

2024 Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Implementation Workshop and Training

22-24 October in Leuven, Belgium

[Traveller Information Services Association \(TISA\)](#), [U.S. Agency for International Development \(USAID\)](#), [U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(NOAA\)](#), and [Alert-Hub.Org CIC](#) are hosting the 2024 CAP Implementation Workshop. Co-sponsors are the [International Association of Emergency Managers \(IAEM\)](#) and the [OASIS](#) standards organization.



The Workshop will be 23-24 October, 9:30-17:30 CEST, in the Grand Auditorium of [Irish College](#) in Leuven, Belgium. The CAP Implementation Workshop follows two events on 22 October in the same venue. There will be [CAP Training](#) 9:00 to noon and a TISA Workshop in the afternoon. Everyone is welcome to participate in all three days. Click [here](#) to register.

For those who cannot participate in person, Webinar call-in instructions will be sent to everyone registered. Documents pertaining to the Workshop and Training will be posted to the Workshop [website](#).

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

CAP Implementation Workshops focus on emergency alerting as enabled by the [CAP standard, International Telecommunication Union Recommendation X.1303](#). At the Workshops, implementers of CAP and other

associated organizations discuss common issues and how to leverage the expanding adoption of CAP.

Today, 87% of the world's population lives in a country with at least one national CAP feed operational, and another 5% have CAP in testing. [CAP implementation by country](#) is shown in [this zoomable map](#) and in the static map shown below.

Developing nations and small nations have lagged behind other nations in their uptake of CAP. This gap in uptake inspired the [Call to Action on Emergency Alerting](#), launched in April 2021 and endorsed by the [International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies \(IFRC\)](#), [International Telecommunication Union \(ITU\)](#), [United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction \(UNDRR\)](#), [World Broadcasting Unions \(WBU\)](#), and [the World Meteorological Organization \(WMO\)](#), among others. Also included as one of the Outcomes in the [UN 'Early Warnings for All' Action Plan](#), the goal of this Call to Action is: "all countries have the capability for effective, authoritative emergency alerting that leverages the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP), suitable for all media and all hazards."

The Workshop Programme will be established after acceptance of proposed topics. These topics must be submitted by prospective Speakers prior to 1 August 2024. Here following are examples of typical topics.

A representative of MeteoAlarm will provide updates on its activities in Europe, and give an overview of the [RODEO project](#). RODEO will enhance access to meteorological datasets declared as High Value Datasets in Europe. Also based in Europe is the [SAFERS project](#), focused on alerts for forest fires. Workshop participants will hear how it leverages satellite remote sensing data, and uses Geographic Information Systems (GIS) as a core technology.

We might hear a presentation on the CAP-enabled [Flash Flood Guidance System with Global Coverage \(FFGS\)](#). FFGS is a cooperative initiative led by the



World Meteorological Organization (WMO), USAID, NOAA, and the [Hydrologic Research Center \(HRC\)](#).

WMO might provide remarks on its CAP activities, including the [UN Early Warnings for All \(EW4All\) Action Plan](#), which builds on the worldwide CAP infrastructure. Specifically, Pillar 3 of the Action Plan has an Action to "Establish CAP editor and Alert Hub to further enhance multi-hazard CAP based emergency alerting". In its CAP aspects, EW4All dovetails with the WMO Global Multi-hazard Alert System (GMAS). In addition to WMO, IFRC, UNDRR, and ITU have leadership roles in the UN EW4All Action Plan.

World Broadcasting Unions might give an overview of their ongoing [DRR: Media Saving Lives](#) work. Focused on radio and television news broadcasters worldwide, this UNDRR project includes ITU and WMO as collaborators Courseware on CAP for broadcasters is available at <https://drrhub.org/learn-cap.php>. Phase 4 of this project highlights the UN EW4All initiative.

IFRC might provide an update on the IFRC Alert Hub initiative, its IFRC CAP Editor tool now in development, and other aspects of their CAP engagement.

UNDRR might give a presentation about their CAP-related activities. UNDRR recently created [this short video about CAP](#).

The Workshop might hear from the ITU Development Bureau about its CAP-related activities in support of its Emergency Telecommunications roles. This includes ITU guidance on CAP implementation as part of the [National Emergency Telecommunications Plan \(NETP\)](#)

Sessions of the CAP Training will cover the basics of CAP, a survey of operational CAP implementations, and, hands-on instruction on the cloud-based CAP Editor freeware. It will also note the UN Global Digital Compact to be signed in September 2024. In that regard, the CAP community provided this one-sentence input: "Timely warning of life-critical emergencies is essential to public communication services." Endorsements of this input can be seen [here](#).

The CAP Training will also note the [CEN Workshop Agreement](#): "Requirements and recommendations for social media early warning messages in crisis and disaster management". It includes this requirement: "To ensure consistency, clarity and completeness of the messages disseminated simultaneously across different channels, the social media early warning messages and related notifications shall refer to the persistent unique URL of the CAP message."

Participants in the CAP Training will hear about the Esri "CAP Connector" tool that transforms any CAP Alert Hub feed into a dynamic, near-real-time GIS Feature Layer (available [here](#)). Such a service facilitates GIS analysis and advanced functions such as geofencing.

Having CAP alerts easily integrated in GIS will greatly facilitate use of CAP alerts in Situation Awareness resources used by Emergency Operation Centers (EOCs) in cities, provinces, countries, and regions throughout the world.

The CAP Training will also cover [version 0.2 of the Common Policies and Practices document](#). This document compiles specifics for major CAP Services such as Google Crisis Response, IFRC Alert Hub, MeteoAlarm, meteoblue, Open Broadcaster, Traveler Information Services Association, WMO Alert Hub, and WMO Severe Weather Information Centre (SWIC).

The CAP Training is open to participants in the CAP Workshop. All registered participants of the Workshop will also get Webinar call-in instructions for the Training.

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.

Materials from the 16 prior CAP Implementation Workshops are available at these links:

- [2023 Geneva, Switzerland](#)
- [2022 Amsterdam, The Netherlands](#)
- [2021 Geneva, Switzerland \(remote only\)](#)
- [2020 Geneva, Switzerland \(remote only\)](#)
- [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 2024 CAP Implementation Workshop:

Chair	Eliot Christian
TISA	Stephanie Chaufton
USAID	Sezin Tokar
IAEM	Beth Armstrong
OASIS	Elysa Jones

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