



VirginiaTech
Invent the Future



Center for Community
Security and Resilience

Conference on Community Resilience

**The Center for Community Security and Resilience
In Collaboration With The
Metropolitan Institute**



2012

Third Annual

AT THE CONGRESS CENTER - DAVOS, SWITZERLAND

Community Resilience

Background

At the 2010 Community Resiliency conference held Zurich, the focus of discussion was on the role of policy makers and managers in abating as much as possible the complex interactions that occur when existing systems are disrupted by the occurrence of major catastrophic events. Themes explored include: a) the need to link global system changes to local security and resiliency issues, b) the need to increase knowledge exchange between scientists, policy makers, practitioners, and citizens, c) resilient organizations and leadership - we know very little about what constitute the key attributes for good leaders in times of crisis, and d) "Living labs" can play important roles in the translation of science to practice. At the 2011 Community Resiliency conference held in Arlington, Virginia (USA) we built on the themes that emerged at the previous meeting. In addition, we explored a) the critical role of engaging citizens and practitioners remains a topic for discussion, particularly as it relates to the use of the living lab concept for advancing understanding, b) the challenges to resiliency presented by incremental global changes are a featured part of the discussion, c) the cascading effects of environmental events on our socio-technical systems and why it is essential for the security of our communities in the future to better understand how to protect against the more egregious impacts of the complex coupling of socio-technical system under stress, and d) massive causalities and disruptions during disasters require us to focus on the world's ability to respond with humanitarian aid to regions under extreme stress.

This Year's Theme

Building on our successful conferences in Zurich (2010) and Arlington (2011), we seek to explore three core themes on community resilience. First, we seek papers that explore how local communities impacted by crises and disasters build capacities (and capabilities) to respond to these events. Specifically, we are interested in studies that look at how local communities redeploy existing resources, infrastructures, and people to respond and recover from a disaster. Second, building on our earlier conferences, we seek papers that study citizen engagement, deployment of technology, and network-centric collaboration around planning, response, and recovery from disasters. Third, papers that look at public policy implications for planning and designing resilient nations are welcome. Engaging with the policy and governance apparatuses (budgeting, coordination of public programs, planning for uncertainty and longer time horizons, etc) of nations is critical if we are to advance the cause of designing resilient nations.



Agenda
Third Conference on Community Resilience

Friday – August 24, 2012

8:30 -9:15 AM

Keynote Speaker

Kathleen Tierney, Director, Natural Hazards Research and Applications Information Center, University of Colorado at Boulder

9:15 – 9:30 AM

Break

9:30 – 12:00 AM

Panel 1 – Disaster Response & Recovery Capacity Building Using Existing Resources

This panel will provide a critical perspective for communities, regions, and nations that must deal with austere budgetary limitations while attempting to reduce vulnerability and increase resilience to extreme events. The discussion will address preparedness and response, but the resiliency focus is broad and includes issues of vulnerability reduction (e.g. reducing exposure, mitigating potential consequences) and recovery (both social and economic).

Moderator: Jack Harrald, Interim Director, Center for Community Security and Resilience, Virginia Tech

Panelists: Walter Peacock, Director, Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center, Texas A&M University

Joe Schilling, Assoc. Director, Metropolitan Institute, Virginia Tech

Bonnie Regan, Deputy Director, Arlington County, VA Emergency Management

Helen Molin Valdes, United Nations, International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

12:00 – 1:30 PM

Lunch and Keynote Speaker – at Congress Center

Diana Mangalagu, Smith School of Enterprise and Environment, University of Oxford & Sciences Po, Paris

1:30 – 4:00 PM

Panel 2 - Public Policy Approaches for Designing Resilient Communities

This panel will examine issues critical to the development and employment of policies and planning strategies that will enhance communities' (metropolitan or rural), regions' and states' resiliency regarding extreme events resulting from unanticipated natural or human interventions. From the presentations and discussions, it is hoped that future planning and policy directions can be offered and critiqued.

Moderator: Jim Bohland, Professor Emeritus, School of Public and International Affairs, Virginia Tech

Panelists: Chris Barrett, Director, Virginia Bioinformatics Institute, National Capital Region, Virginia Tech

JoAnn Carmin, Associate Professor of Environmental Policy and Planning, Dept of Urban Studies and Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

David Dodman, Senior Researcher, International Institute for Environment and Development

David Alexander, Chief Senior Scientist, Global Risk Forum

6:30 - 8:00 PM

Dinner

Morosani Hotel

Saturday – August 25

8:30 – 11:00 AM

Panel 3 – Citizen Engagement & Technology Deployment in Disaster Mitigation Preparedness Response and Recovery

This panel will explore issues around how communities leverage technologies during times of distress. Technologies afford individuals to connect, collaborate, and act collectively during the response and recovery phase of disasters. Citizen engagement is vital before, during, and after a disaster. Citizen engagement calls for creation of participatory platforms where individuals can contribute to the design, implementation, and evaluation of policies. Today, there is a need to seriously consider how we design such platforms.

Moderator: Kevin Desouza, Director, Metropolitan Institute, Virginia Tech

Panelists: Maggie Cowell, Assistant Professor, Urban Affairs and Planning, School of Public & International Affairs, Virginia Tech

Liesel Ritchie, Assistant Director for Research, Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado

Georg Frerks, Professor of Disaster Studies, Wageningen University

Isabel Ramos, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Information Systems, Minho University

11:00 - 11:15 PM

Break

11:15 – 1:00 PM

Wrap Up Panel – Vision & Opportunities for Collaboration

Moderator: Paul Knox, University Distinguished Professor & Sr. Fellow for International Advancement, Virginia Tech

Panelists: Charles Steger, President, Virginia Tech

Don Leo, Vice President and Executive Director, National Capital Region Operations, Virginia Tech

Jimmy Martin, Director, Disaster Risk Management Institute, Virginia Tech

Walter Ammann, President and CEO, Global Risk Forum