recognition.

EMA has consulted extensively with State and Territory Governments, other Australian Government agencies, the Australian Local Government Association, and the various sectors that are key components of emergency management in Australia. EMA has developed guidelines to implement the initiative through the Local Grants Scheme and the National Emergency Volunteer Support Fund.

Several nationally significant projects were funded through the initiative in 2004/05. These include:

- \$473 000 to the Australian Local Government Association to undertake a stock-take of emergency management responsibilities at the local government level and to develop tools to assist local governments to meet their obligations;
- \$120 000 to the Remote Indigenous Communities Advisory Committee to develop a national strategy addressing emergency management in remote indigenous communities;

- \$50 000 to the Australian Emergency Management Volunteer Forum to enhance their website to assist communications between member agencies and to attract new volunteers to the emergency management sector;
- \$50 000 to the Australian Council of State Emergency Services to assist in the conduct of the 2005 National Disaster Rescue Competition; and
- \$118 000 to the Australian Red Cross to enhance the National Registration and Inquiry System through additional volunteer training and acquisition of supporting equipment.

Work has commenced to implement the funded initiatives.

Local Grants Scheme and National Emergency Volunteer Support Fund applications for the financial year 2005/06 closed on 29 July 2005 and applications are currently being assessed. Successful projects will be announced in November 2005.

Applications for funding in financial year 2006/07 will be sought in early 2006. To receive emailed, faxed or mailed information, phone (02) 6256 4733, e-mail cd@ema.gov.au or visit the web site www.ema.gov.au/communitydevelopment.



The Attorney-General, the Hon Philip Ruddock MP, is welcomed by Munupi community elders Lydia Barak (left) and Maurice Rioli at Pirlangimpi on Melville Island in August, on his visit to announce EMA funding for a review of remote indigenous communities emergency management needs.

PLANNING & OPERATIONS

Urban Search and Rescue Capability Development Project

The Australian Government has formed a partnership with all States and Territories to augment national Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) capability.

Emergency Management Australia is working with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, State and Territory First Ministers Departments and Emergency Services Departments to develop capability in the following areas:

- Equipment caches to those jurisdictions with less developed capability;
- Augmentation of others to support a national capability model;
- Training for rescue personnel;
- Development of training for task force Commanders;

- Development of training for senior decision makers in Government; and
- Supporting policy and an operational concept for national capability.

The Australian Government will acquire the bulk of the materiel assets and the States and Territories will design and deliver the bulk of the training.

Equipment procurement will comply with *Australian Government Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines* and *Attorney General's Department Chief Executive Instructions*. Interested parties should refer to EMA or Aus Tender web sites.

*For further information contact Assistant Director James Gustus
Ph 02 6256 4618; email james.gustus@ema.gov.au*

*Procurement Manager Rheannon Nicholson
Ph 02 6256 4688; email rheannon.nicholson@ema.gov.au*

PM congratulates EMA's tsunami workers



Shown with the Prime Minister at the reception are from left: Joanne Laurence, Kate Keane, Taru Farrelley, Judith Reeves, Trevor Jenner, Janelle Keyes, Kathy Hilgert, Carly Panagiotopoulos, and Debbie Cowell.

Prime Minister John Howard personally congratulated a number of Emergency Management Australia staff at Parliament House recently, during a special reception recognising the efforts of Australian Government officers involved in the Boxing Day tsunami response.

Many Australian Government people attended the 20 June reception. The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition praised the immediate and responsive contribution by a range of departments and agencies in the weeks after the massive earthquake and resulting tsunami off the west coast of Sumatra.

Within hours of the disaster, EMA's Director General David Templeman, activated the National Emergency Management Coordination Centre, with more than 30 staff called in from holidays throughout the following weeks.

CONFERENCE DIARY

Conference details are sourced from the EMA website.
For more information about these and future conferences, visit www.ema.gov.au

INTERNATIONAL

1–10 September

Location	Tromso, Norway
Title	11th International Conference and Field Trip on Landslides (ICFL 2005).
Details	The ICFL's goal is to provide a favourable environment for scientists, engineers, and planners concerned about landslides to meet to discuss and exchange ideas about landslide processes, investigations, and monitoring. Topics will include landslides in quick clay, snow and slush avalanches, slides in other types of soils, impact of climate change, rock slides, risk evaluations, and landslide generated flood waves.
Enquiries	ICFL05 Secretariat, Department of Civil and Transport Engineering, Hogskoleringen 7A, NO-7491 Trondheim, Norway; tel: (+47) 7359 4602 e-mail: ICFL05@ivt.ntnu.no web: http://www.ivt.ntnu.no/ICFL05/ .

6–8 September

Location	Bologna, Italy
Title	Third International Conference on River Basin Management, Including All Aspects of Hydrology, Ecology, Environmental Management, Flood Plains, and Wetlands.
Details	The purpose of this conference is to bring together practicing engineers, environmental managers, and academics to discuss recent advances in the overall management of riverine systems, including advances in hydraulic and hydrologic modeling, environmental protection, and flood forecasting.
Enquiries	Rachel Green, Wessex Institute of Technology, Ashurst Lodge, Ashurst, Southampton, SO407AA, UK tel: +44 (0) 238 029 3223 e-mail: rgreen@wessex.ac.uk web: http://www.wessex.ac.uk/conferences/2005/rm05/ .

6–9 September

Location	Portsmouth, United Kingdom
Title	RSPSoc 2005: Measuring, Mapping, and Managing a Hazardous World.
Details	This conference will cover the use of photogrammetry and remote sensing in measuring, mapping, and managing today's wide range of hazards. Day one of the conference will be held as a joint event with the National Environment Research Council (NERC) and includes the NERC Earth Observation Conference 2005. Sessions are planned on global-scale hazards and climate change, ocean-atmosphere changes, meteorological hazards, flood hazards, the coastal zone, disaster relief, slope instability, soil erosion, wildfires, and more.
Enquiries	Richard Teeuw, University of Portsmouth e-mail: richard.teeuw@port.ac.uk web: http://www.rspsoc.org/ .

6–9 September

Location	Sacramento, California
Title	2005 Conference of the Floodplain Management Association
Details	The technical component of this year's conference, "Flood Risk Management: Structural and Non-Structural Solutions. How Much Is Enough?" will include floodplain management issues, floodplain mapping, coastal issues, postdisaster recovery, mitigation planning, public education and outreach, and more.
Enquiries	web: http://www.floodplain.org/ .

7–11 September

Location Mexico City, Mexico

Title The 15th Mexican National Conference on Earthquake Engineering

Details "Mexican Earthquake Engineering 20 years after the September 19, 1985 Earthquake: What Have We Accomplished?" is the theme of this conference, which is designed for anyone interested in earthquake engineering research, teaching, design, and construction. This gathering will bring together professionals from a broad range of disciplines committed to reducing the impact of earthquakes on the built and natural environment, including geology, seismology, geophysics, geotechnical engineering, structural engineering, architecture, emergency response planning, and regulation.

Enquiries Maria Antonieta Rico-Lopez, Sociedad Mexicana de Ingenieria Sismica, A.C., Camino Sta. Teresa No 187, Local 9, Col. Parques del Pedregal, Delegacion Tlalpan, 14020 Mexico, D.F., Mexico
tel: +(52-55) 5606-1314
e-mail: smis@data.net.mx
web: <http://www.smis.org.mx/>. To access information in English, click on "Eventos proximos," "XV Congreso Nacional de Ingenieria Sismica," and then "English."

11–14 September

Location Minneapolis, Minnesota

Title APWA International Congress and Expo/ The Best Show in Public Works

Details This annual Public Works event will feature education sessions on emergency management, stormwater/flood control, engineering/construction management, snow and ice, and more.

Enquiries Dana Priddy or Diana Forbes at the APWA, 2345 Grand Boulevard, Suite 500, Kansas City, MO 64108
tel: (800) 848-2792
e-mail: congress@apwa.net
web: <http://www.apwa.net/meetings/congress/2005/>.

11–14 September

Location Boise, Idaho

Title 2005 WSSPC Annual Conference

Details The objective of this conference is to revisit the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program goals and what the goals support – reduced exposure to loss of life, infrastructure, economies, and resources – in light of national realities: western earthquakes, rural earthquakes, and earthquakes in cash-strapped states and communities.

Enquiries web: <http://www.wsspc.org/Events/ac2005/>.

12–14 September

Location Bologna, Italy

Title Second International Conference on Sustainable Planning and Development (Sustainable Planning 2005).

Details This conference aims to address the subjects of sustainable planning and regional development in an integrated way as well as in accordance with the principles of sustainability. The conference will provide a common forum for all scientists specialising in the range of subjects included within sustainable planning and development.

Enquiries Katie Banham, Conference Secretariat, ECOSUD 2005, Wessex Institute of Technology, Ashurst Lodge, Ashurst, Southampton, SO40 7AA, UK
tel: 44 (0) 238 029 3223
fax: 44 (0) 238 029 8253
e-mail: kbanham@wessex.ac.uk
web: <http://www.wessex.ac.uk/conferences/2005/spd05>

12–14 September

Location Denver, Colorado

Title ESRI Homeland Security GIS Summit.

Details This summit will focus on GIS tools, datasets, and partnerships that can support organizations in the areas of emergency preparedness and public safety. It will feature current efforts and initiatives and future requirements for operational best practices. Anyone with responsibilities in safety, budget planning/funding, policy development, partnerships, GIS data, imagery, or other government, nongovernmental, or private sector knowledge experts are encouraged to attend.

Enquiries e-mail: hssummit@esri.com
web: <http://www.esri.com/events/homeland/>.

12–14 September

Location Seoul, Korea

Title The Sixth Asia-Pacific Conference on Wind Engineering (APCWE-VI).

Details The APCWE conferences are held every four years as the regional conference of the International Association of Wind Engineering. The main objective of the conference is to exchange wind engineering information among interested scientists and engineers from around the world. This year the conference will focus on "Emerging Technologies in Wind Engineering."

Enquiries Secretariat, APCWE VI, c/o TP Conference Consultants, PO Box 33, Yuseong, Daejeon 305-600, Korea; +82-42-869-8451
e-mail: apcwe@bomun.kaist.ac.kr
web: <http://apcwe-vi.kaist.ac.kr/apcwemain.htm>

12–16 September

Location Utrecht, The Netherlands

Title 5th Annual Meeting of the European Meteorological Society (EMS), 7th European Conference on Applications of Meteorology (ECAM).

Details Themes of the EMS meeting will cover a broad number of subjects from research to technology related to applied atmospheric sciences. The central theme of the ECAM is meteorology and customer value with the intent of providing a platform where meteorological institutions, meteorological providers, and users of meteorological services can exchange their ideas, results, needs, and demands.

Enquiries EMS Secretariat, Institute of Meteorology, Free University of Berlin, Carl-Heinrich-Becker-Weg 6-10, 12165 Berlin Germany
tel: +49 30 7970 8328
e-mail: ems-sec@met.fu-berlin.de
web: <http://www.copernicus.org/ems/2005/>.

12–16 September

Location Charleston, West Virginia

Title National Floodproofing Conference III.

Details This triennial conference will build upon its predecessors with a focus on floodproofing techniques, materials, floodproofing and elevation contractors, current issues and programs, new federal tax implications, and the various means of funding floodproofing projects.

Enquiries ASFPM, 2809 Fish Hatchery Road, Madison, WI 53713
tel: (608) 274-0123
e-mail: asfpm@floods.org
web: <http://www.floods.org/Conferences,%20Calendar/nfpc3.asp>.

13–15 September

Location Gaithersburg, Maryland

Title Technical Conference on the Federal Building and Fire Safety Investigation of the World Trade Center (WTC) Disaster.

Details The objective of this conference, which is open to the general public and technical experts from industry and academia, is to present the technical foundation for the NIST recommendations for improving building and fire codes, standards, and practices and to solicit feedback on the Draft NIST Investigation Report from the technical community outside of the investigation team, with an emphasis on spurring action on recommendations.

Enquiries Teresa Vicente
tel: (301) 975-3883
e-mail: teresa.vicente@nist.gov
web: <http://wtc.nist.gov/media/Sept13ConferenceAnnouncement.htm>.

14–16 September

Location Lisbon, Portugal

Title IABSE Symposium: Structures and Extreme Events.

Details Notwithstanding the remarkable progress in the last decades regarding the development of structural codes and methods of analysis, it is still difficult to respond appropriately to extreme events, which today remain a kind of last frontier in structural engineering. This conference will stimulate structural engineers to give more thought to such problems and provide information and guidance on how to deal with them.

Enquiries IABSE Lisbon 2005, Organizing Committee, c/o LNEC, Av. Brazil, 101, P-1700-066 Lisbon, Portugal
tel: +351-21-844 3260
e-mail: iabse.lisbon2005@lnec.pt
web: <http://www.iabse.ethz.ch/conferences/lisbon2005/>

17–18 September

Location Bangkok, Thailand

Title Integrated Planning Against Risk: Exploring Interfaces Between Disasters and Development.

Details This seminar about "The Management of Risk and Vulnerability after the Trauma of Relocation" will focus on South and Southeast Asia. It will examine comparative experience in the design of management and relief measures for the rehabilitation of communities and population after their displacement by natural disasters such as tsunamis, supercyclones, and earthquakes and the rehabilitation of households and communities after their displacement by major infrastructure projects such as reservoir development and urban transport improvements.

Enquiries web: <http://www.swansea.ac.uk/cds/research/ESRCseminarprog6.htm>.

18–21 September

Location San Diego, California

Title Fall World 2005.

Details This conference will focus on all aspects of disaster recovery, contingency planning, and business continuity. Attendees will gain knowledge and information through sessions, workshops, exercises, and networking opportunities. An exhibit hall will showcase the latest trends, products, and services in the industry. Among other things, attendees can participate in a real-time disaster simulation (limited to 200 participants).

Enquiries tel: (314) 894-0276.
web: <http://www.drj.com/conferences/sd2005/>.

18–23 September

Location Beijing, China

Title 8th Symposium of the International Association for Fire Safety Science.

Details This scientific conference for the global fire safety science community will feature everything from fundamental breakthroughs to new best practices. Papers and posters will be presented in all areas of fire safety science.

Enquiries CFPA, 5th Floor, No. 19A, Huawei Xili, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100021, P.R. China
tel: +86-10-8778 9259
e-mail: iafss2005@126.com
web: http://2005.china-fire.com/en_index.htm#.

19–22 September

Location Boston, Massachusetts

Title Probabilistic Risk Analysis: Assessment, Management, and Communication.

Details This course brings together nationally and internationally known experts from different disciplines to teach probabilistic risk assessment, management, and communication. Using a practical and integrated approach that combines lectures with case examples and hands-on computer exercises, this program teaches the methods needed to manage risk in today's variable and uncertain world.

Enquiries Harvard School of Public Health Center for Continuing Professional Education, CCPE Department A, 677 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115
tel: (617) 384-8692
e-mail: contedu@hsph.harvard.edu
web: <http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/ccpe/programs/APRA.shtml>.

19–23 September

Location Washington, DC

Title Oceans 2005 MTS/IEEE.

Details This annual technical and professional conference is a forum for ocean scientists, engineers, industry end users and suppliers, technologists, educators and researchers, policymakers, and the public around the world to present their latest research results, state-of-the-art technologies, future concepts, and innovative ideas as they pertain to the future of our oceans. Plenary themes are homeland maritime security; global observation and exploration; emerging ocean science, technology, and engineering; ocean education and outreach; and proactive global cooperation and engagement.

Enquiries web: <http://www.oceans2005.org/>.

19–24 September

Location Las Vegas, Nevada

Title Association of Engineering Geologists Annual Conference.

Details The technical program for this conference features landslides and slope stability, engineering geology of problem soils, earthquake/seismic hazards, environmental site assessments (regulatory aspects), hydrogeology, and environmental risk management and remediation. Field trips, short courses, symposia, and a teachers' workshop round out the event.

Enquiries email: Jim Werle at jwerle@converseconsultants.com or Barbara Luke at bluke@ce.unlv.edu;
web: <http://www.aegweb.org/>.

20–21 September

Location Beijing, China

Title 2005 General Conference of the International Risk Governance Council (IRGC): Implementing a Global Approach to Risk Governance.

Details The intent of this conference is to provide specific ideas for implementing improved governance strategies for major transboundary risks. Risk areas of discussion will include critical infrastructures, emerging technologies, natural disasters, and changes in the environment.

Enquiries IRGC, 7–9 Chemin de Balexert, Chatelaine, CH-1219 Geneva, Switzerland
tel: +41 (0)22 795 1730
web: <http://www.irgc.org/>.

22–24 September

Location Rapid City, South Dakota

Title Eighth Annual Conference on Innovations in Disaster Mental Health.

Details This conference will examine research strategies and methodology in disaster psychology in an effort to promote innovative approaches and collaborative agreements that will yield more definitive results. Its goal is to assemble a group of experts in the field of disaster and trauma research to discuss the ways in which they have successfully implemented their research protocols.

Enquiries Disaster Mental Health Institute, The University of South Dakota – SDU 114, 414 East Clark Street, Vermillion, SD 57069
tel: (605) 677-6575, or (800) 522-9684
e-mail: dmhi@usd.edu
web: <http://www.usd.edu/dmhi/conference.cfm>.

25–29 September

Location New Orleans, Louisiana
Title Dam Safety 2005.
Details This annual conference offers attendees professional development, a trade show, issue forums, networking, and technology transfer opportunities. Session topics at this year's event will include seismic issues, dam failures and incidents, emergency preparedness, and more.
Enquiries ASDSO, 450 Old Vine Street, Floor 2, Lexington, KY 40507
 tel: (859) 257-5140
 e-mail: info@damsafety.org
 web: <http://www.damsafety.org/>.

26–28 September

Location Kuwait
Title Kuwait First Remote Sensing Conference and Exhibition.
Details This conference is an opportunity for scientists, engineers, professionals, program managers, experts, and policy makers from the Middle East and North Africa to explore the trends and achievements in remote sensing, exchange ideas, and present and discuss recent developments and applications. The conference is designed to meet the scientific, technical, and business needs of the remote sensing community.
Enquiries Promedia International
 e-mail: info@promedia-international
 web: <http://www.kuwaitremotesensing.com/>

2–8 October

Location Santiago, Chile
Title IASPEI2005.
Details This General Assembly of the International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior (IASPEI) will provide an opportunity for geoscientists from all fields to present and discuss the recent advances in the Andean environment.
Enquiries Diana Comte, Department of Geophysics, University of Chile
 e-mail: dcomte@dgf.uchile.cl
 web: <http://www.igm.cl/iaspei/iaspei.htm>

4–7 October

Location Vancouver, British Columbia
Title 18th Emergency Preparedness Conference: Community Resilience; A Future for All.
Details This conference will emphasize community resiliency in the face of disasters through community involvement and planning by building on the action plan that delegates developed at last year's conference. The goal of the action plan was to provide tools that will help communities become disaster resilient. The program will include six workshops: Public Awareness and Education, Psychosocial Impact on Responders, Volunteer Management, Community Health Care Resources, Critical Infrastructure, and Community Emergency Programs.
Enquiries Emergency Preparedness Conference, 900 Heatley Avenue, Vancouver, British Columbia V6A 3S7, Canada
 tel: (604) 665-6097
 e-mail: info@epconference.ca
 web: <http://www.epconference.ca/>.

5–7 October

Location Auckland, New Zealand
Title AFAC & Bushfire CRC Conference 2005 "Fast Forward"
Details A conference to explore the potential world of innovation and technology in the fire industry.
 How can we fast forward to the future today? Do we want to? Do we have any choice? What are the challenges facing us? What are the opportunities open to us? Are we facing ethical and moral dilemmas?
Enquiries web: <http://www.afacnz2005.co.nz>

9–13 October

Location Bonn, Germany
Title The Sixth Open Meeting of the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change Research Community.
Details The theme of this meeting is "Global Environmental Change, Globalization and International Security: New Challenges for the 21st Century." It aims to promote a better understanding of global transformations, to identify the resulting opportunities and challenges, and to develop appropriate responses. This entails a critical assessment of what the community has achieved to date as well as the development of a forward-looking action plan that links human dimensions research into contemporary policy debates on future actions of the global community.
Enquiries web: <http://openmeeting.homelinux.org/>.

11–13 October

Location Moreton-in-Marsh, United Kingdom

Title Fire Related Research and Developments-Annual Conference.

Details This annual event attracts researchers and practitioners across the fire community to discuss latest research projects on fire-related issues. The 2005 event includes a special U.S.-U.K. symposium with international panels discussing management and leadership issues within fire services.

Enquiries Anne Eyre
e-mail: anne.eyre@traumatraining.com
web: <http://www.fireservicecollege.ac.uk>.

16–19 October

Location Salt Lake City, Utah

Title Geological Society of America Annual Meeting.

Details At this annual meeting, geoscientists, educators, and policy makers from around the world will come together to share the latest advances and discoveries and work to improve the understanding and application of science in society. This year's program features more than 20 sessions focused on education-related topics and a plethora of sessions addressing geologic hazards, resource utilization, and environmental policy.

Enquiries Adolph Yonkee
e-mail: ayonkee@weber.edu
web: <http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2005/>.

17–20 October

Location Bartelsville, Oklahoma

Title Tall Timbers 23rd Fire Ecology Conference: Fire in Grassland and Shrubland Ecosystems.

Details The purpose of this conference is to provide an international forum for discussion of research and research needs in the area of fire ecology. It will present the current state-of-the art research and management efforts and bring to light areas where new research and management information is needed in grassland, shrubland, and grassland-woodland ecosystems.

Enquiries Kaye Gainey, Tall Timbers Research Station, 13093 Henry Beadel Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32312
tel: (850) 893-4153
e-mail: kaye@ttrs.org
web: <http://www.ttrs.org/23FEconference/>.

17–28 October

Location Asuncion, Paraguay

Title IAI Training Institute on Vulnerability Associated with Climate Variability and Climate Change in the Americas.

Details Climate change and variability is a global threat that is likely to adversely affect natural and human systems and undermine long-term economic development prospects. The cooperation among climate experts, natural resource and risk managers, and decision makers is needed to improve an integrated understanding of the environmental processes taking place and their socioeconomic impacts to provide end users and decision makers with useful information and better tools to deal with these changes and the potential negative impacts. The central objective of this training institute is to help develop and strengthen local and regional capacity (human resources) to deal with vulnerability associated with climate variability and climate change in the Americas.

Enquiries tel: +55 12 3945 6866
e-mail: i2005-v@dir.iai.int
web: <http://www.institutes.iai.int/>.

20–21 October

Location Lake Buena Vista, Florida

Title 2005 IBHS Annual Conference on Property Loss Reduction.

Details This annual congress on property loss reduction brings together professionals in the insurance industry, emergency management, government agencies, and academic institutions to discuss the latest developments in natural hazards mitigation.

Enquiries IBHS, 4775 East Fowler Avenue, Tampa, FL 33617 tel: (813) 286-3400
e-mail: info@ibhs.org
web: <http://www.ibhs.org/congress/>.

25 October

Location Detroit, Michigan

Title 2005 International Code Council Annual Conference.

Details This conference will feature the Final Action Hearings, the Education Program, the Annual Business Meeting, the International Code Council Expo and networking opportunities among peers from the building safety and fire prevention fields.

Enquiries web: <http://www.iccsafe.org/news/annual/2005Conference/>.

26–27 October

Location London, United Kingdom

Title Extreme Natural Hazards.

Details This meeting will focus on extreme geophysical and astrophysical hazards, including earthquakes, supervolcanic eruptions, tsunamis, near Earth objects, and giant landslides. Speakers will discuss the frontiers and challenges in the science of extreme natural hazards as well as related topics, such as prediction, forecasting, monitoring, and technological innovations. The meeting will assess the role of the international scientific community and how these efforts can be better coordinated, integrated, and funded to improve the ability to anticipate and mitigate the effects of extreme events. Issues of the accessibility of relevant science to poor nations with limited scientific infrastructure and expertise will also be discussed.

Enquiries Hannah Jemmett
tel: +44 (0) 207 451 2575
e-mail: discussion.meetings@royalsoc.ac.uk/
web: <http://www.royalsoc.ac.uk/event.asp?id=3177&month=10,2005>.

29 October

Location Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Title Information Security Convention 2005 (ISC2005).

Details ISC2005 is Malaysia's first information security exhibition and conference, offering cutting-edge security technologies, products, and services, as well as the latest know-hows and global trends. ISC2005 is organized by the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovations Malaysia under the banner of its information security arm, National ICT Security and Emergency Response Centre.

Enquiries Contact Karen Dass at karendass@protemp.com.my

1–4 November

Location Lisbon, Portugal

Title 250th Anniversary of the 1755 Lisbon Earthquake.

Details The 250th anniversary of the 1755 earthquake and tsunami presents the opportunity to bring together scientists, engineers, historians, philosophers, urban planners, architects, economists, and policy makers to foster an integrated view of our global perception of natural disasters and how society must deal with them.

Enquiries Rua do Embaixador, 13-2, 1300-215 Lisboa, Portugal
tel: +351 21 364 94 98
e-mail: info@mundiconvenius.pt
web: <http://www.mundiconvenius.pt/2005/lisbon1755/>.

3–6 November

Location Fort Collins, Colorado

Title International Technical Rescue Symposium 2005.

Details This event will bring together representatives from across the spectrum of rescue disciplines, including mountain rescue, park services, water rescue, outdoor recreation, fire service, and rescue teams to share news and views on advances in equipment and techniques, technical problems, and other issues of mutual concern.

Enquiries web: http://www.mra.org/ITRS_Brochure2005.pdf.

7–10 November

Location Seattle, Washington

Title American Water Resources Association (AWRA) 2005 Annual Conference.

Details In addition to this annual conference's traditional focus on multidisciplinary subjects, this year's event will offer sessions that address a mix of contemporary issues, such as the effects of natural catastrophes on water supplies and human health, the renewed interest in large water projects, dam decommissioning, and the increased risk to the nation's water supplies from terrorism and the steps taken to counteract it.

Enquiries Patricia Reid, AWRA, PO Box 1626, Middleburg, VA 20118-1626
tel: (540) 687-8390
e-mail: pat@awra.org
web: <http://www.awra.org/meetings/Seattle2005/>

9–10 November

Location Moreton-in-Marsh, United Kingdom

Title 6th International Disaster and Emergency Resilience (IDER) Conference and Exhibition.

Details IDER is the conference and exhibition where best practice for readiness, response, and recovery for disasters and major emergencies are identified and implemented.

Enquiries Andrich International, 51 Market Place, Warminster, BA12 9AZ, UK
tel: +44 1985 846181
e-mail: ider@andrich.com
web: <http://www.andrich.com/ider/>.

10–11 November

Location Wairakei, New Zealand

Title Planning for a Volcanic Crisis

Details This course will provide a background in the volcano hazards that affect NZ. It is aimed at anyone with an interest, or role, in assessing, managing or communicating the risks associated with volcano events.

Enquiries web: http://www.naturalhazards.net.nz/courses/volcano_course.html

12–16 November

Location Phoenix, Arizona

Title IAEM 2005 Annual Conference and EMEX.

Details The purpose of this annual conference is to provide a forum to discuss current trends, topics, and the latest tools and technology in emergency management and homeland security, and to advance IAEM committee work. Sessions encourage stakeholders at all levels of government, the private sector, public health, and related professions to exchange ideas on collaborating to protect lives and property from disaster. Members of IAEM, disaster professionals, and other officials with a role in homeland security and emergency management are invited to attend.

Enquiries IAEM, 201 Park Washington Court, Falls Church, VA 22046
tel: (703) 538-1795
e-mail: info@iaem.com
web: <http://www.iaem.com/events/annual/intro.htm>

16–18 November

Location Mumbai, India

Title World Conference on Disaster Reduction

Details This is probably the first-ever international conference on disaster reduction that focuses on corporate sector's role & responsibility. It will be held in India with an objective to connect government agencies, relief organisations, corporate world and the communities. The Conference emphasises on the crucial role the corporate sector could play in mitigating human suffering wrought by disasters. This can be done by effectively collaborating with the government, international and national relief organisations.

Enquiries web: <http://www.wcdr.gfdr.org/>

17–19 November

Location Toronto, Canada

Title 2nd Annual Canadian Risk and Hazard Network Symposium

Details Keynote speakers will be internationally respected scholars, practitioners and activists who will share leading edge knowledge and practices in the risk and hazard fields. Presenters will lead participants through case studies and discussion of some real life natural disaster events like the 2004 Peterborough Flood and the 1998 Ice Storm.

Enquiries web: <http://www.crhnet2005.yorku.ca>

28 November–9 December

Location Montreal, Canada

Title COP 11 and COP/MOP 1

Details Canada will host the first meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP 1) in conjunction with the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the Climate Change Convention (COP 11). Only representatives of parties, the United Nations family, and admitted observer organisations may attend.

Enquiries web: http://unfccc.int/meetings/cop_11/items/3394.php

4–7 December

Location Orlando, Florida

Title 2005 Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) Annual Meeting.

Details There are three supporting goals for this year's annual meeting, which are (1) to take advantage of the meeting location in Florida to touch upon "local" topics that have broad implications or analogies, (2) to continue the internationalization of the SRA, and (3) to encourage a more interdisciplinary orientation in the technical program. The 25th anniversary of the SRA also presents an opportunity to examine the changing role of risk analysis in societal and private decision making.

Enquiries e-mail: sra@burkinc.com
web: http://www.sra.org/events_2005_meeting.php

23–27 January 2006

Location: Quito, Ecuador
Title Cities on Volcanoes 4
Details This meeting provides a forum where volcanologists, urban planners, civil defenders, community authorities, and business and health specialists can meet to discuss ways to mitigate the effects of volcanic eruptions and minimize their impact upon humanity through better science, technology, communication, and education. Symposia include new computational techniques for mitigating volcanic hazards, volcano studies and monitoring, risk management, emergency management, and human health impacts of volcanism. Workshops, field trips, and other scientific activities will also be offered.
Enquiries e-mail: citiesonvolcanoes4@igepn.edu.ec
 Web: <http://www.citiesonvolcanoes4.com/>

22–23 February 2006

Location Hong Kong
Title GOVSEC ASIA, Asia Law Enforcement & Asia Ready Conference & Exposition - Uniting the Best Minds in Government Security, Law Enforcement and Emergency Management.
Details GOVSEC Asia, Asia Law Enforcement & Asia Ready is the event of choice for government security leaders, law enforcers and first responders around the Asian region - offering up-to-the-minute insight, strategy, tactics, best practices and technologies for each of the three key components that constitutes national security. The first presentation in Hong Kong brings together recognized experts and industry professionals to explore what's new, collaborate, share knowledge and experiences and vision.
Enquiries email: info@infoexws.com
 web: <http://www.govsecasia.com>

AUSTRALIA

13–17 November 2005

Location Melbourne, Australia
Title Greenhouse 2005: Action on Climate Change.
Details Interest in climate change is high, particularly with regards to taking effective action. There is a clear need for industry, scientists, and government at all levels to work closely together to tackle this significant environmental issue. Demand is strong for the latest information on the science, the likely impacts of climate change, adaptation strategies, and approaches to reducing atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations. This conference will cover these themes as well as international issues, policy development, communication, and education.
Enquiries e-mail: info@greenhouse2005.com
 web: <http://www.greenhouse2005.com/>

interesting websites



APFM—Associated Programme on Flood Management

<http://www.apfm.info/>

The Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM) is a joint initiative of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the Global Water Partnership (GWP). It promotes the concept of Integrated Flood Management (IFM) as a new approach to flood management. The website includes case studies on flood management, community approaches to flood management, publications and a database on institutions and agencies involved in flood management.



Risk Frontiers

<http://www.riskfrontiers.com/>

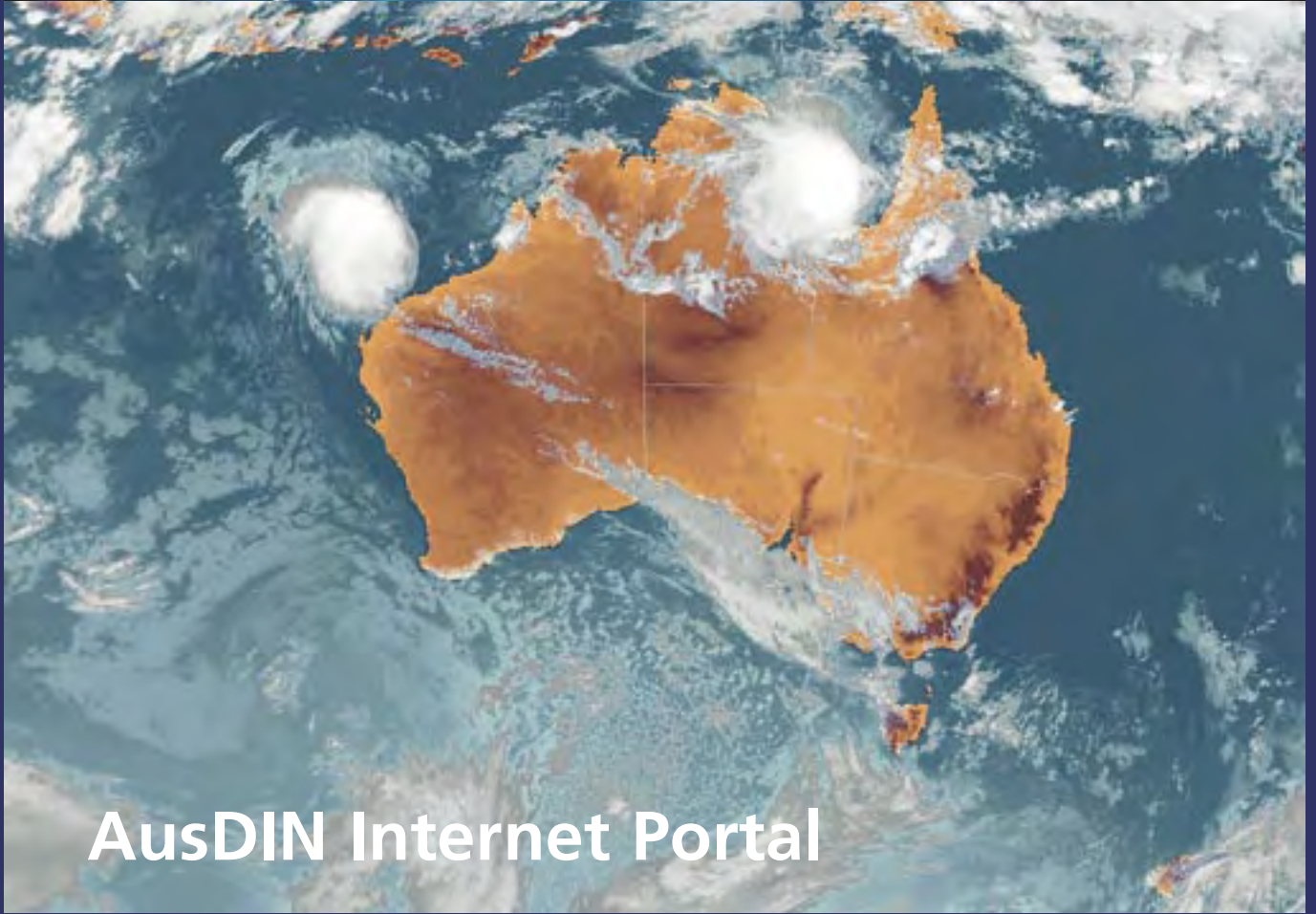
Risk Frontiers, based at Sydney's Macquarie University, is a not-for-profit research organisation sponsored by the Australian insurance community. The organisation focuses on natural hazards risk assessment and risk management tools for application in insurance, emergency management, land-use planning and floodplain management. The quarterly newsletter *Risk Frontiers* is available online and covers topics including tsunami, earthquake, bushfire and flood risk. The website also includes publications, some of which are available online.



Regional Flood Mitigation Programme

<http://www.dotars.gov.au/localgovt/rfmp/index.aspx>

The Regional Flood Mitigation Programme is an Australian Government initiative. It works in partnership with State, Territory and Local Governments in the implementation of priority, cost effective flood mitigation works and measures in rural, regional and outer metropolitan Australia. The site includes links to reports including *Economic Costs of Natural Disasters in Australia* and *Benefits of Flood Mitigation in Australia*.



The essential one-stop-shop for emergency management information, coming soon from the Australian Disaster Information Network.

A national network, developed through partnerships with State, Territory and Local governments, Australian Government agencies and other key stakeholders to bring you a wide range of emergency management information. Providing a powerful advanced search function, this Portal is specially designed for:

- *Emergency management practitioners*
- *Emergency management education*
- *Jurisdictional and community needs*
- *General public information*

For more information, visit www.ema.gov.au/AusDIN

Image: Satellite image processed by the Bureau of Meteorology from the geostationary satellite GOES-9 operated by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration for the Japan Meteorological Agency.